

STAR Services Under the 2163 Homeless Housing Fund



STAR's Mission: "To provide persons being released from incarceration with the essential tools to successfully reintegrate into the community as productive, contributing members."

Service Criteria: STAR serves adults with felony convictions who are releasing to, or under community supervision in, Walla Walla and Columbia Counties in Washington State.

Services Offered: 4 core programs, including Pre-Release Transition (located at Washington State Penitentiary), Case Management, Housing, and Employment

2163 Homeless Housing Services: Pays for a portion of STAR's Housing Coordinator salary, 1:1 meetings between Housing Coordinator and STAR clients, housing services, subsidized rent for qualifying clients, landlord incentives such as tenant damage repair, administrative support and accounting, HMIS data entry, family housing support, and coordination with other housing service providers.

Client Story: Francis* came to STAR in the fall of 2016 because she was at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Her addiction had made her life unmanageable, and she had lost custody of her young children. It took several meetings with the STAR Case Manager to uncover the depth of her story: she had been a victim of domestic violence, she suffered from a seizure disorder, arthritis, and was deeply impacted by a lifetime of substance use.

The STAR Case Manager and Housing Coordinator quickly came up with a plan to house Francis and begin working on her recovery from substance use disorders. As STAR staff worked with Francis, additional goals were determined: accessing mental health services and - once stable in housing and mental health - working with CPS to reunify the family.

Francis received rental subsidies using the 2163 Homeless Housing Fund during the first three months that she was enrolled in STAR services. During that time STAR was able to coordinate with Comprehensive for mental health services, coordinate with YWCA for support for domestic violence survivors, and coordinate with Catholic Charities for family counseling services. For the first year of service, Francis came into the STAR office on a weekly basis to check in with staff, track her progress with her personal reentry goals, and set new and attainable goals as she met her previous benchmarks.

By the spring of 2018, Francis had secured permanent custody of her children and was no longer supervised by CPS in any capacity, had found and maintained stable employment, had moved into a non-STAR housing unit under her own name, and had begun assisting other STAR clients who were new in recovery. Her story highlights the importance of reentry services and homeless housing funds.

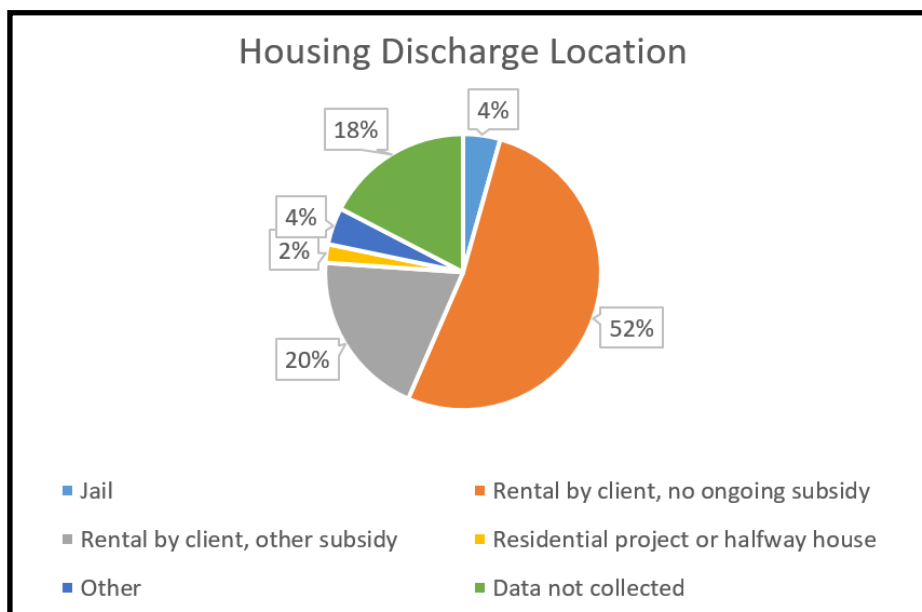
STAR Data from HMIS

The following information was entered into the Homeless Management Information System.

Date range: January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017

- **Demographics**

- ◇ 76% male / 22% female / 2% transgender
- ◇ 88% white / 4% black or African American / 2% American Indian / 6% refused
- ◇ 88% not disabled / 6% disabled / 2% doesn't know / 4% refused
- ◇ 2% were chronic homeless
- ◇ 4% were veterans
- ◇ 86% had \$0 monthly income at the time of intake



Additional STAR Housing Program Data

Not all STAR clients require rental subsidies. STAR tracks a number of data points outside of HMIS. Since the 2163 Homeless Housing Fund also pays for a portion of STAR's Housing Coordinator salary, additional information is provided on STAR's Housing program.

Date range: January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017

- Rental Agreement Information

- ◇ 45 new rental agreements signed
- ◇ 61 agreements active (i.e.16 carried over year to year)
- ◇ 54 clients housed
- ◇ 49 individuals received rental support from 2163 Homeless Housing Fund

- Housing Inventory in 2017

- ◇ 16 apartment units
- ◇ 2 group homes
- ◇ 1 duplex
- ◇ 1 small (2 bedroom) house