

Service Providers and Regional Connections (SPARC) Shelter-to-Housing Pathways Charter

Purpose of the Charter

This charter establishes a shared vision, principles, and commitments for transforming emergency shelter beds into pathways to permanent housing within the SPARC Network. It provides a framework for collaboration among partner organizations and serves as the foundation for signing the accompanying Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Mission Statement

To ensure that every individual and family experiencing homelessness transitions from emergency shelter to permanent housing through an integrated, supportive, and efficient system.

Vision Statement

A resilient and inclusive South Coast region where emergency shelters are gateways to permanent stability, and housing insecurity is rare, brief, and non-recurring.

Core Values

1. **Equity and Inclusion:** Prioritizing equitable access to housing for historically underserved populations.
 2. **Collaboration:** Working together to align resources, expertise, and services for collective impact.
 3. **Sustainability:** Building systems that ensure long-term financial, operational, and environmental resilience.
 4. **Community-Centered Solutions:** Elevating the voices and needs of residents in designing programs and services.
 5. **Accountability:** Ensuring transparency, data-driven decision-making, and measurable outcomes.
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Strategic Goals

1. **Seamless Continuum of Care:** Transform shelter beds into integrated components of the housing continuum.
2. **Affordable Housing Production:** Expand housing options tailored to the needs of low-income and vulnerable populations.

3. **Supportive Services:** Provide wraparound services to address barriers to housing stability.
 4. **Data-Driven Decision-Making:** Use shared systems to track outcomes and continuously improve processes.
 5. **Regional Collaboration:** Foster partnerships among local governments, nonprofits, and private sector stakeholders.
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Principles of the Shelter-to-Housing Framework

1. **Integration of Systems:** Align shelter beds with the broader housing system using Coordinated Entry Systems (CES) to prioritize placements and connect to affordable housing developments.
 2. **Comprehensive Supportive Services:** Provide case management, behavioral health support, and employment readiness.
 3. **Transitional Housing Pathways:** Develop interim housing options that bridge emergency shelter and permanent solutions.
 4. **Affordable Housing Development:** Use Community Land Trust (CLT) models and partnerships to prioritize production.
 5. **Individualized Housing Plans:** Tailor solutions to meet specific resident needs.
 6. **Sustainable Funding Models:** Employ braided funding strategies including federal, state, Medicaid, and private investments.
 7. **Community Engagement:** Amplify the economic and social benefits of reducing homelessness through local partnerships.
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Roles and Responsibilities

Partner Organizations

- **Commitments:** Align resources with the SPARC framework and share data through Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS).
- **Responsibilities:** Collaborate on program implementation, track progress, and integrate supportive services.

SPARC Coordinating Body

- Oversee partner coordination, provide technical assistance, and publish annual progress reports.

Advisory Council

- Provide strategic guidance, ensure alignment with regional goals, and advocate for funding at all levels.
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Performance Metrics

- **Shelter Exit Rates:** Percentage of residents transitioning to permanent housing.
 - **Reduction in Homelessness:** Changes in Point-in-Time (PIT) Count.
 - **Length of Stay:** Average time in shelter before housing placement.
 - **Housing Stability:** Percentage maintaining housing at 12 months.
 - **Service Utilization:** Residents accessing supportive services.
 - **Housing Production:** Units of affordable and supportive housing developed.
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Approval Process

1. **Review and Approval:** Each partner organization must present this charter to its Board, Governmental Body, or Highest Approving Official for review and approval.
 2. **Formal Commitment:** Upon approval, the highest authorized official will sign the charter and accompanying MOU.
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Amendments

This charter may be amended with the approval of the SPARC Coordinating Body and a majority vote of partner organizations.

Signatures

By signing this charter, each partner organization commits to its principles, goals, and responsibilities.

For [Partner Organization Name]:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

For SPARC Coordinating Body:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

This **Shelter-to-Housing Pathways Charter** is a shared commitment to addressing homelessness through an integrated and sustainable housing continuum on the South Coast. Together, we will transform our systems to ensure housing stability for all.