

**SOCIETAL EXPERTS ACTION NETWORK (SEAN)
FALL 2024 SYMPOSIUM
*Program Descriptions***

[Cambridge Holistic Emergency Alternative Response Team \(HEART\)](#)

Cambridge Holistic Emergency Alternative Response Team (HEART) is a community-led proactive public safety program that aims to address the immediate needs of people in conflict or crisis (at the moment of crisis). We will directly deploy HEART responders for EMERGENCY calls, including for those with mental illness and/or substance use disorders in public spaces as well as domestic spaces (within people's homes).

[Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger, Emergency Hunger Relief Fund](#)

The Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger is a community-centered and responsive convener, connector, and facilitator in Colorado's food systems space. In March 2020, the Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger was approached by a collaborative of Colorado funders to develop and administer Colorado's COVID-19 Emergency Hunger Relief Fund in response to acute hunger that emerged in our communities as a result of the pandemic. While the Blueprint was not established to operate as a funder, we saw this as an opportunity to ensure that available funds were invested into communities hardest hit by COVID-19. In addition, we were eager to bridge the gap and create connections between philanthropic and community organizations.

[Hamilton County, Tennessee Vocational Reentry Program](#)

The Hamilton County Vocational Reentry Program is an initiative led by Hamilton County Mayor Weston Wamp in partnership with Sheriff Austin Garrett to provide vocational skills to justice involved individuals that can lead to sustainable employment. In collaboration with the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) at Chattanooga State Community College, the program currently offers courses in electrical and cosmetology, with plans to expand to welding and carpentry. The program provides hands-on training, college credits, and, through a grant from the McKenzie Foundation, free tuition. Upon release from the justice system, participants have the option to continue their education at Chattanooga State Community College, applying the credits earned in the reentry program.

[Multnomah County, Oregon Common Application](#)

The Multnomah County Common Application Program is designed to allow residents from across Multnomah County to apply for up to 20 community programs through one application. The Common Application Program has been designed with accessibility at the forefront and includes call center support and multi-language applications. The Multnomah County Common Application Program launched as a pilot program in January 2023. At its launch, the pilot program allowed for residents to apply to up to six programs with a single application and grew out of a grassroots movement by community groups and Commissioner Lori Stegmann's office to build climate resilience in East Multnomah County.

Healing Arts Chicago (formerly known as Chicago Arts & Health Pilot for Creative Workers)

Healing Arts Chicago is a program of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) in partnership with the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) and City Colleges of Chicago. This pilot aims to strengthen trauma-informed and culturally responsive health services in communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program explores career pathways for artists centered in creative therapy and trauma-informed care by establishing one-year artist apprenticeships. Selected artists are trained as community health workers to offer creative wellness strategies to clients served at the city's five mental health clinics.

San Francisco, California Navigation Centers

San Francisco faces a significant challenge of homeless people living in encampments. The 2015 Point-In-Time count estimated that 6,700 people experience homelessness in San Francisco on any given night. 3,500 of those people are unsheltered living on the streets. The Navigation Center, which opened in March 2015, is a successful program designed to shelter San Francisco's highly vulnerable and long-term homeless residents who are often fearful of accessing traditional shelter and services. Navigation Centers provide these otherwise unsheltered San Franciscans room and board while case managers work to connect them to income, public benefits, health services, shelter, and housing. Navigation Centers are different from traditional shelters in that they have few barriers to entry and intensive case management. Unlike traditional shelters, people with partners, pets, and possessions are welcome at Navigation Centers. The purpose of a Navigation Center is to offer a respite from life on the street and to support people in changing their lives by making lasting social service and housing connections.

Washington Wastewater-Based Epidemiology (WAWBE)

To support the COVID-19 pandemic response, Washington State's Department of Health (WA DOH) received funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Wastewater Surveillance System to build the Washington Wastewater-Based Epidemiology (WAWBE) program. WAWBE is a cross-sectional effort within WA DOH, facilitating collaboration between experts across environmental health, epidemiology, and microbiology. WAWBE works closely with local health jurisdictions and wastewater treatment plants to test wastewater samples from communities across the state for SARS-CoV-2, influenza, and other pathogens. These results supplement traditional surveillance efforts, increasing the quality and accuracy of disease transmission monitoring at both local and state levels.