



# Implementing Low Barrier Shelter Quickly: Housing First Focus, Post-Disaster and Rural Communities

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# Salt Lake City, UT

- 1,100 bed per night shelter system in a large city
- Housing First Core
- Rapid Rehousing and Progressive Engagement
- Every new funding source was tested to be used toward housing
- Between self-resolution and shelter to housing flow, no additional shelter was necessary



# In a Post-Disaster Setting

- After a disaster, the will of the community shifts
- Providers had a lack of shelter already
- After the disaster, providers took quick stock of shelter and worked hard to open a new low-barrier shelter



# To Set Up Quickly

- Siting
- Opening and Basic Operations
- “Marketing”
- Management and Staffing
- Funding
- Start with a plan for housing whenever possible
  
- Once new shelter wasn't an immediate possibility, the main shelter provider looked inward



# Retooling What Exists

- Once new shelter wasn't an immediate possibility, the main shelter provider looked inward
- Board members and staff were educated
- Shelter worked toward eliminating barriers to entry for single adults, and relocated the families staying in shelter
- Operational procedures and policies were revisited
- Management and staffing structures were revisited
- Shelter could go from serving 130 people to 160 individuals with families being served at other facilities



# In Rural Areas

- There may not be new resources
- Housing opportunities are still rare
- Retooling what exists is a reasonable option