

## College-Focused Rapid Rehousing:

### An Evidence-Based Intervention to Support Housing & Educational Retention

College-Focused Rapid Rehousing (CFRR) is a housing model that combines the three core elements of evidence-based Rapid Rehousing (housing identification, rental assistance and intensive case management) with meaningful, sustained connections to post-secondary education. CFRR is an effective model for reducing college student homelessness by connecting homeless students to their community’s homelessness response system and ensuring that system is equipped with services tailored to support student success. Jovenes, Inc. piloted this model starting in 2016 and has used it to improve both housing stability and college outcomes for homeless youth in Los Angeles. Since 2018, with funding from The California Wellness Foundation and the Walter S. Johnson Foundation, John Burton Advocates for Youth and Jovenes have been providing technical assistance to communities across the state interested in replicating the model using new state funding.

#### Core Elements of College-Focused Rapid Rehousing:

- **Provide rental subsidies and supportive services** to homeless students so they can live on their own and continue their education.
- **Establish partnerships** between housing providers, coordinated entry access points, and college campuses to make the college campus the primary center of services delivery.
- **Provide navigation services on campus** to conduct outreach and assessment, and connect youth with housing and services.
- **Provide traditional & academic case management to students** to ensure they are able to remain in housing and in college and to assist them in transitioning to independence by the end of the rental subsidy.

#### What’s Different about College-Focused Rapid Rehousing?

##### Rapid Rehousing

- Assists with housing identification & landlord recruitment
- Provides rental subsidies
- Provides case management
- Utilizes Housing First approach
- Is time-limited

##### College-Focused Rapid Rehousing

- Assists with housing identification & landlord recruitment
- Provides rental subsidies
- Provides case management
- Utilizes Housing First approach
- Is time-limited *with flexibility*
- Utilizes Peer Navigators
- Provides academic case management (in addition to “traditional” CM)
- Partners with colleges

#### What Outcomes are Achieved through College-Focused Rapid Rehousing?

This model has been effective at supporting both housing stability and continued college enrollment. In the first three years of piloting this model, Jovenes’ has housed 62 students with the following results:

- 23% of the students have graduated
- 76% retention rate (maintaining their enrollment in college, transferred or graduated), and
- 24% withdrew from college.

As the program is just three years old, graduation rates are expected to increase over time as more students have the opportunity to complete.

The retention rate however, already exceeds the overall student fall to spring retention rate at community colleges which was 70% in 2017/2018. This is especially notable given that the available data on the general student population measures retention over just one year whereas the data from the Jovenes program spans three full years and focuses exclusively on students who are experiencing homelessness.