

# HOSPITAL TO HOUSING

Impact Report | August 2020



**The first client enrolled in Hospital to Housing on May 3, 2019.**

It took five months for the program to reach its capacity of 20. We enrolled a total of 22 clients in Hospital to Housing. We are currently providing case management to 13 clients in the program. Of the support services we provide, the most-documented are case management, home visits and face-to-face conversations.



# What is the Economic Impact of Hospital to Housing?

## Nearly \$400,000 a Year in Savings!

After one year of the Hospital to Housing program, BJC Healthcare estimates the cost of care for the enrolled clients was reduced to **\$230,000**, representing an estimated annual savings of **\$381,000** or **71%**.

### About the Hospital to Housing Clients



**47%** chronically homeless



**91%** male  
**9%** female



**77%** black/African American  
**18%** white  
**5%** American Indian



**10%** veterans

**50**

average age



**45%** self-reported substance abuse



**55%** self-reported mental illness



**55%** self-reported a chronic illness



**18%** self-reported having Medicare at entry



**50%** self-reported having Medicaid at entry



**18%** self-reported having no income at entry

# How Has Hospital to Housing Affected Hospital Admissions?



**BEFORE** clients in the program were placed into housing and provided critical case management and support services, Barnes Jewish Hospital reported about seven admissions per month.

Barnes Jewish Hospital admissions declined by

**50%**

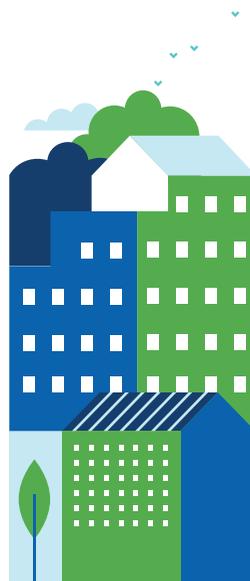


**AFTER** clients were placed into housing and provided critical case management and support services, Barnes Jewish Hospital admissions declined by **50%** to about four admissions per month. For all BJC Healthcare hospitals, admissions decreased by **54%**.

*Reporting period January 2019 – April 2020*



**For emergency department admissions,** Barnes Jewish Hospital reported clients in the program visited the ED about 38 times before housing. Visits declined by **62%** to about 15 times after housing. For all BJC Healthcare hospitals, ED admissions decreased by **66%**.



**For inpatient admissions,** Barnes Jewish Hospital reported clients in the program spent about 14 days in the hospital before housing. Hospital stays declined by **61%** to about five days after housing. For all BJC Healthcare hospitals, inpatient admissions decreased by **63%**.

*Reporting period May 2019 – October 2019*

**By the outcomes and stories in this report, the partners have declared Hospital to Housing a successful pilot program.**

The longer clients stay in housing, the fewer – if any – times they return to the hospital. During Year Two, we are seeking to expand Hospital to Housing and related funding through partnerships with other hospital systems in the St. Louis region.

# Three Stories of Success

## He changed his mind – he *does* want to live.



*“St. Patrick Center means I got my life back 100 percent. They did so much for me, including a place of my own through their Hospital to Housing program.”* – VONDELL

Vondell’s biggest struggles occurred when his mother passed away. “I hit rock bottom and lost it all – marriage, daughter, job, home.” Homeless, he went to St. Patrick Center for food and clothing, and participated in programs. Vondell also dealt with mental illness and lack of medication. “Some days I didn’t want to live. I tried to kill myself multiple times.” He would seek safety at the hospital and spend time in the psychiatric ward until he felt better after being re-medicated. Vondell joined the Hospital to Housing program and was soon placed into housing. Today, he is enjoying his home life and continues to meet with case managers. His daughter, now 16, recently visited him.

## Life goes on for longtime client, now peaceful in his own place.



*“St. Patrick Center’s Hospital to Housing program worked out well for me. They did a great deal for me and I really appreciate it.”* – LARRY

Larry has suffered a lot of physical and mental pain throughout his life, following a traumatic head injury in a car accident. “When I didn’t want to feel something, I drank. When I needed to ease my pain, I used drugs.” When he felt ill, he would go to an emergency department and spend three or four days at the hospital. Larry has participated in several St. Patrick Center programs. The Hospital to Housing program placed him into an apartment, where he meets regularly with case managers. Today, Larry is peaceful and grateful to have a place of his own.

# No more streets, no more hospitals – just home sweet home.



*“St. Patrick Center and the Hospital to Housing program saved my life. They were my guardian angels.”* – MAURICE

Maurice says he “lost it” after his mother passed away. He did all the wrong things – drugs, guns and prison time – and ended up homeless. He was also diagnosed with mental illness at age 25. “Living on the streets is treacherous. I used to go to the hospital just to get some sleep.” Maurice would go to an emergency department and tell doctors his medication wasn’t working. They would send him to a clinic. “I would leave three days later and the cycle would start all over again.” Maurice joined the Hospital to Housing program and started working with case managers, doctors and nurses. “It’s been a real wakeup call and it’s working. I want to take my meds and never be homeless again.”

