

# Experimental programme « Un chez-soi d'abord » mid-term progress report

august 2013

#### Lille - Marseille - Paris - Toulouse

The experimental programme "Housing first" aims at offering direct and sustainable access to housing, citizenship, healthcare and rights to homeless people suffering from severe mental illness and lasting addictions, in need of intensive support on both social and sanitary levels.

This programme intends to experiment in France the methodology of "Housing First" programmes implemented in the USA and in Canada, which resulted in 80% of the people involved staying in their accommodation after 5 years and in a decrease in the number of hospital stays and imprisonments.

In 2011, on the initiative of French State, this programme was implemented in the cities of Marseille, Toulouse, Lille and Paris.

### The target audience shares the following characteristics:

- 225 persons supported (59 in Lille, 81 in Marseille, 69 in Toulouse and 16 in Paris)
- average age is 38
- 100% have a serious mental illness, 75% an addiction and 69% were living on the street on a permanent basis
- 100% live beneath the poverty threshold.

## After a year and a half of experimental implementation, results are encouraging :

- 80% of the persons still live in their accommodation and insure its maintenance, pay their part of the rent on a regular basis and have standard neighbourly relations
- 70% have been accompanied to healthcare
- 62% are actually autonomous in their housing
- 12% have been accompanied to a job or a professional training.



#### Territorial focused, multi-partnerships projects

The programme allows psychiatry, addictology, social action and housing fields to open-up and collaborate with each other. It is based on strong partnerships between institutional actors: cities, local administrations and the State.

The programme, financed by the State and social security for the benefit of the territories, has direct consequences in sensitive areas: improvement of togetherness, security, access to healthcare, integration and acceptance of psychological handicap.

## A project that innovates in public policies at the crossroad of housing, psychiatry and addictology

• an evaluation that aims at answering public administrations' concerns over cost efficiency in a tight fiscal situation



Premier ministre

ministère de l'Égalité des territoires et du Logement

> ministère des Affaires sociales et de la Santé



- an investment for adapted measures that meet people's needs as fully as possible and based on a best practices reference document
- a hope for a genuinely relevant management of people deemed hopeless

#### **Prospects**

- To achieve the experimentation by including the intended 400 people and supporting them until the end of 2015
- Developing the recourse to social housing solutions
- In 2016, the experimentation results will make the optimal implementation of the project on a national level possible, with the best cost efficiency.



The programme is implemented on each of the 4 sites by project developers originating from associations and hospitals, in close contact with the prefectures, departmental directorates for social cohesion and regional healthcare agencies. Local governments, stakeholders in the housing sector and the association network are also involved.



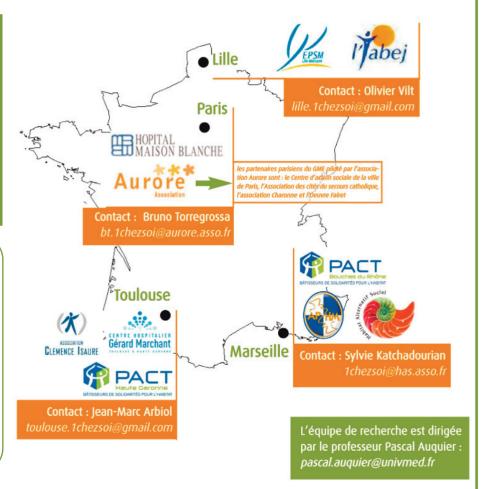




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citizenship initiative social innovation experimentation research dignity housing recovery care homeless solidarity.