

# Rapid Measurement of Novel Harm Reduction Housing (HRH) on HIV Risk, Treatment Uptake, Drug Use and Supply

*The City of Boston carried out a public health-led emergency response to the encampment near Massachusetts Avenue & Melnea Cass Boulevard in January 2022. This effort included a housing surge that transitioned over 145 individuals into shelter and housing from November 2021 to January 2022.*

## Overview

- HRH locations (Roundhouse, Willows program, Envision, Shattuck Shelter, Friends Floor, and the Cottages) have worked to re-house people rapidly while adhering to a “low-threshold” housing models where services for harm reduction are co-located and sobriety is NOT a requirement to obtain housing.
- HRH sites have needed to develop on-site overdose protocols and surveillance mechanisms to monitor residents through room checks and security cameras. Several HRH sites have experienced fatal overdoses on site even while having these processes in place.
- Housing interventions may increase issues of adjustment and/or social isolation, because residents lack social networks or supports which may result in relapse and increased overdose risk.
- Our aim is to better understand whether co-provision of harm reduction services onsite at HRH locations effects treatment uptake, drug supply, or drug using behaviors.

**Rapid Measurement of Novel Harm Reduction Housing (HRH) is an intervention dedicated to expanding harm reduction services in the community**

*Funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse  
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## Goals

- To understand how HRH approaches are implemented, evolve and are used across a range of transitional housing and shelter setting.
- Learn how the shared experience of HRH, social cohesion and collective efficacy influences risk and drug use outcomes.

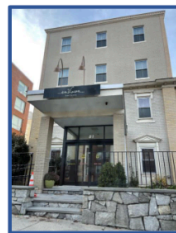
## Transitional Housing and Low Threshold Stays

110 People Permanently Housed from the Six low threshold sites since Jan 2022

180 People Currently Housed at the Six low threshold sites

545 Total People Housed at the Six low threshold sites since Jan 2022

## Harm Reduction Housing



Envision Hotel



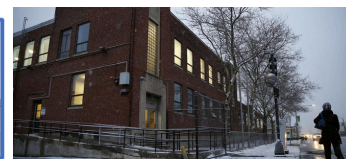
Roundhouse Hotel



Shattuck Shelter



Woods Mullen (Willows)



Friends Floor



The Shattuck Cottages



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