



From Streets to Homes: Peer support program

Principles of peer support

- Lived experience of homelessness as a resource in supporting peers
- Partnership between peers as opposed to power relations
- Peer support and professional support work complement each-other



In practice

- Started in November 2022
- Weekly groups session of peer mentors:
 - Tolerant and trauma-informed environment
 - Case discussions
 - Empowerment of peer mentors
 - Forming the framework and boundaries of peer support together
 - Monthly reflective practice
- 7 peer mentors:
 - 3 people have experienced homelessness (huts, shelters)
 - 4 refugees from Ukraine
 - 6 female, 1 male
 - 3 people from The City is for All group
 - Age between 20 and 69



In practice

- Every peer mentor supports 2 families
 - Regular meetings and contact
 - Support as long as needed
 - Joint leisure activities
 - Regular communication with professional support workers

- Challenges
 - Peer support vs. material support, donations
 - Enough time to realize the needs of service-users



Support needs

People moving from huts to homes - re-integration	Refugees from Ukraine - integration
Finding a job	Furniture & other stuff
Health issues	Food, hygiene and baby products
Social connections	Social connections
Sustaining independent housing: finances, neighbors, etc.	Language barriers, interpretation
	Access to services: health care, education



Future plans

- June 2023: launch of regular group for people moving from huts to homes co-facilitated by peer mentors
- Peers can choose their mentor
- Peer support starts before moving in





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