



LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES

Study Session on Homelessness

October 4, 2016

We asked the
Long Beach community...

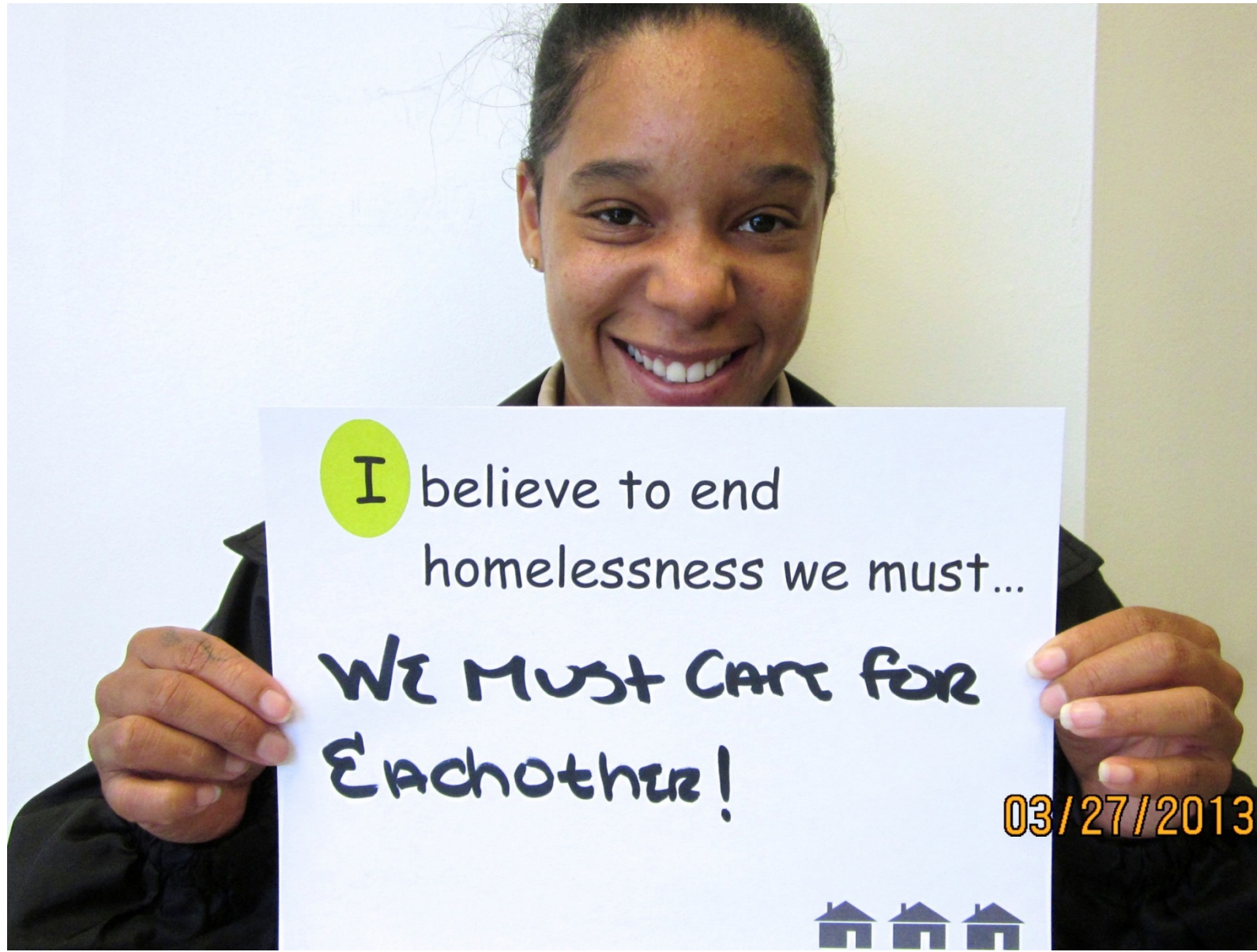
What do we need to do to end homelessness?

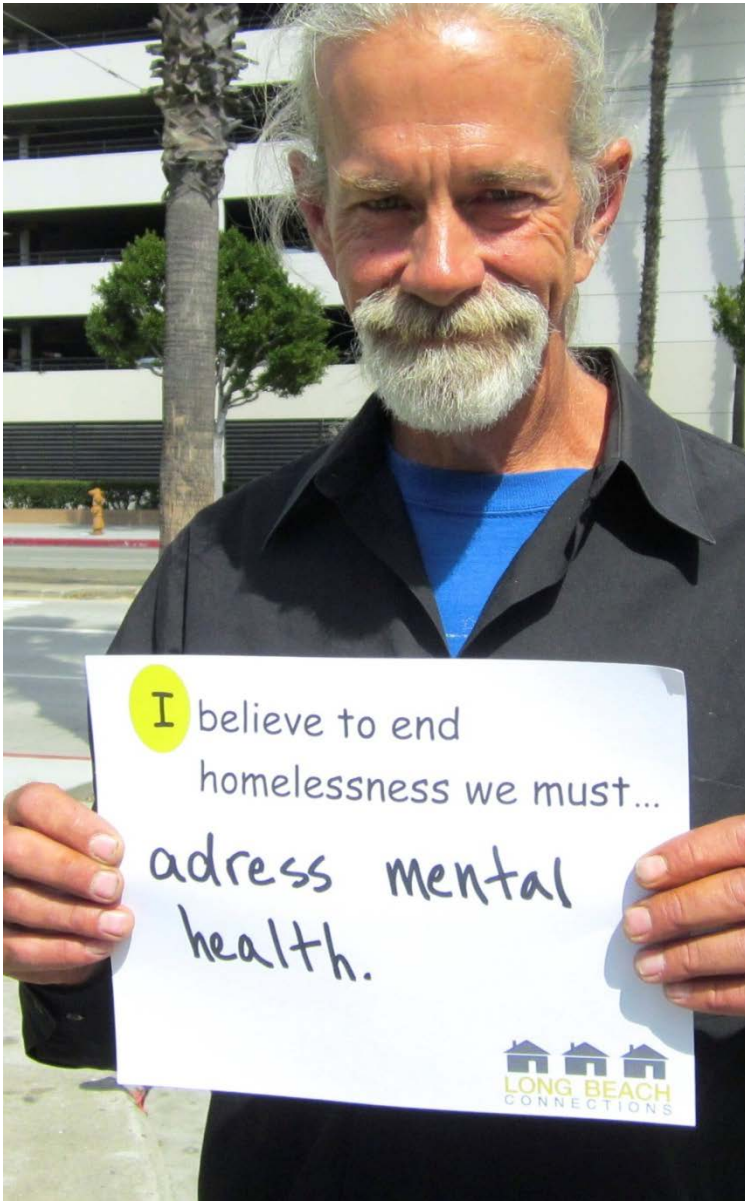
They answered...















Face of Homelessness

- Individuals
- Families with Children
- Persons with Disabilities
- Veterans
- Domestic Violence Survivors
- Unaccompanied Youth
- Seniors

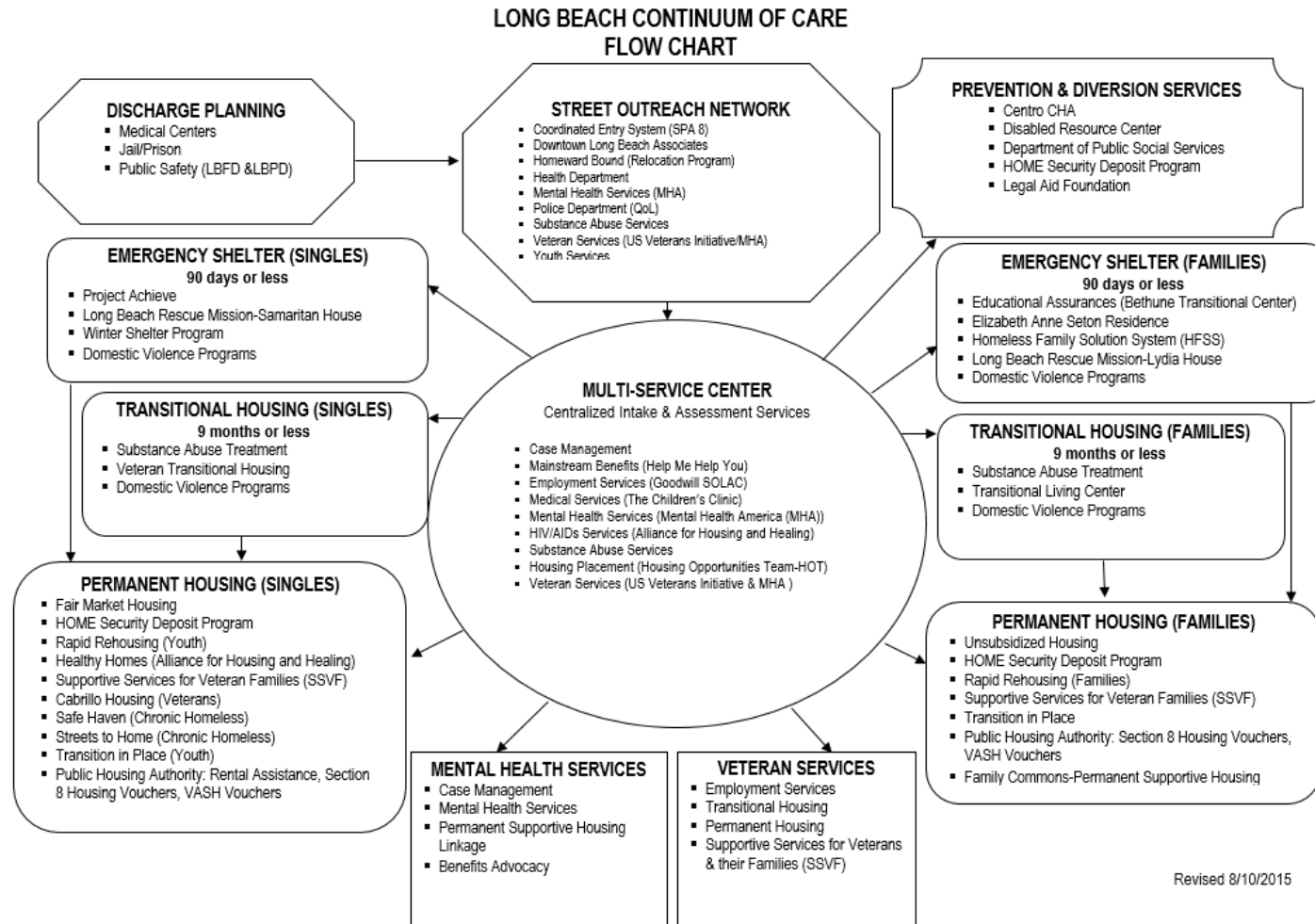


...They're grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters, sons & daughters

Addressing Homelessness



Long Beach Continuum of Care



A coordinated system of care to provide housing and services

Coordination That Drives Success...

- Unified Funding Agency (UFA)
 - Long Beach was one of the first CoCs to achieve UFA status; Now 1 of 4
 - UFA status provides flexibility to strategically address community needs
- Best Practices
 - Client-centered, Increased access to housing, Data-driven
- Data Collection
 - Enables the coordination of services
 - Data is used to evaluate performance, understand demographic & service use patterns, & inform homeless policy and decision making

Multi-Service Center



Multi-Service Center

**Serves as one of the primary coordinated entry locations for homeless services.
Multiple agencies collaborate to provide integrated, on-site care at the MSC.**

Available Supportive Services

- Mail and Message Center
- Shower Facilities
- Transportation
- Outreach
- Shelter Referral
- Case Management
- Employment Services



- HIV Housing Services
- Move-in Assistance
- Mental Health Assessments
- Medical Services
- Veteran Services
- Linkage to Mainstream Benefits

Continuum of Care Partners

- 1736 Family Crisis Center
- Alliance for Housing & Healing
- Catholic Charities
- Century Villages at Cabrillo
- Centro CHA
- Children Today
- Comprehensive Child Development
- Dept. Health & Human Services
- Downtown Long Beach Associates
- Goodwill, SOLAC
- Harbor Interfaith Services
- Help Me Help You
- Housing Authority
- Interval House
- LA County Dept. of Mental Health
- LA County Dept. of Public Social Services
- LBPD Quality of Life Team
- Long Beach Rescue Mission
- Long Beach Unified School District
- Lutheran Social Services
- Mental Health America
- PATH
- PATH Ventures
- Safe Refuge
- The Children's Clinic
- United States Veterans Initiative
- VA Long Beach
- Faith-Based Community

Partner Highlight: Long Beach Housing Authority

The Housing Authority is a key partner in providing permanent housing

- Housing Authority's impact:
 - **701** VASH vouchers for homeless Veterans
 - **95** Housing Choice Vouchers for persons experiencing homelessness
 - Rental assistance for **201** Supportive Housing Units
- Challenges:
 - **486** voucher holders in Long Beach are actively searching for a home and can't find a place to live
 - 2% vacancy rate
 - Average of **6 months** to find a unit

Partner Highlight: Long Beach Police Department

The Quality of Life Unit, partnered with a Department of Mental Health clinician, connects people who are experiencing homelessness to services and housing.



Outreach & Engagement

Proactive Outreach

- Outreach and Engagement are essential to connecting with people on the street
- Connecting can be a lengthy process
- Outreach involves coordination between:
 - City Agencies
 - County Agencies
 - Private Enterprise

Outreach & Engagement Street Outreach Network

Engages persons living on the streets

Links people to social services and housing

Outreach Network Partners:

- Long Beach Dept. of Health & Human Services
- Los Angeles County Dept. of Mental Health
- LB Police Dept.- Quality of Life & Community Resource Officers
- Long Beach Veterans Affairs
- Downtown Long Beach Associates
- Mental Health America
- United States Veterans Initiative
- Safe Refuge

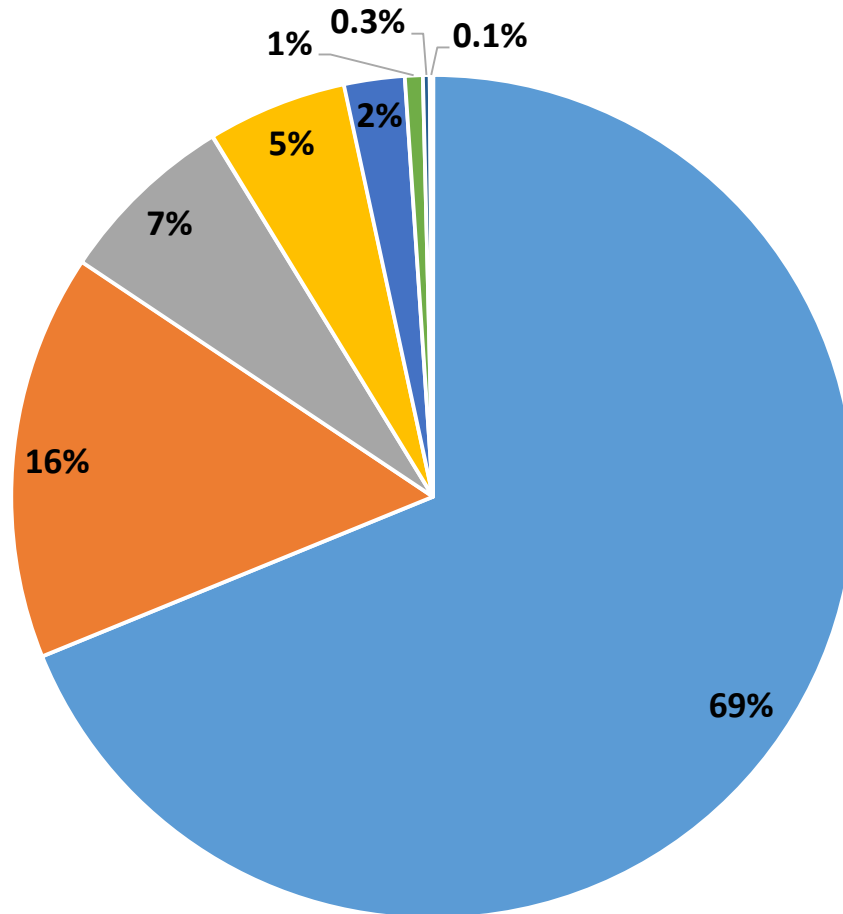
People Served

MSC: Provided services for an average **1,100** individuals and families each month, for a total of **13,829** client contacts.

Outreach: Requests for outreach and engagement average **90-100** contacts per month

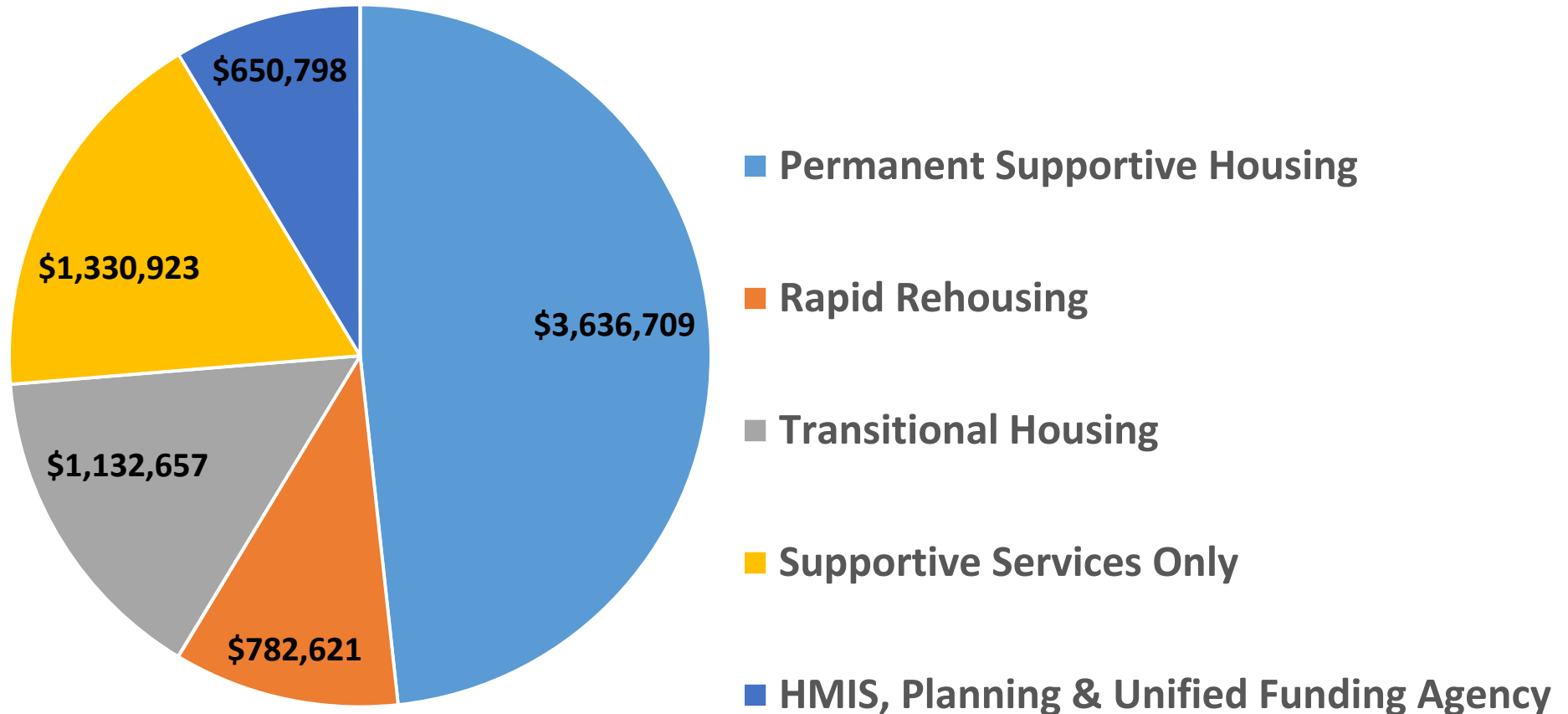
Increased demand for coordination with City, regional and community partners targeting parks, beach, river beds and the wetlands for outreach and clean up operations

Funding for Homeless Services



- Continuum of Care Program
- General Fund & One Time Funds
- ESG, CDBG, & HOME Programs
- Homeless Veterans Initiative
- Council of Governments / CES
- Hilton Foundation Grant
- Mayor's Fund for the Homeless
- Emergency Food & Shelter Program

Current CoC Funding \$7.5 Million



Housing Options in Long Beach

Emergency Shelter * 257 beds

Short-term temporary lodging.

Requirements may vary by program or funder.

Transitional Housing * 337 beds

Medium-term housing designed to support moving persons into permanent housing.

Rapid Rehousing * 339 beds

Housing services & rental assistance to help persons move into permanent housing quickly as possible.

Permanent Housing *1,469 beds

Permanent housing & supportive services to assist homeless persons to access and maintain a permanent home.

Partner Highlight: Century Villages at Cabrillo



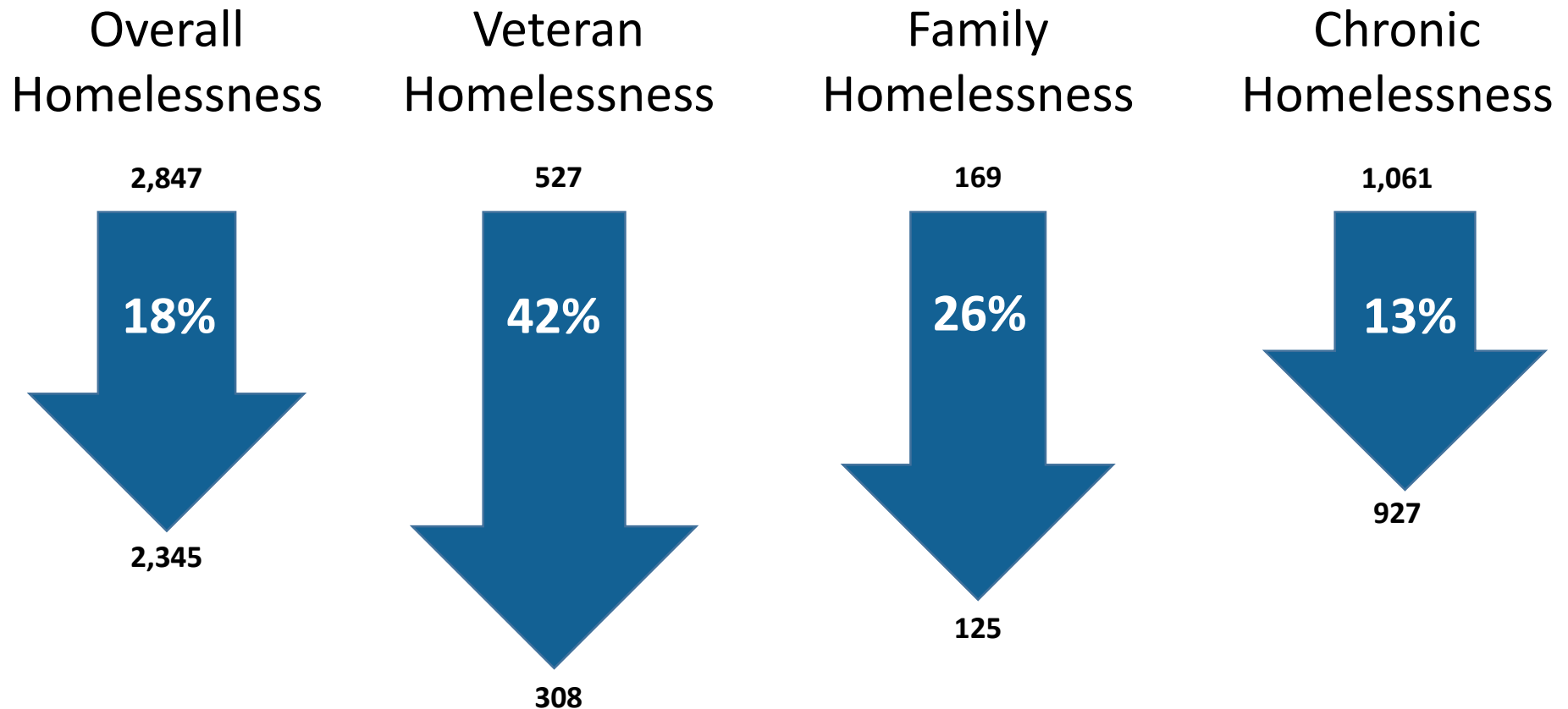
Images :
Century Villages at Cabrillo. (2016). Permanent Housing. Retrieved from:<http://centuryvillages.org/permanent-housing/>

Regional Coordination

- **Council of Governments, Gateway Cities**
 - Coordinated by PATH; Health Department is the lead for our Region
 - Connection to Regional Resources & Housing
- **Coordinated Entry System & Homeless Family Solutions System**
 - Collaborative, regional platforms for housing & service delivery
- **Winter Shelter Program**
 - Provides shelter & linkage to services during the inclement weather season

Getting People Housed in Long Beach

Overall Change between 2013 and 2015

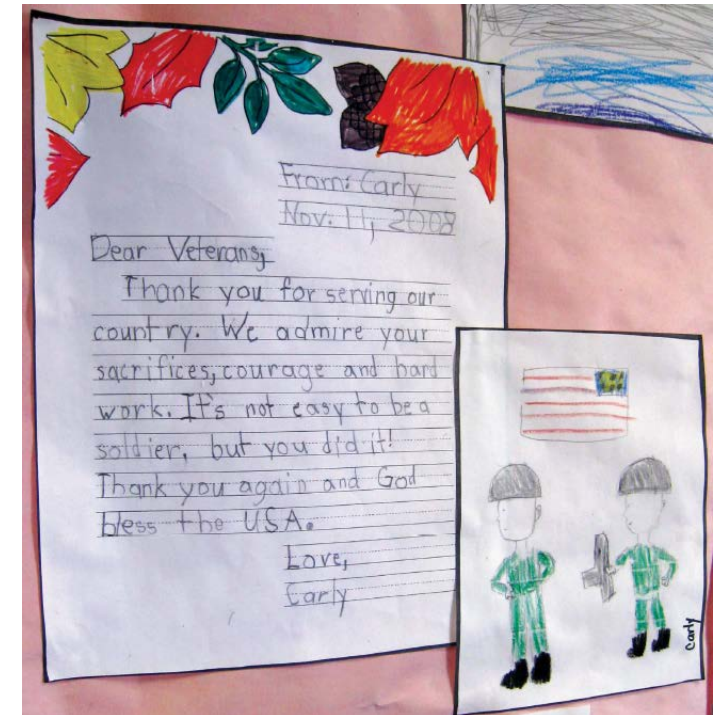


Veterans in Long Beach

- Collaborative to provide a system of care to Veterans who are homeless
 - Long Beach VA Medical Center
 - Health and Human Services Department
 - US VETS
 - Mental Health America
 - 1736 Family Crisis Center

Successes:

- **355** Veterans permanently housed
- **\$65,000** in prevention funding allocated to Veterans in danger of losing their housing



Images (from top):

Goyette, Paul. (2006). The U.S. flag from close up and at an angle. Retrieved from: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/pgoyette/155820893/>

Century Villages at Cabrillo. (2015). *Century Villages at Cabrillo Community Guide*. Retrieved from: <http://centuryvillages.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/CVC-Community-Guide.pdf>

10 Year Plan



10 Year Plan Creation

- Initiated in 2005 by Mayor O'Neill
- Planning included over 200 individual and community partners and outlined 5 key strategies and recommendations
- Report was presented to City Council in 2008 but was not adopted or resourced
- The 5 Key Community Strategies were adopted by City Council in 2010

Reviewing Community Strategies



5 Key Community Strategies

1. Housing

Goal: Increase the number of homes that homeless and low-wage earning income people can afford

2. Economic Stability

Goal: Having the economic resources to manage basic needs

3. Supportive Services

Goal: Provide support services to prevent homelessness & promote housing stability

4. Community Involvement

Goal: Expand participation and leadership from all sectors of the Long Beach community

5. Outcomes & Evaluation

Goal: Use data and research to ensure the success of 10-Year Plan implementation

5 Key Strategies - Implementation

- **Housing Goal**

- **130%** Increase in Permanent Supportive Housing beds to 1,452
- **4** Rapid Rehousing projects created
- **1,989** Units preserved for affordable housing

- **Economic Stability Goal**

- **6,711** individuals accessed Goodwill, SOLAC's 10 job programs
- **2,391** individuals accessed Pacific Gateway services
- Increased Connection to Mainstream Benefits
 - Over 500 individuals access Affordable Care Act enrollment services
 - An average of 120 individuals assisted with Social Security Disability Applications

5 Key Strategies - Implementation

- **Supportive Services Goal**

- Discharge Collaborative Established
- Expansion of Outreach Response
- Addition of Street Medicine Models

- **Community Involvement Goal**

- Stronger Collaboration with Local & Regional Partners
- Interdepartmental Coordination

- **Outcomes and Evaluation Goal**

- Information Sharing and Performance-based Evaluation

Challenges



Challenges

- Increased Cost of Living and Rents
- Low Vacancy Rates
- Fewer Apartment Owners accepting Housing Choice Voucher
- Minimal Availability of Substance Use Treatment and Mental Health Services
- Statewide policy shifts
 - Dissolution of Redevelopment Agencies
 - Criminal Justice Reforms

Lincoln Park



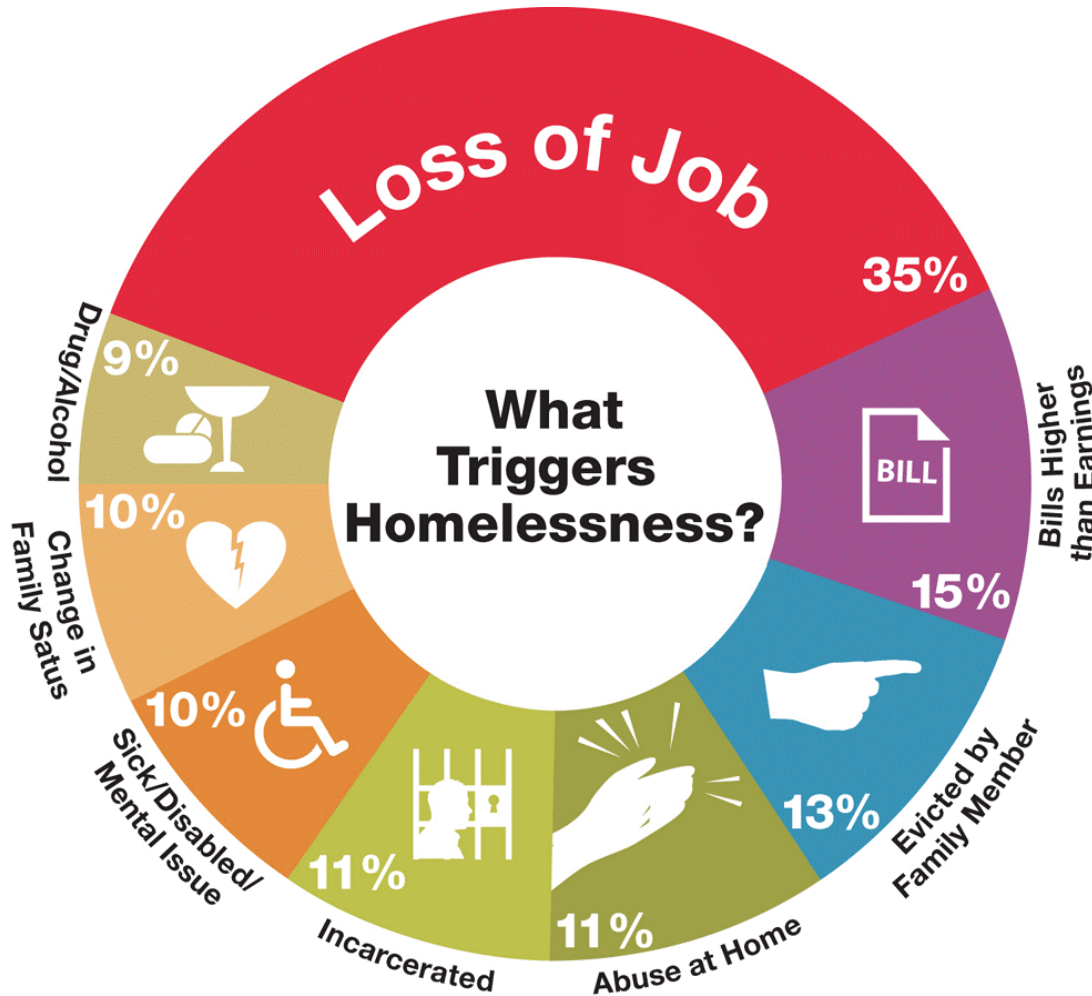
Community Education: Lincoln Park



Facing Forward / Shifting Focus



Causes of Homelessness



Insufficient Income/Wages
Low vacancy rate
Increasing costs of living and rentals
Inadequate Social Safety Net
Health/Mental Health Conditions
Untreated Substance Abuse
Domestic Violence
History of Incarceration
History of Child Abuse

Taking a Comprehensive View

Early Prevention Reducing the Risk of Homelessness

- Quality Education
- Life/Job Skills
- Safe homes and communities
- Health/Mental Health Care
- Substance Use TX
- Affordable Housing
- Sufficient Wages

Late Prevention Keeping People Housed

- Rent supports
- Moving supports
- Health/Mental Health Care

Intervention Already Homelessness

- Street Outreach and Engagement
- Life/Job Skills
- Emergency, transitional, permanent housing
- Extensive MH/SUD/Health care
- Ongoing supportive services
- Job Skills Training

How to Prevent and Intervene in Homelessness

- Transitional and Permanent Supportive Housing
- Mental Health Treatment
- Substance Use Services
- Employment Skills/Opportunities
- Child Care Options
- Affordable Housing Options
- Sufficient Health Care

How the Community Can Help Early Prevention

- Support your schools – volunteer/mentor
- Provide internships/learning opportunities for high school and college
- Connect with individuals in difficult times
- Be aware of signs of mental health and substance use and help connect to treatment
- Provide jobs locally

How the Community Can Help Late Prevention/Intervention

- Support community partners and non-profits that help people connect to services
- Support organizations that provide food resources
- Sponsor items that people need as they move into housing
- Donate services (e.g., gift cards for free haircuts)
- Sponsor clothing for job interviews and employment
- Build job opportunities

How the Community Can Help Late Prevention/Intervention

- Volunteer/Coordinate a volunteer network
- Create “welcome home” kits for people entering housing
- Create a “support network” for newly housed people
- Support efforts to provide housing for people who are low-income and/or experiencing homelessness
- Donate to the Mayor’s Fund for the Homeless

Potential Funding Opportunities

- Community Fundraising (e.g., parking meters, electronic donation options)
- Social Impact and Pay for Success models encouraging private support
- Ongoing partnerships and coordination with County for supportive services, treatment availability and housing options

Creating a Plan for the Future

Homeless Summit, 2017

Co-hosting Partners: Health and Human Services Department, Homeless Coalition, DLBA, LBUSD, Apartment Association, and the Long Beach Human Relations Commission

FUSE Fellow

Researching best practices across the nation and creative financing models

Community Engagement Opportunities



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Thank you

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