



CALL FOR PAPERS –European Research Conference
HOUSING FIRST. WHAT’S SECOND?
 Berlin, 20th September 2013



FEANTSA's *European Observatory on Homelessness*, the *European Network for Housing Research Working Group on Welfare Policy, Homelessness and Social Exclusion (WELPHASE)* are pleased to announce the 8th Annual Research Conference on Homelessness in Europe entitled ***Housing First. What's Second?*** hosted by the Alice Salomon Hochschule Berlin, University of Applied Sciences.

Housing First is one of the most significant innovations in service provision for homeless people in the last decades and has become important in homelessness policy in many European countries. Housing First appeals to policy makers not only as a potential to lasting solution to homelessness, but also because it may generate significant cost offsets by reducing the high rates at which homeless people use emergency services or encounter the criminal justice system. The critical part of the operation of Housing First, however, is how the recovery oriented services are organised and provided in order to sustain the housing for the homeless people and their social inclusion.

The conference *Housing First. What's Second?* invites delegates to present papers on critical reviews of the use of Housing First within homelessness strategies in their own countries and in the European context, and report on an analyses and critical discussions on the roles of Housing First in delivering community engagement, and tackling social isolation and worklessness, and reducing mental health problems, drug and alcohol use, and meeting other support needs, once homelessness has ended.

Similarly to previous years, the conference will also include open sessions on the broad theme of 'homelessness and housing exclusion' from across Europe.

Keynote speakers

Dr. Sam Tsemberis serves as the CEO of Pathways to Housing and created and piloted the Housing First approach. He is a clinical-community psychologist and serves on the faculty of the Department of Psychiatry at Columbia University Medical Center. He is the principal research investigator for several federally funded studies of homelessness dual diagnosis and has published numerous articles and book chapters on these topics. He is author of the *Housing First: The Pathways Model to End Homelessness for People with Mental Illness and Addiction*.

Dr. Volker Busch-Geertsema (GISS, Bremen, Germany) is a senior research fellow at the Association for Innovative Social Research and Social Planning (GISS, Bremen, Germany). He is a member of the European Observatory on Homelessness since 1995 and since 2009 he is the Coordinator of the Observatory and a member of the editorial team of the *European Journal of Homelessness*. He has conducted a large number of extensive research projects on different aspects of homelessness in Germany and Europe. Currently, he is coordinator of the *Housing First Europe* project, a Social Experimentation project funded in the framework of the PROGRESS programme of the European Commission.

Professor Judith Wolf (Professor of Social Care, head of the Netherlands Centre for Social Care Research (Omz) at Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, and director of the Academic Collaborative Centre for Shelters and Public Mental Health, the Netherlands) has more than 25 years of experience in designing and conducting both academic and applied research on socially vulnerable people (including homeless people and abused women) and on the social and health care services needed by these groups. Amongst other things, she carried out several studies on intensive case management and outreach and was principal investigator of the evaluation of one of the first Housing First practices in the Netherlands, i.e. in Amsterdam. Currently, she is project leader of an exploration of all Housing First projects and initiatives in the Netherlands.

Submission Details

Please submit an abstract in English (max. 300 words) by April 7, 2013. Successful conference submissions will be notified by early May 2013. Final PowerPoint presentations will be due by end of July 2013. Submissions and further enquiries should be directed to research@feantsa.org. The Conference will be hosted by the Alice Salomon Hochschule Berlin, University of Applied Sciences (<http://www.ash-berlin.eu>). Presenters pay a reduced fee.

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