

Homeless Services 101: What Reentry Service Providers Need to Know

Wednesday, June 22, 2016 2-3:30 p.m. ET

Mary Owens, *Management and Program Analyst, US Interagency
Council on Homelessness*

Jayme Day, *Director for Individual Homeless Adults, National
Alliance to End Homelessness*

Kim Keaton, *Senior Program Manager, Government Affairs and
Innovations, CSH*

Facilitator: **Maureen Richey**, *policy analyst, Council of State
Governments Justice Center*

National **nonprofit, nonpartisan** membership association of state government officials

Represents **all three** branches of state government

Provides **practical** advice informed by **the best available evidence**



Overview

Affordable Housing 101

Continuums of Care and Reentry

FUSE Program Model Example

Agenda and Housekeeping

- ☐ This webinar is scheduled for 2-3:30 pm ET
- ☐ This webinar is being recorded.
- ☐ All phone lines are on mute except for presenters.
- ☐ Q&A will be at the end.
- ☐ Please type questions in the chat box on the right-hand side of your screen.

Homeless Services101: Housing Services for Reentry Populations

Mary Owens USICH

June 22, 2016





Agenda

- I. Overview of USICH**
- II. Homelessness and Incarceration
- III. Addressing Reentry and Homelessness
- IV. Housing as a Solution
- V. Conclusion



Homelessness in America

2015 AHAR Report

- In January 2015, 564,708 people were identified as experiencing homelessness on a given night.
- 31% were found in unsheltered locations.
- Nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ were children under the age of 18.
- 9% were between 18-24.
- 68% were 25 years and older.

Housing Affordability in the U.S. for a Two Bedroom Apartment

Annual income: **\$39,360**

OR

Full-time job with hourly wage: **\$18.92**

OR

Full-time jobs at minimum wage: **2.6**

Estimated Mean Renter Wage in the U.S.

Full-time job with hourly wage: **\$14.65**



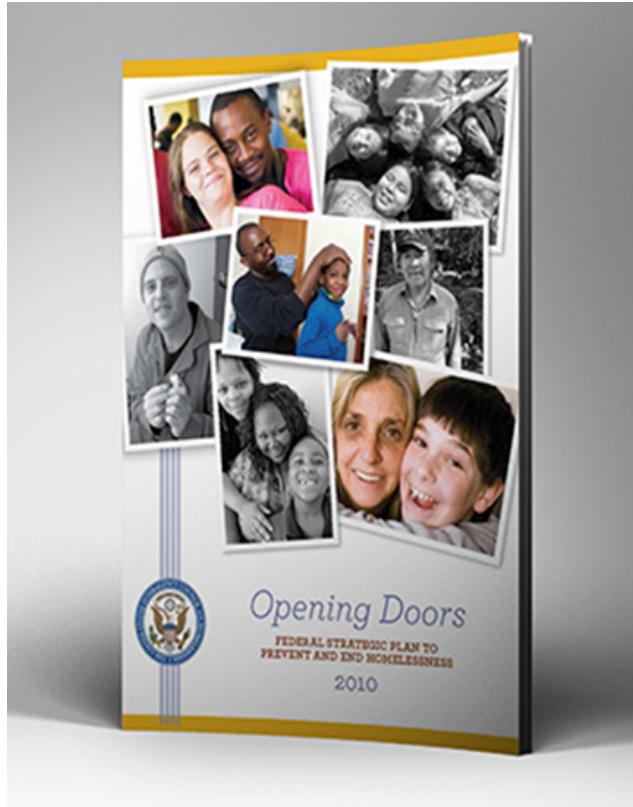
U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

Leading the federal response to homelessness

- Create and Lead a **Common Vision**
- Establish **Policy Priorities** and Align Strategic Actions
- Reduce Fragmentation and **Duplication**
- Drive the National Implementation of **Cost-Effective Solutions**



Advancing Opening Doors



Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness:

1. Prevent and end homelessness among Veterans in 2015
2. Finish the job of ending chronic homelessness in 2017
3. Prevent and end homelessness among families, children, and youth in 2020
4. Set a path to end all types of homelessness



Our Results Since 2010

Overall
Homelessness

11%

Veteran
Homelessness

36%

Chronic
Homelessness

22%

Family
Homelessness

19%

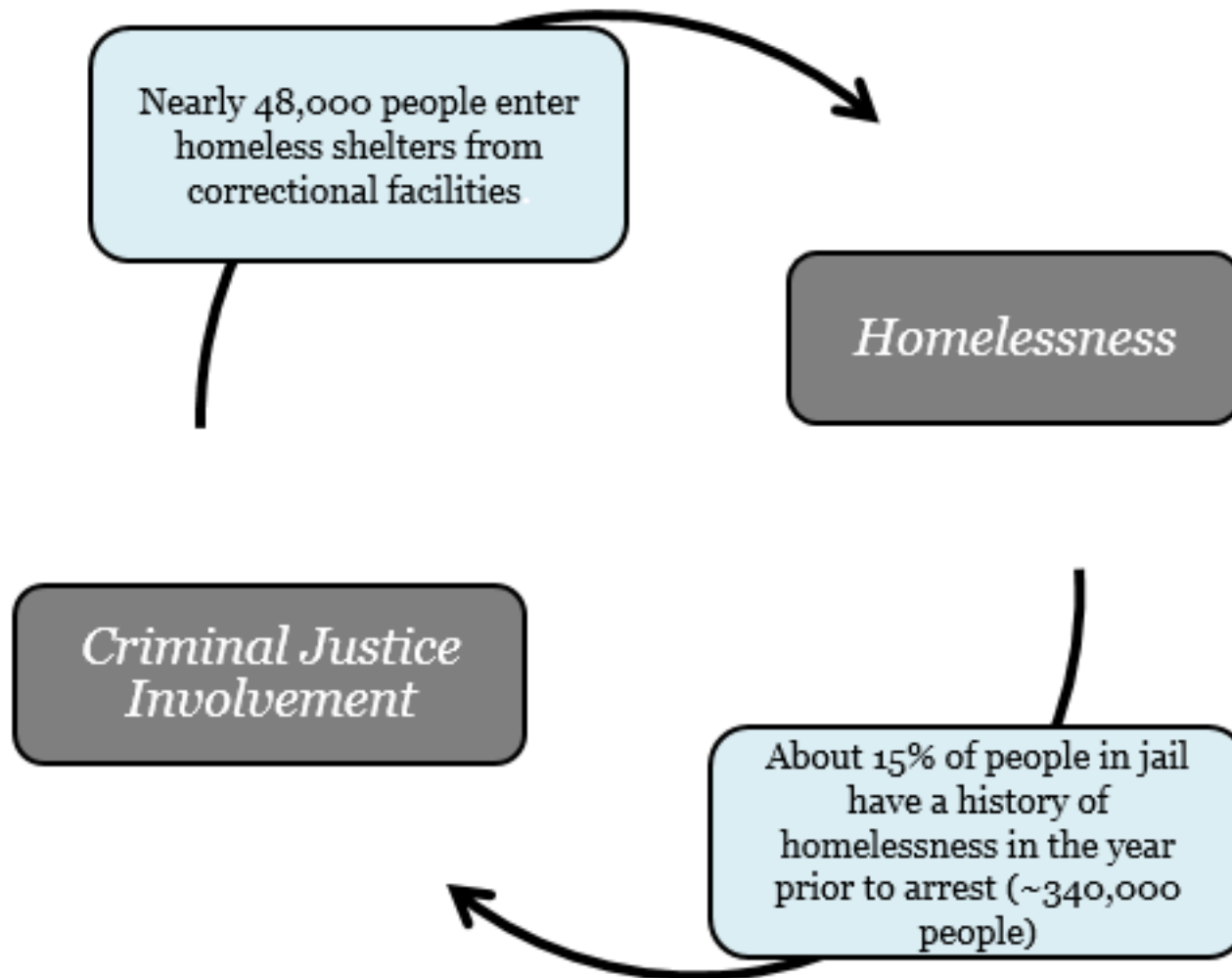


Agenda

- I. Overview of USICH
- II. Homelessness and Incarceration**
- III. Addressing Reentry and Homelessness
- IV. Housing as a Solution
- V. Conclusion



Homelessness and Incarceration





Reentry and Homelessness

- People leaving jails face housing challenges
- 50,000 people a year enter shelters directly after release
- Reentry programs and services do not meet housing needs
 - SCA cannot be directly used to cover housing or rental assistance



Agenda

- I. Overview of USICH
- II. Homelessness and Incarceration
- III. Addressing Reentry and Homelessness**
- IV. Housing as a Solution
- V. Conclusion



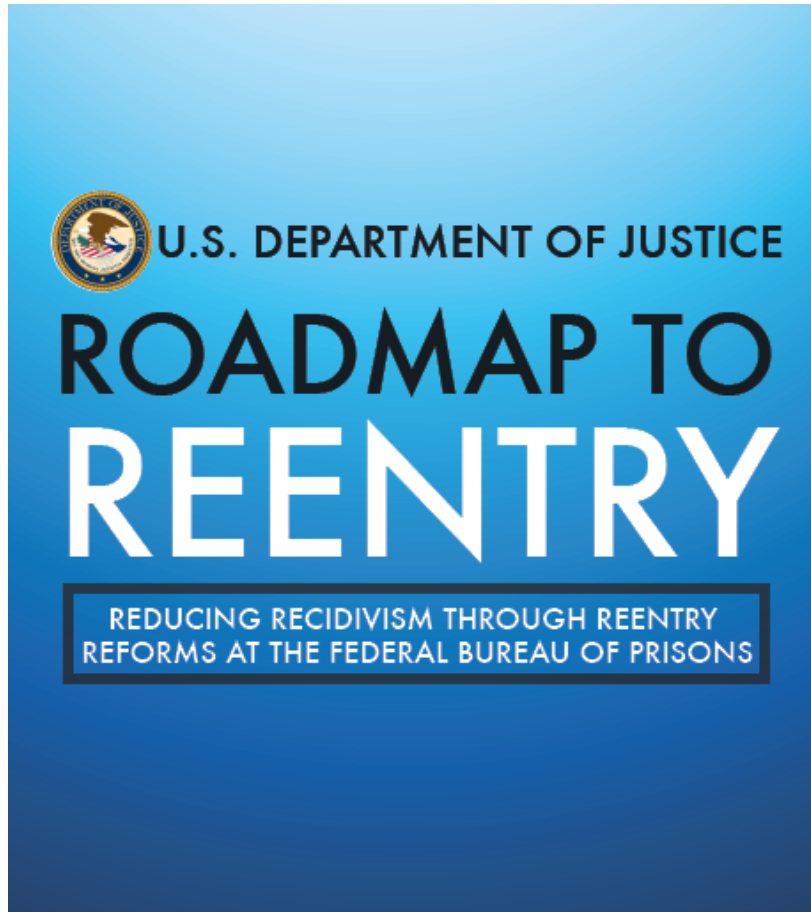
Federal Interagency Reentry Council



- 20-agency Council established in 2011 by the Attorney General
- Coordinates Federal policy efforts to reduce barriers to successful reentry (housing, employment, benefits, services, civic participation)



Roadmap to Reentry



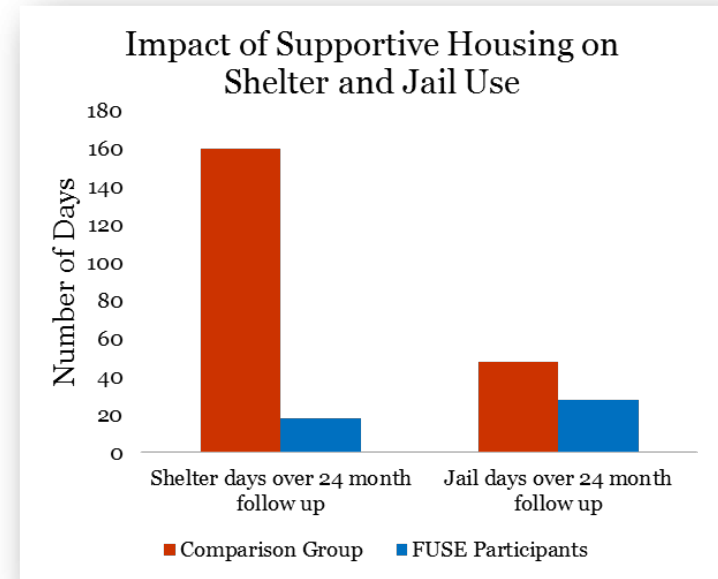
- Released by DOJ in April 2016
- Proposes reforms at the Federal Bureau of Prisons
 - Prepare motivated individuals to successfully reenter society
 - Reduce barriers affecting returning individuals



Enhance Reentry Planning and Services



Strengthening housing-related transition planning as part of reentry services



Expanding evidence-based housing and services interventions



Agenda

- I. Overview of USICH
- II. Homelessness and Incarceration
- III. Addressing Reentry and Homelessness
- IV. Housing as a Solution**
- V. Conclusion



Connecting People Returning from Incarceration with Housing and Homeless Assistance



Connecting People Returning from Incarceration with Housing and Homelessness Assistance

People returning from incarceration need stable housing to successfully reenter our neighborhoods and communities. Many studies have shown that reentry initiatives that include housing assistance reduce recidivism rates. More than just a roof over one's head, housing is a stabilizing force, giving people a consistent base from which they can access employment, services for mental health or substance use disorders, and other support services. It also helps people make or restore connections with community resources, with family, and with positive social networks.

Unfortunately, many people leaving jails or prisons have significant challenges finding safe and affordable housing. As a result, many wind up homeless. National data shows that nearly 50,000 people a year enter shelters directly after release from correctional facilities. Many of these individuals are caught in a revolving door between homelessness and incarceration, bouncing week after week between the streets, shelter, and jails.

This document provides practical tips for how corrections agencies, reentry service providers, state and local governments, and community partners can help break such cycles of homelessness and incarceration by helping people exiting the criminal justice system connect to available housing resources and find stability in their lives.

Partner with Housing and Homelessness Assistance Systems

A good starting point is to identify and engage the key agencies, systems, and providers that administer or control access to affordable housing and homelessness assistance resources in your community. While these entities face many competing demands for their scarce housing and services resources, they are often interested in identifying creative ways to help address housing needs for diverse populations, including among justice-involved people. Some public housing agencies (PHAs), for example, are working with community-based organizations to develop reentry programs that allow returning citizens to reunite with their families who live in public housing.

Start by getting to know staff at key agencies or planning bodies. These providers can help you navigate local coordinated entry systems for supportive housing and homelessness assistance programs, many of which prioritize the most chronically homeless and vulnerable people for housing assistance. These include:

- The local Continuum of Care (CoC), a collaborative planning body that oversees the use of federally-funded homelessness assistance programs, like supportive housing
- The PHA, which oversees programs like Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and public housing
- City and county housing departments and your state housing agency, all of which help finance and regulate affordable housing

- Released by USICH in March 2016
- Tips on how to help people exiting justice systems connect to housing
- Provides a range of housing programs available for people returning from incarceration



Typology of Housing Needs

	Criminal Justice Involvement		Housing Strategies
	Low	High	
Housing/Service Needs		Housing loss due to long-term incarceration, housing barriers due to criminal histories	Family reunification, rapid rehousing
		High barriers to employment, substance use issues, mental health challenges	Affordable housing, rapid rehousing, transitional housing
		People with law enforcement contacts due to criminalization of homelessness Chronically homeless, chronic behavioral health conditions, and/or frequent users of corrections	Permanent supportive housing



Family Reunification

- A family-based setting is the preferred housing outcome
- Only preferred when safe and appropriate
- Family members include biological family, including parents, other relatives and friends



Affordable Housing

- Assistance that enables families or individuals to pay no more than 30% of gross monthly income on housing costs
- Two primary ways to lower rent burden:
 - Subsidies through capital program or project-based/operating Subsidies (low-income housing tax credits and Section 8 PBRA)
 - Tenant-Based Subsidies
- “Mainstream” versus “Targeted” Programs



Rapid Rehousing

- Short-term rental assistance coupled with housing search and navigation services
- Connection to community-based services to support employment, health, and social needs
- Applications for formerly incarcerated persons is limited, but may be appropriate for people with low criminogenic risk

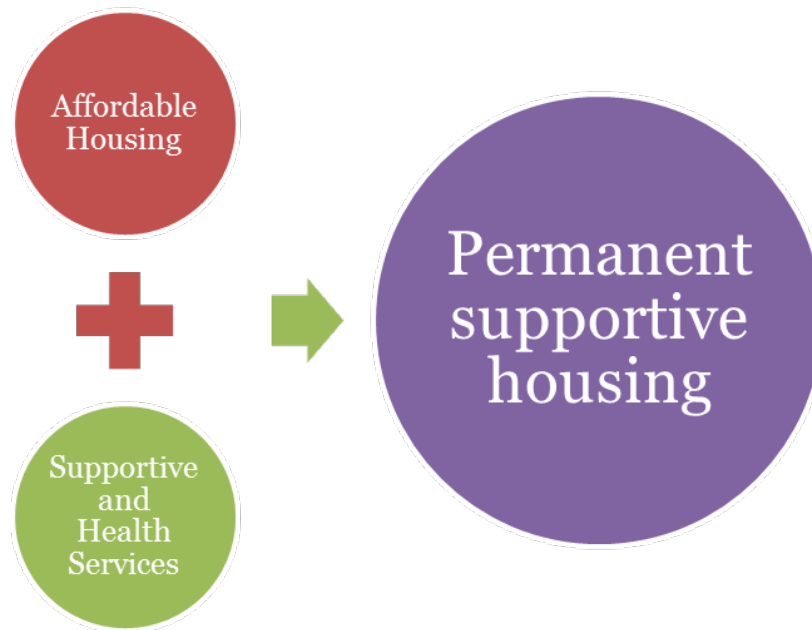


Transitional Housing

- Time-limited, typically highly structured residential program
- General premise is meant to bridge the gap from homelessness to permanent housing by offering structure, supervision, and support.
- Often considered for corrections systems and reentry contexts based on security and supervision considerations



Permanent Supportive Housing



- Permanent, affordable housing coupled with a range of supportive services
- Proactive, assertive outreach that connects people with the highest needs to permanent housing
- Prioritization based on objective measures of need, vulnerability, and cost



Permanent Supportive Housing for Reentry Population Through Pay for Success

- HUD/DOJ \$8.7 million demonstration grant to address homelessness and reduce recidivism
 - Test cost-effective ways to help persons cycling between the criminal justice and homeless services systems
 - Make new Permanent Supportive Housing available for the reentry population



Mary Owens

Management and Program Analyst

U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

mary.owens@usich.gov



www.usich.gov



CONTINUUMS OF CARE AND REENTRY

CSG Webinar June 2016
Jayne Day

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION • INFLUENCING FEDERAL POLICY • BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY



National Alliance to
END HOMELESSNESS

The National Alliance to End Homelessness is a nonpartisan organization committed to preventing and ending homelessness in the United States.

The Alliance works toward ending homelessness by improving homelessness policy, building on-the-ground capacity, and educating opinion leaders.



What is the Continuum of Care (CoC)?

Established by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)



CoC as a Planning Body

- Take a holistic and community-based response to ending homelessness locally and include all pertinent stakeholders consumers, and relevant services regardless of funding

CoC as a Funding Body

- Cooperative Applicant for HUD CoC Funding
- Largest competitive funding grant in Federal Government

Why Work With A CoC?

- CoCs have housing resources
- CoCs have to be big thinkers so they are willing to develop strategic partnerships
- CoCs serve many of the same people
- CoCs are using best practices that keep people housing and save communities money
- CoCs are ending homelessness



Objectives of the CoC

- End homelessness according to the Federal Goals
- Performance Indicators (HEARTH Act)
 - Reduce overall homelessness
 - Reduce length of time homeless
 - Reduce returns to homelessness
 - Increase access/coverage to services
 - Increase employment and income
 - Reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time



Responsibilities of a CoC

- Coordinate with other entities (all homeless service providers, local government, other institutions and systems)
- Determine unmet need
- Improve performance
- Use best practices – Housing First approach
- Administer the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Conduct an annual Point-In-Time Count
- Advocate and apply for funding
- Develop a “coordinated entry system”



Direct Funding for CoCs

- HUD CoC Annual Competition
 - \$1.89 Billion in FY15
 - Cooperative Applicant
 - Eligible Activities
 - Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
 - Rapid Rehousing (RRH)
 - Pulling away from Transitional Housing and funding Supportive Services
 - HMIS, Strategic Planning
 - Eligible Recipients – literally homeless persons



CoCs Advocating for Other Funding

- HUD Emergency Solutions Grant – Shelter, Outreach, and Rapid Rehousing
- SAMHSA grants – Supportive Services
- Match funds for federal grants
- Others – SCA could be part of this mix



Coordinated Entry

- Purpose is to create a system to navigate everyone to the right services no matter where they go for help “No wrong door”
 - Referrals from community organizations
 - Direct access (phone number, walk-in)
- Considerations
 - What are the services available
 - What are all the possible entry points
 - How do people typically access services (data sharing)
 - Who is eligible for services
 - How should people be prioritized if there is scarcity



How to Partner with CoCs

- Sit on the CoC board or engage the CoC leadership in your planning process
- Convene CoC and Corrections agencies to plan for successful reentry and housing outcomes
- Work together with CoC to serve frequent users
- Share data between the HMIS and the CJ systems
- Prioritize people who will be homeless for your services
- Learn about unique needs/circumstances criminal justice involved persons experience homelessness
- Pay for housing services



Reach Out to your CoC

- Contact Information for CoC Leads
 - <https://www.hudexchange.info/grantees/?granteesaction=main.searchresults&programid=3>
- Timing of grants and engagement
 - Summer grant application (60-90 days)
 - State and local funding fiscal years



Contact Us!

Jayne Day

jday@naeh.org

202-942-8296

Homeless Services 101: What Reentry Service Providers Need to Know

Kim Keaton (kim.keaton@csh.org)

June 22, 2016

The Source for
Housing Solutions



Supportive Housing is the Solution

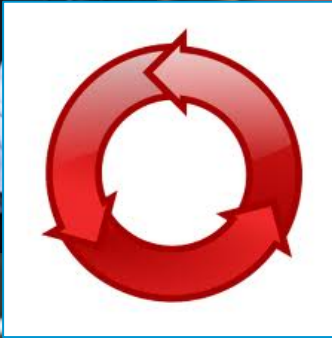
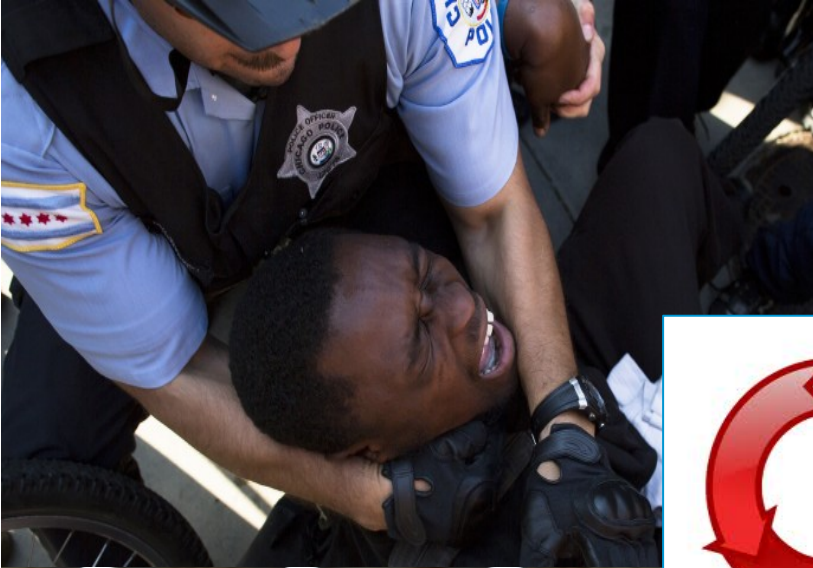
Supportive housing combines affordable housing with services that help people who face the most complex challenges to live with stability, autonomy and dignity.

Housing:
Affordable
Permanent
Independent



Support:
Flexible
Voluntary
Tenant-centered

Goal of Supportive Housing– Reduce Revolving Door Between Incarceration and Homelessness



The FUSE Model: Frequent Users Systems Engagement

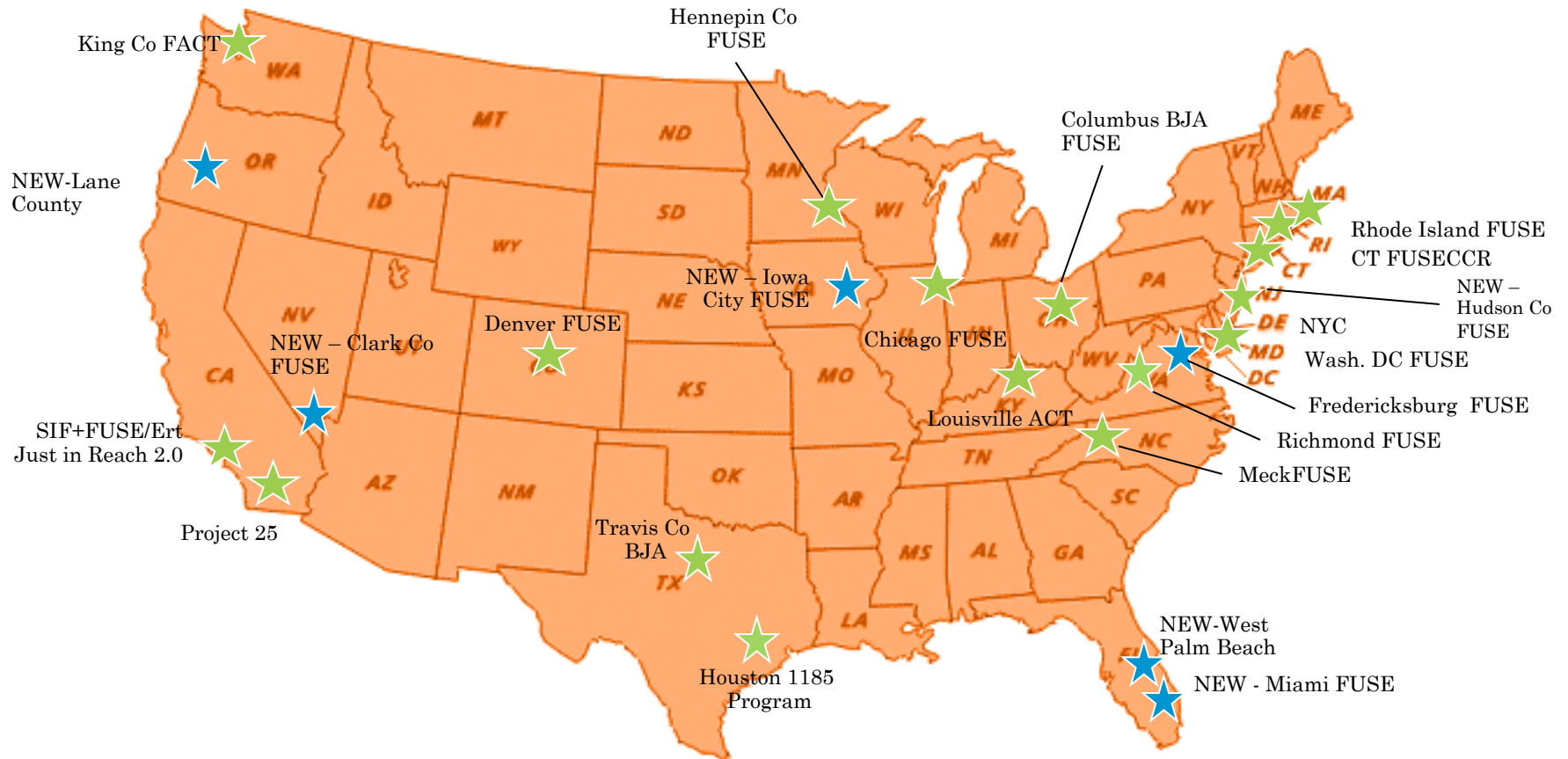


What is FUSE?

Frequent Users Systems Engagement:

- Thousands of people with chronic health conditions cycle in and out of jails, diversion courts, and homelessness - at great public expense and with limited positive human outcomes.
- **Targeted supportive housing** for this most vulnerable and costly of this group can reduce costs while getting better outcomes
- By finding a solution to the frequent user issue, the FUSE program serves as a catalyst for **system change**

Re-entry Frequent User Initiatives



- ★ FUSE – Operating
- ★ FUSE – Significant planning

Planning Framework: The FUSE Blueprint

Data-Driven Problem-Solving

Cross-system data match to identify frequent users

Track implementation progress

Measure outcomes/ impact and cost-effectiveness

Policy and Systems Reform

Convene interagency and multi-sector working group

Troubleshoot barriers to housing placement and retention

Enlist policymakers to bring FUSE to scale

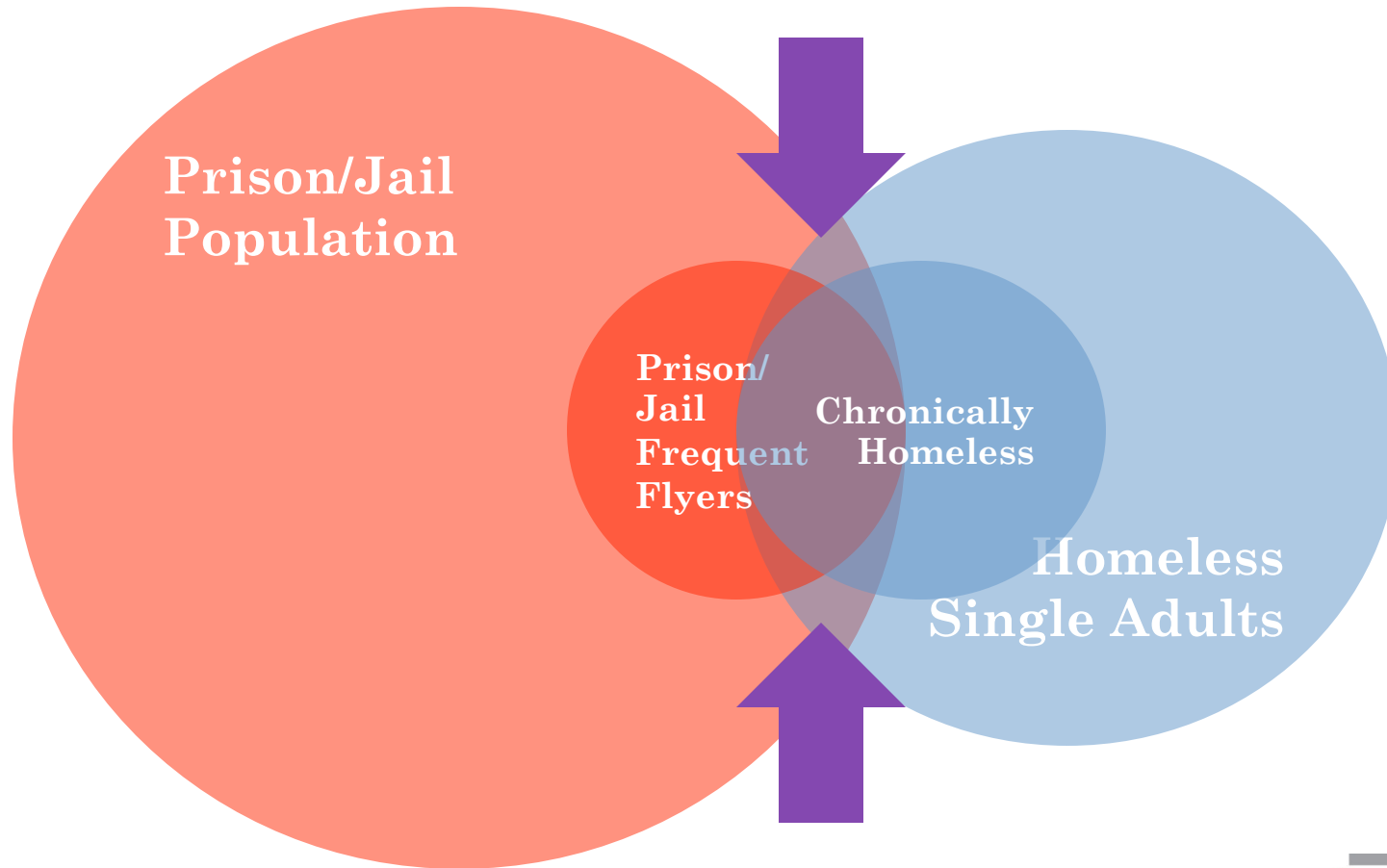
Targeted Housing and Services

Create supportive housing and develop assertive recruitment process

Recruit and place clients into housing, and stabilize with services

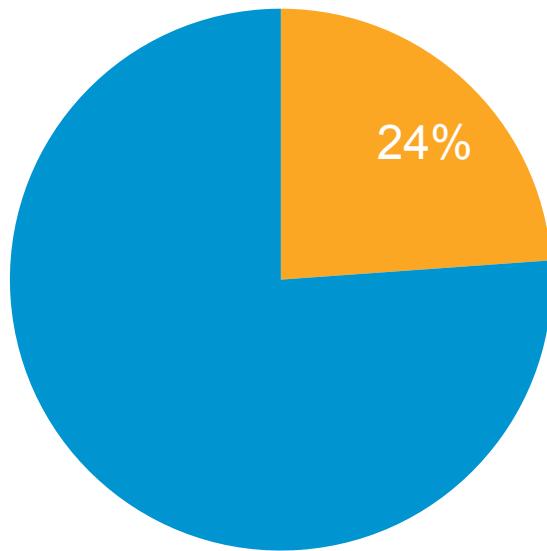
Expand model and house additional clients

Supportive Housing – For the Most Vulnerable Justice-Involved

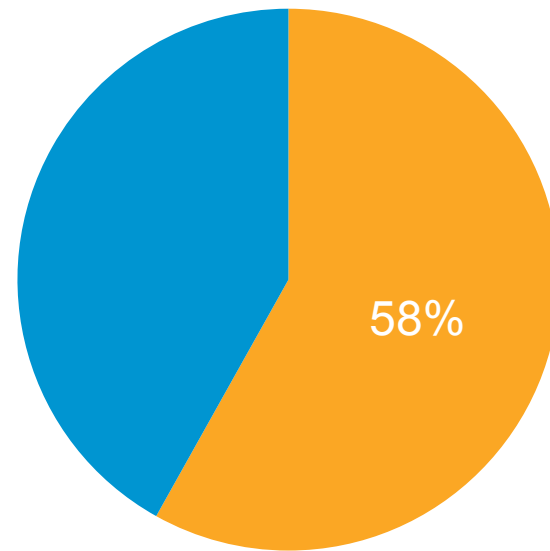


Example of Frequent Users' System Impact

24% of inmate population stayed 4 or more times between 2009-2013

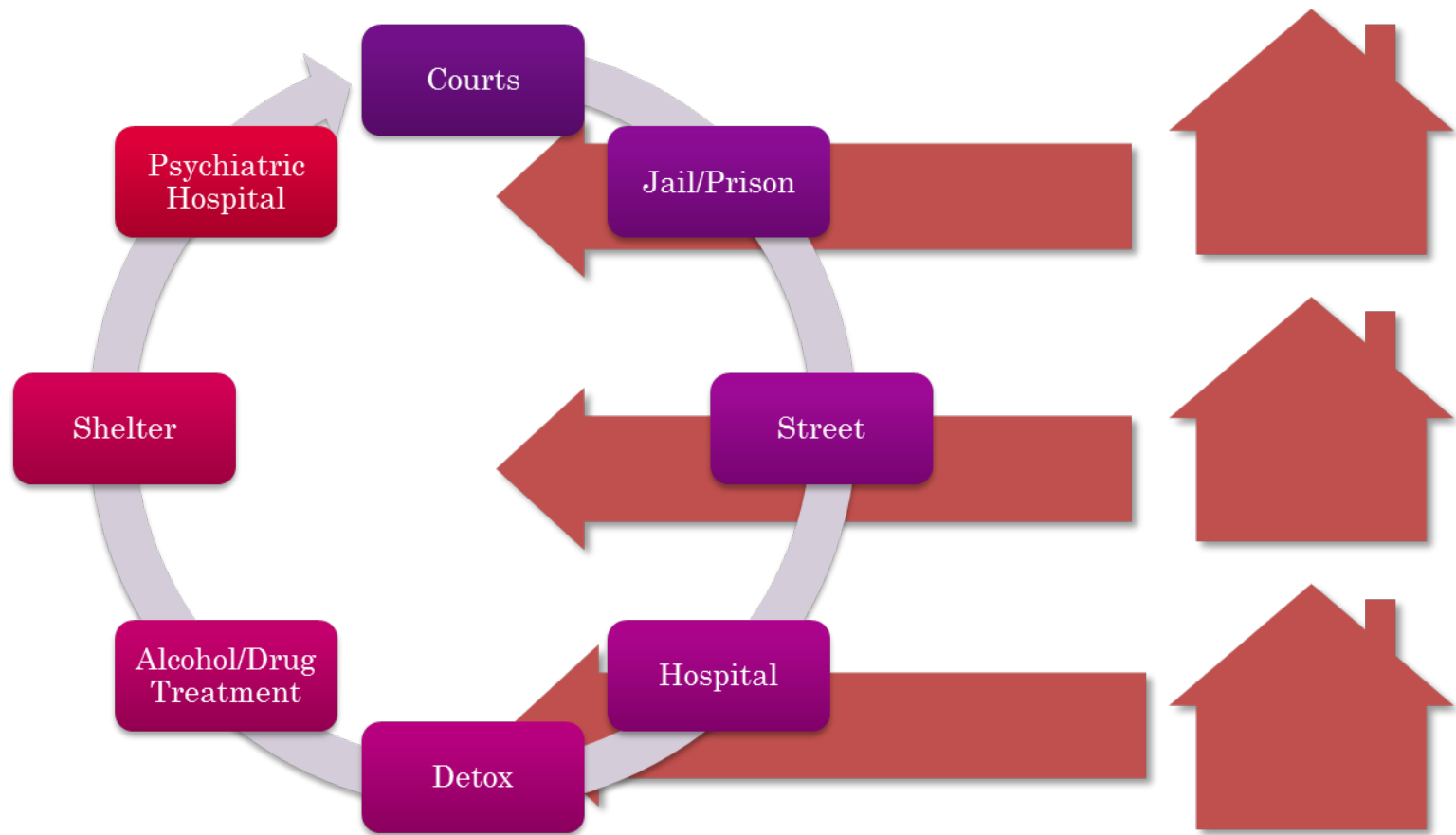


This 24% of frequent users stayed in jail 58% of bed nights over same period



The frequent user population cost an average of \$11,492 compared to the average inmate cost of \$4,829 – nearly 2.5 times more

Assertively Recruit Tenants at Multiple Intercept Points



FUSE Supportive Housing

Supportive housing combines affordable housing with services that help people who face the most complex challenges to live with stability, autonomy and dignity.

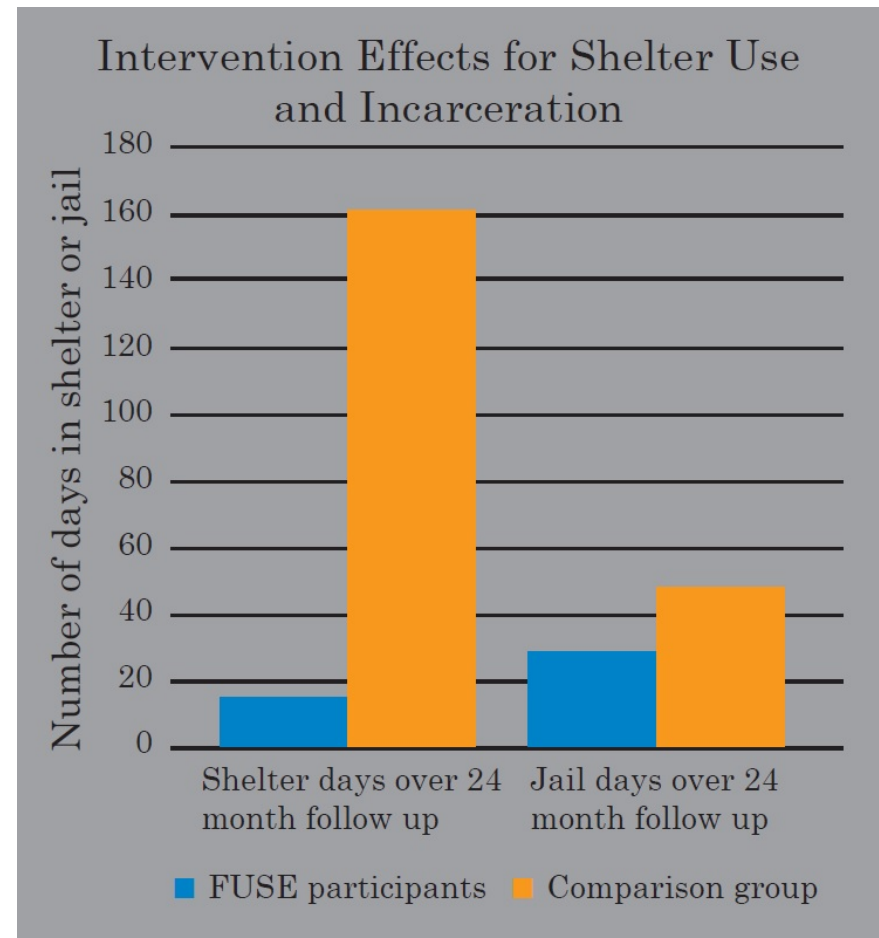
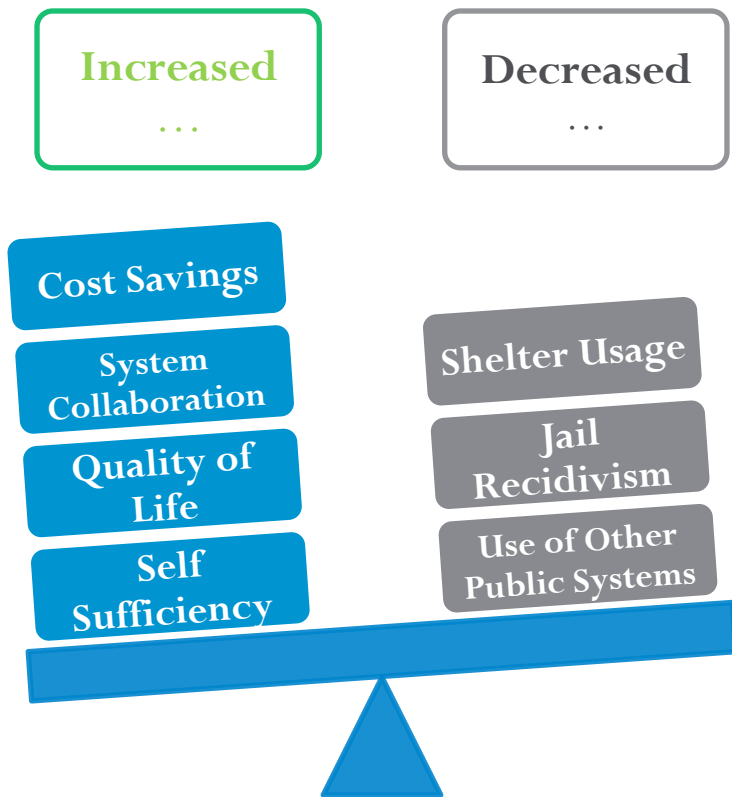
Housing:
Affordable
Permanent
Independent



Support:
Flexible
Voluntary
Tenant-centered

FUSE Reduces Recidivism

- Providing frequent users of systems with safe, stable supportive housing leads to:



Key Components of Model



- Cross-systems, **data-driven** identification of target population
- Assertive **targeting**, outreach and recruitment
- **Supportive housing**
- **Service coordination** and care management
- Measure **reductions in use** and cost effectiveness
- Implement lasting **systems change**

3 Steps Toward Creating FUSE

Engage a local champion

Sheriff's Office,
County
Commissioner, CoC
lead, head of Re-
entry Planning
Council

Identify stakeholders

Invite them to
participate in multi-
sector planning
group

Scan/Create

opportunities for
supportive housing
in your community

Visit CSH's FUSE Resource Center



www.csh.org/FUSE

FUSE 101

Data on Outcomes/Evaluations

Tools and Resources

Community Profiles

Blueprint Step by Step Planning Guide

Kim.keaton@csh.org

Thank you

QUESTIONS?

Thank You

Join our distribution list to receive
CSG Justice Center project updates!

www.csgjusticecenter.org/subscribe

For more information, contact Maureen Richey (mrichy@csg.org)



The presentation was developed by members of the Council of State Governments Justice Center staff. The statements made reflect the views of the authors, and should not be considered the official position of the Justice Center, the members of the Council of State Governments, or the funding agency supporting the work. Citations available for statistics presented in preceding slides available on CSG Justice Center web site.