

Home Illinois: A Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in Illinois

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ICCB HOUSE Conference
June 29, 2023





Current Landscape of Homelessness in Illinois



Faces of Homelessness in Illinois



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Homelessness by the Numbers: 120,857 Persons Annually

- Annually, 44,063 people in 27,733 households are served in Illinois' literal homeless system, of whom an estimated:
 - 18% are people living with a serious mental illness
 - 12% are people living with a substance abuse disorder
 - 5% are veterans
 - 8% are victims of domestic violence
 - 6% are young adults ages 18-24
 - 5% Are parenting youth or children of parenting youth
- 76,794 children, from infants through 12th grade, experienced doubled-up homelessness in 2020-21 school year

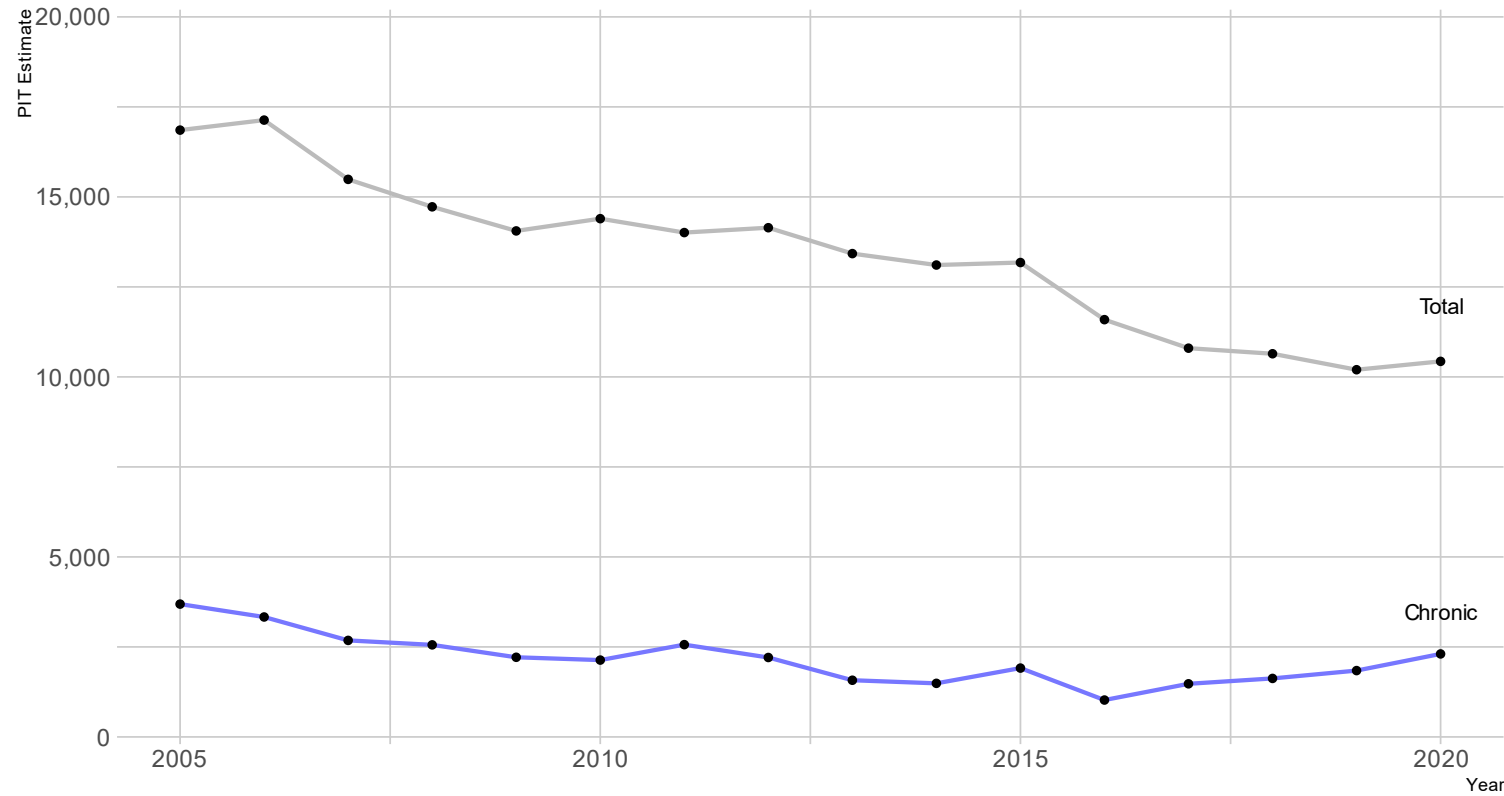
FY22 IDHS funded emergency shelter turn-aways: **9,837 individuals and 2,651 children**

Average wait time for access to homeless housing resource in Chicago: **802 days**



Illinois Total Homeless Population Falling, Chronically Homeless Rising

The percentage of the homeless population made up of chronically homeless rose from 9% in 2016 to 22% in 2020.



Racial Disparities in Homelessness: Black Homelessness

Black people make up **14%** of Illinois' residents, but:



30% of Illinoisans experiencing poverty



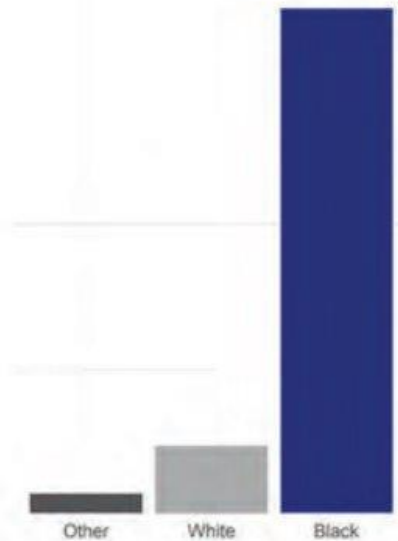
61% of Illinoisans experiencing homelessness.



Black people are **eight times** more likely to experience homelessness than white people in Illinois.

Illinois Homeless Population Prevalence per 100k by Race, 2020

IL Homeless Population Prevalence per 100k by Race, 2020



Source: HUD Data Exchange, FYT Counts (2020)
US Census Bureau, PL 94-171 Redistricting Data (2020)




Executive Order 2021-21

- Signed by Governor Pritzker on September 3, 2021
- Creates new homelessness infrastructure within State of Illinois government
 - Interagency Task Force on Homelessness
 - Community Advisory Council on Homelessness
 - State Homelessness Chief & Illinois Office to Prevent & End Homelessness
- Develop a State Plan and deliver to Governor Pritzker and the Illinois General Assembly by June 1, 2022.
- Prepare an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1st of each year with the first report delivered on December 1, 2022.



Goals of
Executive
Order to Fight
Homelessness

- Address homelessness & achieve functional zero of homelessness
 - Address unnecessary institutionalization
 - Improve health and human services outcomes for people experiencing homelessness
 - Strengthening safety nets that contribute to housing stability
 - Coordinate homeless prevention resources
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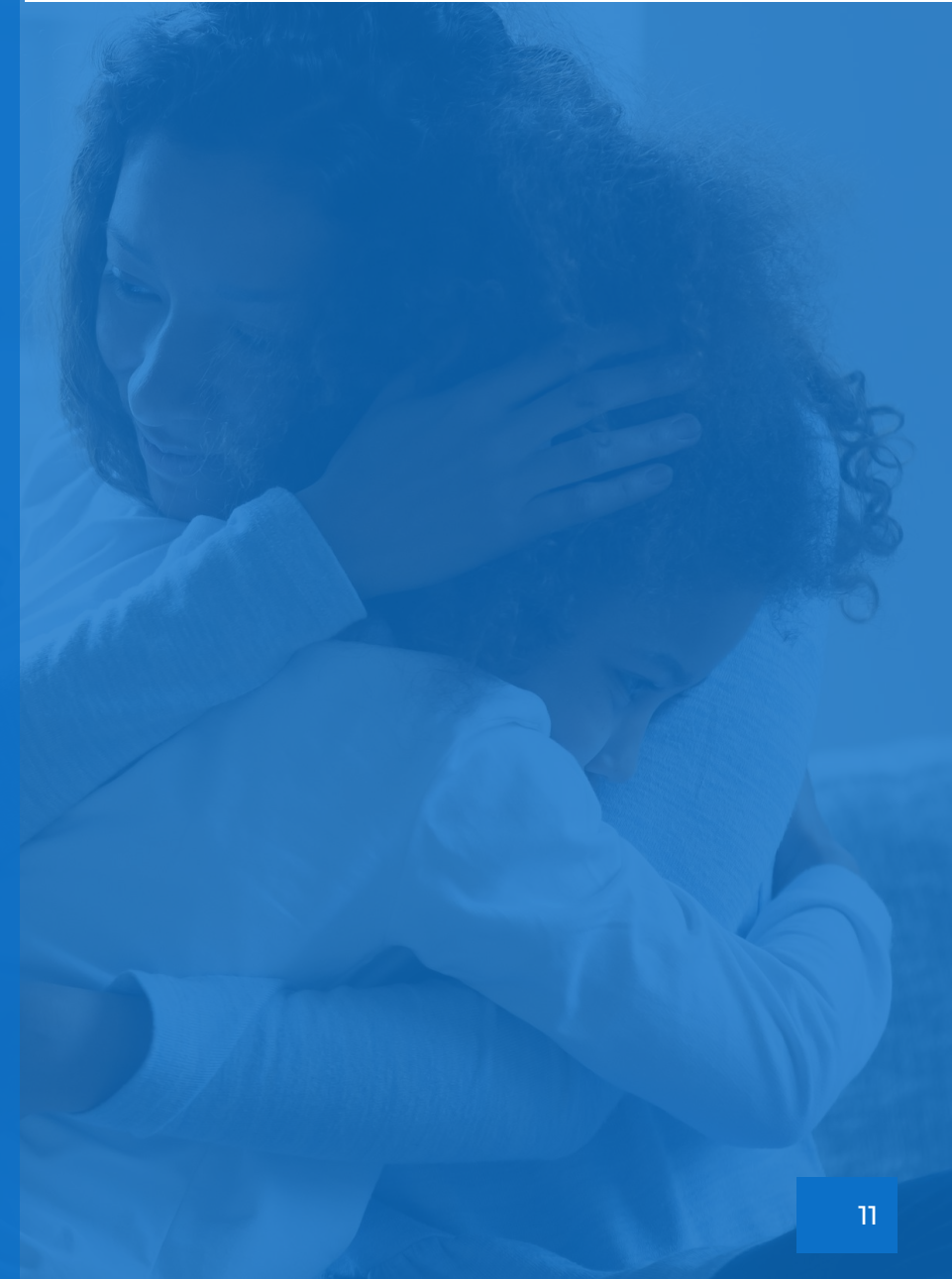
Interagency Task Force on Homelessness



Community Advisory Council on Homelessness

Lived Experience of Homelessness (3)	Living with a disability	Philanthropy (2)	Statewide Behavioral Health Advocacy Organization
Statewide Housing Advocacy Organization	CoCs (3)	Local Units of Government (3)	Domestic Violence
At-large: Housing Developer	At-large: Youth service provider	New: Service Providers (4)	State Homelessness Chief (Co-Chair)

“Functional Zero” and Current Progress in Preventing and Ending Homelessness





Functional Zero: A Measurable Metric for Success

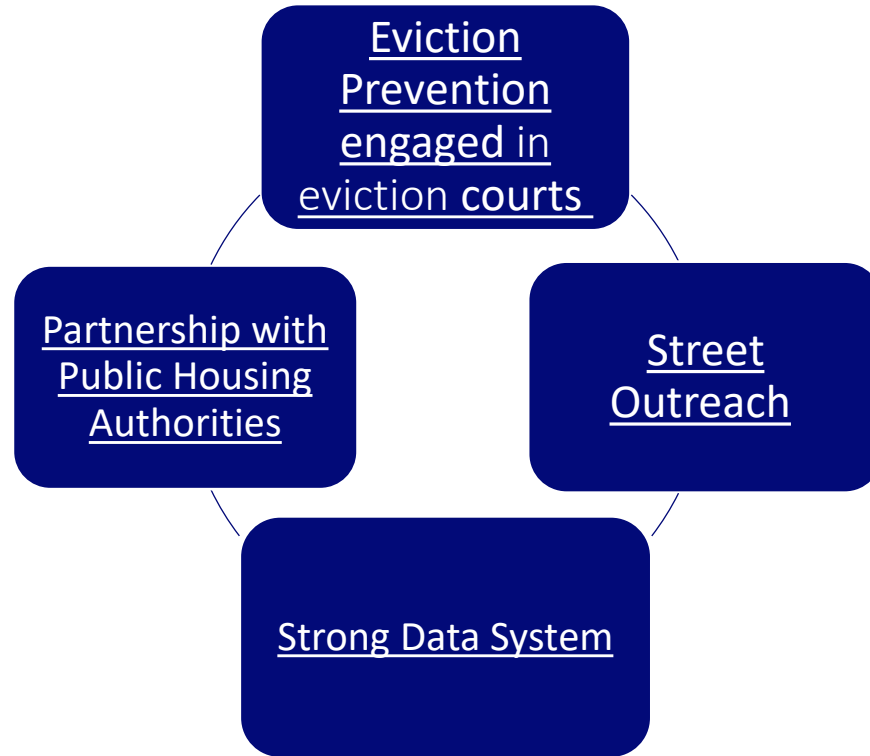
- **“Functional Zero”** is a sustainable milestone where a community has measurably solved homelessness.
- Once achieved, when an Illinoisian reaches out for help, there is a clear path to access that resource and the appropriate resource on the other side
- Homelessness within Functional Zero is:
 - Rare
 - Brief
 - Non-recurring
 - Equitable

Executive Order 2021-21 Parallel:

“Whereas, the current crisis has created waves of economic instability which have affected Illinoisans most vulnerable to housing insecurity. It requires the strengthening of our State’s safety nets so that homelessness becomes an experience that is **rare, brief and non-recurring...**”

CASE STUDY: Success in Rockford, IL

- **On track to be the first community in the country to reach functional zero**
- Keys to Success:





Home Illinois: A Plan to Reach Functional Zero





Home Illinois:



Change

Change the narrative on the root causes of homelessness

Realize

Realize the vision of the Executive Order through a transformational initiative to be implemented over four years

Convene

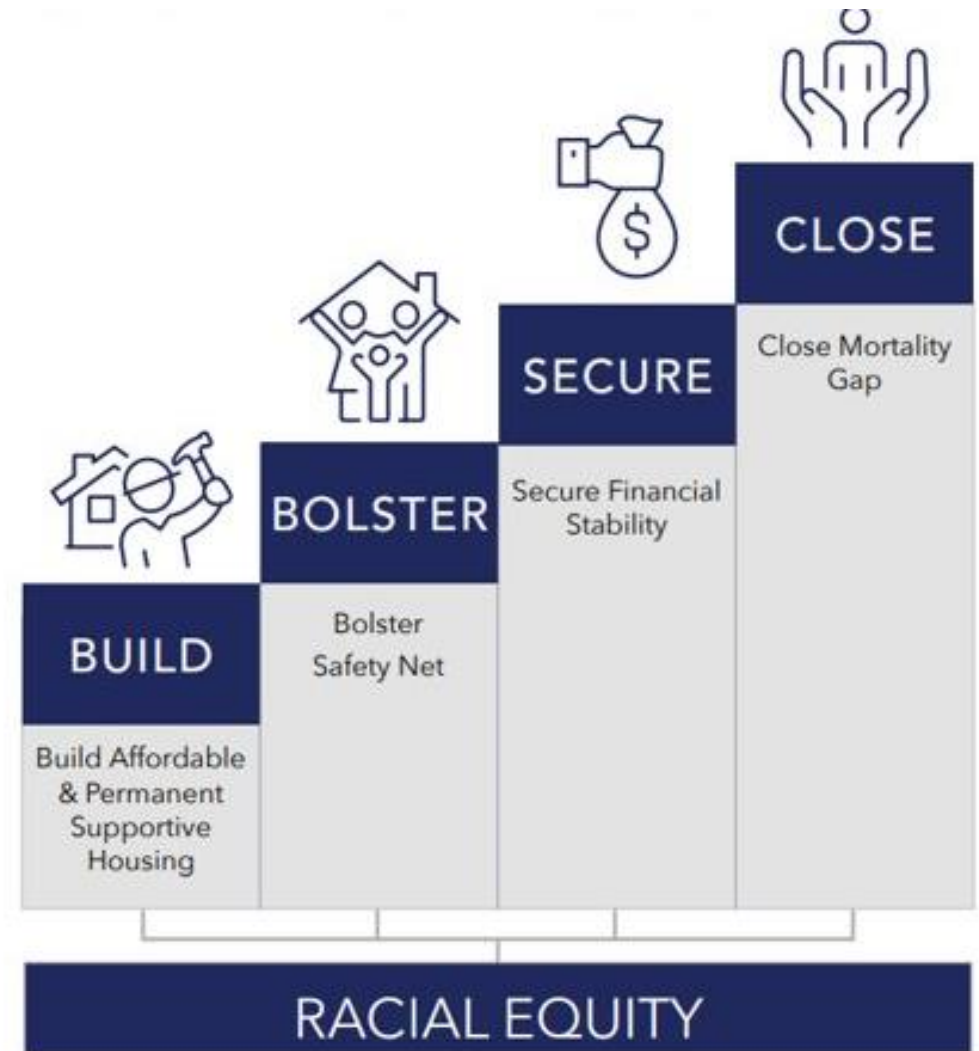
Convene local jurisdictions, health systems and private funders to meet goals of ending homelessness

Lead

Lead a successful state-led approach to end homelessness, setting an example for interior states

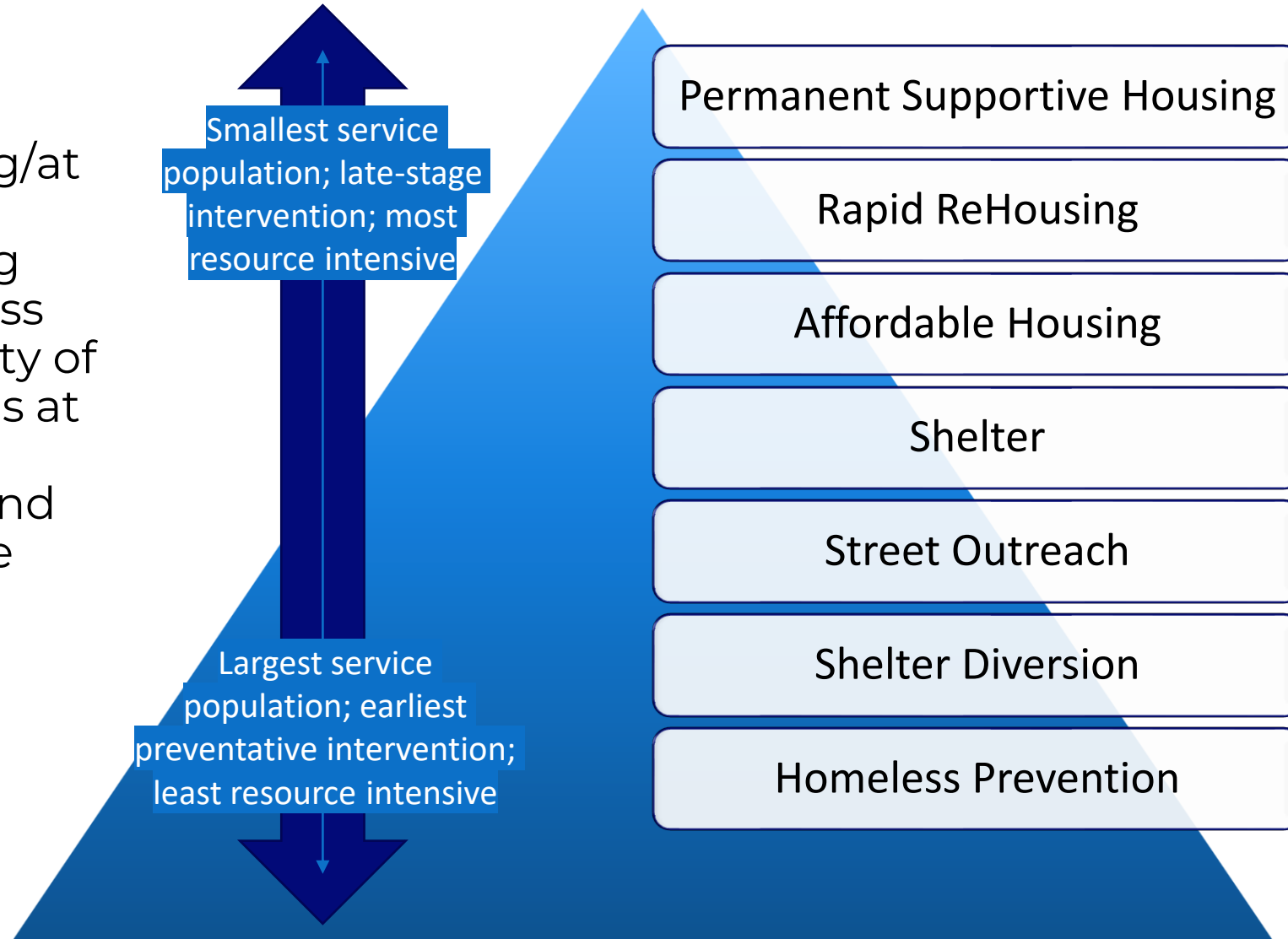
Plan to Prevent & End Homelessness: *Home Illinois* Framework

- Inventory of 100+ policy, program or process activities across 17 State agencies
- Foundational goal: ending the racial disparity that exists in homelessness

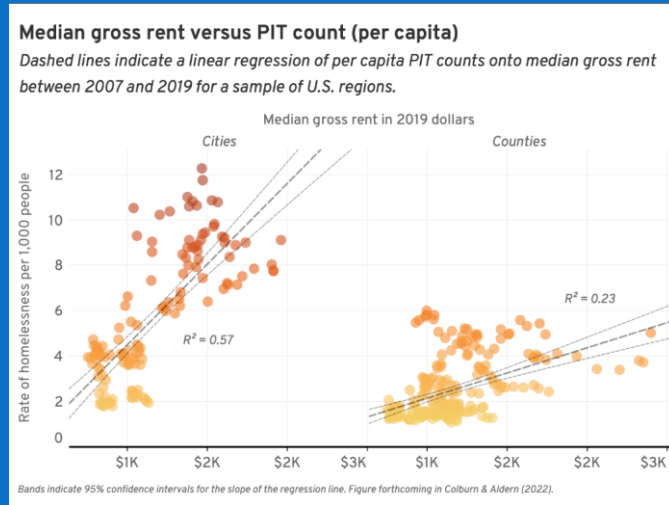


The Continuum of Home Illinois Interventions

- Individuals experiencing/at risk of experiencing homelessness need a variety of interventions at different intensities and stages in the process



Theory: Homelessness is a Housing Problem



Groundbreaking research from Gregg Colburn and Clayton Aldern reframes homelessness as an issue of **insufficient affordable housing**.

According to their study, levels of homelessness are better predicted by **housing-related metrics** (median rent, rental vacancy rates, etc.) than historic targets of homelessness programs (mental illness, drug use, poverty, weather, generosity of public assistance, and low-income mobility).

Reaching Functional Zero Unmet Need: Housing Projections



4,551 Shelter Beds



9,421 Rapid ReHousing Units
(short-term rental assistance with supportive services)

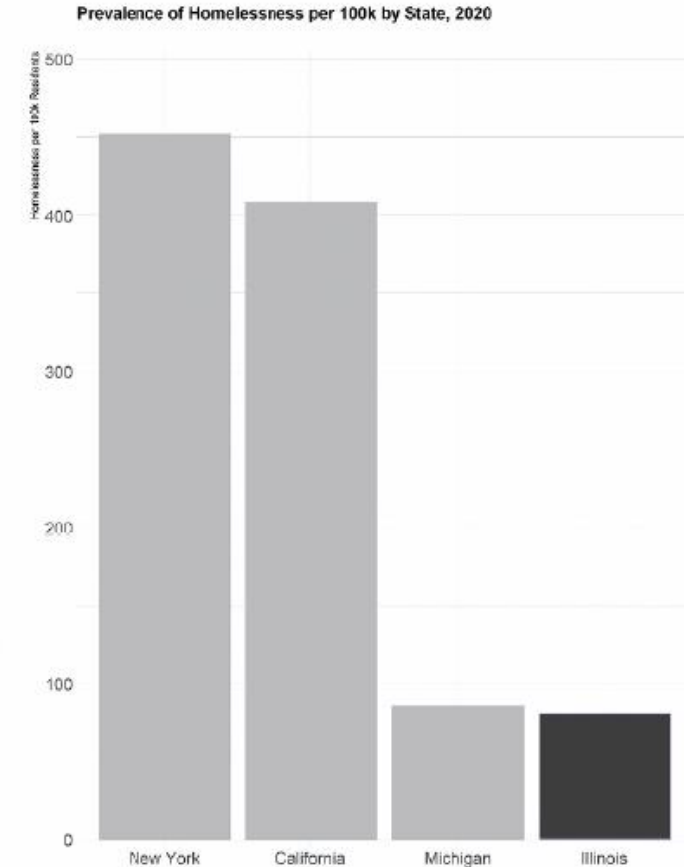


6,292 Permanent Supportive Housing Units
(affordable housing units with supportive services)



Lead nationwide as a model for addressing homelessness in the interior states

Prevalence of Homelessness per 100k by State, 2020



FY24 State Budget: Key Initiatives

HOUSE Liaisons:
\$2.25M

Homeless
Prevention:
\$10.8M Increase

Emergency &
Transitional
Housing: \$40.7M
Increase

\$30M Court Based
Rental Assistance

Street Outreach:
\$4M Increase

Supportive Housing
Services: \$6M
Increase

Homeless Youth:
\$3M Increase

New Shelter
Diversion: \$2.5M

New Rapid
ReHousing: \$50M
(GRF + ERA)

New Scattered Site
PSH: \$12.5M

New Workforce
Training: \$5M

Thank You
homeless.office
@illinois.gov

