

Housing First Europe Conference

ROTTERDAM 28 - 29 - 30 OCTOBER 2026

PROGRAMME



City of
Rotterdam

CONFERENCE *Programme*

Wednesday, 28 October 2026

11:45 - 14:00	Communities of Practice meetings • Housing First Researchers • Housing First for Youth • Housing First Trainers • Housing First Managers • Cities & Governments	Timmerhuis Rotterdam, Halvemaanpassage 1
14:30 - 17:30	Site Visits - to local organisations in Rotterdam	Meeting places TBC
16:30 - 18:30	Housing First Europe Hub Core Partners Meeting	Timmerhuis Rotterdam, Halvemaanpassage 1
18:00 - 20:30	Theatre Production & Dinner	Aan het water, Brielselaan 157

Thursday, 29 October 2026

08:00 - 09:15	Registrations & Coffee	Maassilo, Maashaven, Zuidzijde 1-2
09:15 - 09:40	Opening plenary Welcome and introductions Samara Jones, Lead, Housing First Europe Hub Francesca Albanese, Chair, Housing First Europe Hub	Platform 1
09:40 - 11:00	Welcome from City of Rotterdam & Housing First Netherlands Astrid Kockelkoren, Alderman Housing and homelessness, City of Rotterdam, NL Melanie Schmit, Director, Housing First Netherlands, NL Pieter Paul Slikker, Alderman, Den Bosch ('s Hertogenbosch), NL Thijs Honig, CEO, SMO Ferdihuys, NL	Platform 1
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee Break	Platform 2 & Place Pigalle
11:30 - 13:00	Workshops - Round 1	Various rooms
13:00 - 14:15	Lunch	Platform 2
14:15 - 15:45	Workshops - Round 2	Various rooms
15:45 - 16:15	Coffee Break	Platform 2 & Place Pigalle
16:15 - 17:15	Keynote and Call to Action Matt Downie, Chief Executive, Crisis, UK	Platform 1
17:15 - 19:00	Drinks and networking session	Platform 2
19:00	Dinner	Platform 2

Friday, 30 October 2026

08:00 - 09:00	Welcome Coffee	Maassilo, Maashaven, Zuidzijde 1-2
09:00 - 9:45	Keynote address Sydney Costantini, PhD Candidate in Economics, University of California, US Respondent: Freek Spinnewijn, Director, FEANTSA	Platform 1
09:45 - 10:45	Policy and Action/Implementation Panel Matthew Baldwin, Chair, EU Housing Task Force, Deputy Director-General. Energy Directorate-General (ENER) Matthew Zerafa, Head of Housing Agency, Malta Karin Egholm, Danish Authority of Social Services and Housing Katarina Ivankovic Knezevic, Director for Social Rights and Inclusion, Directorate -General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission Jiske Wallace-Lems, Programme manager – Wonen Eerst O10 – City of Rotterdam, The Netherlands	Platform 1
10:45 - 11:15	Coffee Break	Platform 2 & Place Pigalle
11:15 - 12:45	Workshops - Round 3	
12:45 - 13:00	Transition	
13:00 - 13:20	Closing Remarks & by Housing First Europe Hub and Housing First Netherlands	Platform 1
13:30 - 14:00	Lunch	Platform 2

WORKSHOPS *Programme*

Thursday 29.10.2026 & Friday 30.10.2026

Time	Workshop title	ROOM
11:30–13:00	Network psychiatry & emotional reflection on the need of Housing First	Platform 3
	Housing First in Amsterdam: HVO-Querido's pioneering journey	The Cinema
	Building supportive networks for young people	The Forest
	Spotlight on Crisis' model to become a social landlord for Housing First	The Disco
	European investment for housing that addresses homelessness (Housing First)	Platform 1
	Building bridges across different levels of government – cities and national governments	The Now
	Spotlight on the Netherlands – systems change approach	The Kiss
	Partnerships that strengthen Housing First for women	The Basement

Time	Workshop title	ROOM
14:15–15:45	Community mental health in Europe and Housing First	Platform 3
	Housing First Netherlands: from grassroots to a national movement	The Cinema
	Prevention and Housing First for youth approach	The Forest
	Mobilising existing social housing stock – partnerships and policy	The Disco
	EU and other funding opportunities	Platform 1
	Scotland – examples from 15 years of Housing First and working with local authorities	The Now
	Research on cost	The Kiss
	Housing First for Families	The Basement

Time	Workshop title	ROOM
11:15–12:45	Housing First Expertise Center: think creatively, do things differently	Platform 3
	Coalition building in collaboration with experienced experts	The Cinema
	Housing solutions for Housing First for Youth – supply, models and partnerships	The Forest
	Partnerships in the private rented sector – practice and policy	The Disco
	Building healthy relationships with health and mental health sector actors	Platform 1
	Eviction prevention and Housing First	The Now
	Research roundtable – impact of research on policy to date; new areas to develop	The Kiss
	Upstream	The Basement