

Road Map or a Compass? Housing First Advocacy in Poland

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Plan

- HF Programs and homelessness in Poland
- HF inspirations available at the beginning of the programs - 2019
- Logic of a road map vs logic of a compass
- How those inspirations worked?
 - Polish HF Model by HFPF
- What does “compass perspective” change?
- Conclusions



housingfirst.pl
najpierwmieszkanie.org.pl

Housing First Programs in Poland

“Zamieszkańi” Fundacja Fundusz Współpracy, 2020

Warszawa

26+20 participants

long term homelessness plus dual diagnosis

assertive community treatment ACT

time of intervention: 2,5 yrs

mainstream municipal **apartments** rented to NGO for time being of the program, prescribed to participants at the end of the program

Fidelity feedback by HFPP based on Polish HF Model and 2019 scale

Towarzystwo Pomocy im. św. Brata Alberta, 2019

Gdańsk, Wrocław, Warszawa

10+10+16 participants

long term homelessness, some clients with dual diagnosis.

intensive case management ICM

time of intervention 1,5 yrs prolonged further 1,5.

In Warsaw public **apartments** for time being of the program with the need to apply for mainstream social housing, in Gdańsk?, Wrocław - municipal and private. Contracts owner-ngo-client

Fidelity assessment by National Federation

Dzieło Pomocy im. św. Ojca Pio, 2020

Kraków

3 participants

long term homelessness (15-25 yrs)

ACT/ICM due to size of the program

time of intervention: undefined

apartments owned by the ngo that runs the program. Contract owner-client

Fidelity consultation by HFPP based on Polish HF Model and 2019 scale

HF inspirations available at the beginning of the programs 2019/20...

- European HF Guidebook, 2016 (no expert from the central/eastern Europe)
- HF comparative fidelity study of 10 HF programs (EJH Special Issue on Fidelity, all programs marked with a **final numerical grade**)
- Fidelity assessment on the PTH fidelity scale as a guarantee of effectiveness.

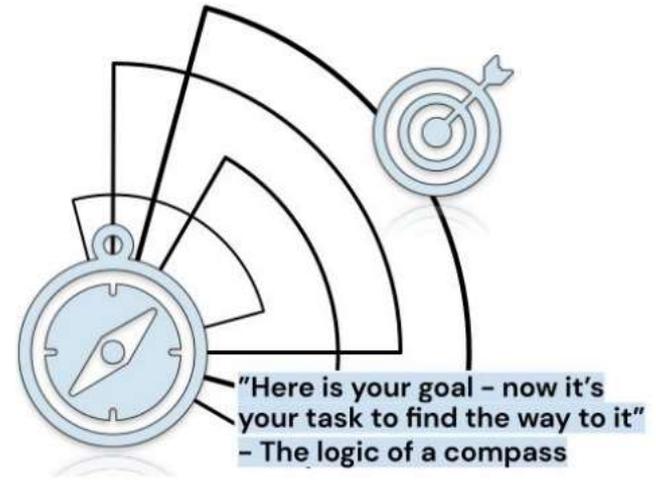
ROAD MAP STRATEGY
Demos Helsinki Report



HF inspirations available at the beginning of the programs 2019/20...

- HF as philosophy, system, and programme (Finland)
- “Program paradox” - even substantial number of HF programs do not result in system change which ends homelessness like in Finland (as presented by Mike Allen on HF Hub meeting in Helsinki February, 2020)
- Right to housing is a universal claim that should be openly communicated.
- HF as mobile support teams of specialists who support tenants and non-tenants based on HF values (Finnish national program 3rd.).

COMPASS STRATEGY -
Demos Helsinki Report



... and the local context

- Quality academic research does not provide much leverage in advocacy.
- Need to invent “our own way”. Training apartments are most wanted. Need to feel that I am creating it, and I am creating something new, and I am the only one.
- Big personal effort of workers and volunteers in delivering services for people experiencing homelessness which are underfunded by local and national governments.
- Expectation to finish each project, esp. EU funded with the “MODEL” and “systemic change”
- Big scale of long term homelessness 59% over 5 yrs.
- Staircase standards for services
- Disbelieve that programs which were successful abroad can be successful or even possible here
- Strong “program perspective” (what is good, needed for the program/service/workers) as opposed to client perspective (what client wants, what he thinks/feels is important).



How inspirations were transformed into practice in the HF Model by HFPF?

- **Philosophy/Universal values** - that guide relationship between the person in homelessness and mental health crises and a worker in a position of the helper, not to be adapted, human relationships are universal

HOUSING AS A RIGHT, CHOICE/DECISION, RECOVERY, SUPPORT-INDIVIDUAL/SPECIALIST, LINKING TO COMMUNITY

- **Program organization - how to implement the program given the local context (legal, welfare, housing)**
 - all HF options, sensitive to local context, adapted with emphasis on context sensitive issues
 - specific program design for HF Program “Zamieszkani FFW”, benchmark for fidelity observation
- **Fidelity consultation** - monitoring of the HF model implementation and Self Assessment Scale (2013)

HF values in international publications



Core principles of Housing First

Housing is a human right



Choice and control for service users



Separation of housing and treatment



Recovery orientation



Harm reduction



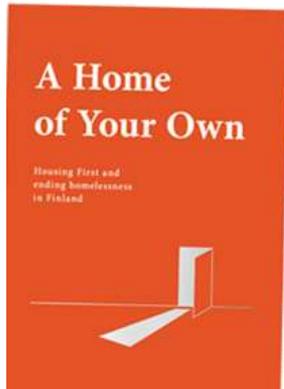
Active engagement without coercion



Person-centred planning



Flexible support for as long as is required



- Housing enables independent life
- Respect of choice
- Rehabilitation and empowerment of the resident
- Integration into community and society



HOUSING AS A RIGHT, CHOICE/DECISION, RECOVERY, SUPPORT-INDIVIDUAL/SPECIALIST, LINKING TO COMMUNITY



MIESZKANIE

Każdy potrzebuje do życia bezpiecznej przestrzeni w samodzielnym lokalu oraz prawa pobytu w niej



DECYDOWANIE

Wszyscy mamy prawo decydować o swoim życiu, o tym jakie mamy cele, w co się angażujemy i w jakim stopniu



ZDROWIENIE

Mamy prawo do pełnego dobrostanu a każdy krok w stronę zdrowia jest sukcesem



WSPIERANIE

Podjmując wyzwanie pracy nad sobą, mamy prawo do wsparcia dostosowanego do naszych możliwości i stanu zdrowia



SPOŁECZNOŚĆ

Jesteśmy ważnymi członkami wspólnot, w których żyjemy. Szanujemy sąsiadów i mamy prawo do szacunku dla siebie

Program organization in Polish Model



PART ONE

Guidelines for implementation of HF in Poland in different contexts and for all client groups, support and housing.

Highlights the issues which are vital for change in Polish context

PART TWO

Detailed plan for implementation of the program in Warsaw by FFW. Specific guidelines for the client profile, support, and housing

PARTICIPANTS

Client profile

Qualification (external to the client)

Engagement (client)

Ending participation (client)

SUPPORT

Individual plans

Support teams (ACT, ICM), support methods: outreach/community, constancy of support, multidisciplinary, adequate to client profile NEXT SLAID

HOUSING

Acquisition of apartments for the program

Providing apartments to the clients (contracts)

Standard of apartments (privacy/individual, scattered, renovated and equipped)

SUPPORT

Outreach - support workers do not change when the housing/homelessness situation does (in PL standards workers are prescribed to street/shelter/housing service)

context sensitive

Constancy - long term support from stable group of people:
long term homeless clients experienced tens of support workers

Zespół asertywnego wsparcia środowiskowego		Zespół intensywnego zarządzania przypadkiem
	Metoda środowiskowa	
	Ciągłość pomocy	
	Wielodyscyplinarność	
Wysoka	Intensywność potrzeb wsparcia uczestników	Niższa
Każdy członek zespołu jest przygotowany do pracy z każdym uczestnikiem. Specjaliści o wszystkich specjalizacjach ważnych dla uczestników są zatrudnieni w zespole.	Adekwatność wsparcia do potrzeb uczestników	Uczestnik pracuje z wyznaczonym indywidualnym asystentem. Asystenci moderują dostęp do usług specjalistycznych świadczonych przez instytucje zewnętrzne.

High - ACT, not so high - ICM - **unclear in European Guidebook,** unclear for Polish stakeholders, some bad choices were made.

Stay tuned for final evaluation of FFW Zamieszkania - by the end of 2022

Promising:

- Out of 26 engaged participants (2yrs): 5 disengaged/dropped out, 3 passed away while in apartments, 18 are actively engaged and of those 15 are in apartments and of those 9 are finalising their own housing contracts for municipal mainstream housing.
- Supportive RELATIONSHIPS based on HF values (as described in the PL Model) have the power to change lives, improve quality of life, self-esteem, regardless of immediate availability of housing.
- Is housing so crucial to ontological security?

How “compass perspective” enables change?

- (+) Appreciation of the local work and achievements,
- (+) Empowerment and invigoration of local practitioners, workers, experts - we are experts on our context, not younger brothers of Europeans whose programs we can never achieve, let's work it out, we can do it
- (-) Open communication of the right to housing positions this issue in political debate and reduces the interest in housing as a right as a “tool” in particular support programs.
- (+) Allows HF to be an inspiration for **various programs which improve quality of life** e.g. mobile support teams of specialists who support tenants and non-tenants based on HF values



Conclusions

- Searching for HF values in local programs. Once it is realised that they are there, even some of them not all 5, it is easier to move to full HF program by just implementing the missing values. Peter Broepoles calls it “reducing cognitive dissonance”.
- Accepting the power of what local innovators want to engage in e.g. relationship based streetwork, “privatising” training apartments with alcohol discipline
- Strong emphasis on fidelity as tools used by experts with in-depth understanding of HF and local context in order to fully support implementation of ending homelessness programs
- Fidelity assessment as a consultation on how to reach the ultimate goal of ending homelessness rather than a high note from the teacher.



From HF fidelity numbers

to

fidelity consultation



"Taking the following steps will lead you to your goal"
- The logic of a map



"Here is your goal - now it's your task to find the way to it"
- The logic of a compass