



Implementing Coordinated Entry

A Look into the City of Atlanta's Efforts

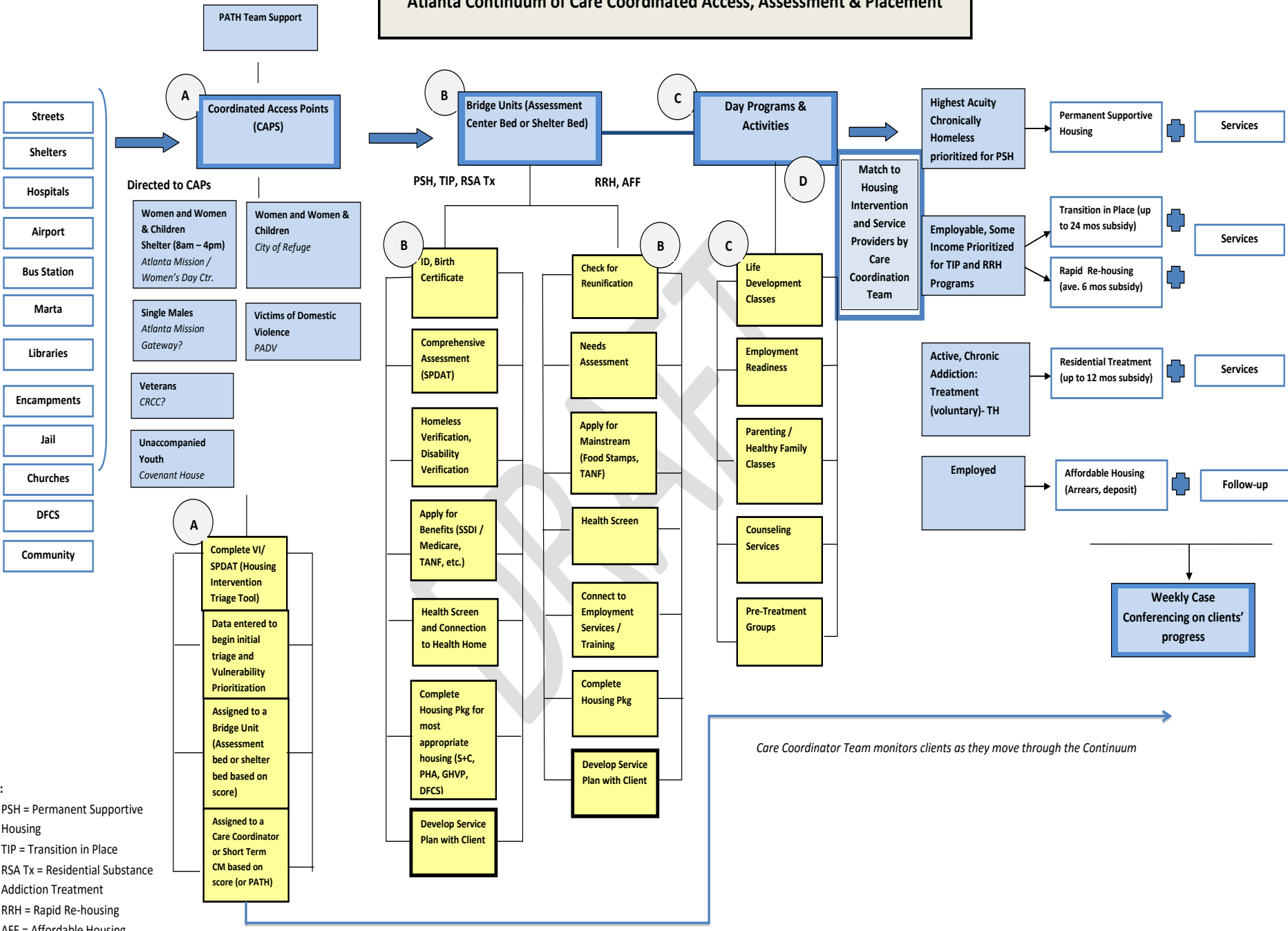


Overview of Coordinated Entry

Coordinated Entry refers to the process used to assess and assist in meeting the service and housing needs of people at-risk of homelessness and people experiencing homelessness. Key elements of coordinated entry include:

- A designated set of coordinated assessment staff and locations;
- The use of standardized assessment tools to assess consumer housing needs;
- Referrals, based on the results of the assessment tools, to homelessness assistance programs (and mainstream services and programs when appropriate); and
- Capturing and managing data related to assessment and referrals in a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

Atlanta Continuum of Care Coordinated Access, Assessment & Placement





Coordinated Entry Pilot

For the pilot, the Region III PATH Teams and the Grady Behavioral Health ACT Teams serve as mobile points of entry into the homeless system.

- The VI_SPDAT is used to assess clients for appropriate housing interventions and to provide indicators for needed support services. Once the VI_SPDAT is completed, a score is calculated that indicates their level of vulnerability and what kind of housing intervention may be most appropriate for them.

- Referrals to permanent supportive housing are made based on the following factors:
 - Results of the assessment tool
 - Established system wide priority populations;
 - Bed availability and number of people on intervention priority lists; and
 - Program eligibility admission criteria, including populations served and services offered



The Process

Engagement

- Clients are engaged and assessed where they present

Complete VI_SPDAT

- The VI_SPDAT is completed to determine vulnerability score as a means of prioritizing needs and services.
- The client's information is entered into a Goggle Doc managed by the Deputy Director of Housing and Resource Coordination.

Matching

- The DD matches clients to housing based on VI score and bed availability.

Referred

- An email with client key, gender, VI_SPDAT score, disability, income source and amount, housing preference, referring agency, and date submitted is sent to the housing provider/program that is deemed a fit for the client.
- After receipt of the email, the referring agency contacts housing provider for next steps for housing placement.



The Process Continued...

Housed

-If the client meets the eligibility criteria and accepts the suggested placement, the client is housed.

Case Conferencing

-Weekly meetings are being called to discuss clients in the housing queue.

Tracking & Update

-The Deputy Director requests placement updates from referring agencies. The referring agency is responsible for contacting housing provider, tracking clients' progress, and reporting housing status to DD.



Challenges

Some of the challenges that we have identified and are working through are:

- Building Momentum
- Time Consuming
- Tracking Clients
- VI_SPDAT Scoring
- CAP Locations
- Staff
- Available Housing Options



Contact Information:

Ashley Williams, MSW

Deputy Director, Housing & Resource Coordination
Partners for Home – Atlanta Homeless Continuum of Care

Office: (404) 330-6097

Mobile: (404) 293-9935

Email: aswilliams@atlantaga.gov