Flagstaff Shelter Services is being recognized for spearheading the design and implementation of the innovative Housing as Healthcare Program. Implemented in late 2019, the program effectively matches program participants with a multi-discipline Housing focused Care Team that provides individualized, comprehensive supportive services.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit Arizona in 2020, Flagstaff Shelter Services took swift action by securing blocks of rooms at local motels to provide over 32,000 bed nights in private rooms and matched program participants with a Housing focused Care Team.

Housing focused Care Teams consisted of collaborative partners in case management, primary care, and behavioral health. The teams worked in coordination to decrease participants’ barriers to accessing and maintaining safe and stable affordable housing.

Between program implementation in late 2019 and the end of 2020, just over 400 people experiencing homelessness were served by the Housing as Healthcare Program.

The Flagstaff Shelter Services Housing as Healthcare program has succeeded in demonstrating broad individual- and community-level outcomes. As a result, 342 individuals reported improved health outcomes and 82 men, women and children transitioned from emergency shelter to long-term housing.