
Home Again

*A 10-year plan to end homelessness in
Portland and Multnomah County*



Background

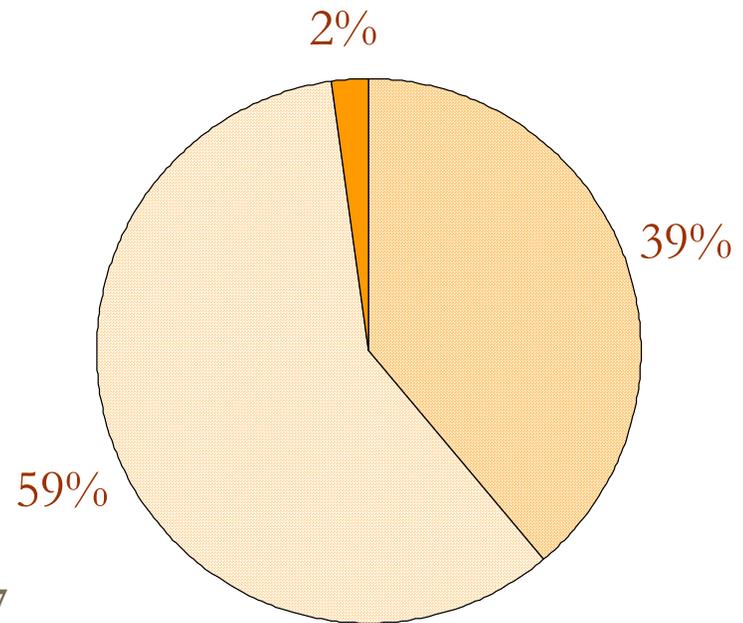
- ◆ Renewed interest in addressing homelessness on a national level
- ◆ Efforts to end chronic homelessness spurred by new research released in 2002
- ◆ Locally supported by CSH systems change grant.
- ◆ Significant federal funding came to Portland



Homelessness in Portland

17,500-18,500 served in FY 04-05:

- ◆ 11,224 adults without children (59%)
- ◆ 7,442 persons in families (39%):
 - 3,769 children under 18
 - 1,630 persons served in domestic violence system
- ◆ 436 unaccompanied youth age 17 & younger (2%)
- ◆ 5% increase from FY 03-04

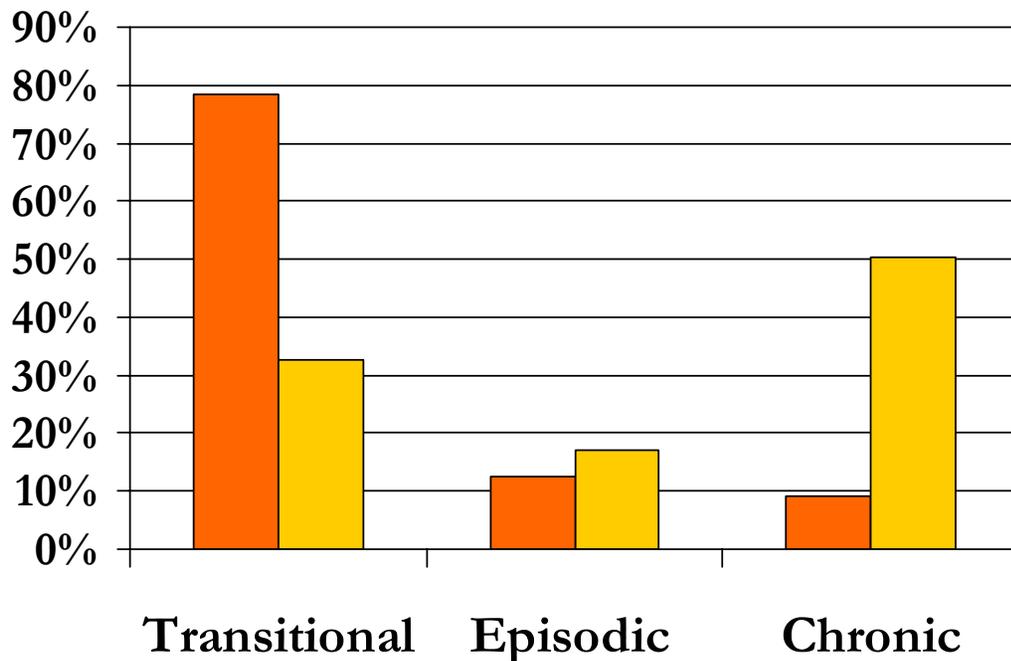


New Research Categories

- ◆ Chronic - experience homelessness for a year or longer
 - Usually individuals with multiple disabilities
- ◆ Episodic - multiple episodes of homelessness that are short or long-term
 - Individuals and families with multiple needs
- ◆ Situational or transitional - one time and short term homeless experience
 - Individuals and families with economic crises



Resource Use Varies by Type



■ % of Persons ■ % Days Used

Transitional:

➡ 1.2 stays

➡ 20.4 days

Episodic:

➡ 3.8 stays

➡ 72.8 days

Chronic:

➡ 1.5 stays

➡ 252.4 days



Research Drives System Change

- ◆ Homelessness has become an institution in communities
- ◆ We have invested millions of dollars, but we have not ended homelessness
- ◆ Our current system is managing the homeless problem, but not ending it
- ◆ To end homelessness, we need to do business differently



Process

- ◆ Citizens Commission established by Mayor with County Chair endorsement
- ◆ Community Based Planning in Coordinating Committee
- ◆ Involved over **250** people from more than **90** agencies & organizations



Three Principles

- ◆ Focus on the most chronically homeless populations;
- ◆ Streamline access to existing services to prevent and reduce other homelessness;
- ◆ Concentrate resources on programs that offer measurable results.



Nine Action Steps

- ◆ Move people into housing first
- ◆ Stop discharging people into homelessness
- ◆ Improve outreach to homeless people
- ◆ Emphasize permanent solutions
- ◆ Increase supply of permanent supportive housing



Nine Action Steps, cont.

- ◆ Create innovative new partnerships to end homelessness
- ◆ Make rent assistance system more effective
- ◆ Increase economic opportunity for homeless people
- ◆ Implement new data collection technology



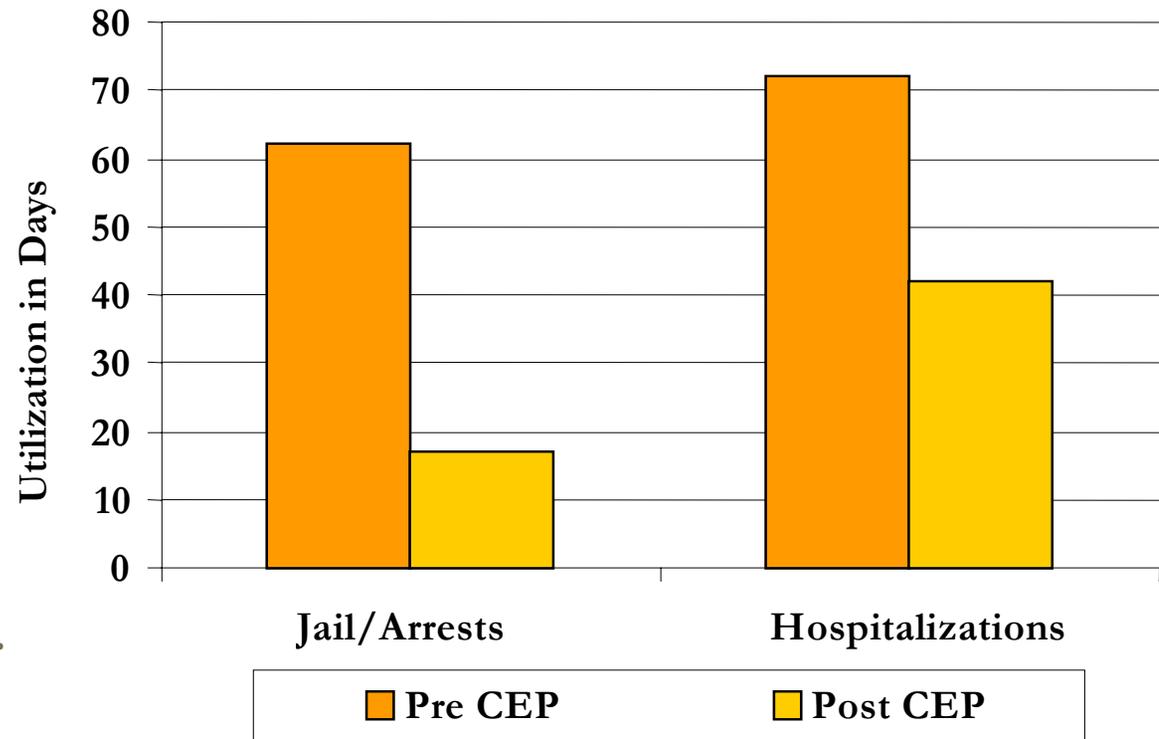
Highlights:
Exceeding outcomes in the
first 9 months



Local Data on Cost Avoidance

Central City
Concern's
Community
Engagement
Program has
permanently
housed **179**
chronically
homeless people.

Reduced Use of Emergency Systems



Outcomes January - September 2005

1st Year Goals

- ◆ 175 chronically homeless people will have homes
- ◆ 250 homeless families with children will be permanently housed - 50 will be high resource users

9 Month Outcomes



500 chronically homeless people moved into housing; 50% directly from the streets



304 families moved into housing, of which 159 were high resource users

Outcomes Jan. - Sept. 2005, cont.

1st Year Goals

- ◆ 20 hard to reach homeless youth permanently housed
- ◆ 160 new units of permanent supportive housing will open; additional 300 units in pipeline

9 Month Outcomes

- 27 hard to reach youth moved into housing*
- 244 units of permanent supportive housing opened; 223 added to pipeline*

Thank you

Copies of the plan and outcome reports
are available online at:

www.portlandonline.com/bhcd

City of Portland, Bureau of Housing and Community Development

