



July 24, 2018

City and Borough of Juneau Assembly Members
Mr. Rorie Watt, CBJ Manager

RE: Juneau Housing First Collaborative Phase II

CBJ Assembly Members and Mr. Manager,

The Juneau Coalition on Housing and Homelessness (JHCC) is writing today in support of the Juneau Housing First Collaborative (JHFC) funding request for Phase II of their permanent supportive housing project.

JCHH is a partnership of local agencies and organizations who serve Juneau's most vulnerable homeless residents. These organizations participate in the Juneau Continuum of Care by providing emergency, transitional, permanent-supportive, and supportive services to clients. We individually and collectively work together to develop solutions.

Phase I of the Juneau Housing First Collaborative Project has been in operation for less than a year. During this brief period, utilization of Bartlett Regional Hospital (BRH) Emergency Room services, Capital City Fire and Rescue (CCFR) interventions, and Rainforest Recovery Center (RRC) Sleep-Off Center have dropped dramatically. An evaluative study compiling data from BRH, CCFR, and RRC, conducted by Dr. Heidi Brocius at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, clearly demonstrates the success of the Housing First Project model. The study synopsis is attached to this letter. We have also heard from downtown residents/businesses that the quality of life downtown has improved substantially. Social service agencies, such as TGH, St. Vincent De Paul Society, and AWARE, report improved outcomes as a result of the project

There are currently 94 individuals on the waitlist for the Juneau Housing First Collaborative Project. Sixty-four (64) of these individuals are highly vulnerable, and experience barriers that make obtaining and maintaining permanent housing nearly impossible, without significant supports. Many believe they are likely to die on the streets. They are high utilizers of CBJ's emergency services; BRH reported \$1.8 million in patient services charged from January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018 for 40 people struggling with homelessness.

We have had many inquiries about the origin of Juneau's homeless community. Data compiled in the Alaska Homelessness Management Information System (AKHMIS) indicates these individuals did not come to Juneau from Seattle, California, or other locations in the lower 48 states. For the most part,

they are Juneau-born Alaska residents, with high Vulnerability Index scores, and histories of severe trauma. 61.5% of these individuals identify as Alaskan Native.

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) has released a notice of funding for permanent supportive housing facilities. Juneau qualifies for 2.8 million dollars in capital and 1.8 million dollars in operating funds. The application deadline is October 5, 2018. We believe a Juneau application for permanent supportive housing has excellent chances of being awarded. Phase II would include 45 units of permanent-supportive housing, which would fill a long-standing gap in permanent-supportive housing stock. It is estimated that the facility will cost \$7 million to build. The JCHH supports the Juneau Housing First Collaborative request to the CBJ to provide \$4.2 million in bridge funding, ensuring that Juneau's application for AHFC funds will be successful. The Juneau Housing First Collaborative will apply for other funding, and the amount of CBJ bridge would be reduced by each funding source that is granted. JHFC intends to apply to the Rasmuson Foundation, the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), our Tribal partners, and the Juneau Community Foundation. While JHFC has identified and signaled intent to apply for these funds, commitments will not be made in time for the Alaska Housing and Finance Corporation application deadline. CBJ bridge funding could be made contingent on the success of the Alaska Housing and Finance Corporation grant application. JHFC is hoping that, after additional funding is secured, CBJ's contribution to the project will be \$1.5 million dollars.

JCHH understands that the request is significant and the timeline tight. However, this is an opportunity Juneau cannot pass up. Phase 2 of Housing First will bring Juneau's stock of permanent supportive housing to a level more appropriate to the need, further reduce emergency service use, improve the quality of life and of commerce downtown, and bring millions of dollars in construction and operating funding to Juneau. Housing First Phase 1 has had a tremendous impact on our community. We hope that CBJ will work together with our community to finish this essential project.

Sincerely,



Gus Marx, Co-Chair JCHH



Doug Harris, Co-Chair JCHH



**Juneau Housing First
6 Month Pre/Post Service Usage and
Indicators of Wellbeing Comparison
June 2018**

**Heidi Brocious, PhD, MSW, &
Morgan Erisman, MSW & MPH**



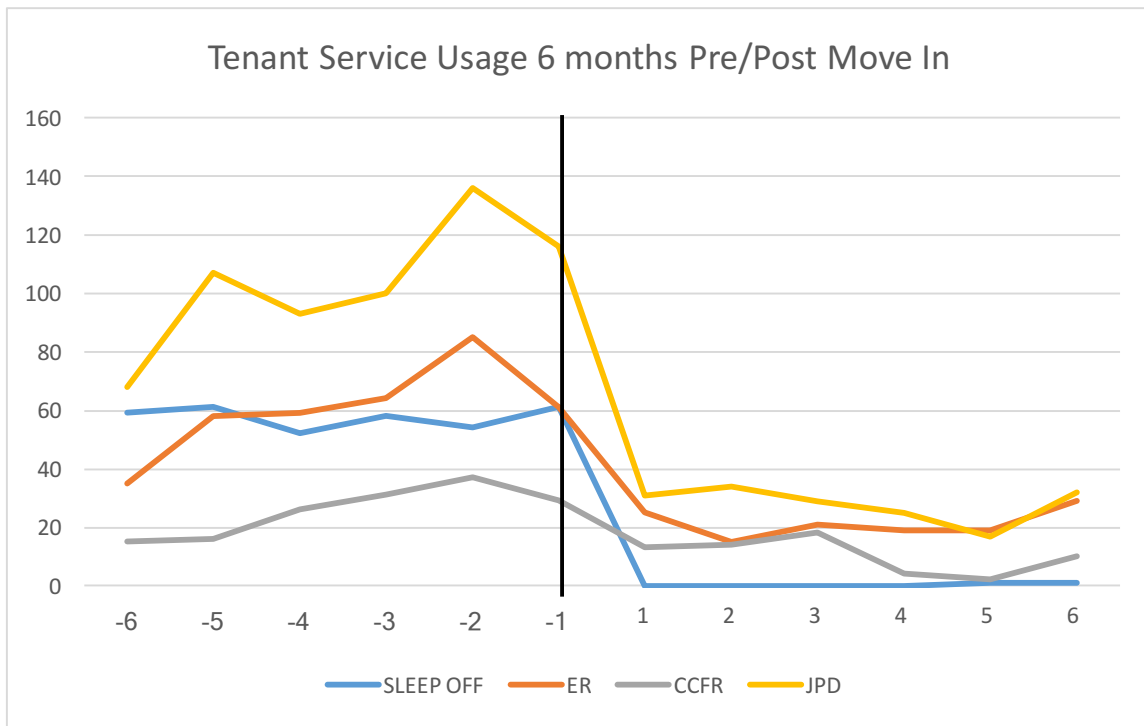
Service Utilization

Comparison of resident pre/post move-in usage of Bartlett ER, Rainforest Recovery Center Sleep Off, Contact with Juneau Police Department (JPD), and contact with Capital City Fire and Rescue (CCFR).

	6 months prior to move in	6 months post move in	Percent of decrease in usage between 2 six month periods
Bartlett ER Visits	360	126	65%
RRC sleep off visits	344	2	99.4%*
Contacts with JPD officers (any reason)	604	168	72%*
Transport by CCFR	137	63	54%

*indicates statistically significant difference

Usage Trends Visualized



Resident Demographics

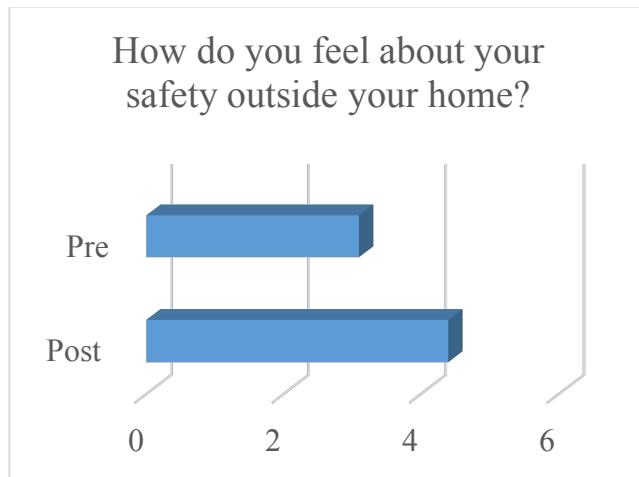
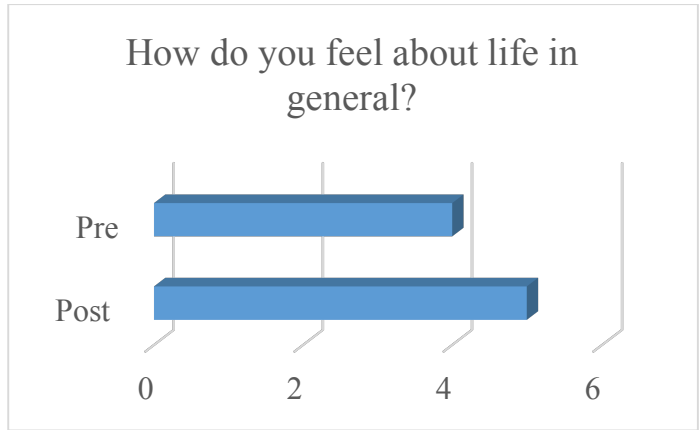
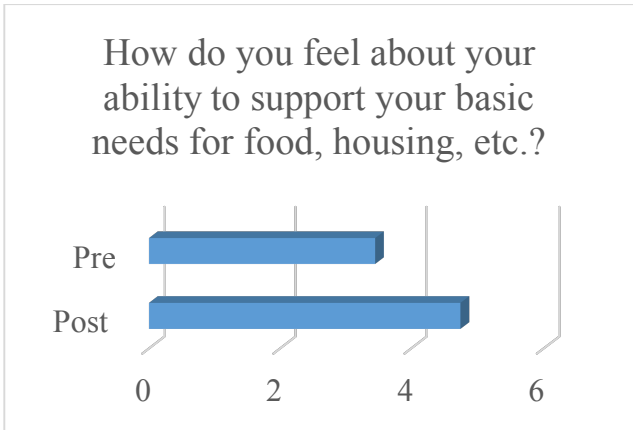
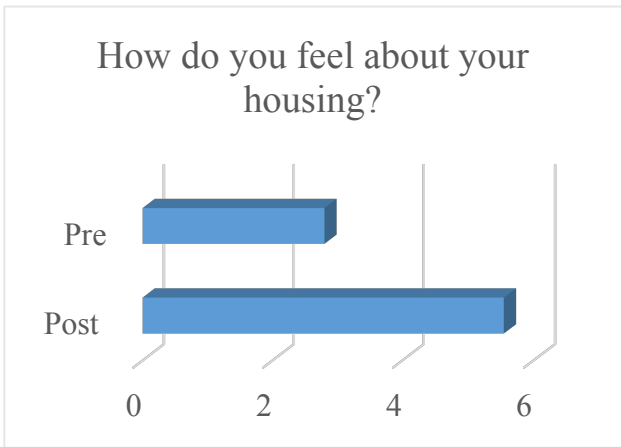
Average age of residents	50 years old (range of 31-62)
Gender	80% Male 20% Female
Race/Ethnicity	85% Alaska Native/American Indian 10% Caucasian 5% Mixed-race
Education	5% Graduate School 10% Undergraduate College 5% Vocational Education 75% High School Diploma or GED 5% Less than High School
Median number of Months Homeless	180 (approximately 15 years)

Residents' Experiences with Trauma

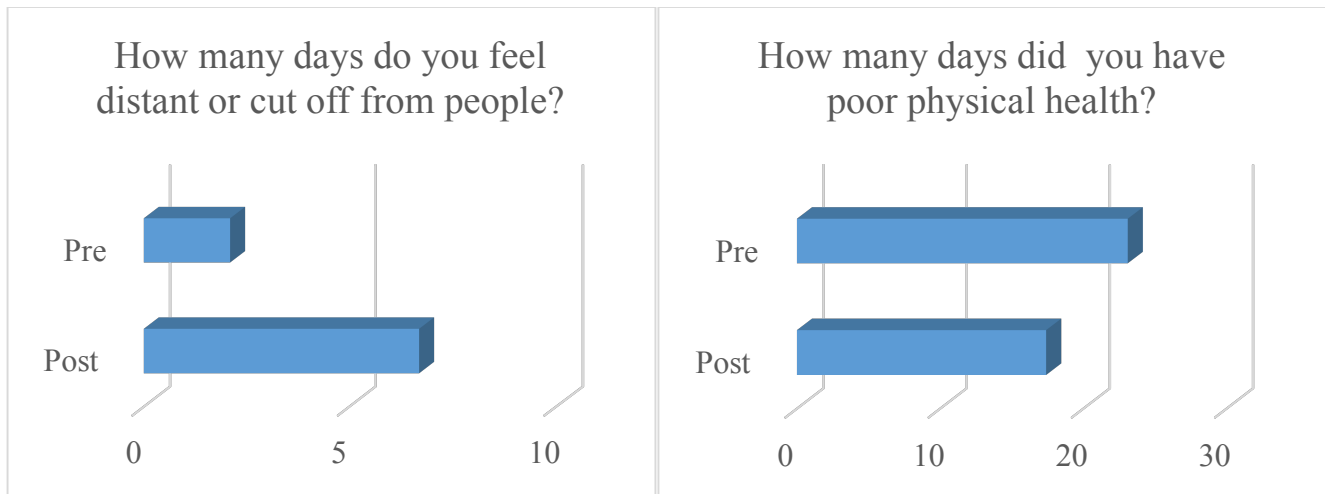
Lived with someone who abused substances	90%
Lived where there was not enough to eat, had to wear dirty clothes, or was not safe	80%
Lived with someone who was sent to prison	70%
Has been physically mistreated	60%
Lived with someone who was physically mistreated	50%
Lived with someone who attempted or committed suicide	45%
Personally in foster care, or a close relative in foster care	45%

Indicators of Well-being Average Group Scores (statistically significant findings at 6 months)

1=terrible, 2=unhappy, 3=dissatisfied, 4=mixed, 5=satisfied, 6=pleased, 7=delighted



Indicators of Well-being (Statistically Significant) Self-Reported Average Number of Days



Findings that were not statistically significant, but will be interesting to track and see with more time and more data:

	Average # of Days Pre	Average # of Days Post
Alcohol use	21.4	21.05
Drank more than four drinks	18.55	15.35
Used Tobacco	14.1	16.35
Felt barely able to control their anger	1.3	3.3
Felt Suicidal	1.5	3.6

Preliminary Cost & Fundraising Estimates for Housing First - Phase 2 (July 10, 2018)

Estimated Cost	\$7,000,000		
Potential Funding Sources	Amount to be Requested	Amount that can be Requested	Notes
AK Housing Finance Corp	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	
CDBG	\$500,000	\$850,000	
ICDBG	\$540,000	\$600,000	Received Phase 1
AK Mental Health Trust	\$500,000		Received \$350,000 for Phase 1 before we had any data on potential success of project in Juneau
Rasmuson Foundation	\$500,000		Received \$500,000 for Phase 1
Murdock Trust	\$250,000		Not a limit, they give mostly between \$250,000 and \$300,000 for capital projects in Alaska
Bartlett Reg Hosp	\$1,000,000		Received \$158,000 for Phase 1
Reitman Trusts	\$100,000		Received \$100,000 for Phase 1
Gaguine Foundation	\$75,000		Received \$75,000 for Phase 1
Block Foundation	\$50,000		Anchorage based with affiliation to Juneau
Sealaska	\$150,000		Received \$25,000 for Phase 1; 85% Native Alaskan residents in Phase 1 facility
Goldbelt	\$25,000		Received \$1,000 for Phase 1; 85% Native Alaskan residents in Phase 1 facility
Community Donations	\$50,000		Communty Foundation to collect -
CBJ	1,500,000	\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000 is the diferencef between 7M and \$2.8M AHFC grant; would need some amount equal to difference between contractor cost and AHFC from CBJ as a bridge for purposes of AHFC grant application, while additional funds were applied for and gathered.
Estimated Revenue	\$8,040,000	\$8,450,000	
This anticipates that some grants do not come through or are lower than amount requested.			