18-Month Transitional Housing Strategy

Population: Homeless women and children
Approach: Trauma-informed, strengths-based, family-centered, and outcomes-driven
Goal: Transition families from homelessness → stability → independence → permanent housing

Phase 1 (Months 0–3): Crisis Stabilization & Engagement

Primary Goal: Safety, stabilization, and trust-building

Key Actions

- Complete **comprehensive screening/intake assessment**:
- Once the screening has been successfully approved, the applicant becomes eligible for occupancy into **transitional housing**
- Develop a **personalized housing stabilization plan**
- Connect to **basic needs**:
    - Food assistance (SNAP, WIC)
    - Clothing and hygiene supplies
    - Healthcare and Medicaid enrollment
    - Address health and mental health needs with consistent care
- Begin **child enrollment** in school or daycare

Services

- Case management (weekly)
- Crisis counseling
- Safety planning (especially for DV survivors)

Milestones

✅ Safe housing secured)
✅ Intake + individualized plan completed
✅ Benefits applied/activated

Phase 2 (Months 3–6): Foundation Building

Primary Goal: Establish routine, begin income and life skill development

Key Actions

- Begin **employment readiness program**:
  - Resume development
  - Interview preparation
- Enroll in **education or job training programs**
- Initiate **financial literacy training**:
  - Budgeting and Saving basics

Phase 3 (Months 6–9): Income Development & Stability

Primary Goal: Income generation and increased independence

Key Actions

- Obtain **part-time or full-time employment**
- Begin **rent contribution (scaled)** to build financial responsibility
- Continue skill-building workshops:
  - Conflict resolution
  - Time management
- Address **credit issues** and begin repair

Services

- Work force development partner services
- Behavioral health support
- Parenting support groups

Milestones

✅ Job training or education enrollment

✅ Consistent childcare secured

✅ Initial savings plan created

Phase 4 (Months 9–12): Financial Growth & Pre-Transition

Primary Goal: Strengthen financial independence and prepare for exit

Key Actions

- Increase **earned income and work hours**
- Build **emergency savings fund**
- Begin **housing search preparation**:
  - Rental applications
  - Understanding leases and tenant rights
- Strengthen **support network** (community, family, etc.)

Services

- Housing navigation assistance
- Continued financial coaching
- Landlord mediation support

Milestones

✅ Rental readiness achieved
✅ Positive rental references established
✅ Savings goal (e.g., $500–$1,000) reached

Phase 5 (Months 12–15): Housing Transition

Primary Goal: Secure permanent housing

Key Actions

- Apply for **permanent housing**:
  - Subsidized housing, vouchers, or market-rate units
- Provide **move-in assistance**:
  - Security deposit
  - Utility setup
- Transition to **reduced case management**

Services

- Housing placement support
- Legal assistance (if needed)
- Moving logistics support

Milestones

✅ Lease signed
✅ Move-in completed
✅ Utilities and services established

Phase 6 (Months 15–18): Aftercare & Retention

Primary Goal: Ensure long-term housing stability and independence

Key Actions

- Provide **aftercare support** (monthly check-ins)
- Continue employment retention support
- Strengthen **community integration**
- Prepare long-term financial goals (credit growth, asset building)

Services

- Alumni support groups
- Ongoing financial coaching
- Crisis prevention support

Milestones

✅ Stable housing-maintained 3+ months
✅ Employment retained
✅ Increased financial independence

Transactional Framework Elements

Each phase operates with **clear expectations ("transactions")**:

- Participation requirements (meetings, training)
- Rent contribution increases over time
- Savings benchmarks
- Behavioral and engagement goals

In return, participants receive:

- Housing stability
- Financial assistance
- Skill-building
- Case management and support services

Outcome

By the end of 18 months, families should:

- Have **stable, permanent housing**
- Maintain **consistent income**
- Possess **financial management skills**
- Demonstrate **long-term self-sufficiency**