

HSD Provider Conference

June 16, 2026

Notes from Session: Results from the Pathway Study

Presenters: Staff from the Homelessness Research & Action Collaborative and members of the TREES committee: Carlton Bone, Desiree' DuBoise, Cassie Marusa, Jessica Perry, Lisa Larson, October Douglas & Kathleen Conte

Moderators: Doc Ramblings

Notetaker: Lori Kelley

-Main Points from Session Overview/Presentation (high level):

- Goal of the project is to understand the system, not specific providers
- To understand unique pathways through homelessness
- TREES committee was integrated into the entire process, including design and admin of the survey and data analysis. Completing analysis of the surveys right now
- Key findings were shared. Highlights included
 - Individuals move a lot
 - People most often stayed on the street and with friends, followed by shelter
 - People want permanent housing, that allow them to have guests, partners, and privacy
 - Move in costs and documentation were among many barriers to getting and maintaining housing
 - Involuntary displacements (sweeps) are a huge barrier to stability and necessary activities to maintain stability (med apts etc)
 - Peers are often critical in helping maintain stability
 - Case management is most helpful WHEN they are effective, well networked and trained. Bad case management is worse than none
 - Shelter experiences are mostly negative, but they play a critical role for some
 - People know what they need to be successful
 - Consider families

-Questions/Answers (summarization):

- Homeless youth (TAY) are often able to address needs through transitional housing, but can't qualify at 25. What do you see in transitional housing landscape?
 - Work programs can bridge the gap here
 - Qualitative work shows this as a huge gap in the system
 - This connects to those staying in shelter, but not IN a shelter
 - Student housing can also provide transitional housing
- Disabilities broken down?
 - Yes, in the report
- Dealbreakers in Case Managers: really going above and beyond was a key positive, but turnover was a barrier, as was any kind of judgement, restrictions on services (Housing only)
- How is this report going to be used: in many ways this provides a formal way to elevate the 'why' in policy making
- Family systems have a lot of elements in shelter that are shown to be an issue. Does this mean everything goes into Shelter?
 - (complicated answer)
 - People need options and stability
 - Housing first, not only

-Main Discussion Points not captured above:

- Plug: We need more transitional housing, with services on the ground floor
- We need more project based
- Involuntary displacement was 2/3 a time done by law enforcement not case manager...impact is strong. If we could get casemenagers/out reach workers to help it would be a whole lot better
- The role of trust is huge and will be a focus of future reports