Saluting Innovation @ Haven for Hope

by Cortney Behrends and Bill Poston

Saluting innovation at Haven for Hope for embracing the concept of “Collective Impact” in creating a nationally-acclaimed program to return homeless persons in Bexar County, Texas to a full life in the community. The integrated service delivery model brings over 90 organizations and agencies together under one roof. These partners provide hundreds of resources and thousands of services, such as medical care, mental health care, counseling, education, benefits assistance, job training, life skills, legal services, and ID recovery. Haven for Hope offers case management, job training, facilities, education and agency coordination. They have two major programs for the homeless. Prospects Courtyard is a low-barrier safe sleeping program that offers shelter and basic needs, while the Transformational Campus offers services and shelter with an emphasis toward addressing the root causes of homelessness. Haven for Hope’s planning team traveled across the US researching successful services models, ultimately pulling ideas from over 30 organizations. In their first three years of operation, Haven for Hope has moved over 1000 homeless individuals into permanent housing. We salute Haven for Hope for developing a program that helps teach the homeless how to help themselves.

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