



HOUSING FIRST STL SUMMIT

ENVISIONING SYSTEMS AND SOLUTIONS FOR THE UNHOUSED

Date: October 21, 2024

Location: Eric P. Newman Education Center
Washington University School of Medicine

AGENDA

- 8 a.m.** Light breakfast, networking
- 8:50 a.m.** Welcome, Jim Wild, East-West Gateway Council of Governments
- 9 a.m.** **Grounding in Data, Locally, Nationally, and Locally**, Mandy Chapman Semple, Clutch Consulting
- 10 a.m.** **The National Best Practice: Housing First**, Dr. Sam Tsemberis, Pathways to Housing
- 11 a.m.** **Break**
- 11:15 a.m.** **Providers and Lived Experience**
Moderator: Todd Barnes, Community Council of St. Charles County
Panelists:
- Jess Cox, Doorways
 - Pamela Struckoff, Sts. Joachim and Ann
 - Jacki MacIntosh, Loaves and Fishes for St. Louis
 - Katie Rhoades, Healing Action Network
 - Jonathan Belcher, St. Patrick Center
- 12:30 p.m.** **Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m.** **Funding the Vision**
Moderator: Samantha Stangl, House Everyone STL
Panelists:
- Dr. Adam Pearson
 - James Heard, Regional Director HUD
 - Kelvin Adams, St. Louis Community Foundation
 - Jay Shields, Think Big Unhoused Initiative
- 2:45 p.m.** **Break**

3 p.m.

Elected Officials Respond

Moderator: Laurna Godwin, Vector Communications

Panelists:

- St. Louis Mayor Tishaura Jones
- St. Charles Mayor Dan Borgmeyer
- Clayton Mayor Michelle Harris
- Jefferson County Executive Dennis Gannon
- St. Clair County Board Chairman Mark Kern

4:10 p.m.

Next Steps

Mandy Chapman Semple, Clutch Consulting

4:30 p.m.

Adjourn

Today's Housing First STL summit was made possible by the East West Gateway Council of Governments, with the generous support of Greater St. Louis Inc., House Everyone STL, and others.

PROFILES OF TODAY'S PARTICIPANTS

Convener

Jim Wild is the executive director of East-West Gateway Council of Governments, the municipal planning organization (MPO) and council of governments (COG) for the St. Louis region, which encompasses the city of St. Louis, and Franklin, Jefferson, St. Charles, and St. Louis counties in Missouri and Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair counties in Illinois. The organization strives for regional collaboration and coordinated solutions across jurisdictional boundaries.

Keynote Speakers

Mandy Chapman Semple is a nationally recognized expert in social systems transformation, focusing on building partnerships across housing, healthcare, employment, government, philanthropy, and other essential services to support housing first models to help the unhoused and drastically reduce homelessness. She has 15 years of experience as a homeless services executive, supportive housing consultant, HUD technical assistance provider, system transformation consultant, and senior leader in philanthropy. She is the co-founder and managing partner of Clutch Consulting Group.

Dr. Sam Tsemberis is the founder of the Pathways HOUSING FIRST program, which operates on the belief that housing is a basic human right and services should be consumer driven. The program operates across the U.S., Canada, the E.U., Australia, New Zealand, and South America. In 2024, Dr. Tsemberis was listed as one of "Time" magazine's "100 Most Influential People of 2024." Tsemberis also serves as the executive director for the Greater Los Angeles VA-UCLA Center of Excellence for Training and Research on Veterans Homelessness and is on the faculty in UCLA's Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences.

Providers and Lived Experiences Panel

Moderator Todd Barnes is the executive director of the Community Council of St. Charles County, which supports more than 175 non-profit, business and government members engaged in promoting health and human services for residents in St. Charles, Lincoln, and Warren Counties.

Jonathan Belcher is the senior director of programs and long-term transformation at St. Patrick Center, a ministry of Catholic Charities. For the past seven years, he has managed various services to support individuals experiencing homelessness enabling and promoting access to sustainable housing, employment, and health care.

Jess Cox is the director of the behavioral health program at DOORWAYS, a non-profit organization that improves the quality of life of people affected by HIV. She is a Licensed professional counselor and certified rehabilitation counselor with over 20 years of experience working in homelessness services. She has a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling and has held various roles in the community, including outreach, employment, housing, and behavioral health services.

Jacki MacIntosh is the chief executive director of Loaves and Fishes for St. Louis, a food pantry and emergency homeless shelter for families with children serving almost 15,000 people annually with temporary shelter, case management services, life skills classes, counseling, food access, and prevention services.

Katie Rhoades is the founder and executive director of Healing Action Network, a Missouri Based NPO that provides direct services to adult survivors of commercial sexual exploitation. She holds a master's in social work from the Brown School at WashU and works in the mental health field supporting adults with severe and persistent mental health concerns. She has dedicated the past 15 years to regional, national, and international anti-trafficking movements

Pamela Struckhoff is the executive director of the Sts. Joachim and Ann Care Service, the primary provider of programs for individuals, families, and children in St. Charles, Lincoln, and Warren counties. In her 15 years at the organization, Struckhoff has worked as a social worker in the Children and Family Development Program and as the director of program services at the Care Service. She previously directed an area-wide homeless count and created and implemented the agency's street outreach program.

Funding the Vision Panel

Moderator Samantha Stangl is the executive director of House Everyone STL, a non-profit dedicated to ending homelessness in the greater St. Louis area by utilizing data-centric solutions that support community service providers and drive systemic change. Stangl spent nearly ten years doing direct service social work in a variety of capacities, including providing services for Spanish speaking victims of intimate partner violence, connecting first generation students to higher education, and providing case management and crisis intervention to immigrant children and families.

Dr. Kelvin Adams is the president and CEO of the St. Louis Community Foundation. An accomplished leader, educator, and community advocate, Dr. Adams served for 14 years as superintendent of St. Louis Public Schools. Under his new leadership, the St. Louis Community Foundation has pledged to equitably concentrate its grantmaking and resources in two priority areas: economic mobility and youth connections.

James Heard is the director of the U.S. Housing and Urban Development's St. Louis Field Office. He has worked in a wide variety of federal housing roles involving single-family housing, multi-family housing, contracting, and operations for nearly 35 years. Prior to his current position, he was the director of operations for the St. Louis city Housing Authority.

Dr. Adam Pearson is the director of the Department of Human Services for the city of St. Louis. As director, he oversees numerous divisions, including the homeless services division, which serves as the primary conduit for homeless services funding from the federal government for the city. He is a longtime advocate for housing equity, community accessibility, and social policies that redress inequality.

Jay Shields is the chief executive officer of Schaeffer Manufacturing Company and founder of the Think BIG Unhoused Initiative. The Initiative seeks to pursue regional systemic change to end homelessness and increase affordable housing.

Elected Officials Panel

Moderator Lurna Godwin uses her communications skills to inform and educate people about issues affecting how they live, work, and play. She is a three-time Emmy award-winning broadcast journalist and the president and co-founder of Vector Communications Corporation, a public engagement and communications consulting firm based in St. Louis.

Dan Borgmeyer is a life-long resident mayor of the city of Saint Charles. He has served as the president of the Saint Charles Chamber of Commerce and on the County Council of Chambers and the Saint Charles Cable TV and Tourism commissions. He has also served as a board member on the Saint Charles County Road Board and the East-West Gateway Council of Governments Board of Directors. He was previously on the advisory boards of both Centerre and Frontenac Banks.

Dennis Gannon has served for two consecutive terms as the county executive of Jefferson County and is a member of the East-West Gateway Council of Governments board of directors. A lifelong resident of Jefferson County, he is a business owner in the commercial real estate and hotel business. A U.S. Army veteran who further served in the U.S. National Guard, he has served on the Jefferson College Board of Trustees, Mercy Hospital Board of Directors, Jefferson County Port Authority and First Baptist Church of De Soto. veteran of the U.S. Army.

Michelle Harris a 30-year resident and current mayor of Clayton. She previously served as a Clayton Alderwoman for 11 years before being sworn in as mayor in 2019. Throughout her career, she participated in the founding of various local organizations and most recently served as the president of the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis. She is a previous board of directors member of the East-West Gateway Council of Governments.

Tishaura Jones is the 47th mayor of the City of St. Louis and is the chair of the East-West Gateway board of directors. Jones began her career in public service in 2002 when she was appointed as Democratic committeewoman of the city's 8th ward. She served two terms in the Missouri House of Representatives and was selected as the first African American woman in Missouri history to hold the position of Assistant Minority Floor Leader. She also is the first African American woman to serve as treasurer of St. Louis.

Mark Kern has served as the St. Clair County Board Chairman since 2004 and is a current member of the East-West Gateway Council of Governments board of directors. Prior to that, he was the mayor of Belleville. Born and raised in St. Clair County, Kern has devoted his career to public service and is committed to fostering strong, safe neighborhoods with access to jobs and opportunities.