The Danish homelessness strategy

Knowledge for mutual benefit
People in a homelessness situation in week 6

References: Homelessness in Denmark 2019
VIVE The Danish Center for Social Science Research
The National Board of Social Services

Homeless youth

25 November 2019

OECD Workshop on Homelessness and Affordable Housing Policies

References:
Homelessness in Denmark 2019
VIVE The Danish Center for Social Science Research
National strategies in Denmark

Level 1: 2009-2013
- The national homelessness strategy
- 17 municipalities
- Method testing and development
- Funding 66 mio. €

Level 2: 2014-2016
- 25 municipalities
- Implementation of Housing First and supported housing (ACT, ICM and CTI)
- Funding 1,2 mio €
- A youth project
- 10 municipalities
- Testing the Collaboration model, CTI and ICM
- Funding 7,8 mio €

Level 3: 2016-2019
- ≥25 municipalities
- Dissemination and implementation of Housing First in even more municipalities
- No funding
- 4 municipalities
- testing of transitional housing for young people
- ICM support
- Funding 1,8 mio. €
- 4 municipalities
- ICM support
- Funding 7,8 mio. €

Level 4: 2018-2021
- ≥25 municipalities
- A National Action plan to combat homelessness
- Permanent Advisory function focusing on cooperation with municipalities and shelters
- National Guidelines
- Housing First for youth
- Social Investment Initiatives
- Funding 20,5 mio. €
- Young under their own roof
- 3 projects
- Developing temporary housing solutions and creating a basis for more advanced social work
- Funding 1,5 mio. €
Objectives and approaches in the Action plan

- National dissemination of effective methods
- Strengthening the prevention of homelessness
- Enabling easier ways out of homelessness
Stakeholders engaged in the process
Results

Evaluation of level 1 (2009-2013) encompassed 1521 citizens:
- People in homelessness gain a high chance of escaping homelessness
- Approximately 90% of citizens who received housing support retain housing throughout the intervention
- The initiative has enabled professional development as well as an organizational framework for a more systematic and holistic approach to homelessness

Evaluation of level 2 (2014-2016) encompassed 363 citizens (135 had completed the program when it was evaluated)
- The vast majority of citizens in the program have gained and retained housing during the intervention;
- Generally, municipalities have an understanding of the need to work more intensively and systematically through the three evidence-based methods, CTI, ICM and ACT;
- An assessment of the citizen’s situation is an important precondition for a successful intervention. The initiative promotes the use of citizen assessments.