

### + Ideas for Improvement

Project

Update

GUARANTEED SUPPORTIVE SUPPORT-OWNED TRANSITIONAL ADAPT TO PROCESS DAY-TO-DAY APPLICATION & TOOLS FOR CAREGIVER AUTONOMY HOUSING LANDLORDS HOUSING HOUSING SENSORY NEEDS CONTACT SUPPORT PAPERWORK HELP HOUSING SUPPORT BALANCE

Participant

Overview

Preliminary

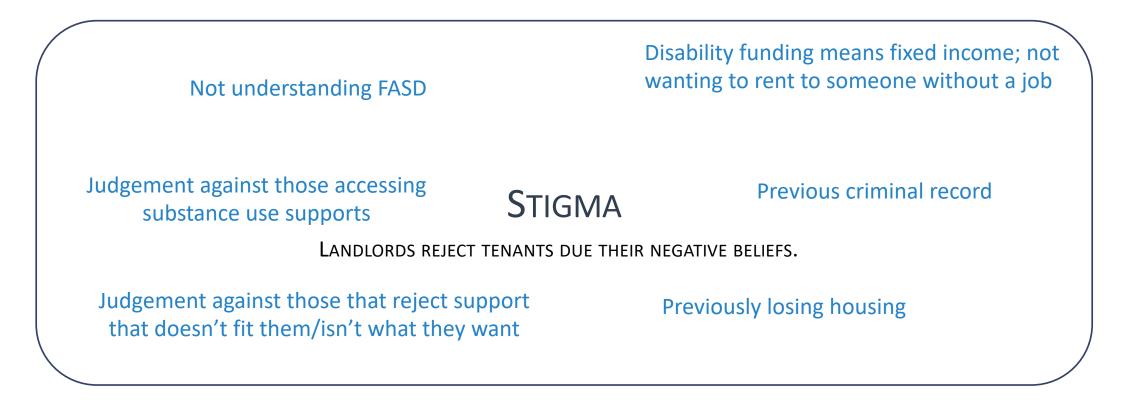
Findings

Self-Directed

Resources



# Barriers to Housing





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## Barriers to Housing

Inflexible housing rules (e.g. dry shelters, no pets, no damage) Lack of suitable, safe housing – lack of wanting to do the work to make it suitable, safe

Preliminary

Findings

#### LACK OF INDIVIDUALIZED ACCOMMODATIONS

INDIVIDUALS ARE NOT SET UP (OR ALLOWED) TO SUCCEED.

No exceptions I've been living on the street and my ID was stolen, what now?

I just turned 18 and I have no credit, what now?

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Not wanting to understand FASD, or the individual who has it

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Paperwork; sets up an unsafe power dynamic where individuals who do not understand may not know their rights

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# Barriers to Housing

Extra funding is strictly limited (e.g. based on IQ)

Sudden, unexpected charges lead to constantly building debt that cannot be paid off

### LIMITED RESOURCES

Money is a constant worry

MONEY IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST BARRIERS.

Housing with an all-or-nothing supportive approach – not enough transitional housing

Disability funding is not a livable wage (Landlords know this)

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Lack of safe, supportive housing available at all



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### Barriers to Support

Lack of understanding around FASD – both in the general public, and in supports that are meant to help

Reinforced hopelessness; Betrayals & failures by systems & supports that don't understand FASD leads to the feeling that nothing exists, nothing will change.

#### **UNDERSTANDING**

Stigma around substance use (e.g. difficult to gain/maintain support with strict abstinence policies)

LACK OF AWARENESS AND ACCEPTANCE OF FASD MAKES SUPPORT DIFFICULT—AND LIMITED.

> Complexity of FASD makes it difficult to understand, even for those trying to learn

Invisibility of FASD – disbelief of the disability (both by themselves and by others)

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### Barriers to Support

FASD as a taboo topic; difficult to reach out to gain knowledge, supports

Money as a limiting factor

Awareness of support – Needing to already know if & where supports are available to know to access them at all

Many applications & supports

require internet access

Strict policies preventing access to necessary supports

(e.g. IQ as a nonrepresentative marker of function)

#### ACCESS

SUPPORTS MAY: NOT EXIST, NOT BE KNOWN OF, AND/OR HAVE RIGID RULES OF ENTRY.

Removal of supports when individual begins to appear to "no longer need them"

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Needing to know how to navigate paperwork & other admin to gain supports



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# Enablers to Housing

Individualized accommodations within the house (e.g. paint colours, reinforced walls, taking doors off of closets, post-it reminders around the house)

Supportive family available to help with housing

Transitional housing; more "in-between" levels of support

#### **TAILORED SUPPORT**

Early diagnosis to provide time to learn & plan what future supported housing should look like

ADAPTING THE HOUSING ITSELF TO SUIT THE INDIVIDUAL, AND NOT

EXPECTING THE OPPOSITE.

Support workers who help with daily living, cleaning, cooking, etc. Eviction prevention services

Support services being in control of eviction (either in contact with landlord, or as the landlord themselves)



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# Enablers to Housing

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Landlords who are understanding & flexible – willing to move forward with accommodations (e.g. willing to make a spare key to put under a mat to avoid being called multiple times)

Supports that allow individuals to move to other "levels" of housing if needed; getting more or less support as it works for them

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Landlords willing to communicate & work with support services (as opposed to going straight to eviction)

### FLEXIBILITY

UNDERSTANDING FASD IS DIFFICULT, BUT UNDERSTANDING WHAT A PERSON NEEDS, AND STARTING THERE, CAN MAKE IT EASIER.

Landlords accepting different systems of payment (i.e. getting paid right from the government)

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Seeing disability funding as guaranteed funds from government, as opposed to something to stigmatize

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## Enablers to Support

Supports that are a middle-ground between all or nothing; Something better suited to the individual

Supports that want to learn about FASD & are willing to continue trying to adapt to the individual over & over again

### WILLINGNESS TO ADAPT

Supports that are willing to change when necessary, supports that adapt to the individual they're working with THE WILLINGNESS TO BE FLEXIBLE AND UNDERSTANDING IS VITAL IN SUPPORTS THAT WILL BE WELL-SUITED TO THE INDIVIDUAL. Collaborative teams working together – supports being willing to work with caregivers as an equal member of the team

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## Enablers to Support

Money can be a barrier or an enabler – depending on the amount available

Supports within walking distance, or reliable public transport

### ACCESS TO RESOURCES

WHAT AN INDIVIDUAL HAS TO WORK WITH CAN AFFECT THE SUPPORTS THEY CAN GET TO-ENHANCING RESOURCES COULD

Adequate nutrition allows for better emotional regulation food as a resource & a support ENHANCE SUPPORT. Some sort of home base with internet available, whether it be through housing or a support center



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## Enablers to Support

Caregivers searching & trying for supports over & over again

Support workers & caregivers going above & beyond—filling multiple roles

> Seeking out supports even if diagnosis is not official (e.g. in schools)

Check ins by caregivers/supports for nutrition, shopping, helping with budgeting

#### **PROACTIVE SUPPORT**

ANTICIPATING WHAT IS NECESSARY AND HAVING HELP TO SEEK IT OUT SMOOTHS OUT THE SUPPORT PROCESS.

Communication with the individual to let them understand & work alongside their disability

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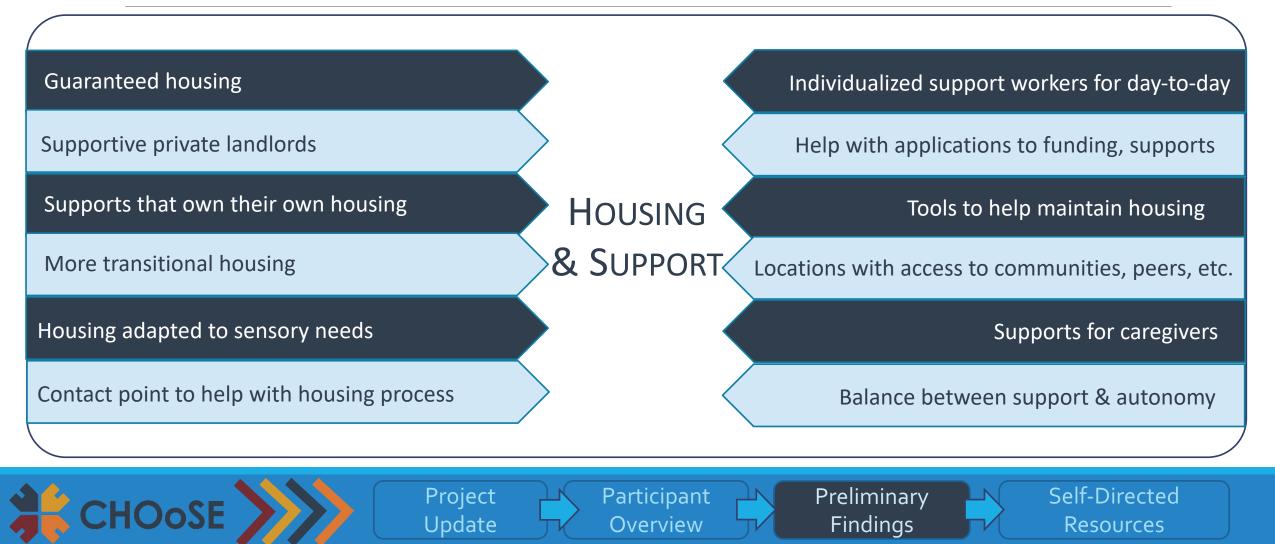
Supports linking to other supports, working with individuals & caregivers to seek out what else they need



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### Ideas & Ideals













We'll pass it over to Overlap now, but first— Any questions or feedback?

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