

## **HSD Provider Conference**

### **October 22, 2025**

Notes from Session: The Pathways study: An interactive session on emerging insights

Presenters: Desiree' J DuBoise (she/they) – PSU Homelessness Research and Action Collaborative, Fawn Hakert (she/her) & Crystal Magaña (she/her) – T.R.E.E.S. Lived Experience Committee

Moderators: Doc Ramblings

Notetaker: Britni Eseller

### **Main Points from Session Overview/Presentation:**

- HSD Interest
  - Funded by the JOHS
  - Interest what services help people move from pathways through shelter to housing
- PSU Interest – pathways are different for everyone
- Pathways research questions:
  - What supports do people have when living on the streets
  - Goals to shelter and housing
  - Supports towards housing and shelter goals
- Pathways Study Overview
  - Goal is survey 400 people who are experiencing houselessness in Multnomah County
    - What is their experience
    - Focus on services on what is working and not working
    - Quality of housing services
    - Currently doing mapping activities and explores peoples journey's through houselessness
    - Survey through QR code, gets into details i.e. like sweeps, might be scared to share but it is completely anonymous, need address, can be an organization, or address of someone they feel safe with

- May need address to send gift card or can hand it to them
  - Survey was created with the Lived Experience Committee
- Role of Lived Experience Committee
  - Convened in 2024
  - Co-researchers
  - Create, trialing, and giving survey to folks
  - Work together to conduct interviews together
  - Able to do some data analysis
  - Mapping was helpful for LEC
- Mapping examples
  - Draw their journeys out
  - What their relationship looks like
  - People did timelines, drew rivers, houses, cycle diagrams, etc.
- Interview findings so far:
  - Organized things into 5 broad buckets
    - Causes, barriers, brights spots, turning points, and hope for the future
    - Barriers at service or system level
      - Barriers to resolving houselessness like applying for a waitlist and never hearing your name come up
    - Supports while houseless, staff being compassionate
    - Hopes for future going to apply for educational degrees
- The activity
  - Examine each poster
  - Stores you see/what is missing
  - Pulling on your experience
  - Points you agree with
  - Will check marks to help us

### **Questions/Answers:**

- Is there compensation for service?
  - \$10 gift card to do the survey and can access via QR card and still doing the survey

- Has HSD talked about how they are going to use this great data to inform their policies?
  - They will be synthesizing all of this information and giving it to HSD. Doc Ramblings says going to prioritize some of the results from the survey, budget forecast for upcoming fiscal year. Survey is going to be important to help inform investing in areas and adjust shelter programming.

**Main Discussion Points not captured above:**

- Important to hear people's voices and stories
  - We need shelters, but need housing for recovery, uniting with family, connecting to education
  - Shelter is not permanent