HOUSING FIRST WALES

CONFERENCE 2024

22 MAY 2024 | ONLINE

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PROGRAMME

09:30 ⬇ 10:30

LAUNCH: REVISED HOUSING FIRST WALES PRINCIPLES

- **Alex Osmond, Cymorth Cymru**

It is widely recognised that the Housing First principles are key to the model's success. However, as the policy and delivery environment changes, how do we ensure they remain fit for purpose? Developed via the Housing First Wales Network with input from people with lived experience, we have reviewed and updated the principles for Wales. This session will outline the key changes and how the revised principles will further strengthen practice.

11:00 ⬇ 12:00

EMBEDDING CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY IN HOUSING FIRST

- **Bianca Hutchinson, Crisis**

Multi-agency support is a key component of Housing First, with mental health support being important for many people's journey out of homelessness. Services continue to do all they can to enable access to psychological services, with some relying on partnerships with other services and others creating roles within their teams. We are delighted to be joined by Bianca Hutchinson, who will share the benefits of embedding a clinical psychologist within a Housing First team, and the impact it has on both clients and staff.

12:30 ⬇ 13:30

HOUSING FIRST – SUPPORT AT THE END OF LIFE

- **Alex Smith, Homeless Link**
- **Cath Docherty, Salvation Army**

We know that long term homelessness can lead to huge health inequalities and a shorter life expectancy. Sadly, one of the most common reasons for the closure of a Housing First tenancy is death. This session will focus on how staff can cope with this sad reality, the practicalities of it, how to approach end of life care with a client, and how a team can support each other through this experience.

14:00 ⬇ 15:00

MORE THAN A ROOF: EXPLORING HOLISTIC OUTCOMES OF HOUSING FIRST

- **Sophie Boobis, Homeless Link**

In our final session of the day, Sophie Boobis will present Homeless Link and Expert Link's recently published research, which examines how multi-year engagement with Housing First delivers a range of improvements to people's quality of life, such as physical and mental health, offending behaviour, substance use, social networks, employment and training, engagement with meaningful activities and more.