

–HOUSING FIRST IN ODENSE–

<u>Organisation(s):</u>	Municipality of Odense	
<u>Country:</u>	Denmark	
<u>Contact Person:</u>	policy@esn-eu.org	
<u>Theme:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ageing & Care <input type="checkbox"/> Asylum & Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Young People <input type="checkbox"/> Children & Families <input type="checkbox"/> Community Care <input type="checkbox"/> Co-Production <input type="checkbox"/> Disability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing & Homelessness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Active Inclusion & Employment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated Services <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health <input type="checkbox"/> Service Quality & Management <input type="checkbox"/> Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Workforce Support <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minimum Income <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify:
<u>Principles of European Pillar of Social Rights:</u> <i>Check the 20 principles here.</i>	19. Housing and assistance for the homeless	
<u>Current status of the practice:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Concept and design phase <input type="checkbox"/> Execution & monitoring phase <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consolidation phase <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scaling Up and Transformation Phase <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)	
<u>Social issues addressed</u> <i>Please explain the problem you attempt to solve</i>	Before Odense introduced this Programme, Homelessness was a big issue in the city. For example, in 2009 approximately 208 people were homeless in Odense, and now, in 2022, there are 117 homeless people in Odense out of a total population of 206,000. To address the issue, Odense introduced the project Housing First.	
<u>Objectives:</u> <i>Please provide a maximum of three objectives in bullet points.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce homelessness in Odense • Reduce the time for people to wait for social housing • Strengthen long-term social inclusion of people without housing / depending on social housing support 	

<p><u>Activities:</u> <i>Please summarise the activities put in place to achieve the objectives (maximum 200 words).</i></p>	<p>Odense has worked with Housing First since 2009. Through the approach with Housing First, we have achieved good results in working with vulnerable citizens and the homeless. Odense has succeeded in reducing homelessness considerably while it has increased nationally.</p> <p>As part of this policy, Odense offers a homeless person a home within three months.</p> <p>Additional support is offered for citizens who need support to maintain their homes. This can, for example, be about helping to structure daily life, practical tasks or finances. A social worker provides regular follow-up support to the person in need through conversations, support in contacting public institutions and understanding letters.</p> <p>The municipality provides support based on the individual citizen's situation and problems to further support social inclusion. It can, for example, be about finances, health, substance abuse treatment, networks, support persons and employment/education, which must be taken care of to move into your home and maintain the house.</p>
<p><u>Evaluation of practice:</u> <i>Please explain how you evaluate the practice, and what the results were/are so far</i></p>	<p>Odense has succeeded in reducing homelessness considerably while it has increased nationally. As previously mentioned, Odense has seen homelessness half from 208 homeless in 2009 compared to 117 homeless in 2022. In contrast, homelessness has risen nationally from 4,998 homeless in 2009 to 5,789 in 2022.</p> <p>VIVE - The National Research and Analysis Center for Welfare undertook an evaluation study in 2020.</p> <p>Around 500 citizens in Odense Municipality got a home through the effort from 2010-2018. Approximately 80 per cent of them are still in housing three years after they were allocated housing. They either live in the designated accommodation or have moved on to a new one. However, many of the initiative's citizens are still outside the labour market and still have mental disorders or substance abuse problems that require treatment. Despite continued vulnerability, the effort has thus succeeded in helping the vast majority of citizens in housing.</p>
<p><u>List three key elements for successful implementation</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Political will & Strategy for housing 2. Clear division of responsibilities and high transparency in collaboration with several actors 3. Stay loyal to the methods and visions of "Housing First"

Links to supporting documents:

e.g. website or report of the practice

VIVE - The National Research and Analysis Center for Welfare undertook an evaluation study in 2020.

<https://www.vive.dk/da/udgivelser/housing-first-i-odense-15366/>

Municipality's website:

<https://www.odense.dk/borger/udsatte-voksne/housing-first>