Semester of Service at Homefull: Housing First and Homelessness in Dayton

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Case Management at Homefull
Semester of Service – Spring ’18

Student Overview
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Spring 2018
Human Rights Studies

Semester of Service
Semester of Service is a program in the Fitz Center for Leadership that offers students an in-depth semester-long service experience with an opportunity to strengthen the Dayton community, build supportive relationships and participate in weekly social justice community service internship mini-course. Students do there service at participating nonprofit organizations serving the Dayton area.

Homefull
Homefull is a non-profit with the mission to end homelessness in Montgomery County. Homefull’s vision is a community where there is no homelessness. Their mission is to work to end homelessness by providing housing, services, advocacy and education.

Homelessness
The root causes of homelessness are poverty and the lack of affordable housing options.

In Montgomery County, Fair Market Rent for a 1 bedroom apartment is $583. Without spending more than 30% of household income, a household must earn $23,320 annually, or $11.21 per hour, which is more than minimum wage. To afford this, a minimum wage earner must work

_The numbers just don’t line up._

There are approximately 630,000 homeless on any given night in the US. In Dayton on any given night, more than 1000 people are considered homeless.

• 82% individuals
• 18% families with children

HomefullServices
HomefullServices provides a comprehensive continuum of care and services to persons in the Dayton are who are at risk of homelessness, who are currently homeless, and who have previously been homeless. Homefull does this through education, services, advocacy and housing.

• Gateway Shelter Case Management
• Gettysburg Gateway Micro-Farm
• Prevention Services
• Housing Relocation
• Rapid RE-Housing
• Street Outreach
• Supportive Services in Housing

Who are the Homeless? (HUD 2014)

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<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Families</th>
<th>Individuals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sheltered (65%</td>
<td>360,867</td>
<td>192,857</td>
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<tr>
<td>or 360,867 people)</td>
<td>(35% or 192,857 people)</td>
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Housing First
Homefull addresses this by providing a mediator between the vulnerable population and the community services to establish independent and sustainable living situations for individuals and families with a housing first philosophy and practice. It quickly connects people in housing crisis with permanent housing and supports with no pre-conditions, allowing for consumer choice, based on a philosophy of housing as a right and homelessness as a housing crisis.

Case Management
Following the Social Work Code of Conduct, Case Managers work with clients to develop a housing-focused case plan to establish permanent supportive housing or rapidly rehouse clients, based on the barriers a client indicates from their Front Door and Comprehensive Assessment.

CMs meet with clients 2–4x a month to work on goals oriented towards housing and developing necessary skills and knowledge to accomplish these goals.

A day at St. Vincent de Paul Gateway Shelter for Women and Families at Apple St:

• 3–5 client appointments per day
• Filling out applications for housing programs
• Contacting landlords
• Connecting clients with services
• Talking with client about barriers and providing advocacy

Career Opportunities
Based on the experience I gained as a case management intern at Homefull, career opportunities have presented themselves to me in this field of work:

• Housing Specialist at Distinctive Personnel, a Nonprofit Organization in Midtown, Manhattan
• Housing Case Assistant/Field Staff Technician at US Tech Solutions in Rockaway, NJ

Fitz Center for Leadership in Community

http://fitzcenter.udayton.edu