Community Integration Assessment of the Housing First Pilot Scheme in Barcelona

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1. The HF pilot scheme in Barcelona
‘Primer la llar’
Barcelona

2,7 million €

Sant Joan de Déu
UTE Sant Pere Claver - Suara - Garbet

25
25

Longitudinal study during 3 years
First year results
2. We focussed on:

- Migrant homelessness in HF settings.
- Community integration assessment in HF.
- Why it is important & difficult
Migrant homelessness

“Extreme case of social exclusion” (Sánchez Morales and Susana Tezanos, 2004).

- Lack of social networks
- Lack of labour qualifications
- Cultural shock
- Social racism
- Administrative problems
- Problems to access social resources
Community integration assessment

HF does not increase friends’ proximity (Henwood et al., 2015, p. 396).

It’s not clear that HF offers good outcomes in community integration (Tiderington, 2017).

HF participants show a setback in community integration and sense of belonging by 40% (Stergiopoulos et al., 2014)
3. Objectives

We tried to identify:

1. How the socialisation process is developed by HF users?
2. What are the main obstacles as identified by them?
4. Methodology

In depth interviews (2 sessions, 2-7 hours) with 5 migrants in HF pilot scheme.

By mining in depth interviews, we acquired and represented approximate information of:

- Past and actual personal relationships (companions, friends, family and professionals).

- Past and actual service relations.

- Public and private cartographic where this relationships occur.

- Timestamp for these relations.

Somehow explanatory analysis but not statistically representative.
5. Results

Before Housing First

1. The original travel is an important part of the personal storytelling.

2. Active social ties of people from departure countries are very important.

3. Support networks are based also on migrant actors (also from different cultural background)

In Housing First programme

4. The housing allocation may hinder socialisation

5. Services usually evolve with relationship rebuilding.

6. Cultural problems arise

7. Activating policies have also unexpected effects

8. Loneliness is identified as the main problem
5. Results

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5. Results

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“*When I was squatter, I was with Chilean, Argentines, black people…*”

Said Omar

“I got lots of help from Sikh community, although I’m muslim”
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Espacio preferido para dormir

8,5 km

Actividad económica (compra y venta de 2a mano)
5. Results

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“I only took my medication [for schizophrenia] when a doctor in Pakistan explained to me, pill by pill, what it was for”

Omar

Question: “Do you see any differences between professionals?”

Answer: “No, they work. I listen.”

Q: “But you can also give your opinion, when they talk to you”

A: “What does it mean ‘give your opinion’?”

Q: “When you agree or disagree, you can explain your idea”

A: “Ideas? I have not ideas. What ideas?”

Lukas
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*I have been learning and doing courses for being a plumber, electrician, to work on a hardware store, as a gas installer….after prison I worked as forest guard, and now I’m studying for a taxi license….but I don’t find a job, I have no luck. I’m not searching for a job hard enough.”*  

Said
5. Results

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