
Home Again

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



Background

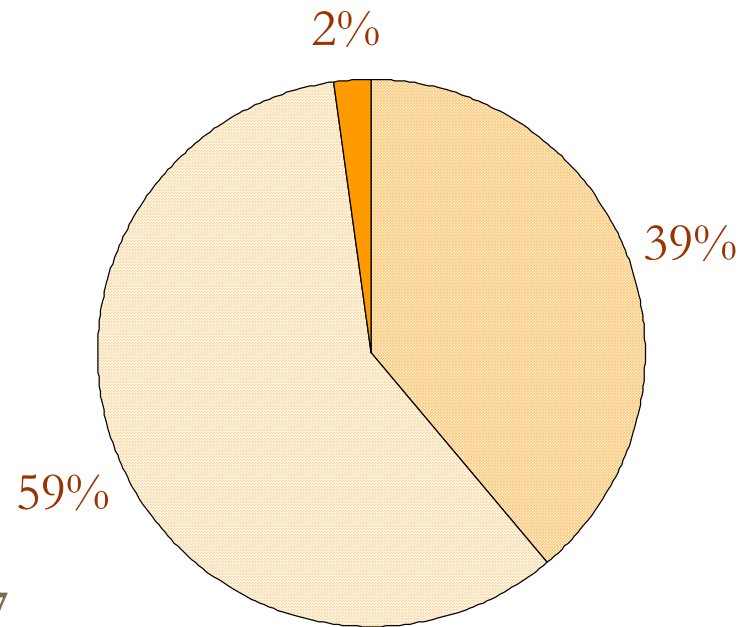
- ♦ Renewed interest in addressing homelessness on a national level
- ♦ Efforts to end chronic homelessness spurred by new research released in 2002
- ♦ Locally supported by CSH systems change grant.
- ♦ Significant federal funding came to Portland



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

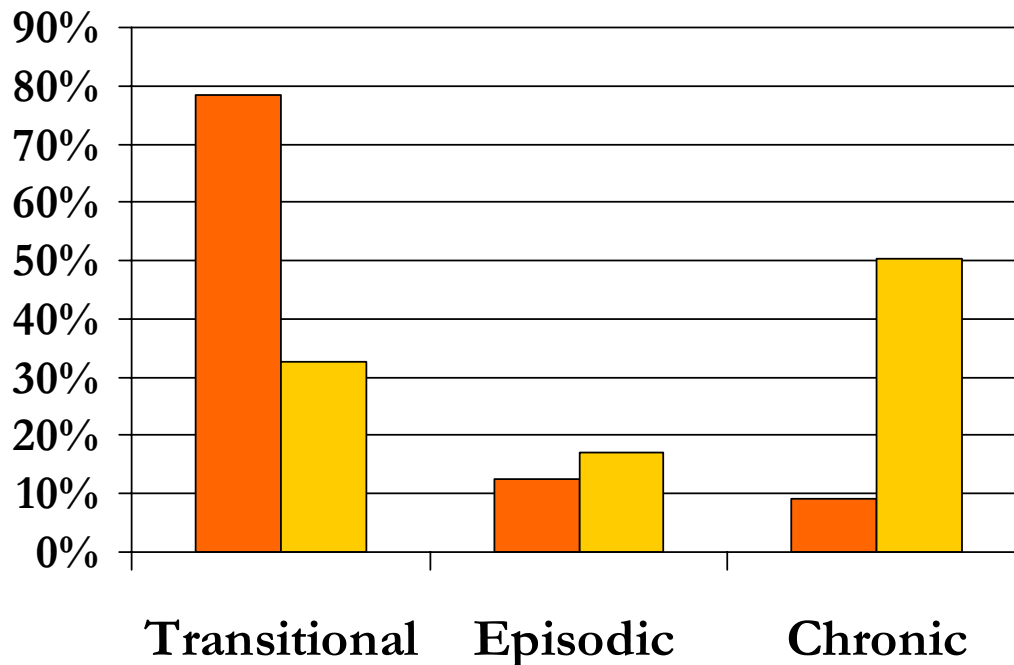


New Research Categories

- ♦ 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

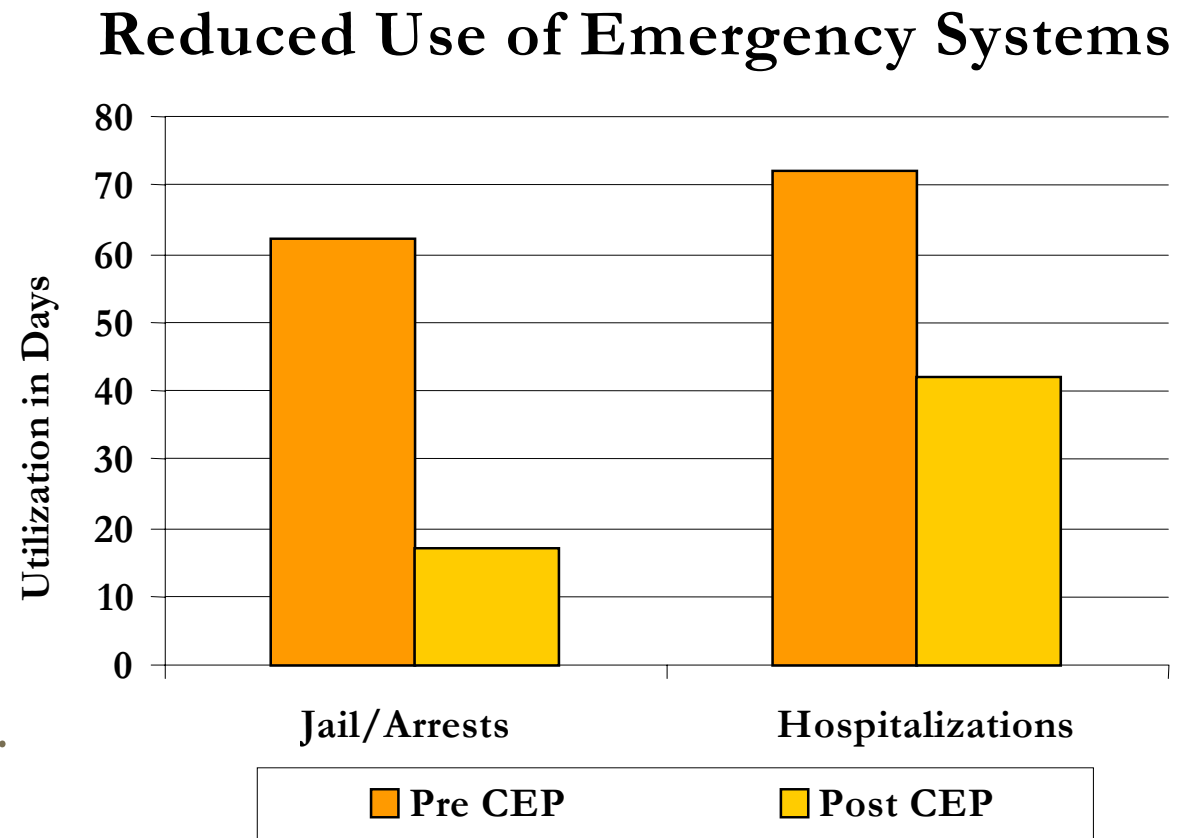


Highlights:
Exceeding outcomes in the
first 9 months



Local Data on Cost Avoidance

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




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

