

Questions to Support the Development of a Housing Plan¹

1. Who are the people in your life that you are connected to in a meaningful way (who are not connected to an agency) that know about your current living situation? Who else? Who else?
2. Who have you told a little bit to? (People who are not quite in your inner circle.)
3. Are there case managers, counselors, pastor, or other supportive professionals that you have found to be supportive?
4. Have you ever lived with anyone who is part of your natural support friends/family before? (the people who are in your inner circle?)
 - a. When?
 - b. Where?
 - c. How long?
 - d. What was that like? What went well? What were the challenges/the things that got in the way? Tell me more.
5. Have you talked with any of your natural supports (those people who are in the inner circle) about where you are living now, and what some other options might be?
6. What were some of their good suggestions or ideas?
7. Is there anyone who is farther out in your circle of support that you might bring in closer who you could talk to about your current situation? What do you think that they might suggest to you about possible other living/housing options?
8. What about the supportive professionals in your life...what suggestions have they made about possible housing options for you?
9. Thinking about the friends and family that you spoke about earlier, would any of them be available to help you develop your housing plan?
10. Have you considered living with any of your friends/family?
 - a. How long could you stay with them? A night, a weekend, a week, a month, six months?
 - b. What would be great about it?
 - c. What would be the challenges?
 - d. What would need to happen to make that work?

Additional Questions to Consider

1. Can you think of time when you had to find another place to live and you did? What did you do to make it happen? How did you do it?

¹ Questions 1-10 may be used in conjunction with the Network Grid and Network Circle tools or you may adjust the wording to use them as stand-alone questions.

2. What things have you tried in the past that didn't work but that that you might be willing to try again?
3. If your good friend (so and so..) was here sitting with us, what would they say about how you cope? How you get through things?
4. Imagine a time in the future when your housing situation is solved. All the things that have gotten in the way are now gone. What will be different that will tell you that this has happened, and the problem is solved?
5. Imagine if you had a magic wand, and could live anywhere -where would that be, who would be with you, what would it look like?
6. You say that you're not sure that you want to continue working on your housing goals. What is it that has helped you to work on them up to now? What would it take for you to work on the goals? (Could use a scaling question here...on a scale of 1-10 how confident are in your in your ability to keep working with your team on your housing goals, 1 being not at all and 10 being 100%, what would help you get closer to a 10)
7. You have so many things happening right now. How is it that you are coping? What keeps you going?
8. Imagine the hotels/shelters disappear ... who would you call, what would you do, where would you sleep that night, that week?
9. Imagine the hotels/shelters disappear and you have \$3,500 ... who would you call, what would you do, where would you sleep that night, that week?

Things to remember-

Questions:

- generate curiosity
- encourage reflection
- can motivate
- are thought provoking
- open up new possibilities and creativity
- fuel forward movement

Be cautious of:

- Asking questions that are closed ended.
- Asking why. Avoid if you can.
- Questions that are really your solutions or advice disguised.
- Interrupting. Riding on sentences
- Trying to fill the silence. Silence is ok.