Tweet Chat #SOHC2013



Homeless Hub

@homelesshub

Welcome everyone to our first ever tweet chat! #SOHC2013

☐ 11 MONTHS AGO



Homeless Hub

@homelesshub

We are joined by @SteveGaetz @donaldsonjesse @timrichter @TanyaMGulliver authors of the #SOHC2013

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Homeless Hub

@homelesshub

We are joined by @SteveGaetz is the Director of @CHRNetwork and Associate Professor of @YorkUeducation #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

Hello everyone! Lets talk about the State of Homelessness in Canada @SteveGaetz @timrichter @TanyaMGulliver @donaldsonjesse #SOHC2013

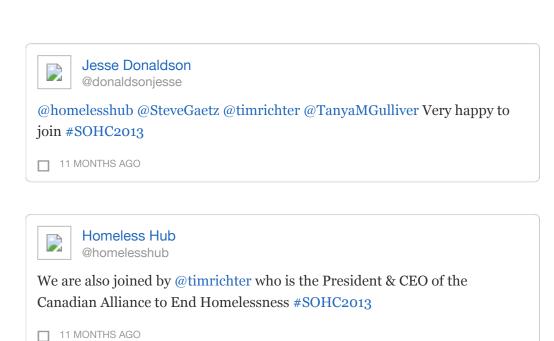
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Homeless Hub

@homelesshub

Our guest @donaldsonjesse is currently working with @unitedwayyork to further understand youth homelessness in the York Region #SOHC2013





Homeless Hub

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And we have @TanyaMGulliver who is the Project Coordinator of @CHRNetwork/@homelesshub&PhD student of #YorkU Environmental Studies #SOHC2013

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Tanya Gulliver

@TanyaMGulliver

Glad to be here and to take questions #sohc2013

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Homeless Hub

@homelesshub

Thanks everyone for joining us. We will now open up the floor for questions. #SOHC2013



Why is strong data on Canadian homelessness limited? Is research being currently conducted? #SOHC2013

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Tanya Gulliver

@TanyaMGulliver

@olgatronics - happily research is improving but lack of funding for evaluation is an issue #sohc2013

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Tim Richter

@timrichter

@Olgatronics partly ability (data systems) To me the key to good data is asking good q's. Not been asking right 1's until recently #sohc2013

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Jesse Donaldson

@donaldsonjesse

@homelesshub @Olgatronics As more communities conduct point-in-time-counts the data will improve #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

Homelessness is clearly a bit problem in Canada. But we now have better stats on it. ow.ly/m97KH #sohc2013



#homelessness is a seemingly intractable problem, but the good news is we are figuring out what to do about it. #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

There is a strong movement to collect better data on homelessness. We cannot tell if we are making a diff w/o it. @Olgatronics #SOHC2013

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Noah Kravitz

@NoahZKravitz

Q: Beside levels of government, where do you see the funding landscape shifting towards? #SOHC2013

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Tim Richter

@timrichter

@NoahZKravitz I think Housing 1st & social impact financing are changing funder expectations; more pressure to reduce homelessness #SOHC2013

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Homeless Hub

@homelesshub

Yes, #HousingFirst does work. As seen in our latest e-book bit.ly/16OtQhT #SOHC2013



I think we are learning more about what to do, and Housing 1st is one of the key solutions no doubt.ow.ly/m97KH #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

in our report, we identify some communities that are making big progress, where there is innovation. ow.ly/m97KH #SOHC2013

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Jesse Donaldson

@donaldsonjesse

@homelesshub @NoahZKravitz As partnership working & joined-up efforts increase both municipally and provincially so will funding #SOHC2013

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Tim Richter

@timrichter

@donaldsonjesse @NoahZKravitz I agree - more expectation of systemic responses, not solely programmatic #SOHC2013

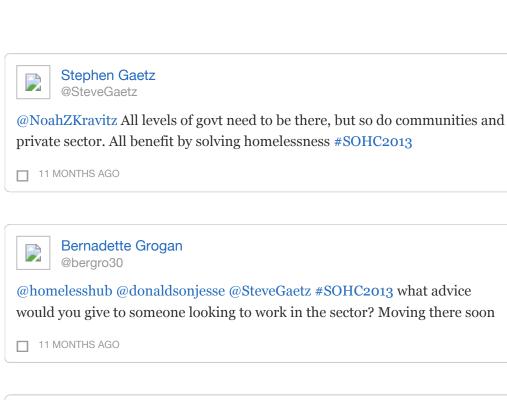
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Tanya Gulliver

@TanyaMGulliver

@NoahZKravitz - Raising the Roof has good research on the need for businesses to help end #homelessness #sohc2013





Jesse Donaldson

@donaldsonjesse

@bergro30 @homelesshub @SteveGaetz Meet everyone you can for a coffee (or tea) from policy organisations, providers, academics! #SOHC2013

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Tim Richter

@timrichter

@homelesshub @bergro30 I'd also suggest volunteering at an organization you are interested in #sohc2013

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Bernadette Grogan

@bergro30

@donaldsonjesse @homelesshub @SteveGaetz thank you!! Am good at tea & chats! A fave for meeting service users too! #SOHC2013



Bernadette Grogan

@bergro30

@homelesshub @donaldsonjesse how welcoming are communities that homeless people are being housed in? Understanding or negative? #SOHC2013

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Tanya Gulliver

@TanyaMGulliver

@bergro30 - our #housingfirst book we released yesterday shares good examples of working with neighbours #sohc2013

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Bernadette Grogan

@bergro30

@SteveGaetz similar to ireland then. Also differences between 'visible' homeless and ones in supported accom #SOHC2013

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Tim Richter

@timrichter

@bergro30 That's the beauty of scattered site Housing 1st. Once housed most are indistinguishable from anyone else #SOHC2013

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Tim Richter

@timrichter

@bergro30 At the @calgaryhomeless we put affordable housing in 20+communities & we were welcomed but u need to negotiate & talk #sohc2013



@timrichter @bergro30 Exactly. Warehousing people marginalizes them, creates stigma and makes homelessness a visible 'problem' #SOHC2013

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Tanya Gulliver

@TanyaMGulliver

@timrichter @bergro30 good point Tim. When people are scattered they can absorb into the neighbourhood #SOHC2013

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Sean French

@SeanFrench1

Q: Where does prevention fit in right now in state of homelessness in Canada? #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@SeanFrench1 Prevention is key - we need to keep people from falling into homelessness, and ensure they are stably housed #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@SeanFrench1 Prevention means discharge planning and support for people leaving prison, hospital and child protection #SOHC2013



@SeanFrench1 Prevention means effective interventions with landlords and tenants to avoid eviction #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@SeanFrench1 Housing 1st is prevention cuz it helps people who were homeless become stably housed & avoid a return to the streets #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@SeanFrench1 PRevention means effective strategies of targeting those at imminent risk of homelessness. Stop the flow!!! #SOHC2013

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Tim Richter

@timrichter

@homelesshub @SeanFrench1 1/3 Unfortunately research from the US is showing most prevention is ineffective #SOHC2013

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Tim Richter

@timrichter

@homelesshub @SeanFrench1 2/3 The key I think is methodically building a prevention system that works back from the shelter door #SOHC2013





@SeanFrench1 more communities are understanding the importance of prevention as a necessary strategy to end #homelessness #SOHC2013

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Social Medicine BC

@SocialMedBC

@homelesshub How can we improve healthcare access for the homeless? #sohc2013

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Jesse Donaldson

@donaldsonjesse

@SocialMedBC @homelesshub Some shelters have nurse practitioners onsite. Bringing healthcare accesses to vulnerable pops a plus #SOHC2013

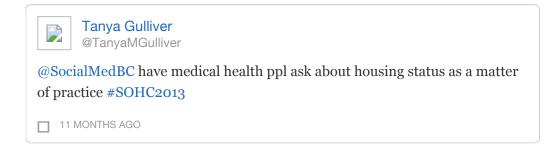
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Jesse Donaldson

@donaldsonjesse

@SocialMedBC @homelesshub Hospitals can also work with communities to create discharge plans to reduce need for repeat visits #SOHC2013





Tim Richter @timrichter

@homelesshub @SocialMedBC AWESOME question! Sadly, I think HC for homeless has to come from outside mainstream system #sohc2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC At Home/Chez Soi shows that when people are stably housed hru Housing 1st, their access to health care improves. #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC For those on the streets, outreach-based services, support getting ID like health cards important #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz @SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC For practitioners working with homeless, treatment plans must be tailored to special needs and circumstances. #SOHC2013





Social Medicine BC

@SocialMedBC

@timrichter Any examples of non-mainstream HC services for homeless? #sohc2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC What works for people who are housed may not work if you are homeless living in a chaotic environment. #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC In Toronto three community health centres provide specialized services and support for people who are homeless #SOHC2013

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Tim Richter

@timrichter

@bergro30 There is usually housing available, even in tight rental markets. Rent supplements are key #SOHC2013



@SocialMedBC For example @TheAlexCHC & community health centres that serve poor or marginalized #sohc2013

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Social Medicine BC

@SocialMedBC

@stevegaetz That's great to know. Community health centres are more sustainable than expensive emergency services #sohc2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC RE: Health,can't forget nutritional vulnerability. Tarasuks research shows charitable food model DOESN'T meet needs #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC CHCs more sustainable flexible and with right staff can do amazing things #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC I believe the first free dental clinic for homeless youth was started at Shout Clinic in Toronto #SOHC2013



@stevegaetz Another non-mainstream resource is student-run clinics, the first of which started here in Vancouver @CHIUS_UBC #sohc2013

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Angela

@Angela_Day

Q: Is their room for ACT services 4 those suffering mental health issues a/o substance use before they become homeless? #sohc2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@Angela_Day Good Q. Its also worth bringing up the necessity for harm reduction based approaches. Work where people are at.#SOHC2013

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Tim Richter

@timrichter

@Angela_Day yes. Tend to find that in existing mainstream MH services #SOHC2013

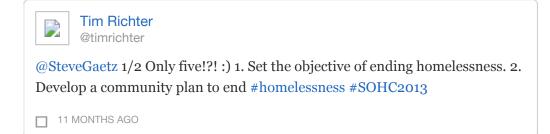
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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@timrichter Q What are five key things you learned are necessary to solve homelessness? .ow.ly/m97KH #SOHC2013





Tim Richter @timrichter

@SteveGaetz 2/2 3. Housing First 4. Build public & political support 5. Be relentless. #sohc2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

Q for @donaldsonjesse Is youth homelessness an important area of focus? #SOHC2013

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Jesse Donaldson

@donaldsonjesse

@SteveGaetz @homelesshub (1/2) Youth homeless crucial to examine. We need to understand that experience of homelessness ... #SOHC2013

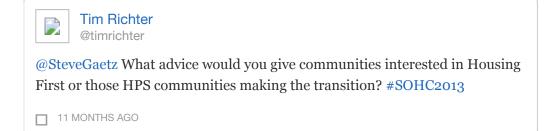
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Jesse Donaldson

@donaldsonjesse

@SteveGaetz @homelesshub 2/2 differs for youth therefore solutions for ending youth homelessness need 2 be tailored to their needs #SOHC2013





Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

@timrichter 1/2 a) The debate over whether it works is over: it does. b) Stay true to the core principles of Housing First #SOHC2013

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Stephen Gaetz

@SteveGaetz

2/2 c) Learn from those who've gone before (like @Timrichter), At Home/ChezSoi & download free book on Housing First @homelesshub #SOHC2013

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Homeless Hub

@homelesshub

Thanks again to all our participants. With the success of this tweet chat we will surely be organizing another one! #SOHC2013