

Jericho Project: Home to Stay

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Off the Streets. On with Life.

Overview

1. What is Jericho's Home to Stay Program?
2. What makes us successful?
3. What is our impact?





1. What is Jericho's Home to Stay Program?

About Jericho Project

- 33 years of providing housing and services to homeless individuals in NYC
 - Over **2,000** individuals served in 2015
 - **95%** of our clients achieve and maintain independent living
 - **1/3** the cost of homeless shelters
- Services:
 - Housing or help finding housing
 - Employment placement
 - Case management
 - Substance abuse treatment
 - Counseling
 - Health care
- Populations served:
 - Chronically homeless adults
 - Veterans
 - Young adults who identify as LGBT
 - Families



About Home to Stay

- New York's Living in Communities (LINC) program provides rental assistance to episodically homeless families living in shelter system
- Eligible candidates are referred to Jericho Project by the Department of Homeless Services
- Jericho Project helps those families find:
 - Housing
 - Employment
 - Resources to meet other needs



Outcomes

- **202** families stably housed in 2015
- **89** heads of families placed in jobs since 2012
- **99.4%** of our graduates did not return to homelessness



2. What Makes Us Successful?

Initial Engagement Strategies

1. Clarify the helping process
2. Set the foundation for a collaborative, working relationship
3. Focus on immediate, practical concerns
4. Identify and problem-solve around barriers to help seeking

Critical Time Intervention

- Phase 1 (0-3 months): Establish trust and evaluate needs
- Phase 2 (3-6 months): Move family into new home and ensure sustainability
- Phase 3 (6-9 months): Stay in touch and build autonomy
- Active Maintenance (after 9 months): Continue to check in every quarter



Cultural Competence

- Alliance to many of the Bronx's community partners and established history of work within the borough
- Excellent understanding of the DHS shelter system and a working knowledge of the impact homeless families experience
- Diverse, bilingual case managers on staff



Encouraging Autonomy

- Career Counselors and Employment Specialist on staff to help with training for, identifying, and securing employment
- Close connection with Jericho's successful Workforce Opportunities Program
- Financial literacy training during all three phases



Community Resources

- Partnerships with family shelters
- Relationships with landlords and management companies
- Agreement with Odyssey House to provide services for substance abuse, mental health, and counseling
- Bank of local resources within family's zip code





3. What is our Impact?

Families Who Are:

- Stably housed
- Independent
- Living in good conditions
- Aware of where to find help if they need it



Francesca

- As a 24-year old mother of three, Francesca Martinez first moved into the shelter system after she was laid off from her job at a clothing store with her two sons, now 5 and 6 years old.
- Francesca was placed in an apartment in the Bronx just in time, two days before giving birth to her daughter, now two. But then the state took over the program she was in and “a lot of people fell into the shelter and I was one of them.”
- Jericho Project provided her with a case worker, helped her to attain housing and offered support in finding a job and maintaining financial stability.
- She now lives in a Harlem two-bedroom, has enrolled her children in a nearby charter school and works as a receptionist at a clinic in the Bronx. Looking forward, she plans to go to nursing school.



Nivea

- Nivea and her partner moved to New York in 2009 so that their daughter (diabetic) and son (autistic) could get the services they needed.
- Although her partner was always working and she was canvassing the streets for rent signs every day, her family was only able to find an apartment with unlivable conditions, and was twice in a shelter.
- Thanks to Jericho Project, her family has a beautiful apartment, her partner has a better job, and her children are getting quality services at a good school.
- Now that they have a home, Nivea and her partner are excited to finally get married after 16 years together. She also plans to return to school in the near future.



Summary

1. What is Jericho's Home to Stay Program?
 - A program that helps episodically homeless families find permanent housing, employment, and the resources they need to be self-sufficient.
2. What makes us successful?
 - Initial Engagement Strategies
 - Critical Time Intervention
 - Motivational Interviewing
 - Cultural Competence
 - Encouraging Autonomy
 - Community Resources
3. What is our impact?
 - Stably housed clients who trust Jericho to give them support, and trust themselves to support their families.





New York City Homelessness: A Targeted Approach

February 2016

National Alliance to End Homelessness

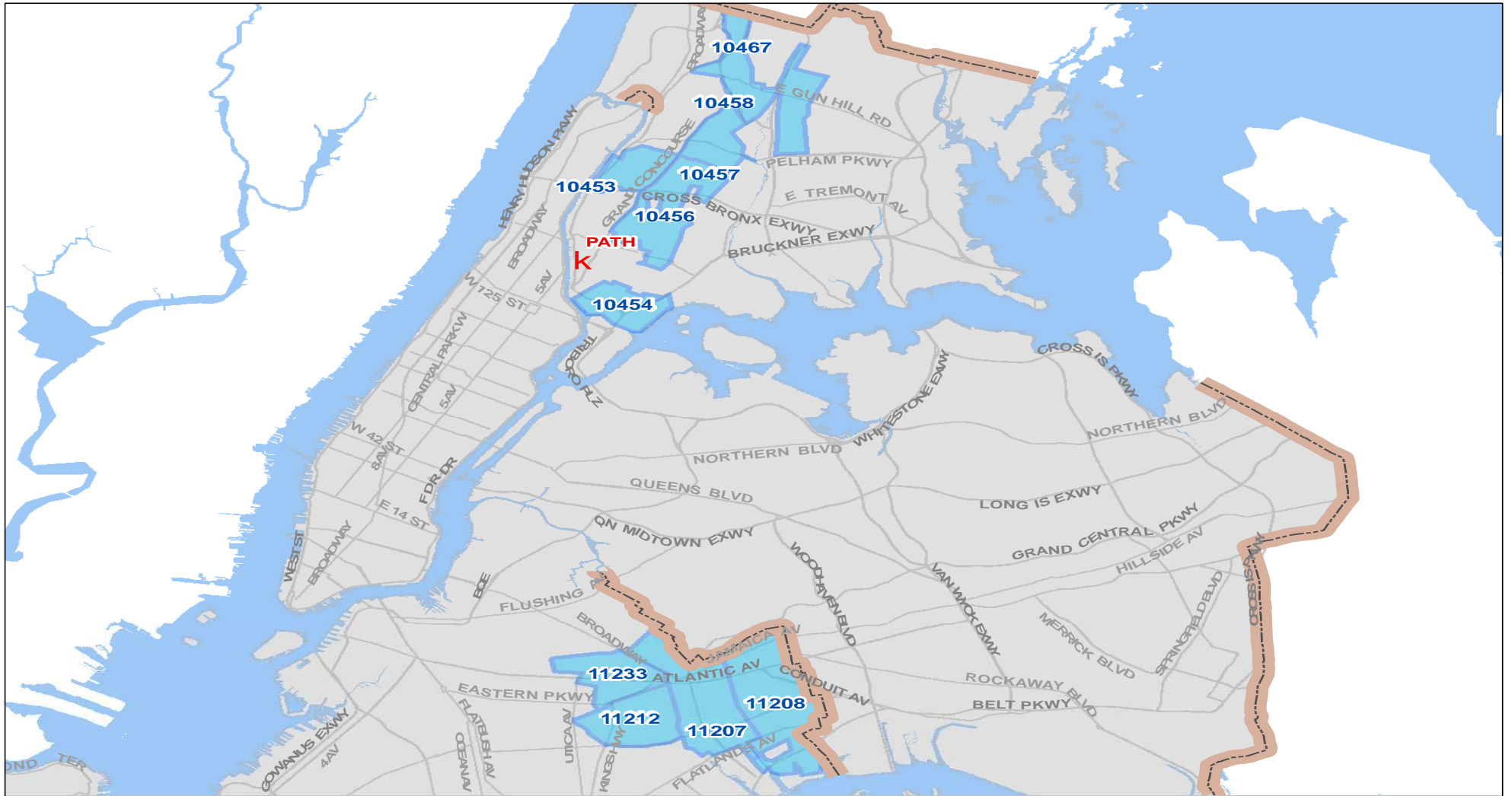


Human Resources
Administration
Department of
Social Services

NYC Department of Homeless Services

- Serves Single Adults, Families with Children and Adult Families
- Working seamlessly with the Human Resources Administration | HRA
- Preventive services, outreach, housing placement and aftercare
- Billion dollar budget
- 78 shelter providers plus directly operated programs across all boroughs
- 2,000 direct employees
- Families with Children, Adult Families & Single Adult Shelters
- 645 sites – provide shelter settings of varying types and service level

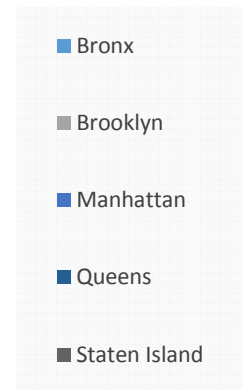
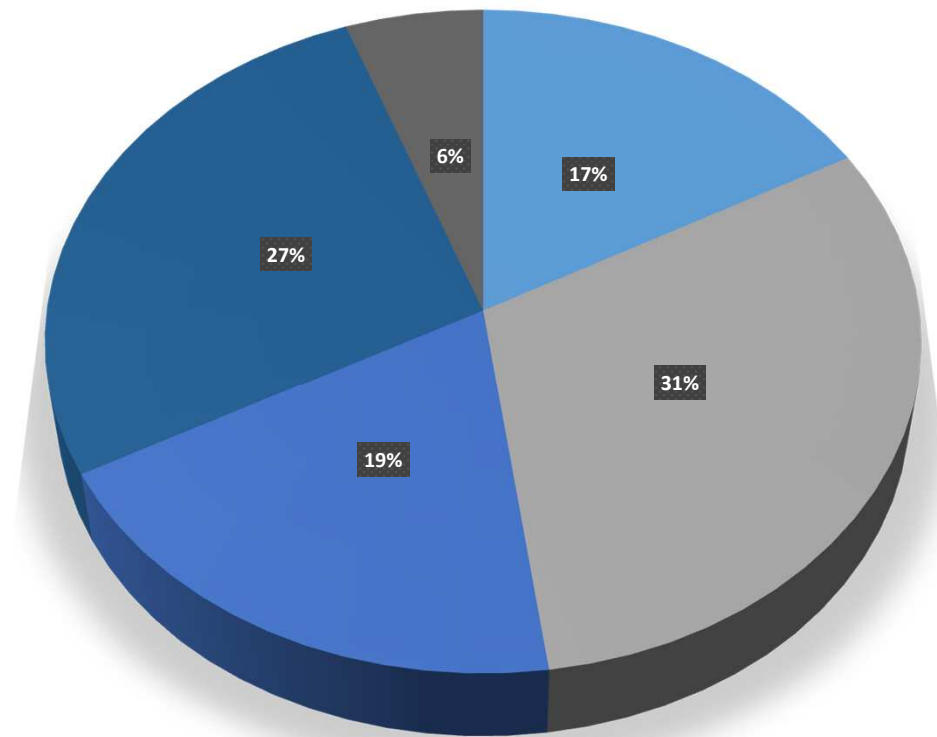
Top 10 Zip Codes for Family Shelter Entry



2014 NYC Census

BOROUGHES OF NEW YORK CITY

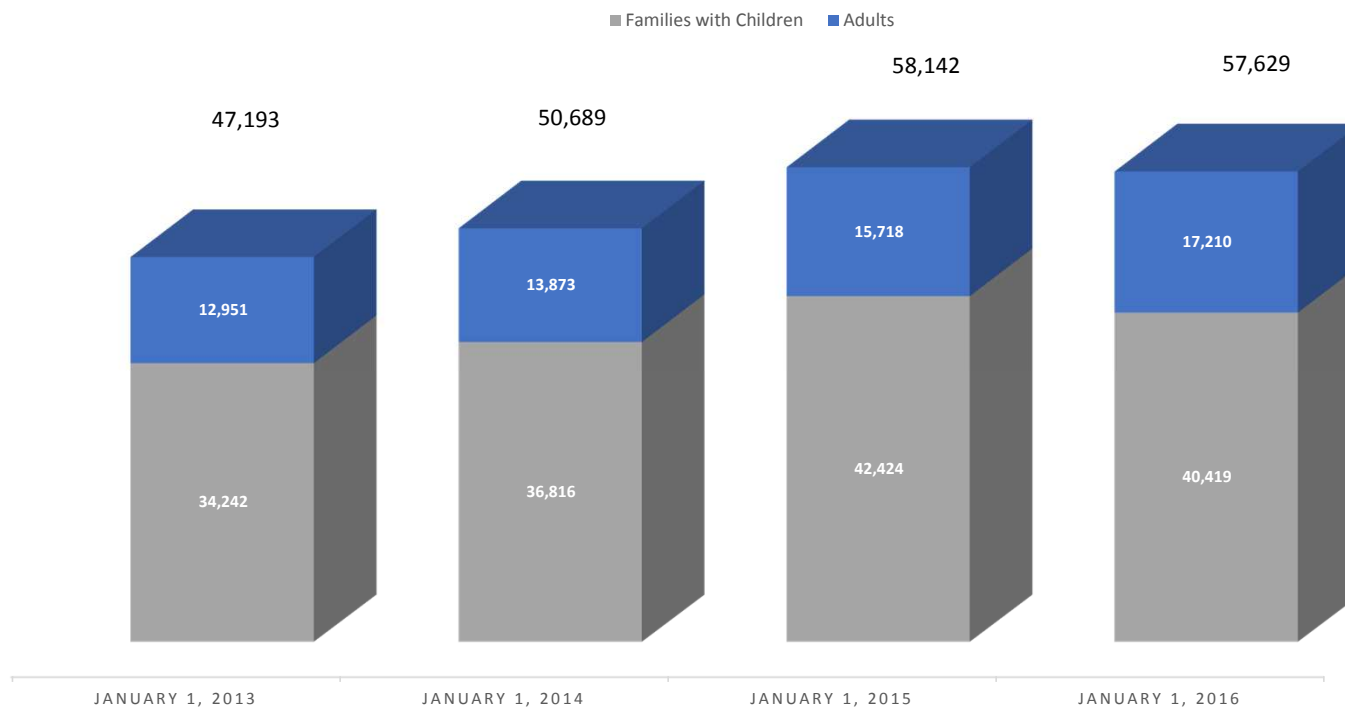
8,491,079
Total
Census



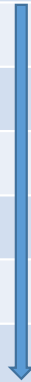
Source: 2014 American Community Survey

NYC Department of Homeless Services: Census

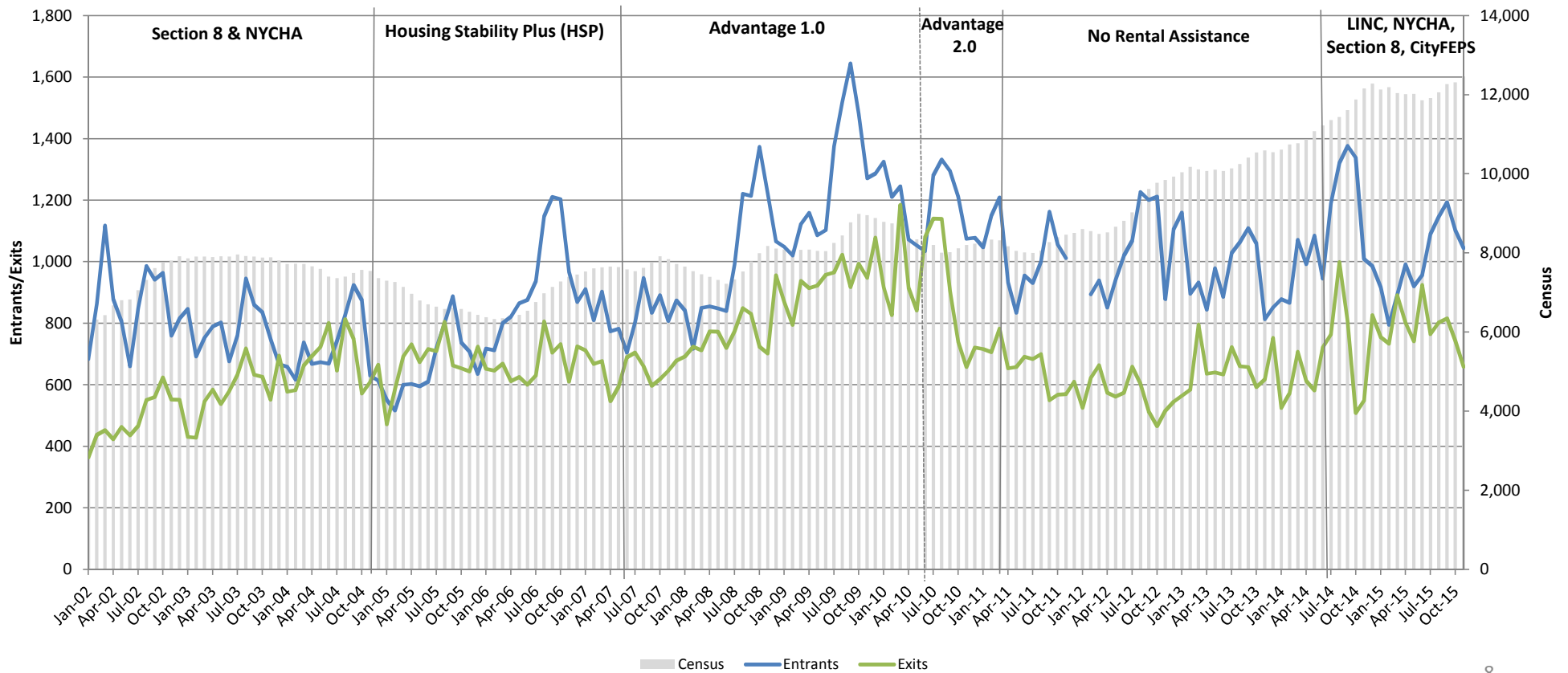
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS IN SHELTER



Homeless Population Comparison

Metropolitan Area	Concentration	
Washington, D.C.	Highest	
Seattle		
Boston		
Miami		
San Francisco		
New York		
Los Angeles		
Chicago		Lowest

Family Census and NYC Rental Assistance Programs January 2002 – November 2015



NYC Targeted Rental Assistance Programs

- Nine new programs as of 1/2016
- Eligibility based on target population
- Programs designed for working, long-term stayers, special populations
- 90 days minimum in shelter
- Section 8 rental levels
- Income not over 200% FPL
- Client rent contribution
- Yearly certification process

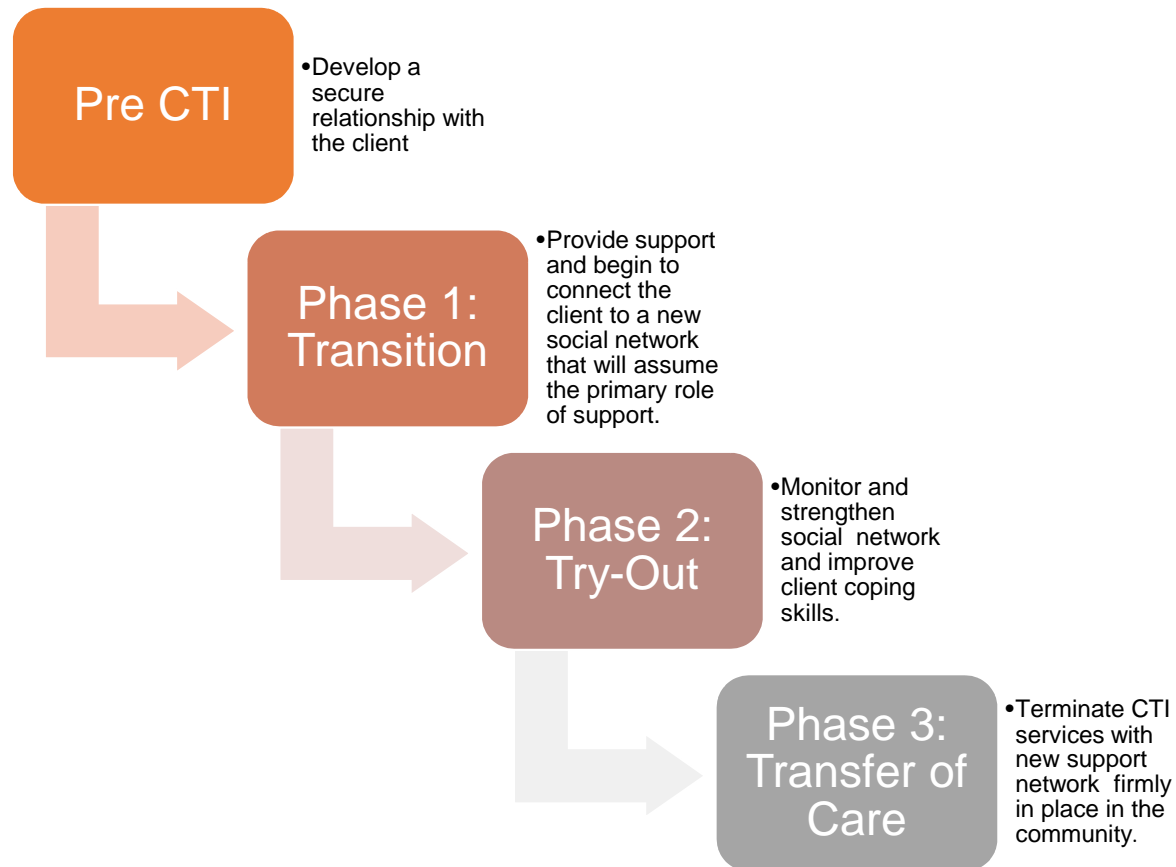
LINC II

- Targets Families with Children
- Episodic users of shelter (2+ spells)
- Earned or unearned income
- Eligible for Cash Assistance
- Specialized Aftercare

- For more information, please visit the following website:

<http://www1.nyc.gov/site/dhs/permanency/linc-documents.page>

Critical Time Intervention | CTI



Strategies Going Forward

- Target those with rental assistance in hand to move to permanency
- Target long stayers in shelter to achieve permanency
- Better understand families who are found ineligible and provide services to avoid a shelter stay
- Better understand demographics in the Single Adult/Adult family systems to provide targeted interventions
- Continue to build preventive interventions to keep families and individuals in their communities



Harm Reduction

A tool for supporting the most vulnerable families

By

Nella Goncalves, Division Director
Catholic Charities SF

What is Harm Reduction?

Harm reduction is a set of practical strategies and ideas aimed at **reducing** negative consequences, adverse health, social and economic affects associated with drug use. **Harm Reduction** is also a movement for social justice built on a belief in, and respect for, the rights of people who use drugs.

One size DOES NOT fit all.....



The logic of opposing harm reduction...

If I just take the life jackets out that should make people boat more safely...
Even better they might stop boating altogether.

Catholic Charities

Housing Support Services Division

- Rental Assistance / Homeless Prevention Programs
- Family Shelters
- Subsidy Programs
- Permanent for Supportive Housing for families and seniors

Who are the most vulnerable families we serve?

- Young parents
- Single parents
- Families in reunification
- Immigrants and undocumented



What challenges are these families facing?

- Mental and physical illness
- Substance abuse
- Little or no education
- No prior employment history
- No credit or bad credit



Challenges cont'd

- Domestic Violence
- Multiple evictions or no rental histories
- Criminal histories
- Multiple diagnosis
- Buying into the program after being housed
- Breaking the cycle



Using Harm Reduction to support these families towards self-sufficiency?

- Using Motivational interviewing to begin the conversation of reducing the harm in one's life



Harm Reduction to support families

- Using the Housing First/Rapid Re-Housing Models to reduce the harm of being homeless and to begin to stabilize families



Using harm reduction to support families towards self-sufficiency

- Incorporate Harm Reduction Plans into Client Service Plans to engage and keep clients on track and have a relapse plan



Using harm reduction to support families towards self-sufficiency

- Connect families to supportive services in and out of programming/housing programs



What are Lessons Learned?

- Harm Reduction one of many tools to support people towards positive change in their lives. Harm Reduction is a method to get people to recognize and understand the harm that their behavior is causing in their lives and the opportunity to contemplate and initiate changing or modifying this behavior.

Lessons Learned cont'd

- It takes approximately 18-24 months for families to begin to stabilize. Generally after 2 years of stabilization, families can begin to plan for the future

Lessons Learned cont'd

- Families with time limited subsidies or services tend to be more motivated towards change/harm reduction and stabilization

Lessons Learned cont'd

- Harm Reduction can be used in all aspects of life, not just around drugs and alcohol. Meeting people where they are at in their life's journey is the most effective way to get people to change and/or reduce the harm that their behaviors are causing in their lives.

Harm Reduction Stories

Lina

&

Bobby



Let's talk Harm Reduction!

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