

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development's

Continuum of Care Supplemental NOFO to
Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness

COMMUNITY DIALOGUES:

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR
WASHTENAW COUNTY**

AUGUST 2, 2022

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. What does the data tell us about housing needs in Washtenaw County?
3. What is possible with this funding opportunity?
4. Timeline & next steps
5. Discussion



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

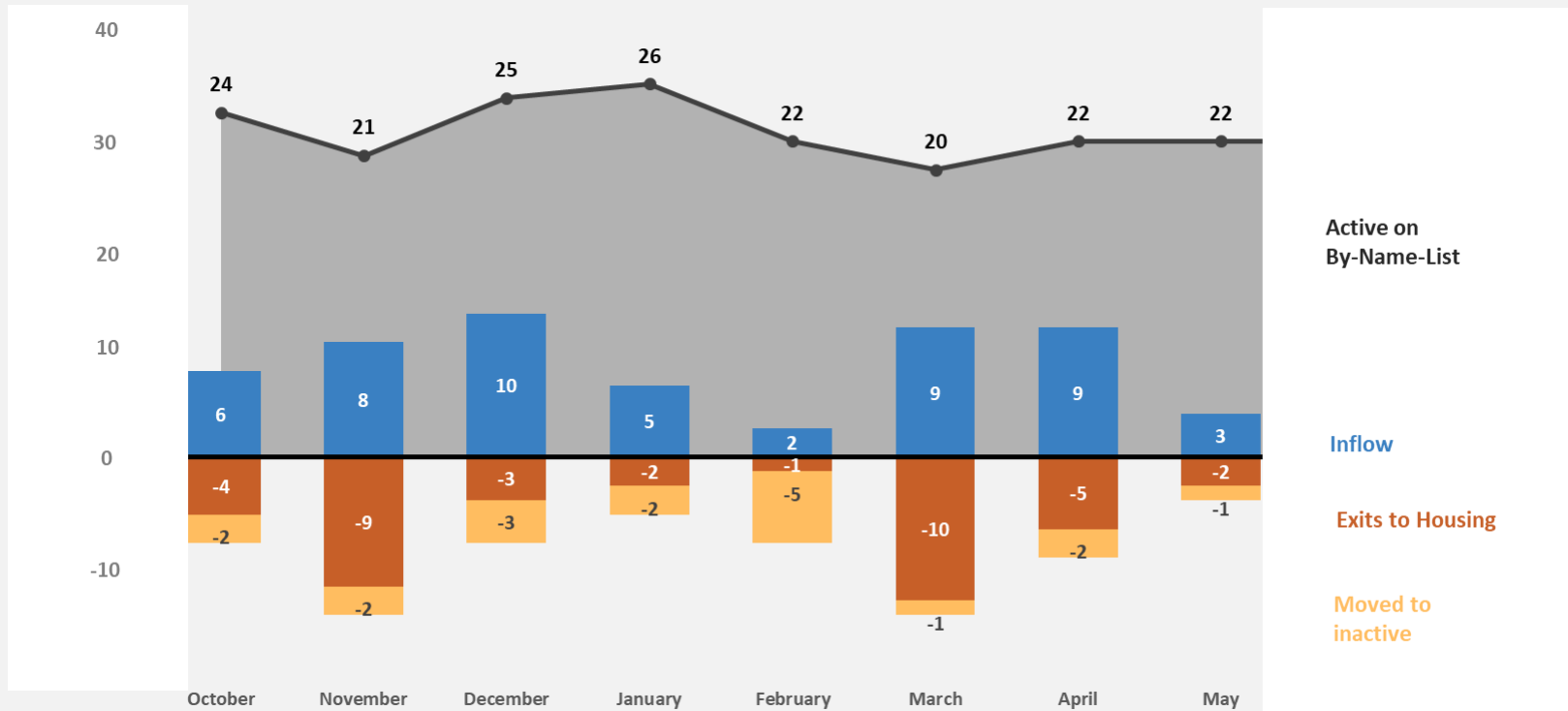
Collaborative solutions for a promising future

**Washtenaw County's
Continuum of Care**

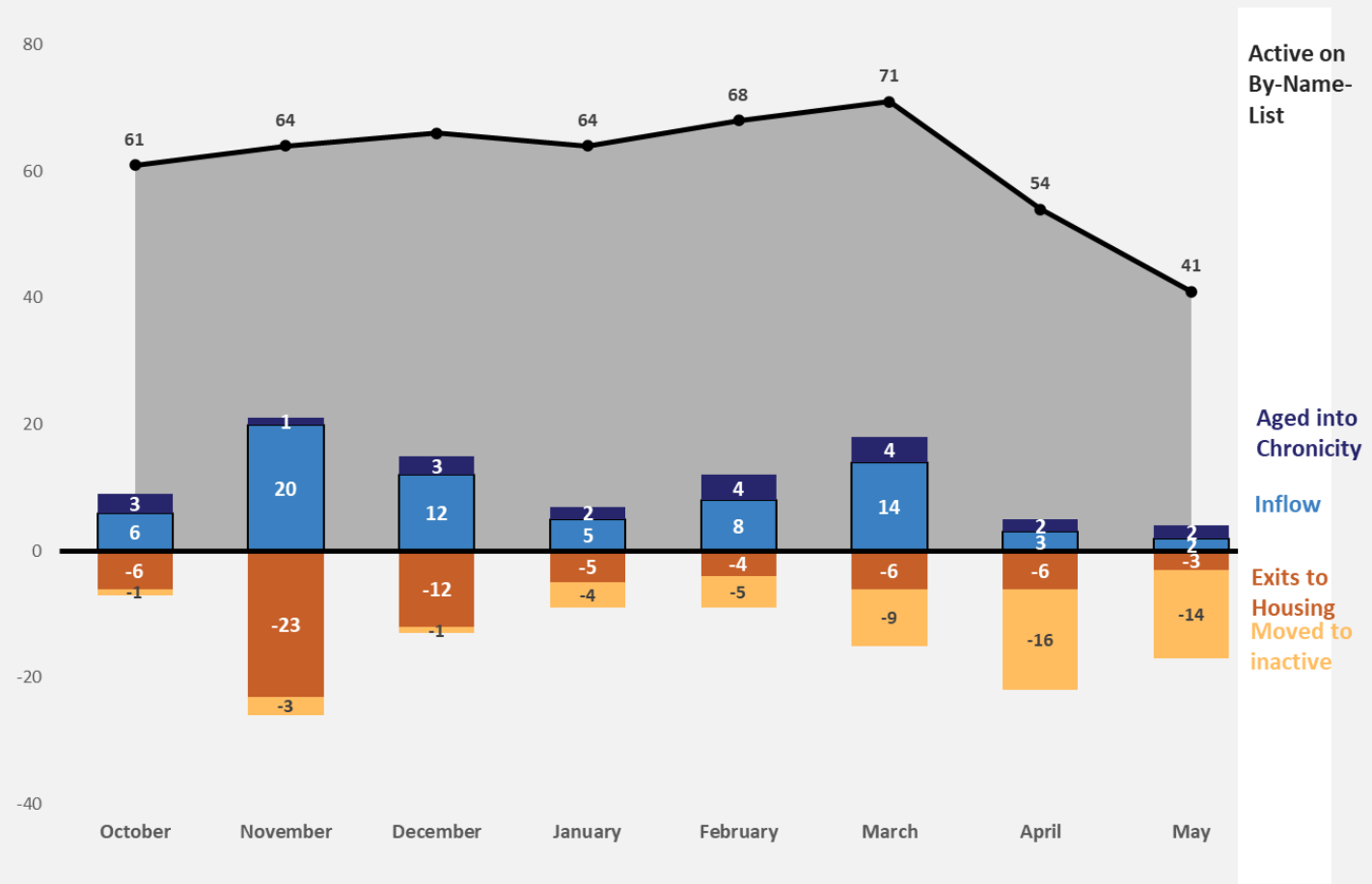
The context in Washtenaw County:
OVERVIEW OF RELEVANT DATA

HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE SYSTEM

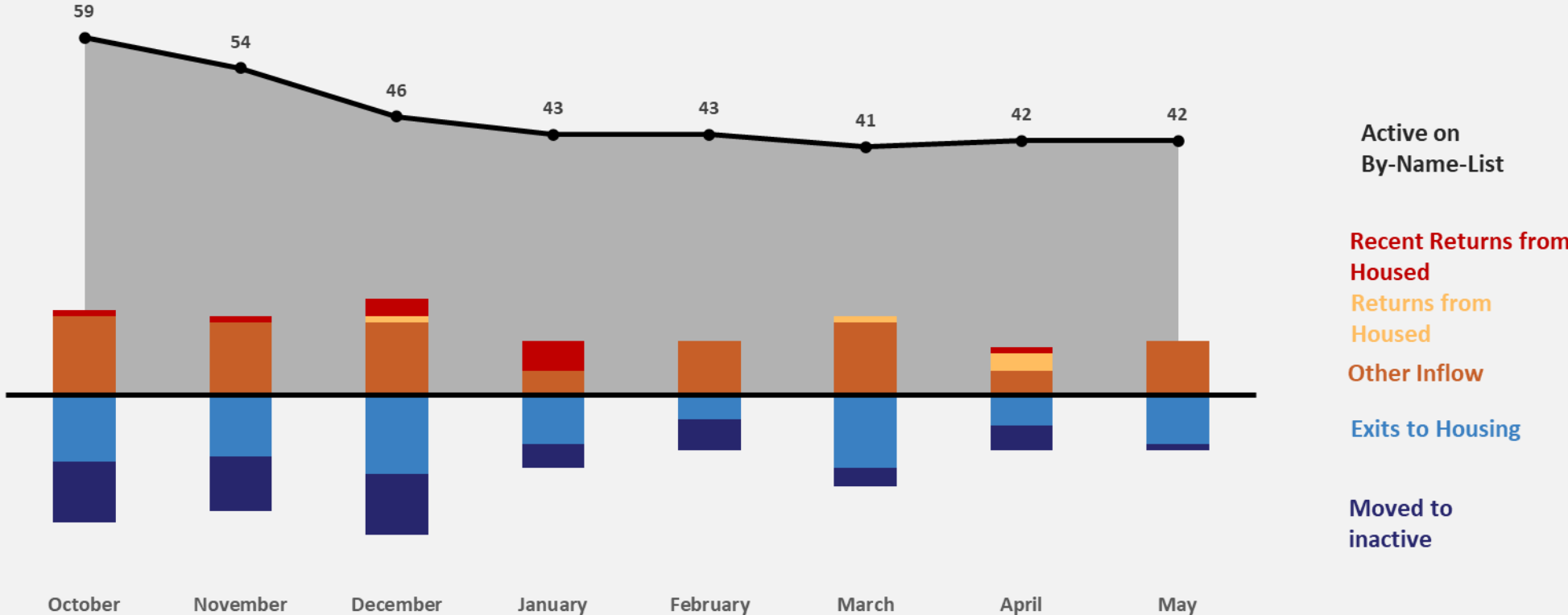
A current snapshot of people experiencing homelessness in Washtenaw County: Veterans



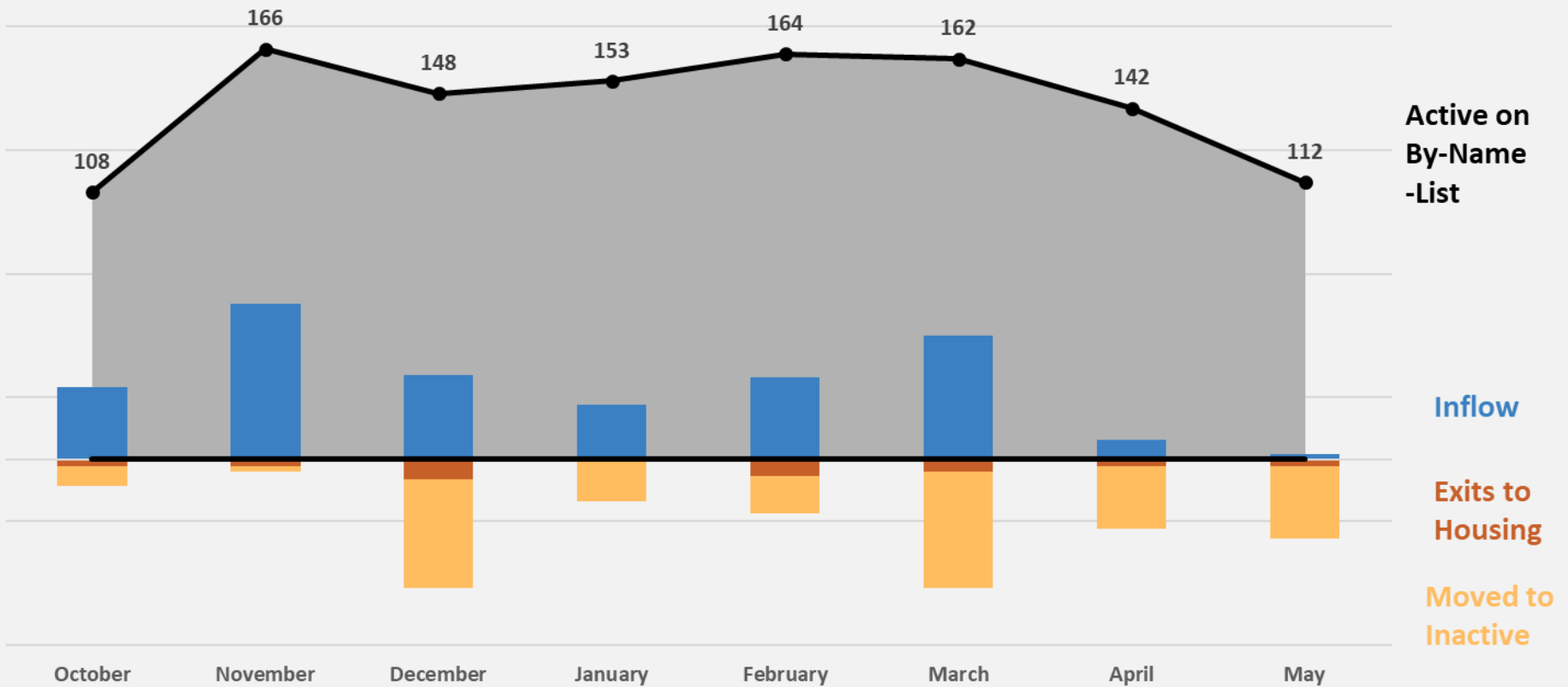
A current snapshot of people experiencing homelessness in Washtenaw County: **Chronic Homelessness**



A current snapshot of people experiencing homelessness in Washtenaw County: **Families**



A current snapshot of people experiencing homelessness in Washtenaw County:
Non-Chronic Individuals



Households with Days Homeless and Days Homeless by Household Type

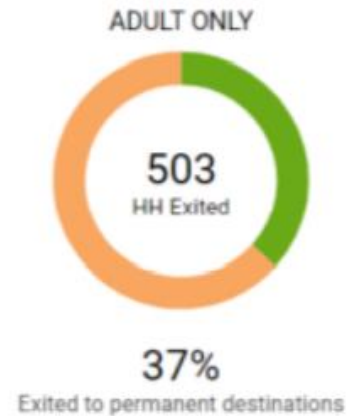
Households that had at least one day in ES, SH, TH, or RRH; or at least one day in PSH prior to move-in and the average cumulative, unduplicated number of days that households were served in ES, SH, or TH projects; and days in RRH or PSH prior to move-in.



Adults stay longer in the system, and they are less likely to exit to permanent destinations

Exits by Household Type

Percent of households that exited to permanent destinations.



■ Permanent Destinations ■ Temporary + Unknown Destinations

We know that most people
experiencing homelessness have lived
in unsheltered settings

**People served in 2020 coming from a place not
meant for human habitation:**

	#	%
Single Adults	1235	66%
Youth 18-24	129	64%
Adults in families	327	55%
Veterans	146	47%
Seniors 55+	367	61%
Total	1918	61%

AFFORDABLE HOUSING
CONTEXT

Rental vacancies are very low

39% residents are renters.

64% of renters have incomes below 80% household area median family income (HAMFI).

3.6% rental units in Washtenaw County were vacant in 2020.

Most of the vacant units are not affordable.

Vacant for rent units by affordability & size (n=2085)

	#	%
rent affordable for household <30% HAMFI	115	6%
0-1 bedrooms	65	57%
2 bedrooms	4	3%
3+ bedrooms	45	39%
rent affordable for household 30-50% HAMFI	690	35%
0-1 bedrooms	120	17%
2 bedrooms	405	59%
3+ bedrooms	165	24%
rent affordable for household 50-80% HAMFI	870	45%
0-1 bedrooms	310	36%
2 bedrooms	410	36%
3+ bedrooms	150	36%

New affordable housing is coming online, but is it enough?

2023

- Ann Arbor: Bryant Neighborhood (65 units for seniors <60% AMI)

2024

- Ann Arbor: The Grove (50 affordable, 30 PSH)
- Pittsfield Township: Golfside (295 units for seniors 40-60% AMI)
- Ypsilanti: Clark Road Development (306 units for 40-60% AMI including 150 senior & 156 family)

2025

- Ann Arbor: Hickory Way III
- Ypsilanti: Washington Street (20 units)

Total: ~750 units of new affordable housing in the next 3 years

The Opportunity:
UNDERSTANDING THE NOFO

Goal of the NOFO

“Implement coordinated approaches—grounded in Housing First and public health principles—to reduce the prevalence of unsheltered homelessness, and improve services engagement, health outcomes, and housing stability among highly vulnerable unsheltered individuals and families.”

- Improve identification, data collection, and connections to housing for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness
- Implement evidence-based practices with fidelity, importantly Housing First
- Advance racial equity by addressing disproportionate impact of homelessness on people of color, removing barriers & changing local policies
- Prioritize people with the greatest needs
- Build and strengthen partnerships to end homelessness

Key Requirements

The CoC must:

- Partner with health & housing agencies to leverage mainstream resources
- Prioritize people with “severe service needs”
- Meaningfully engage people with lived experience in planning and application

Projects must:

- Serve people who meet the statutory definition of homelessness
- Participate in Coordinated Entry
- Report data to HMIS
- Operate consistently with CoC Plan

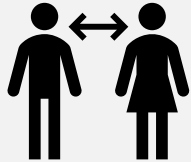
Funding

- Maximum award to Washtenaw County: \$2,064,692
- Eligible activities:
 - CoC Planning Costs (<\$62k)
 - Supportive services only, including for coordinated entry
 - Permanent housing: PSH, RRH, joint TH-RRH (*not* new construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation)
 - HMIS costs
- Grants will have 3-year terms with possibility of being renewed during annual CoC Competition. Grants must meet 25% matching requirement.

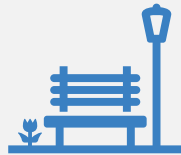
Housing Programs & Their Goals



Prevention provides timely financial assistance (move-in costs, back rent, etc.) & short-term case management so that people can regain or maintain their housing stability & avoid homelessness.



Diversion is a client-centered, problem-solving approach where staff at access points to the homelessness system (HAWC & SAWC) help clients find safe alternatives to shelter or the streets.



Street Outreach meets people experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations & connects them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services, and providing them with urgent, non-facility-based care.



Emergency Shelter temporarily meets basic needs for shelter & food for those with no identifiable alternative. It is an opportunity for case management & connections to housing, IDs & income.



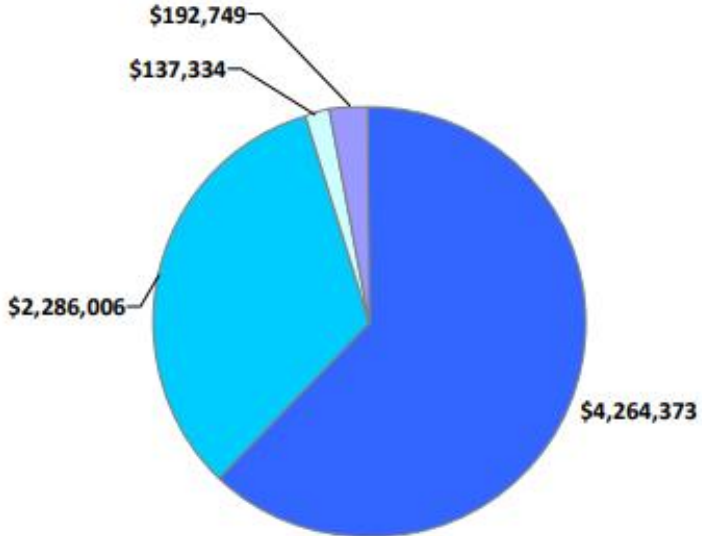
Rapid Re-Housing provides short- and/or medium-term rental assistance & case management designed to help clients quickly exit homelessness and return to permanent housing.



Permanent Supportive Housing is the highest level of care offered, for people with high health & housing needs. Housing comes with long-term rental assistance & ongoing supportive services.

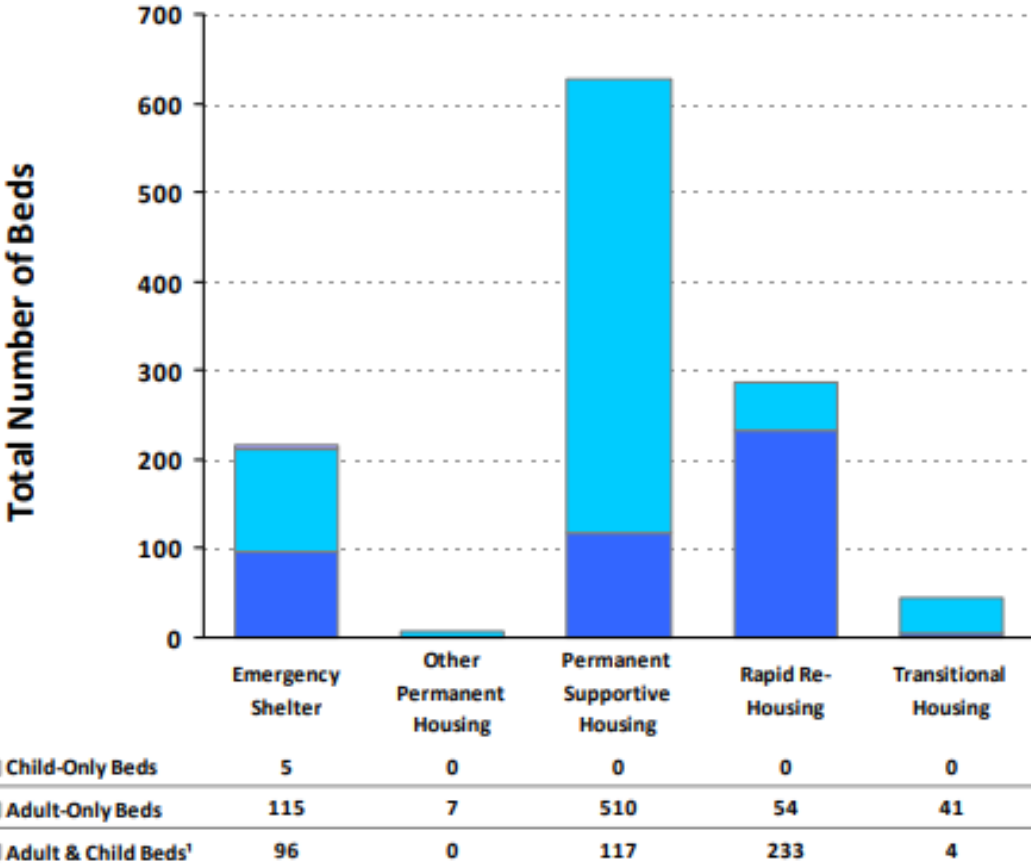
Currently, most federal homelessness funds are dedicated to PSH

Total Award Amount
\$6,880,462.00



- PH - Permanent Supportive Housing
- PH - Rapid Re-housing
- HMIS
- CoC Planning Project

Beds by Intended Household Type Served



Scoring

- Leveraging new housing units & opportunities
- Landlord recruitment plans & initiatives
- Coordination with healthcare providers
- Partnering with non-traditional CoC partners to advance equity
- Implementing Housing First to fidelity
- Demonstrated system performance & use of data to inform decision-making
- Open & engaged CoC decision-making processes

Comprehensive CoC Plan To Serve Individuals & Families Experiencing Homelessness With Severe Service Needs

Engaging in this planning process alone will benefit our community.
Writing this plan is an opportunity to:

- Think critically about how to improve health outcomes & housing stability for people experiencing homelessness
- Create new & deeper partnerships with housing & healthcare providers
- Partner with people with lived expertise
- Identify & strategize around barriers faced by underserved communities
- Rethink outreach strategies and prioritization of resources to people experiencing homelessness
- Meaningfully reduce unsheltered homelessness – and the length of time people experience it – in Washtenaw County.

This Plan result in an addendum and/or change to our Coordinated Entry Policy. It will also inform our regular CoC Program NOFO process.

Opportunities in this NOFO

- Use this opportunity as a motivator for systems-change.
- Improve coordination between systems.
- Fund more RRH for single adults.
- Innovate on RRH & PSH service models.
- Staff up Coordinated Entry & services.
- Consider changes to Coordinated Entry including prioritization.
- Scale up housing navigation & landlord engagement resources.

The Timeline:
WHAT'S NEXT?

Community Dialogue

Project Applications due to CoC

CoC Notifies Projects

CoC Posts Application Publicly

CoC Submits Application to HUD

August 2 & 4

September 20

October 5

October 18

October 20

- OCED develops application
- Community works on Plan
- Service providers write applications
- CoC Board decides ranking

- FRT reviews project applications & makes recommendations
- CoC Board approves recommendations

- Service providers make any requested corrections/additions
- OCED staff complete application
- CoC Board reviews

- OCED submits application

RACIAL EQUITY

Racial Equity In Funding Processes



An Equity Lens in Application Review is “a process for analyzing or diagnosing the impact of a proposed approach on under-served and marginalized individuals and groups. [It] means deliberate inclusion of marginalized populations, including an intentional focus on race, ethnicity and other community characteristics.”

Content adapted from Oregon Health Authority 2022 presentation. Image from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Ways Funding Processes Can Shift Towards An Equity Approach

- **Community/population served:** shifting from color-blind approach to most funds going to organizations that are led by and serve marginalized communities.
- **Staffing/leadership:** shifting from funding organizations with strong grant writing infrastructure to those whose staff is representative of community served.
- **Track record of success:** shifting from requiring demonstrable success to new or smaller community-based organizations.
- **Organization's equity history:** shifting from not asking about this to requiring a demonstrated commitment to DEI practices & policies.

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION