

## *IN THE STATES: NEW ILLINOIS DATA DOCUMENT SAVINGS IN HEALTH CARE TREATMENT, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AFTER SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PLACEMENT*

*CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.* The volume, type, and cost of publicly funded services in Illinois are each favorably impacted by the placement of frequent users who are homeless in permanent supportive housing, according to a new report by the Heartland Alliance Mid-America Institute on Poverty (MAIP), the Supportive Housing Providers Association (SHPA), and the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH).

<I>["Supportive Housing in Illinois: A Wise Investment"](#) tracked 177 individuals in permanent supportive housing in 26 initiatives' in 11 Illinois counties and identified that there were cost savings in inpatient mental health, substance abuse treatment, primary care hospitals, state prison, and county jails. Every system studied showed savings from pre- to post- supportive housing. The total cost of services was reduced 39% from pre- to post-supportive housing with an overall savings of \$854,477. This was an average savings of \$4,828 per resident for the 2-year time period or \$2,414 per resident, per year.

In the 2 years prior to housing placement, the 177 individuals used \$2,204,557 in services, which was cut to \$1,350,081 post placement. Costs continued to decline with housing stability. Ten individuals had used \$50,000 or more in services in the 2 years before housing placement, with individual costs ranging from \$54,000 to \$194,000.

Residents also changed the type and volume of services they used, moving away from a heavy use of expensive inpatient and acute services before housing placement to less expensive outpatient and preventive care, with overall health improvements. Mental health hospital use decreased 90%, and overnight stays virtually disappeared, with just one person hospitalized for two nights.

The 177 individuals had been in permanent supportive housing for an average of 38 months, with an average age of 42. 52% were male, and 48% were female. Six percent identified themselves as veterans. Study data were drawn from the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (Medicaid), Illinois Department of Human Services' Division of Mental Health, Illinois Department of Human Services' Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, Illinois Department of Corrections, County Jails, and Uncompensated Hospital Services.

The study was funded by the Chicago Community Trust, Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Mental Health, the Michael Reese Health Trust, Chase Bank, The Community Foundation of Northern Illinois, Pfizer, The Harris Family Foundation, and initially supported by LaSalle Bank.