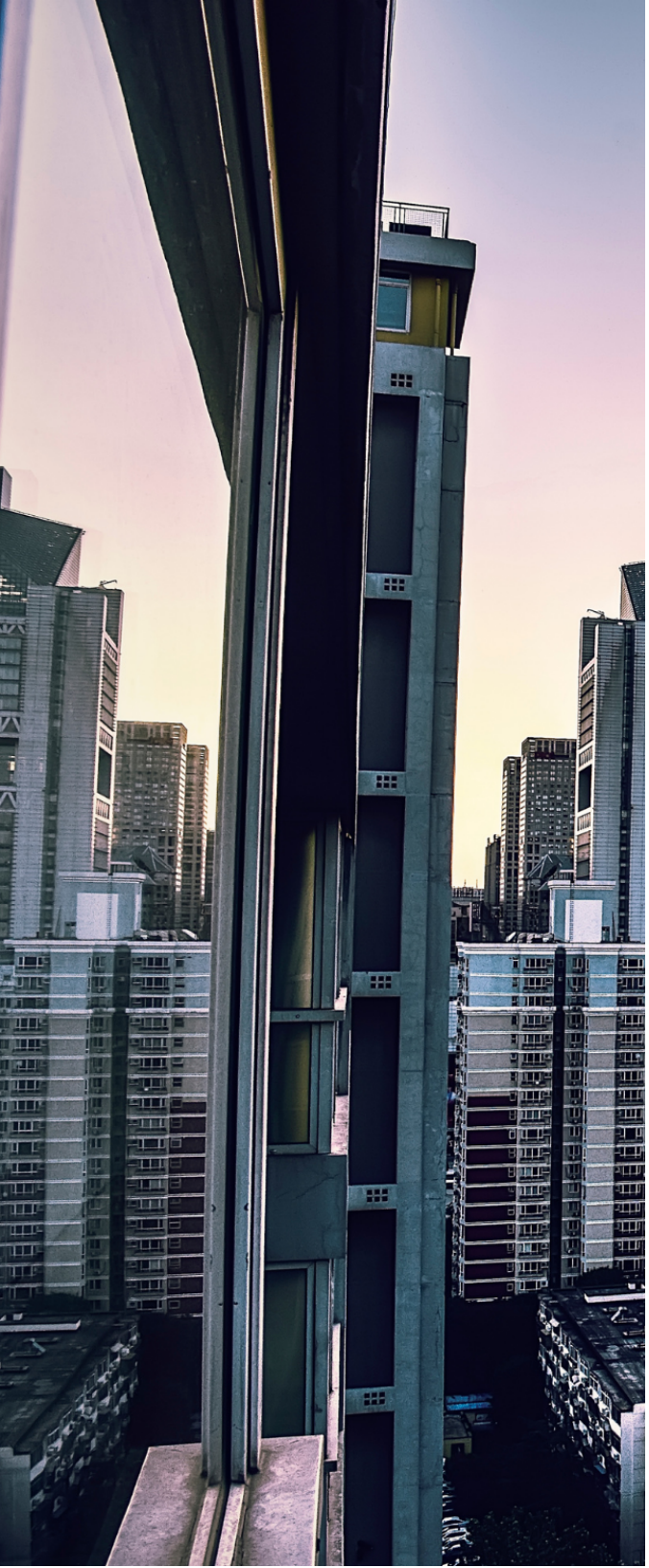


FOURTH INTERNATIONAL HOUSING FIRST CONFERENCE

Knowledge Mobilization of Evidence-Based Housing First Practices

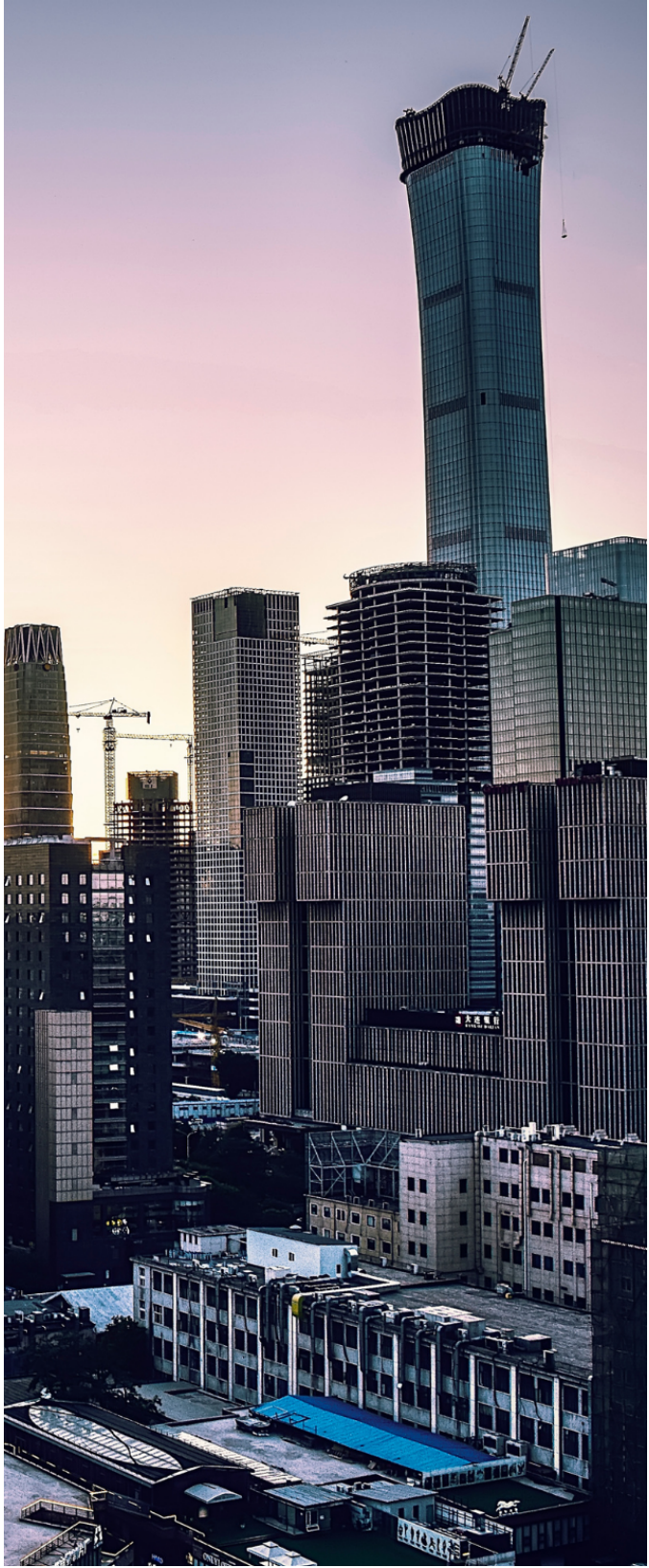
Program

October 5-7, 2021

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EDT

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. CET

Housing First



This conference is being hosted by the Ontario Housing First Regional Network Community of Interest (eenet.ca/housing-first).

Conference Partners
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
University of Ottawa
Wilfrid Laurier University
Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness
Pathways Housing First
Housing First Europe Hub
International Housing First Network

This conference is supported by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's National Housing Strategy (NHS) Research and Planning Fund and a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Connections Grant.

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OCTOBER 5, 2021

10:00 a.m. – 10:10 a.m. EDT

Opening remarks
Tim Aubry and Geoff Nelson
Ceremonial drumming by Steve Teekens
Session simultaneously translated to French.

10:10 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. EDT

Opening keynote: All Our Relations: An Indigenous Perspective of Homelessness in Winnipeg, Canada
Lucille Bruce, Betty Edel, Jino Distasio
Moderator: Geoff Nelson
Session simultaneously translated to French.

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EDT

Concurrent Block 1

Session 1: HF Communities of Interest
(Moderator: Wally Czech)

- Communication as a way to implement Housing First programs (Michele Ferraris)
- It takes a network - building the Housing First Europe Hub to support our partners to end homelessness (Samara Jones, Freek Spinnewijn, Juha Kaakinen)

Session 2: HF for youth (Moderator: Cilia Mejia-Lancheros)

- Housing First for Youth (Stephen Gaetz, Melanie Redman, Heidi Walter, Samara Jones)
- Housing First for Youth – Europe (Alistair MacDermid, Lisa O'Brien, Anke Jenson)

Session 3: Scaling up HF in Scandinavia
(Moderator: Saija Turunen)

- Housing First Development Network – promoting scaling up of HF (Juha Kahila, Juha Soivio)
- The Norwegian Housing First network sparkles and shines. Housing First brings services together. (Anne Bergljot Gimmestad Fjelnseth)

Session 4: Enriching community supports in HF
(Moderator: Ronni Greenwood)

- Enhancing social integration of homeless people: relevant outcomes of Housing First – Italy (Caterina Cortese, Pascucci Roberta)
- Innovative strategies in delivering housing support: the case of italian cities (Margherita Neri, Paolo Moreschi, Alessandro Carta, Simona Migliorisi)

Session 5: Beyond housing (Moderator: Tim Aubry)

- Beyond Housing: Enhancing coordination and supports to complement case management in Housing First (Stephen Hwang, Kate Francombe Pridham, John Ecker)
- Housing first and antifragility: a possible common path. (Marco Iazzolino, M. Maccarrone, S. Peters, E. Laureri, V. Meli, M. Cortese, G. Santagata)

OCTOBER 5, 2021

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. EDT

Concurrent Block 2

Session 6: HF in Australia and New Zealand
(Moderator: Geoff Nelson)

- 10 years of housing and recovery in Australia: an expanded approach to Housing First applications (Haley Bowman)
- Adapting Housing First for Aotearoa New Zealand – a Māori (Indigenous peoples) perspective (Rami Alrudaini, Awatea Hawke, Vikki Ham)

Session 7: HF during COVID-19 (Moderator: James Lachaud)

- "You Didn't Just Hand Us Off": The Innovative PartnershipsDriving Successful Client Outcomes of Toronto's Rapid Rehousing Initiative (Melissa Doyle, France Helen Ewing, Ashley Fontaine, Nicholas Broderick, and Dan Kershaw);
- Phone/smartphone-based intervention Guideline (Pablo Marchesi, Francesc Talens)

Session 8: Coordinated access systems in HF
(Moderator: Wally Czech)

- Community Shelter Board's Unified Supportive Housing System (Lianna Barbu)
  Coordinated access and coordinated entry system processes in the housing and homelessness sector: A critical analysis of current practices (John Ecker, Molly Brown, Tim Aubry, Kate Francombe Pridham, and Stephen Hwang)

Session 9: Pathways Vermont's Rural Implementation of Housing First: An Overview
(J Helms, Moderator: Sam Tsemberis)

Session 10: Housing First for Individuals with Opioid Use Disorder (Andrew Spiers LSW, Jeffrey Jackson, Kate Gleason-Bachman; Moderator: Maryann Roebuck)

OCTOBER 6, 2021

10:00 a.m. – 10:10 a.m. EDT

Opening remarks
Vicky Stergiopoulos, Tim Aubry, Geoff Nelson

10:10 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. EDT

Concurrent Block 3

Session 11: HF for survivors of domestic violence (Moderator: Ronni Greenwood)

- Housing First for women experiencing domestic abuse and other forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG) in England (Louisa Steele)
- Housing First & Women - Creating Safe & Suitable Housing Opportunities for Women Impacted by Violence (Hannah Skinner, Grant Martin)

Session 12: Harm reduction in HF (Moderator: Lisa Medd)

- Harm Reduction in Housing First: Research Outcomes, Practices, and Evidence Gaps (Nick Kerman)
- Harm Reduction in Housing First (Melissa Pim)

Session 13: Systemic responses to growing HF (Moderator: Tim Aubry)

- Some of the Things You Wanted to Know About Toronto's Supportive Housing Growth Plan but Were Afraid To Ask (Steve Lurie, Frank Sirotich)
- CMHC Research and Program Outputs: What We Have Learned About Successful Socially Inclusive Housing (Marina Sloutsky, Elisabeth Feltaous, Wendy Pollard)

Session 14: International adaptations of HF (Moderator: Eric Latimer)

- Maintaining fidelity amid homelessness transformation in Wales (Alex Osmond)
- Ending homelessness through independent, permanent and scatter houses in the community: Up-scalling Housing First in Lisboa/Portugal during COVID-19 pandemic (José Ornelas)

Session 15: Lived Experience and Housing First: Peer and Indigenous Perspectives (Al Wiebe, Don Robinson; Moderator: Geoff Nelson)

11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EDT

Day 2 keynote: Housing First in Finland
Saija Turunen
Moderator: Tim Aubry
Session simultaneously translated to French.

OCTOBER 6, 2021

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. EDT

Poster, Mentoring, and Networking Sessions

Networking session:

- International consortium discussion (Moderators: Tim Aubry and Geoff Nelson)

Mentoring sessions:

If you have indicated that you are interested in connecting with a mentor, please use this time to view the list of conference participants and reach out to another participant who has indicated they are interested in being a mentor, with expertise in the area you are interested in.

Poster presentations:

- CMHA Toronto Housing First ICM & Toronto Community Housing Collaboration (Pio Giralico)
- The Liberty Project: Findings from a Yellow Brick
- House pilot project (Marie Lang)
- Housing first in the spectrum of systematic reviews on homelessness (Veera Niemi)
- A study of the creation of affordable housing for Housing First tenants through the purchase of condominiums (Ayda Agha)
- Examining Risk Factors and Protective Resources for Recovery among Homeless Youth who Receive Housing First and Treatment as Usual (Stéphanie Manoni-Millar)
- Results of a Process Evaluation of a Housing First Program in Waterloo Region Focusing on Home-Based Supports (Margaret Douglin)
- The Restart Project Protocol: Examining the effectiveness of an integrated housing, mental health, and addiction service model for youth experiencing homelessness and concurrent disorders (Victoria Rozycki)
- Homelessness and COVID 19: Learnings from Italy (Caterina Cortese)
- Youth Narratives of the Successes and Limitations of a Housing First for Youth Program (Sloane Mulligan)
- Long term impact of a Housing First (HF) intervention on housing, health and social outcomes: Findings from the At Home/Chez
- Soi (AH/CS) research demonstration project in Toronto, Canada (Cilia Mejia-Lancheros)
- Mission United Hub: A Health and Housing Focused Partnership (Doreen Hume McKenna, Daniel Cullen)

OCTOBER 7, 2021

10:00 a.m. – 10:10 a.m. EDT

Opening remarks
Tim Aubry and Geoff Nelson

10:10 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. EDT

Concurrent Block 4

Session 16: Housing First in the UK and Ireland: Challenges and Opportunities (Ligia Teixeira, Bob Jordan, Marion Gibbs, Allan Jones, Jo Prestidge, Alex Osmond)

Session 17: HF for people with developmental disabilities (Moderator: James Lachaud)

- Just Enough Support: Partnerships for the Inclusion of People with Intellectual Disabilities in Welcoming Nonprofit Housing Communities (Keenan Wellar, Julie Kingstone)
- Building Bridges to Housing – Adapting Housing First Practices For Homeless Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (Judy Verseghy, Barry Isaacs, Jo Connelly, Sarah Farsalas)

Session 18: Predictors of Housing Instability Among Recipients of Housing First (Maryann Roebuck, Aurelie Tinland, Sandrine Loubière, Ayda Agha; Moderator: Tim Aubry)
Presenters will be presenting in both English and French. Simultaneous translation will be available.

Session 19: Understanding how Housing First affects costs (Eric Latimer; Moderator: Vanesa Cenjor del Rey)

Session 20: Achieving fidelity in HF (Moderator: Lisa Medd)

- Balancing Fidelity and Adaptation: Collaborative Housing First Fidelity Assessment- a Pilot Approach (Kathryn Gibb, Pio Giralico, Geoff Nelson)
- Fidelity Findings from the Arrels Foundation Housing First Programme in Barcelona, Spain (Francesc Guasch)

11:10 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. EDT

Concurrent Block 5

Session 21: The Restart Project: The experiences and contributions of a Youth with Lived Experience advisory committee (Maritt Kirst, Karleigh Darnay, Harmony Eshkawkogan, Lauren Luliani; Moderator: Al Wiebe)

OCTOBER 7, 2021

Session 22: Achieving recovery in HF (Moderator: Maryann Roebuck)

- Creating a home - building the foundation for health and well-being (Haley Bowman, Beth Fogerty)
- Operations & Innovations: Facilitators and Challenges to Promoting Housing First Clients' Well-being and Connectedness (Dr Ronni Michelle Greenwood)

Session 23: Frameworks, Relationships and Real-World Challenges (Claire Frew; Moderator: Cilia Mejia-Lancheros)

Session 24: Scaling up HF in European cities (Moderator: Eric Latimer)

- Housing First scale-up as a long-term and health response to tackle chronic homelessness during COVID-19 pandemic (Cristiana Merendeiro)
  Session simultaneously translated to French
- La mise à l'échelle du Logement d'abord sur la métropole lyonnaise : enjeux et épreuves pratiques / The scaling up of Housing First in the Lyon metropolis of Lyon: issues and practical (Nadyah Abdel Salam, Martine Chanal, Étienne Fabris)
  Session presented in French and simultaneously translated to English.

Session 25: Homelessness policy in different countries (Geoffrey Nelson, Eoin O'Sullivan, Sam Tsemberis; Moderator: Tim Aubry)

12:10 p.m. – 12:55 p.m. EDT

Closing keynote: The Future of Housing First
Sam Tsemberis
Session simultaneously translated to French

12:55 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. EDT

Closing remarks
Tim Aubry and Geoff Nelson
Session simultaneously translated to French.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Lucille Bruce is the Chief Operating Officer of End Homelessness Winnipeg, Canada. Lucille is a Metis Women who has worked in various leadership roles in Winnipeg, addressing the needs of Urban Indigenous Women and children who were at -risk of homelessness for over 3 decades. Most of Lucille's work experience, including her current position, has been focused on establishing and building a continuum of culturally-relevant services and supports for Indigenous Women, Children and peoples in Winnipeg. Lucille is also recognized for her work as the Indigenous Co-Site Coordinator for the AH/CS National Research Demonstration Project in Winnipeg by the Mental Health Commission of Canada. Lucille provided leadership in the coordination and successful delivery and implementation of the 3 Housing First Programs in Winnipeg.

Dr. Jino Distasio joined the University of Winnipeg, Canada in 1999 and is currently the Vice President, Research and Innovation. Over the past 15 years he has served as the Director of the Institute of Urban Studies; a faculty member in the department of Geography. For well over a decade, Jino has worked extensively in Winnipeg's inner city as well as exploring broader Canadian and global urban issues. During this period he has been actively engaged in over 175 projects, publications and community initiatives. Dr. Distasio coordinated a study of homelessness and mental health in Canadian cities. This work was part of a $110 million dollar project funded by the Mental Health Commission of Canada and the largest such project ever undertaken globally. He has also led numerous multi-city projects that have examined housing markets dynamics, homelessness, poverty as well as developing of a national index of neighbourhood distress in Canadian cities. He continues to teach and holds three adjunct appointments at the University of Manitoba where he actively serves on numerous doctoral and masters level committees.

Betty Edel is the Manager, Housing Supports at End Homelessness Winnipeg, Canada. Betty is a Métis woman who has worked on social justice issues in the Inner city of Winnipeg for over 35 years, including education, health care, housing, homelessness. Betty has also trained for Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH) nationally on Housing First from an Indigenous perspective.

Dr. Saija Turunen is research manager at Y-Foundation, Finland where she has worked since 2017. Saija studied and worked in the field of social research in the UK where she founded and ran her own research consultancy as well as taught research methods at the University of Bangor, North Wales after receiving her Ph.D. from there in 2001. Currently Saija co-leads the research work cluster of the Housing First Europe Hub and her research interests include impact assessment, women's homelessness as well as subjective well-being.

Dr. Sam Tsemberis is the founder of the Pathways Housing First model. He serves as President of the Pathways Housing First Institute and is also the Executive Director of the VA-UCLA Center of Excellence for Training and Research at the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System. He is internationally renowned for his Housing First research and practice. He received the award for the Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions to Independent Practice from the American Psychological Association in 2016. Pathways Housing First has been implemented across the United States, Canada, many European Union countries, Australia, and New Zealand.