



**Mobilizing Knowledge to Support Integrated Systems
Approaches to the Prevention of Homelessness and
Housing Exclusion**

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg
20th September 2019

Chair: Albert Sales

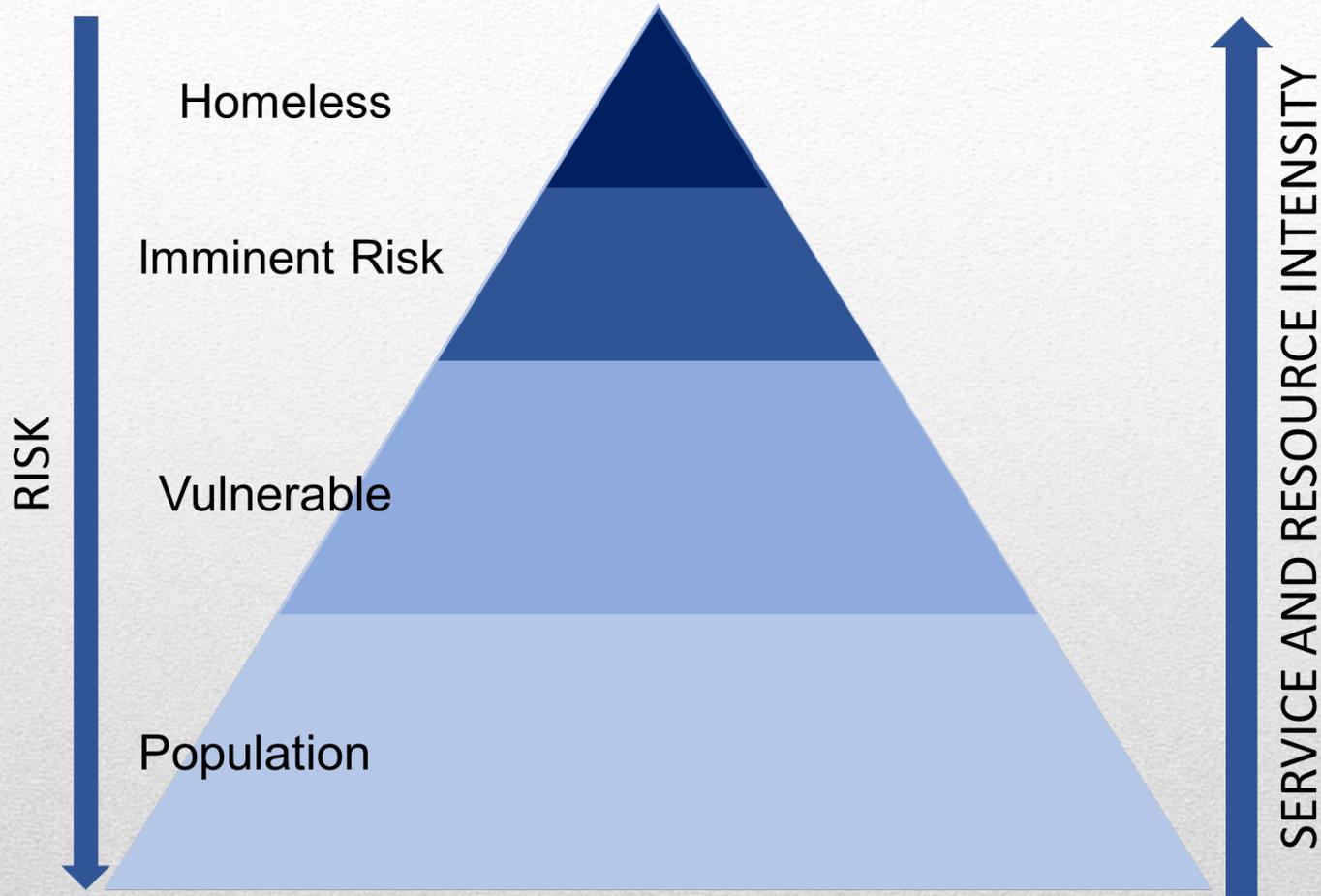
- Solving homelessness requires prevention
- Homelessness prevention introduces new opportunities and challenges for policies guiding service delivery
- Success requires innovation in programming and evaluation

Motivation: Homelessness prevention



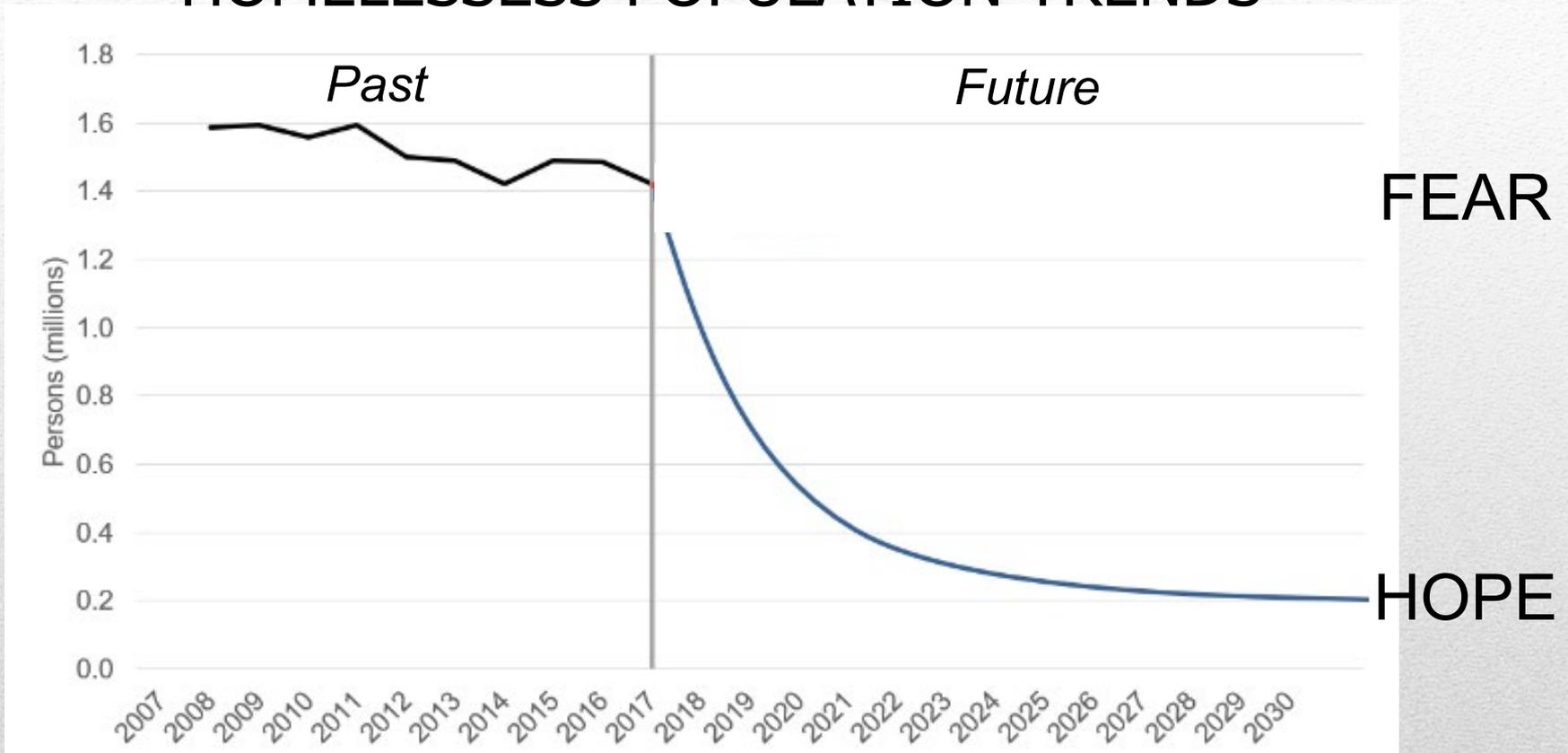
- Homeless rates depend on
 - Current homelessness
 - Entry rate
 - Exit rate
- Reductions require a negative net flow

Motivation: shifting resources



Motivation: where to invest?

HOMELESSNESS POPULATION TRENDS



Fowler, Hovmand, Marcal, & Das (2018)

Motivation: shifting resources

Homeless Policy Experiments

Housing First

0 0.25 0.5



Universal Prevention

0 0.25 0.5



Selective Prevention

0 0.25 0.5



Indicated Prevention

0 0.25 0.5

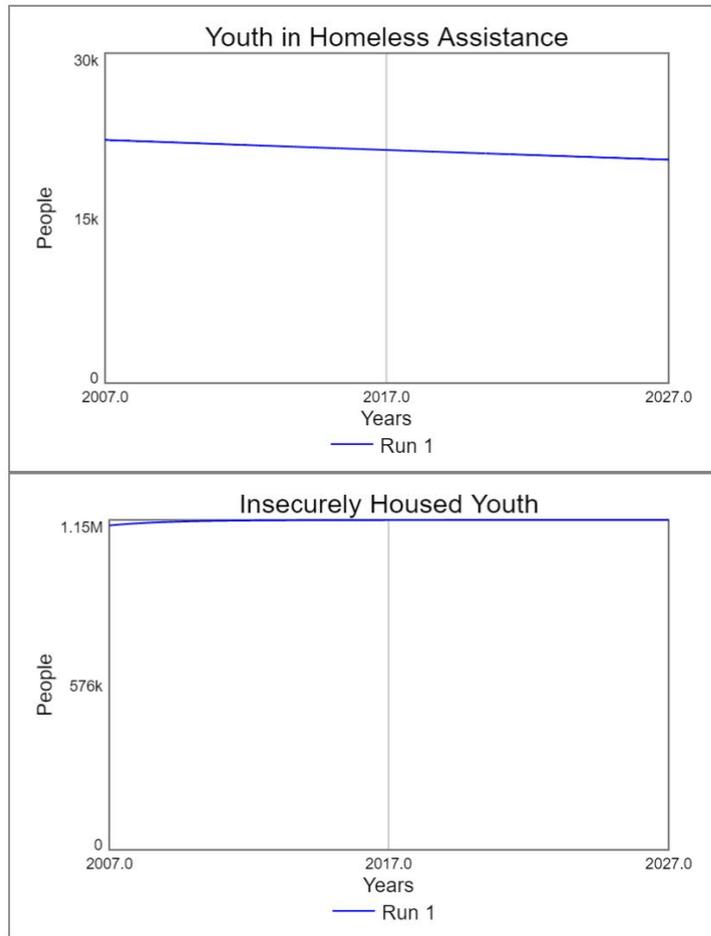


Run

Restore

Home Page

Conclusions



Solve Homelessness:

Experiment with policies that shift homeless services toward prevention. The sliders on the left expand four strategies (universal, selective, indicated, housing first). Graphs forecast youth homelessness trends in and outside of homeless services. Policy changes start in 2017 and will not exceed 50%.

Instructions:

Click Run to track youth homelessness in the absence of policy interventions. Move sliders and hit Run to test policies. You can test single policies or policy combinations. Repeat to compare different strategies. Use the Restore button to clear graphs and start over.

Motivation: where to invest?

Homeless Policy Experiments

Housing First

0 0.25 0.5



Universal Prevention

0 0.25 0.5



Selective Prevention

0 0.25 0.5



Indicated Prevention

0 0.25 0.5



Run

Restore

Home Page

Conclusions



Homelessness:

with policies that shift services toward prevention. On the left expand four (universal, selective, housing first). Graphs show homelessness trends by type of homeless services. Projections start in 2017 and will show a 50% decrease.

Conclusions:

Track youth homelessness in the absence of interventions. Move sliders and test policies. You can test different policies or policy combinations. Compare different scenarios. Use the Restore button to reset and start over.

Motivation: Invest in prevention

- Designing developmentally sensitive youth homelessness prevention systems
- Lessons from the Homelessness Reduction Act in England

Presentations



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USA

New Beginnings: Conceptual Frame and Initial Results

United States

- In 2017, there were approximately 554,000 *literally homeless* individuals at a single point in time (down from 650,000 in 2007), and 1.5-2 million over a year
- Approximately 30% are children
- In 2017, approximately 4.6 million people are estimated to be *doubled up* (up from 3.5 million in 2007), and at risk for homelessness

Demographics of Homelessness

New York City

- 14,621 homeless families with 21,419 children
- Over a year, 45,600 homeless children
- 4,500 youth aged 18- to 24-years experienced homelessness on a single night in January, half of whom are homeless with their children.

Demographics of Homelessness



Homelessness is such a disruption to one's life; it's hard to understate the damaging effects on a person or family system

Housing instability can be almost as disruptive or destructive to the household's well being

Enduring Destructive Nature of Homelessness

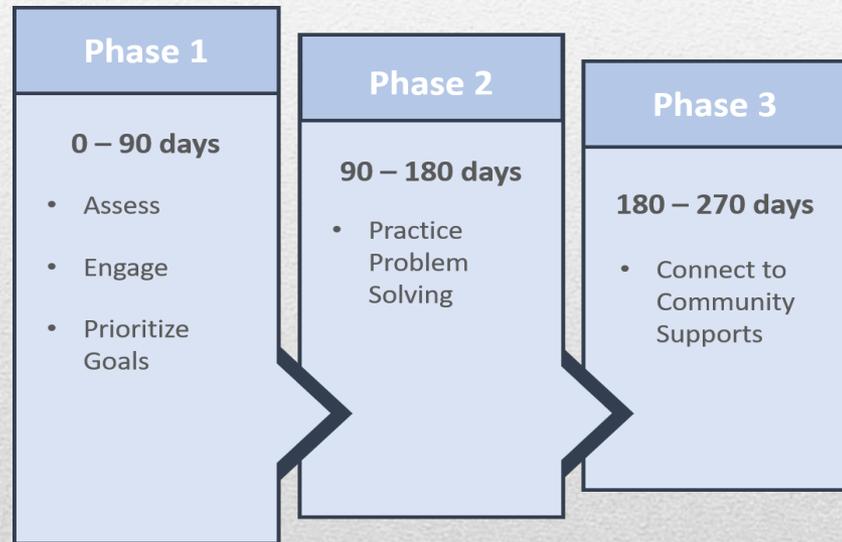


**HELP USA's New Beginnings
Critical Time Intervention Program**

Support from the Robin Hood Foundation

Grounded in Critical Time Intervention “CTI” Framework

- Housing Stability
- Education
- Employment
- Health Care
- Mental Health Needs
- Child Care Utilization



Conceptual Framework

“CTI” Framework for Parenting Youth

- Tailored for normative developmental stress
 - Romantic relationships, preparing for future
- Target non-normative events stress, which leads to poor decision making processes
 - Young parents Poverty
 - Faulty social supports Domestic violence & abuse
 - Un/underemployment Prior institutionalizations

Conceptual Framework



HOUSING
CRISIS

HOMEBASE

NEW
BEGINNING
INTAKE

- Integrated into homeless prevention system
- Engage and motivate all 18-24 parenting youth

Conceptual Framework

- Phase 1 Transition
 - Immediate contact by clinician
 - Engage, address, and assess support system
 - Build trusting relationship with HOH
 - Develop focused service plan
 - Begin links with formal and informal support (education /training, income, mental health, healthcare, child care)

New Beginnings

- Phase 2 Try Out
 - Strengthen supportive relationship with HOH
 - Maintain home visits
 - Facilitate and test HOH problem-solving skills
 - Adjust systems of support and make referrals

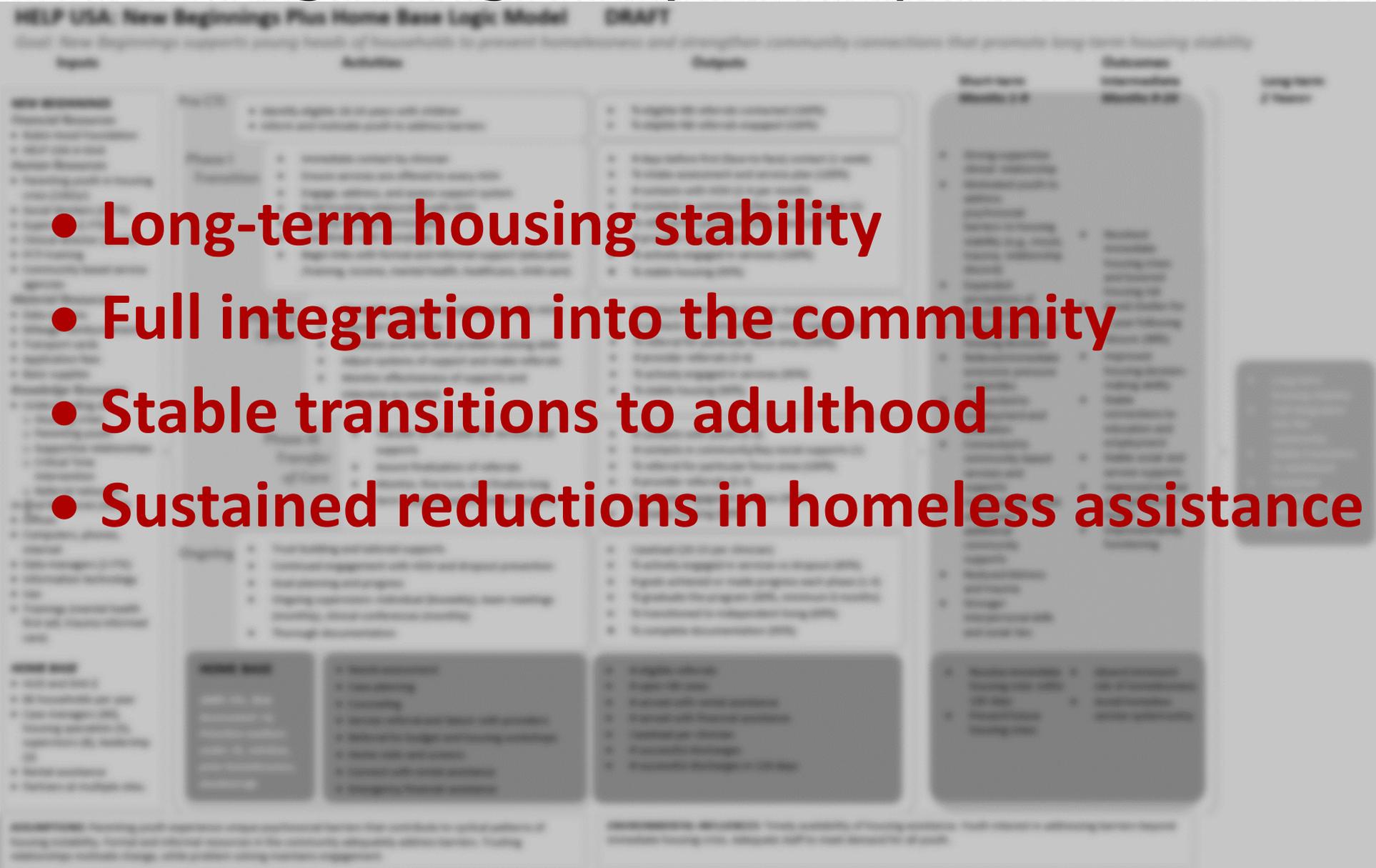
New Beginnings

- Phase 3 Transfer of Care
 - Transfer of care plan for services and supports
 - Assure finalization of referrals
 - Monitor, fine tune, and finalize long term supports secure stable supports

New Beginnings

New Beginnings fully conceptualized

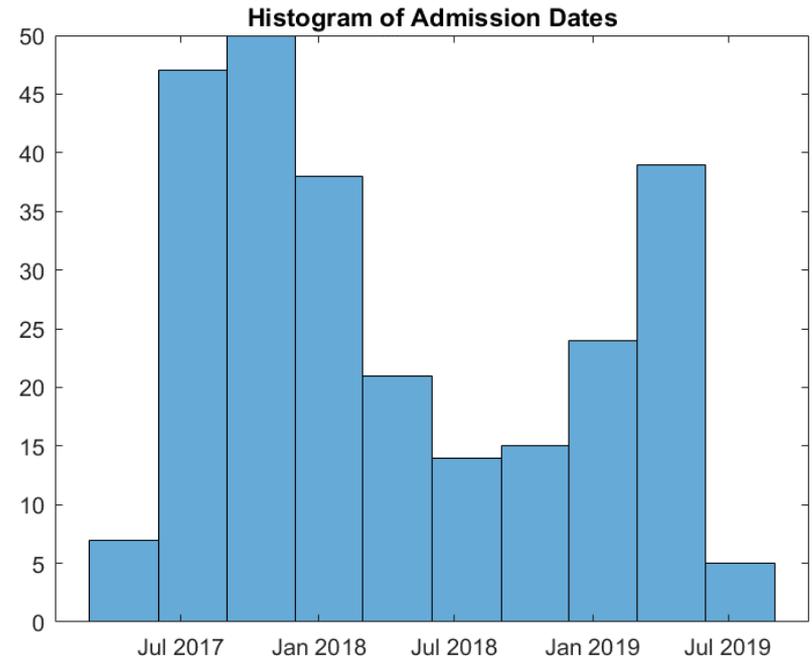
- Long-term housing stability
- Full integration into the community
- Stable transitions to adulthood
- Sustained reductions in homeless assistance





INITIAL EVALUATION RESULTS

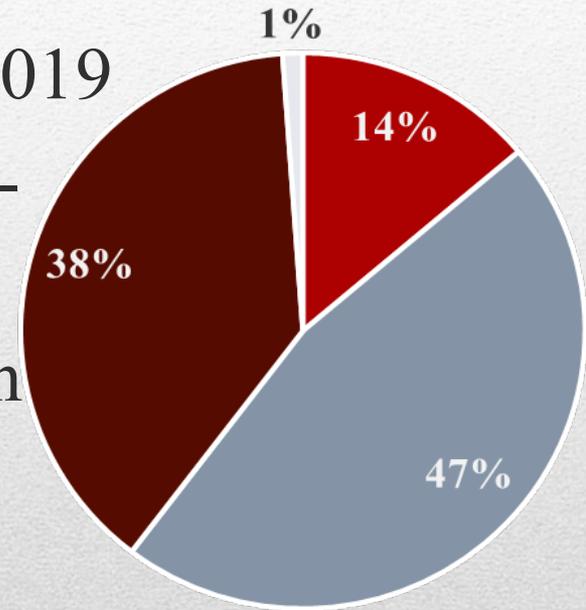
- 260 NB admissions
 - 232 single-female headed households
 - 1.67 children
 - 60% prior shelter entry



Client Characteristics

- 260 admissions through July 2019
 - Predominately URM, single-female headed families
 - Half < high school education
 - 60% prior shelter entry

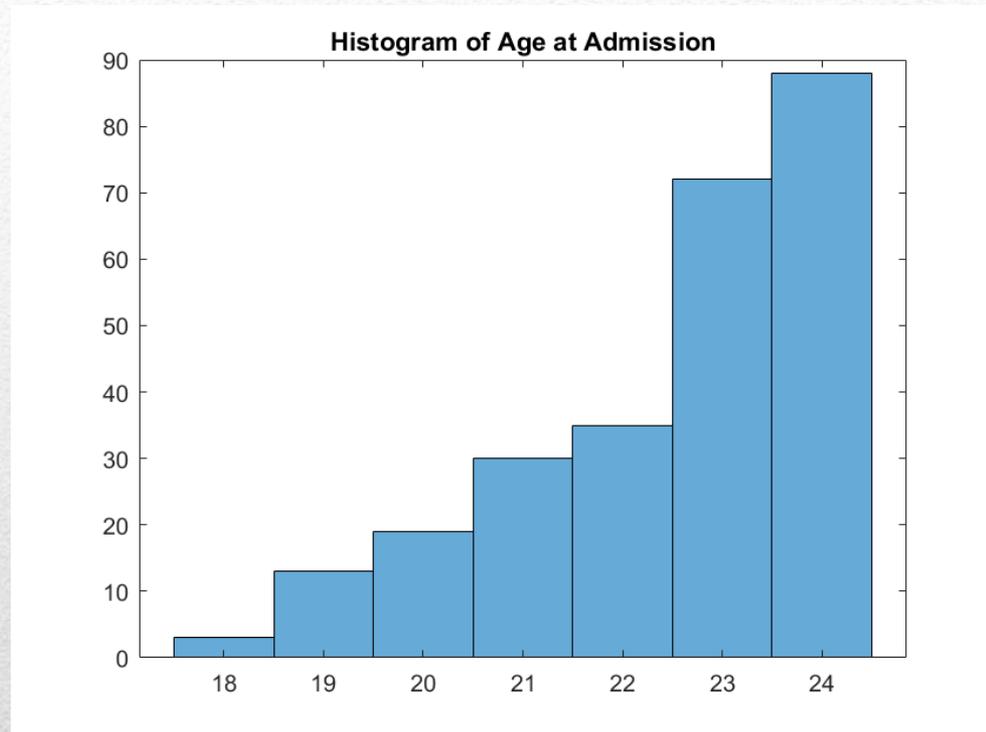
Client Race/Ethnicity



■ White ■ Hispanic ■ Black ■ Other

Client Characteristics

- 260 families
 - Avg. 22.5 years old
 - 1.67 children
 - Reasons for referral
 1. Employment
 2. Housing
 3. Education

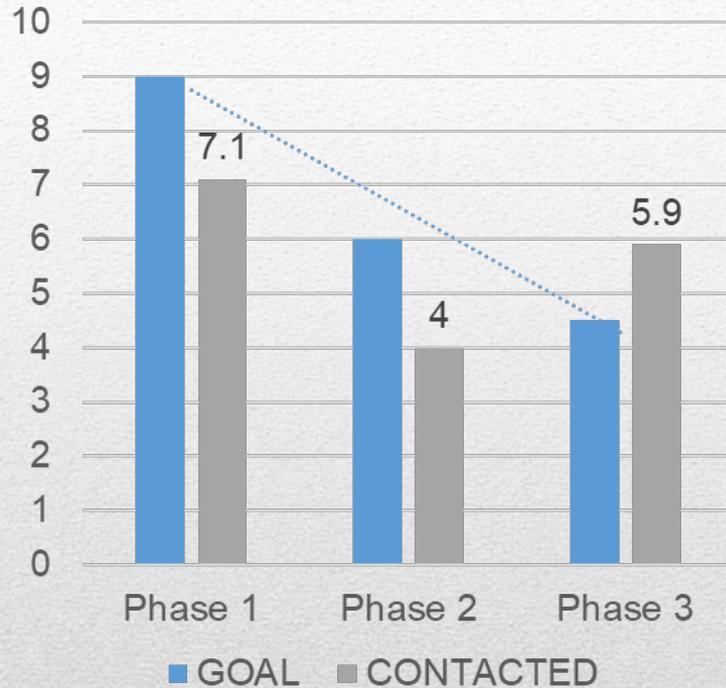


Client Characteristics

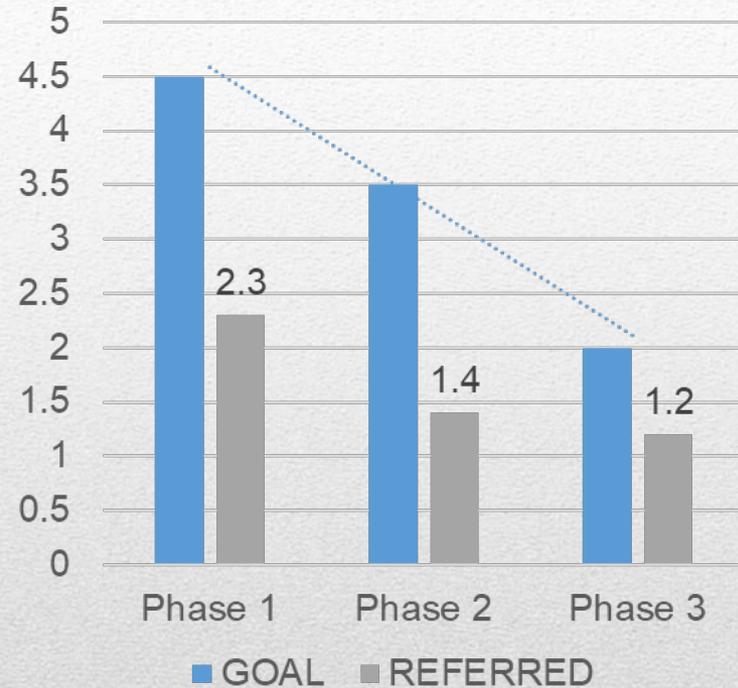
ENGAGEMENT	OBSERVED	%	GOAL
Contacted	257 out of 260	99%	100%
Referred to Services	172 out of 260	66%	65%
Service Plans Made	170 out of 260	65%	65%
Discharged	206 out of 260	79%	85%
Graduated	127 out of 206	62%	90%

Implementation

New Beginnings Client
Contacts by Phase



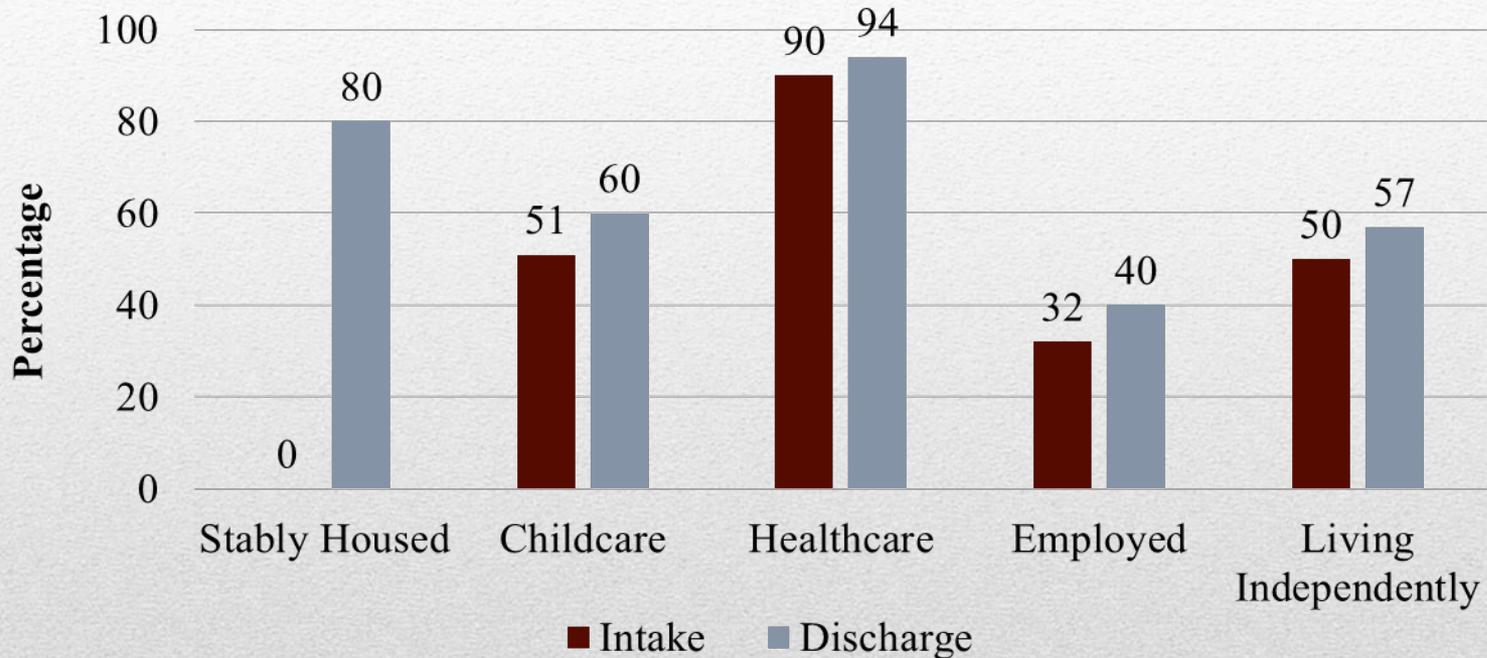
New Beginnings Client
Service Referrals by Phase



Implementation

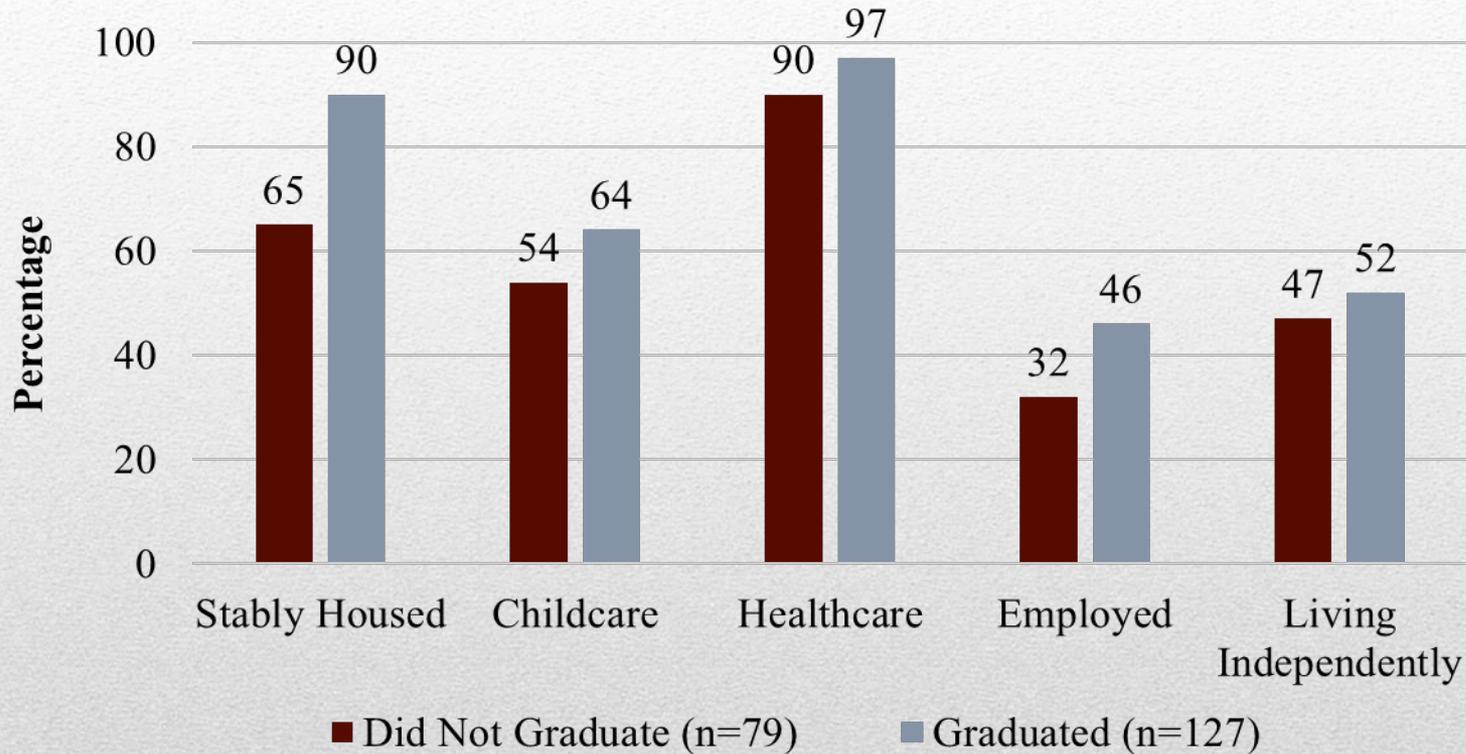
Initial Outcomes: n=206

Pre/Post Change in Connections to Supports



Initial Outcomes

Posttest Connections by CTI Graduation



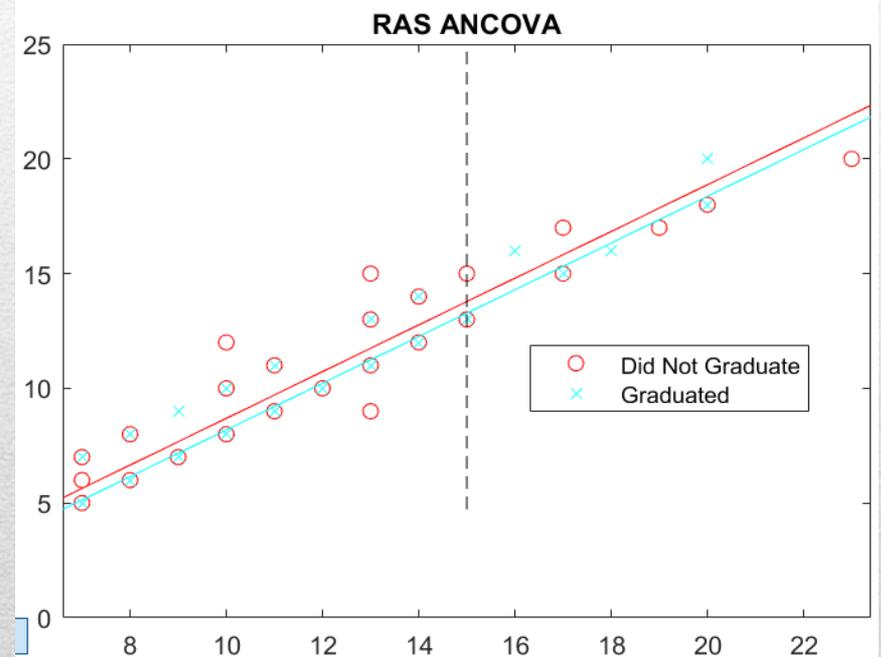
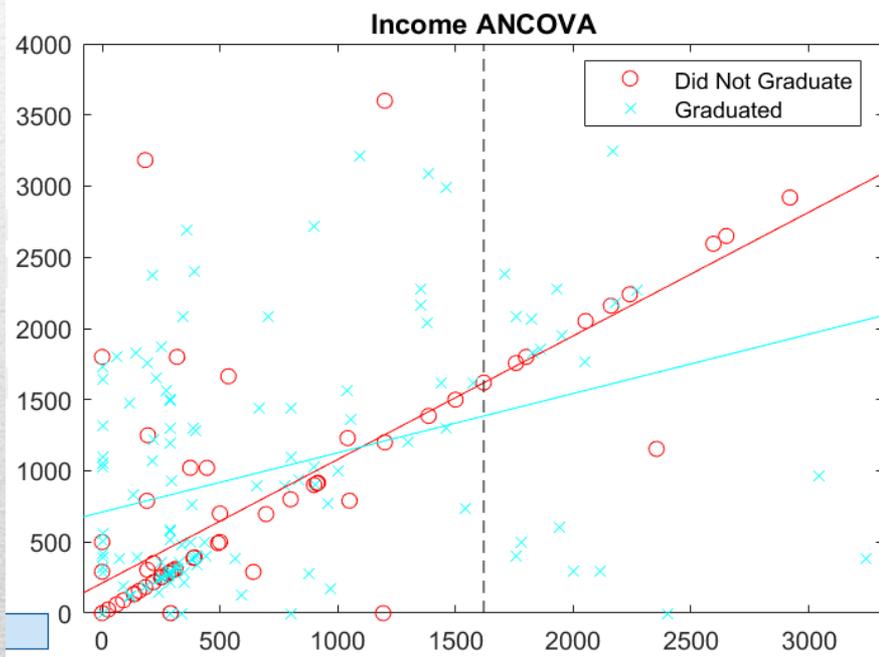
Initial Outcomes: Graduates

- Pretest-Posttest Changes

	Income		Housing Risk	
	Admit	Discharge	Admit	Discharge
Mean	\$677	\$909	11.1	9.48
SD	731	848	3.31	3.48
t-stat	-4.27		26.24	
p	<.0001		<.0001	

Initial Outcomes

- Pretest-Posttest Changes by NB Graduation
 - Graduates report better incomes (\$1,006 vs. \$753) and housing risk (9.3 vs. 9.7) at discharge



Initial Outcomes

- Compare outcomes to similar parenting youth using HomeBase
- Examine longer term follow-up on homelessness
- Test who does best
 - Addresses important prevention questions of targeting scarce resources
 - Assess feasibility and utility of computational approaches that handle complex interactions

Next Steps

