

JAMA[®] RADIO REPORT

The Journal of the American Medical Association

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Producers can download mp3 versions of the packages, and are free to edit the pieces and/or use the actualities as best suits their stations' needs.

**This week's package, embargoed until:
11a.m. (ET) Tuesday, March 3, 2015 is:**

“Rent Supplements and Mental Health Support Improve Housing Stability for Homeless Adults”

Radio script (TRT:60)

EMBARGO: 11 a.m. (ET) Tuesday, March 3, 2015

VO: MANY HOMELESS ADULTS STRUGGLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS AS WELL AS SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS. MOST PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO HELP HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS REQUIRE THEM TO FIRST ENTER TREATMENT, REHABILITATION AND THEN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING. A NEW STUDY EVALUATED A PROGRAM WHERE HOMELESS ADULTS TRANSITION DIRECTLY FROM THE STREETS OR SHELTERS TO PERMANENT HOUSING, WHILE ALSO RECEIVING INTENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT.

“Individuals with moderate mental health needs represents a very large segment of the homeless populations across North America.”

VO: DR. VICKY STERGIOPOULOS (Stir-JAH-puh-lus) FROM ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL IN TORONTO, AND CO-AUTHORS RECRUITED ABOUT 12 HUNDRED HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS FROM FOUR CITIES ACROSS CANADA. A LITTLE MORE THAN HALF THE PARTICIPANTS RECEIVED RENT SUPPLEMENTS AND INTENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FROM PROJECT TEAMS. THE REMAINING PARTICIPANTS DID NOT RECEIVE A SUPPLEMENT AND WERE DIRECTED TO SERVICES AVAILABLE IN THEIR COMMUNITY. BOTH GROUPS WERE FOLLOWED FOR UP TO TWO YEARS. THE STUDY APPEARS IN JAMA, JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

“Individuals in the intervention group had much greater success in achieving stable housing compared to the usual care group.”

CATHERINE DOLF, THE JAMA REPORT.

