



HOMELESSNESS AND DIVERSION:

USING HOUSING PROBLEM SOLVING TO MAKE HOMELESSNESS RARE, BRIEF, AND NON-RECURRING IN DALLAS & COLLIN COUNTIES

PRESENTERS



Ed Boyte,
Founder of the Learning Group, LLC



Sarah Kahn,
Chief Programs Officer at Housing Forward



Rebecca Hickom,
Director of CAS at Housing Forward

COMMUNITY GOALS

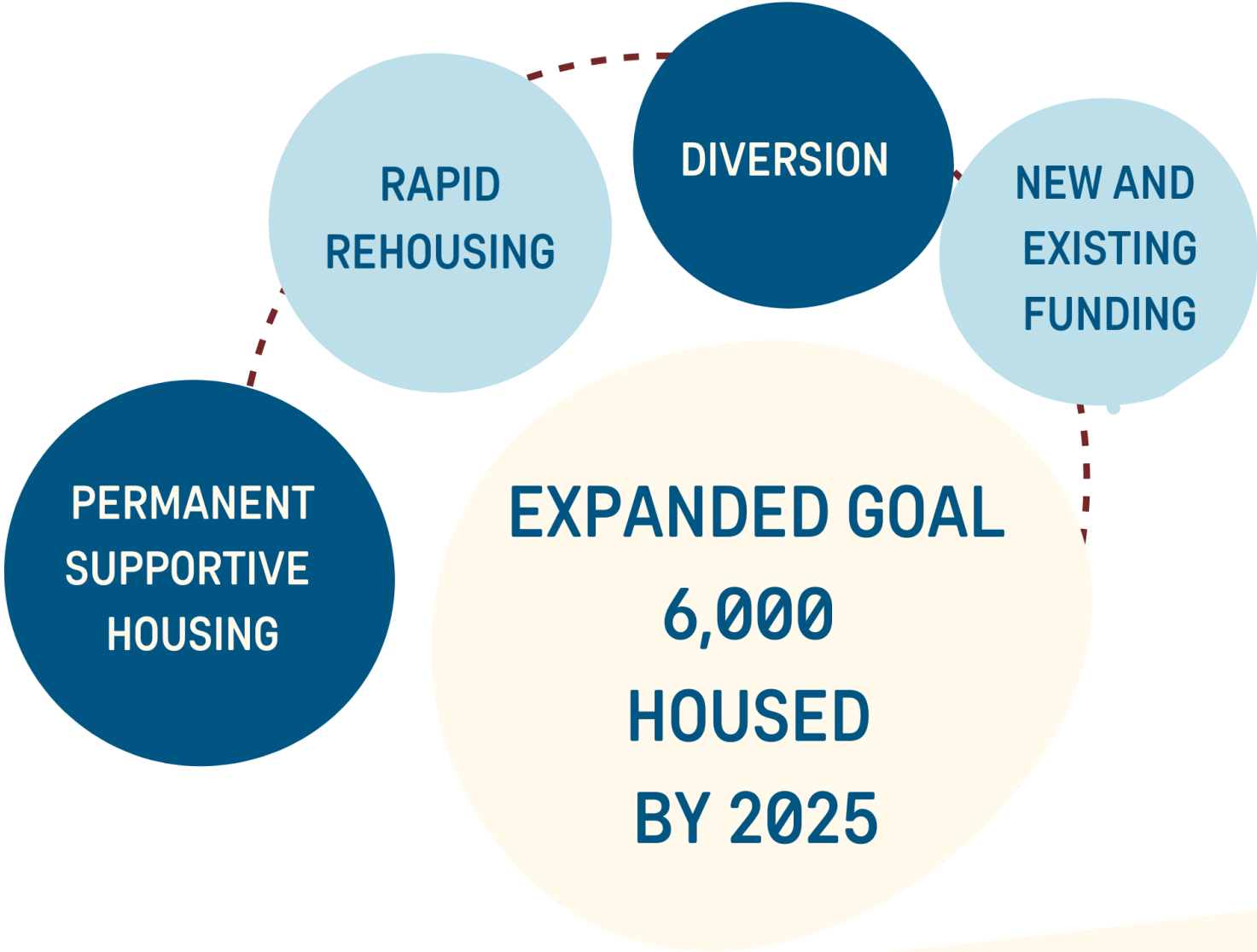
EFFECTIVELY END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE CHRONIC UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS

SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE FAMILY & YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

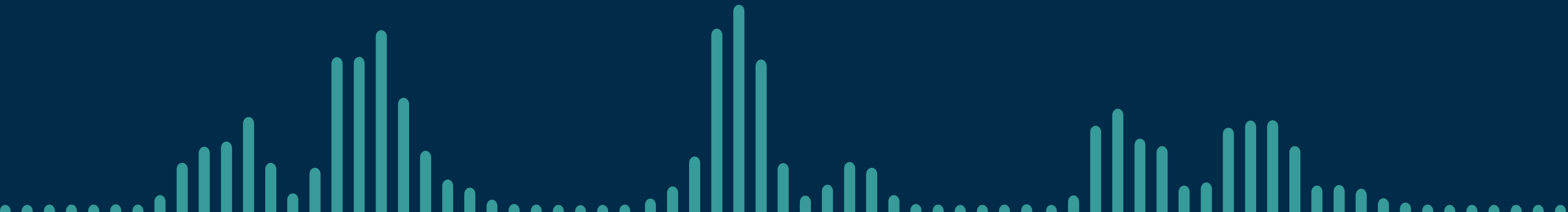


EXPANDED R.E.A.L. TIME REHOUSING GOAL





Housing Problem Solving Homelessness in America





Round One – Overview

Round One, Question 1

What is the Primary Cause of Homelessness in the US?

- A. Untreated mental illness
- B. Lack of affordable housing
- C. Opioid epidemic
- D. Job loss / underemployment

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<https://endhomelessness.org/homelessness-in-america/what-causes-homelessness/housing/>

Round One, Question 2

What *has been successful* in ending homelessness?

- A. Housing veterans
- B. Mandatory training to law enforcement
- C. Building more shelters, especially in cold climates
- D. Expansion of food pantries

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Round One, Question 3

Per every 10,000 persons in Texas, how many experience homelessness?

- A. 47
- B. 40
- C. 22
- D. 9

Round One, Question 3

Per every 10,000 persons in Texas, how many experience homelessness?

A. 47

B. 40

C. 22

D.9

Round One, Question 3

Per every 10,000 persons in Dallas, how many experience homelessness?

- A. 47
- B. 40
- C. 11.5
- D. 9

Round One, Question 3

Per every 10,000 persons in Dallas, how many experience homelessness?

A. 47

B. 40

C. 11.5

D. 9

Round one, Question 4

Per every 10,000 persons in California, how many experience homelessness?

- A. 47
- B. 40
- C. 22
- D. 9

Round one, Question 4

Per every 10,000 persons in California, how many experience homelessness?

A. 47

B. 40

C. 22

D. 9

Rent vs. Income

From 1985 to 2020, rent prices increased 149%, while income grew just 35%.

<https://www.realestatewitch.com/rent-to-income-ratio-2022/>

Year	Median Monthly Rent	% Rent Increase Since 1985	Median Annual Income	% Income Increase Since 1985
1985	\$359	—	\$48,113	—
1990	\$430	20%	\$51,073	6%
2000	\$506	41%	\$56,045	16%
2010	\$732	104%	\$51,914	8%
2020	\$894	149%	\$64,994	35%





Round Two -- Demographics

Baseline

The OVERALL rate of homelessness in the US is 18 out of every 10,000 persons.

Round Two, Question 1

(Overall 18 out of every 10,000 persons.)

Out of 10,000 persons, how many are men?

- A. 13
- B. 18
- C. 22
- D. 25

Round Two, Question 1

(Overall 18 out of every 10,000 persons.)

Out of 10,000 persons, how many are men?

A. 13

B. 18

C. 22

D. 25

<https://endhomelessness.org/homelessness-in-america/homelessness-statistics/state-of-homelessness/>

Round Two, Question 2 (Overall 18 out of every 10,000 persons.)

Out of 10,000 persons, how many are women?

- A. 13
- B. 18
- C. 22
- D. 25

Round Two, Question 2 (Overall 18 out of every 10,000 persons.)

Out of 10,000 persons, how many are women?

A. 13

B. 18

C. 22

D. 25

Round Two, Question 3 (Overall 18 out of every 10,000 persons.)

Out of 10,000 persons, how many are White?

- A. 6
- B. 11
- C. 22
- D. 52

Round Two, Question 3 (Overall 18 out of every 10,000 persons.)

Out of 10,000 persons, how many are White?

A. 6

B. 11

C. 22

D. 52

Round Two, Question 4 (Overall 18 out of every 10,000 persons.)

Out of 10,000 persons, how many are Black?

- A. 6
- B. 11
- C. 22
- D. 52

Round Two, Question 4 (Overall 18 out of every 10,000 persons.)

Out of 10,000 persons, how many are Black?

A. 6

B. 11

C. 22

D. 52

Round Two, Question 5

What is the biggest cause of bankruptcy in the US?

- A. Divorce, especially if Domestic Abuse is present
- B. Failed Businesses, especially first time small businesses
- C. Student Loan Debt
- D. Medical Bills

<https://www.cnbc.com/2019/02/11/this-is-the-real-reason-most-americans-file-for-bankruptcy.html>

Round Two, Question 5

What is the biggest cause of bankruptcy in the US?

- A. Divorce, especially if Domestic Abuse is present
- B. Failed Businesses, especially first time small businesses
- C. Student Loan Debt

D. Medical Bills

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/11/this-is-the-real-reason-most-americans-file-for-bankruptcy.html>

Youth Homelessness

- Defined as 18-25
- Those who have aged out of foster care are vastly over-represented.
- LGBTQ youth represent 20-40% of those who are homeless, and
- There is a recent surge in those identifying as transgender and non-conforming

Chronic vs. Episodic Homelessness

- 70% are individuals
- 30% are families
- 20% are chronically homeless

What are the causes of episodic homelessness?

- High housing costs!
- Poverty
- Racism, especially
 - lack of family and generational wealth resulting in
 - educational and
 - employment opportunities tied to housing
- Economic, health, or personal crisis

The goal is to make homelessness brief, one-time, and rare.

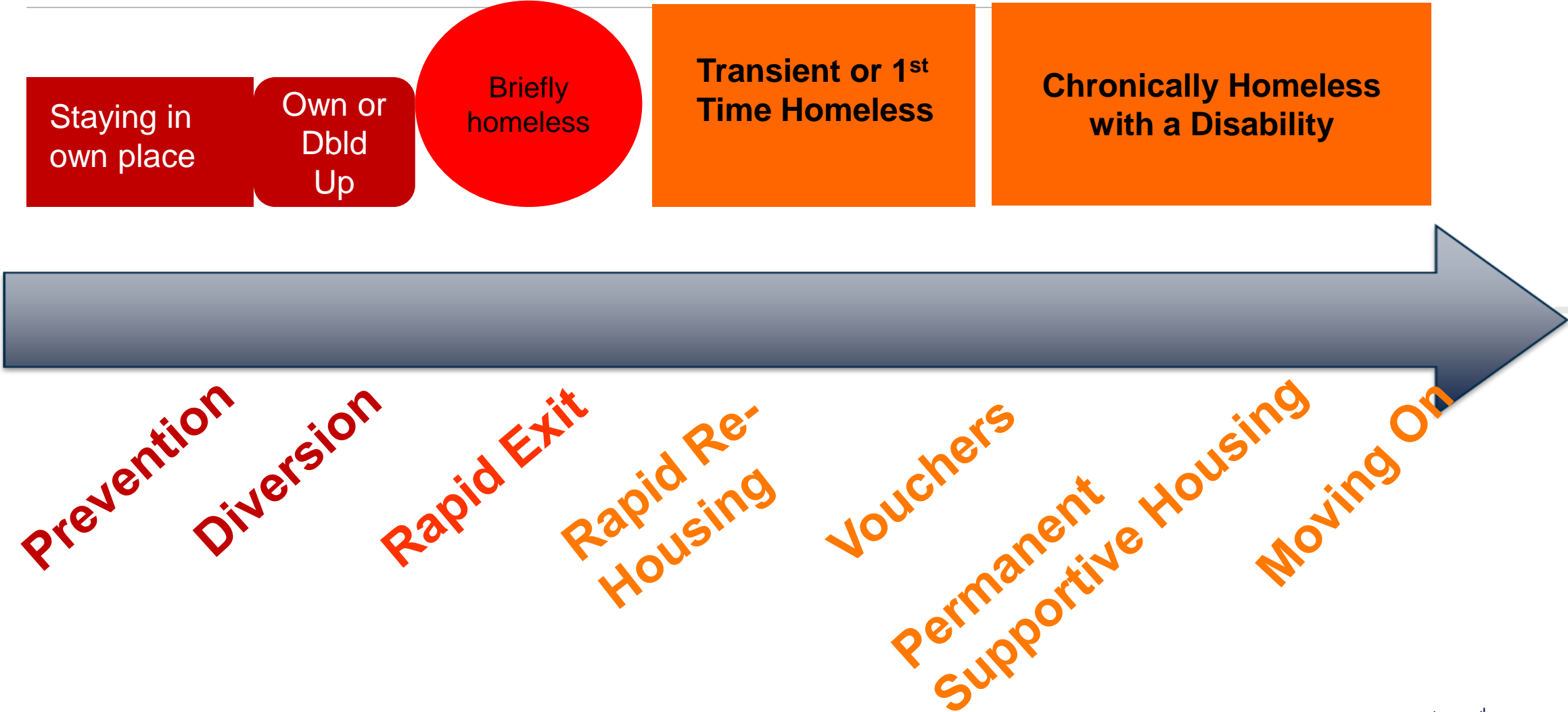
Addressing the three causes of homelessness:

1. Managing the crisis event
2. Systemic poverty, racism, lack of healthcare
3. Housing



The Role of Housing Problem Solving

From *being housed* to *experiencing homelessness*



Housing Problem Solving (HPS)

is a strength-based, empathetic response to those facing or experiencing homelessness to become housed as quickly as possible.

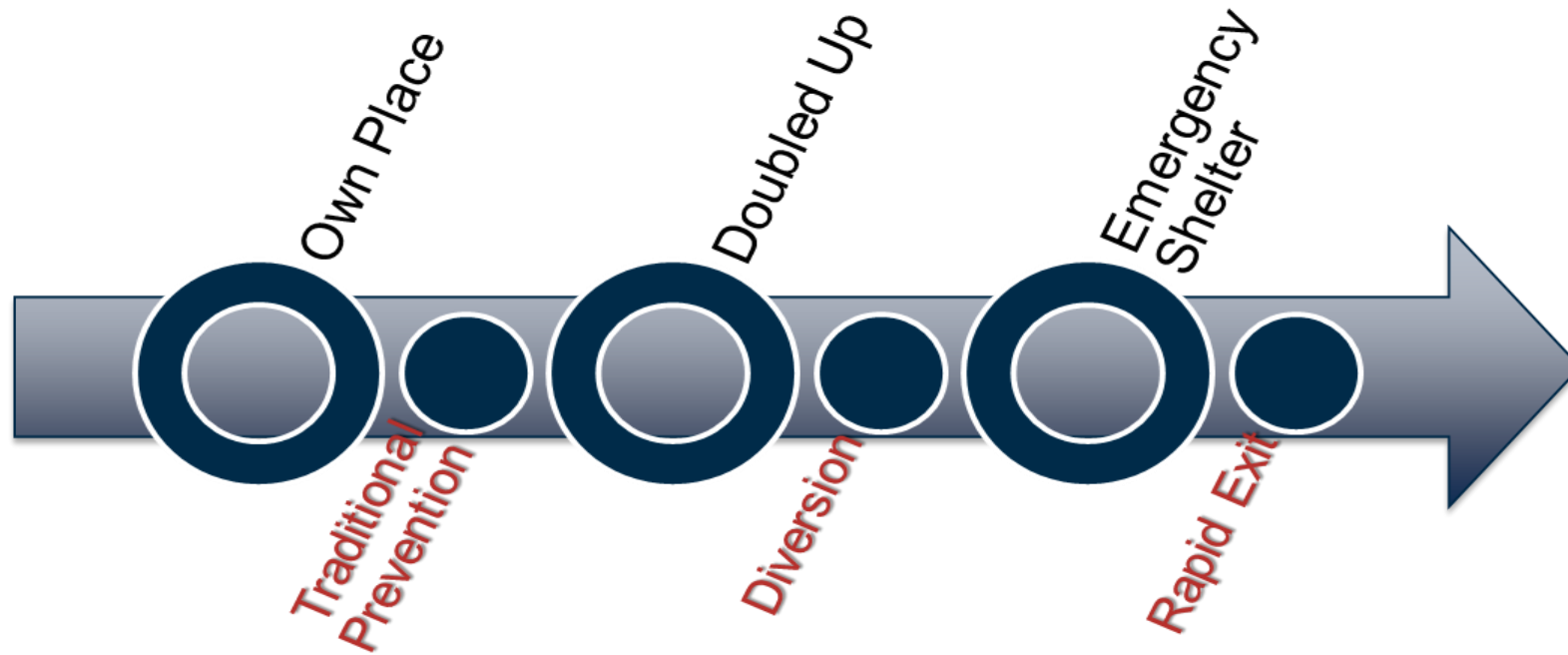
HPS includes:

Prevention

Diversion

Rapid Exit

Time Line of HPS



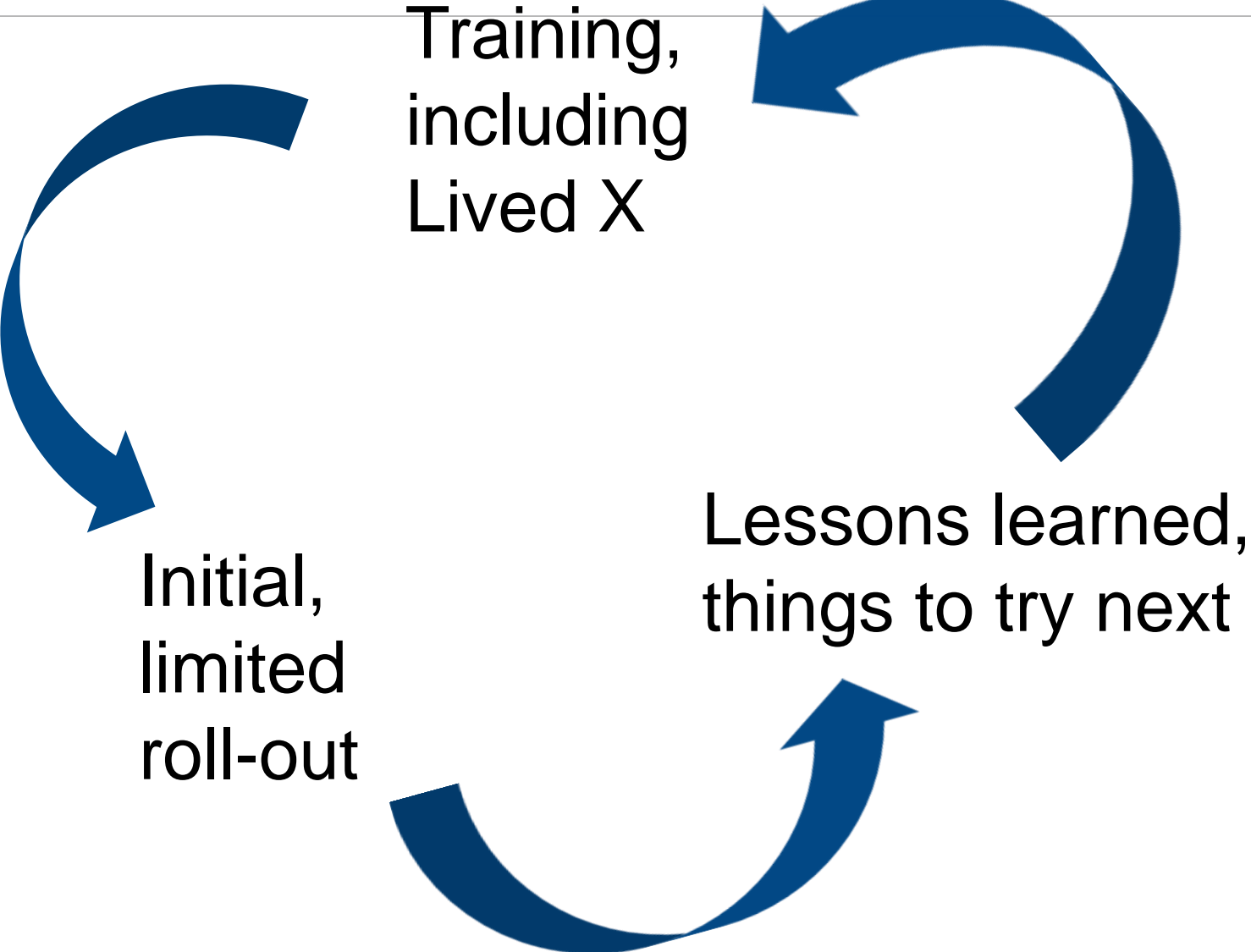
Benefits of HPS

- Reduces new entries into homelessness
- Cuts down on **shelter** wait lists and the community queue
- Stems inflow into the homeless system
- Reduces demand for limited **shelter** beds
- Improves system performance outcomes by reducing new entries and re-entries into homelessness
- HPS allows communities to use more extensive services for clients with higher needs, who cannot be diverted

Shared Living

- What is it?
- Who can benefit from it?
- Cost:
 - One bedroom for \$1500
 - Two bedroom for \$2000, or
 - \$1000 each, saving \$500 and share utility costs

HPS Implementation



HPS Training

- Overview of HPS and Homeless Response System
- Observation
- Practice of Active & Empathetic Listening
- Strength-based Approach & Practice
- 4 Outcomes
- Practice

Four Housing Options in HPS

1. Doubled Up, Couch Surfing
2. Out-of-Town Family Reunification
3. Return to a Rental, Shared Housing or other Permanent Housing
4. New Unit / First Month Rent and Deposit

Five Steps in HPS

1. Introductions
2. Active & Empathetic Listening
3. Exploring Strengths, Networks, and Skills
4. Short and/or Long Term Housing Options
5. Next Steps and Follow-up



Questions?



Raffle!
Thank you!

Effectively End Veteran Homelessness

- Achieve Federal Declaration w/ United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH)
- Standardize Housing Location and Coordinated Access practices

Significantly Reduce Chronic Unsheltered Homelessness

- Sustain Expanded Rapid Rehousing and Navigation
- Expand Diversion Across System to Reduce Inflow
- Expand Encampment Decommissioning and Implement Coordinated Outreach
- Revamp and Expand Permanent Supportive Housing

Significantly Reduce Family and Youth Homelessness

- Expand Diversion to Reduce Inflow
- Sustain Expanded Rapid Rehousing and Navigation
- Centralize Standard Intake and Referral practices
- Develop Comprehensive Strategy to Reduce Youth Homelessness

Strengthen Landlord Engagement and Explore Large Scale Unit Acquisition Strategies

Improve Availability of and Access to Long Term Housing Vouchers

Test Use of Hotels/Interim Housing as Pathway to Diversion

Promote Racial Equity and Address Disparities in System Outcomes

Fully Integrate People with Lived Experience in CoC Planning/Decision Making

Fully Implement Performance Management and Data Quality Plans

Prepare for Data Sharing for Improved Cross-System Coordination

Sustain Flex Fund



SYSTEM CONTEXT



ALIGNMENT TO ALL NEIGHBOR'S COALITION GOALS



R.E.A.L. TIME REHOUSING INITIATIVE EXPANSION



CAS REFINEMENTS AND EXPANSION

NEXT STEPS

**CONVENING
DIVERSION
WORKGROUP**

**TARGETED
DIVERSION
TRAINING**

**DIVERSION
FUNDING
RFP**





Rebecca Hickom
Director of CAS

Rebecca.Hickom@housingforwardntx.org



Megan Starnes
Training Manager

Training@housingforwardntx.org

KEY CONTACTS