

SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTING

A Promising Tool for Supportive Housing
Overview

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Supportive housing is a combination of affordable housing and supportive services designed to help vulnerable individuals and families use stable housing as a platform for health, recovery and personal growth. Supportive housing can be any type of affordable and independent housing that meets the needs of tenants and is integrated within a neighborhood or community. The services available in supportive housing are flexible and voluntary.









SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTMENT

Social impact investment has been gaining recognition, with more than 20 states and localities so far pursuing it, because of its ability to meet the "double bottom line" of providing both positive social impact and the potential to generate returns on investment, as well as its focus on paying for outcomes, not activities. Social impact investment combines two critical components:

- Performance-based contracting where government contracts with providers of a given intervention; and
- Upfront working capital provided by institutional and/or philanthropic investors.

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING AND SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTMENT

Supportive housing is a solution that more efficiently uses limited resources and improves outcomes, particularly for populations that are most costly to the system due to their frequent or high use of crisis systems of care or long stays in institutional settings. Despite this strong evidence, lack of upfront funding has prevented some states and localities from investing in supportive housing.

Social impact investment provides the upfront capital needed to create supportive housing, ensures that government pays only for what works, and results in long-term cost savings and improved outcomes for vulnerable persons.

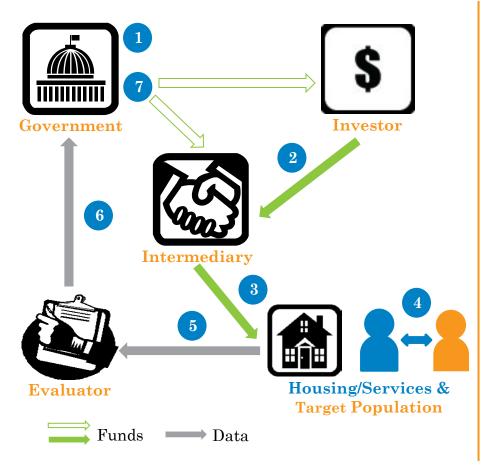
TARGET POPULATIONS FOR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING AND SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTING

CSH has identified four groups of vulnerable persons with complex needs that are a particularly good match for social impact investment due to their current high cost to systems and potential to benefit from supportive housing:

- Frequent or high utilizers of health or other crisis resources
- Residents of health care institutions who prefer to live in the community
- People exiting state prison with chronic health conditions
- Families with high utilization of child welfare systems

FLOW OF SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTING

A social impact investment begins with an interested unit of state or local government that chooses an intervention, like supportive housing, and contracts with all relevant parties. The graphic below illustrates the typical flow.



- Government selects a desired intervention and contracts with all relevant parties.
- Investors provide the upfront capital to finance the intervention.
- 3 Intermediary provides the service provider(s) with the working capital to implement the intervention.
- Service providers deliver the transition supports, rental assistance, and services to the target population.
- Outcomes and costs are tracked and provided to the third-party evaluator.
- The evaluator determines whether the agreed upon metrics have been achieved.
- 7 Government makes success payments to either the intermediary for distribution or directly to the investors if outcomes are met.

CSH'S ROLE IN EXPANDING SUPPORTIVE HOUSING THROUGH SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTING

CSH has been leading the way in the use of social impact investment to promote the creation of supportive housing targeted to vulnerable populations. CSH is uniquely positioned to support government and social impact investors in executing a social impact investment partnership given our deep expertise designing, implementing and evaluating initiatives across the country aimed at addressing the needs of these target populations coupled with our role as a community development financial institution. CSH is already involved at various stages of social impact investments in more than 10 states and localities.

HOW CAN CSH HELP YOU?

- Explore how social impact investment can help your community scale supportive housing and meet the needs of target population(s)
- Support state/local government efforts to use data to identify target population
- Identify and secure institutional and philanthropic investors
- Assist in the development of contract and performance metrics
- Assemble and manage teams of service providers
- Distribute working capital to service providers, receive success payments from state/local government, and provide relevant repayments/returns to investors
- Monitor and track outcome measures

Contact us to learn more at info@csh.org.