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Center for Social Policy, University of Massachusetts Boston

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# Moving Home: An Evaluation

Center for Social Policy

John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies

## Summary

The Center for Social Policy (CSP) is carrying out an analysis of data on the housing situations of participants in the *Moving Home* program, which is run by the Bowery Residents' Committee (BRC) in New York City (NYC). BRC is one of the largest, most comprehensive social service agencies in NYC, offering a client-focused continuum of 27 programs that serve 2,600 individuals daily. Launched in 2007, BRC's Moving Home initiative applies an individualized, low-threshold model to transitioning chronically homeless men and women from the streets to permanent housing.

## Results/Impacts

This partnership hopes to shed light on this particular method inspired by the *Housing First* model to house and support people with experience of street homelessness in their transition to stable housing and possible access to employment. It is also to shed light on contextual factors (housing costs, job market) and service factors that facilitate this transition and enable people to retain housing. The aim of the study is to draw lessons from this NYC-based experience for other homeless service programs in Massachusetts and elsewhere.

## Conclusion/Next Steps

Project began in January 2014

## Partnership Information

Bowery Residents' Committee, Inc. (BRC)—a leading provider of housing and services to thousands of needy individuals, focusing on effective and efficient strategies to end the cycle of homelessness in New York, NY.

## Goals and Objectives

The goal of the evaluation being conducted by the CSP is to assess *retention* in permanent housing for the Moving Home participants 3, 6, and 12 months after their entry to permanent housing. The evaluation study will also explore correlations between housing status at the 12-month follow-up and a number of personal characteristics and institutional context variables (e.g. access to housing vouchers).

## Approaches and Methods

The CSP will examine factors that affect housing retention in both the broad context and at the individual level by:

- Analysis of participant housing status and personal characteristics; **and**
- Analysis of the context for low-cost housing and the subsidies available.

## References and Resources

[http://www.brc.org/programs\\_gateway\\_services.php](http://www.brc.org/programs_gateway_services.php)

## Center for Social Policy Team

**Françoise Carré**, Research Director

**Karen Monaghan**, Public Policy  
Ph.D. Candidate