Rapid ReHousing:
Is it working?

Iain De Jong
OrgCode Consulting, Inc.

@orgcode

What is Rapid ReHousing?

- From the handy conference program at Alliance conferences:

Rapid re-housing is an <u>intervention</u> designed to help people to <u>quickly</u> exit homelessness and return to <u>permanent housing</u>. Rapid re-housing assistance is offered <u>without preconditions</u> (such as employment, income, absence of criminal record, or sobriety) and the resources and services provided are tailored to the unique needs of the household. The core components of rapid re-housing are housing identification, financial assistance for rent or move-in costs, and case management and services. Services and financial assistance in rapid re-housing are short term, typically six months or less.

Consistency Matters

- To measure how rapid rehousing is performing in your community you will need to have:

  - **A consistent understanding of what it means across population groups or providers**

  - **An understanding of the financial resources that are being put into play to support the intervention**

  - **Any other unique conditions or resources a particular provider has that others do not**

The Basics to Measure

Three Basic Metrics

1. How long are people spending homeless?

2. How many are moving into housing?

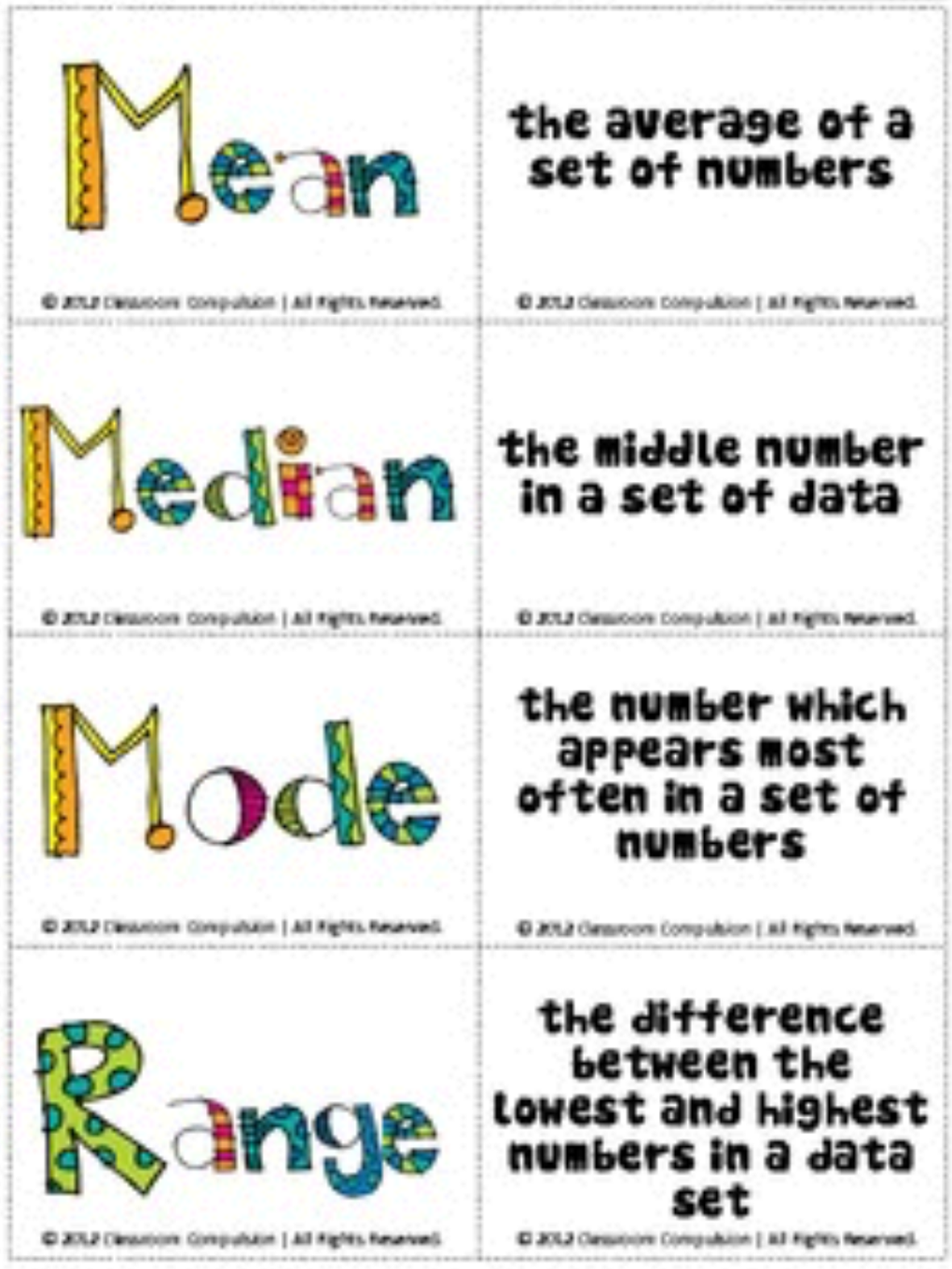
3. How many are returning to homelessness?

Let’s Break it Down

How Long Are People Spending Homeless?

- Median, mean, mode & range for each population group (single parent families, two parent families, single adult men, single adult women, single male youth, single female youth, etc.).

- Median, mean, mode & range by acuity level or depth of need.



What else?

- You may want to look at:
  - Which shelter, outreach provider, or service provider is working with them
  - The time of the year or season
  - The context of the rental market (vacancy rate, average rent)
  - What resource is being used to make the RRH happen
  - Race of program participant

How Many Are Moving into Housing?

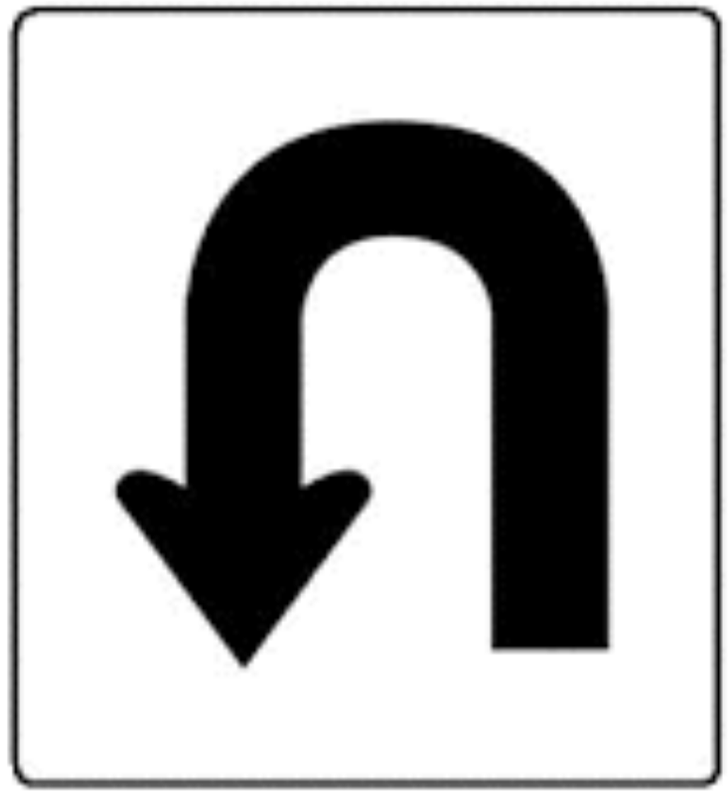
- Number of households moving into housing (single parent families, two parent families, single adult men, single adult women, single male youth, single female youth, etc.)
- Number of people moving into housing
- Acuity level or depth of need of people moving into housing

What else?

- You may want to look at:
  - Household size and/or number of bedrooms
  - Saturation/distribution of where people are getting housed
  - Primary or secondary market
  - Achieving this without subsidy
  - Income of people exiting

How Many Are Returning to Homelessness?

- Number of households returning to homelessness (single parent families, two parent families, single adult men, single adult women, single male youth, single female youth, etc.)
- Number of people returning to homelessness
- Acuity level or depth of need of people returning to homelessness



What else?

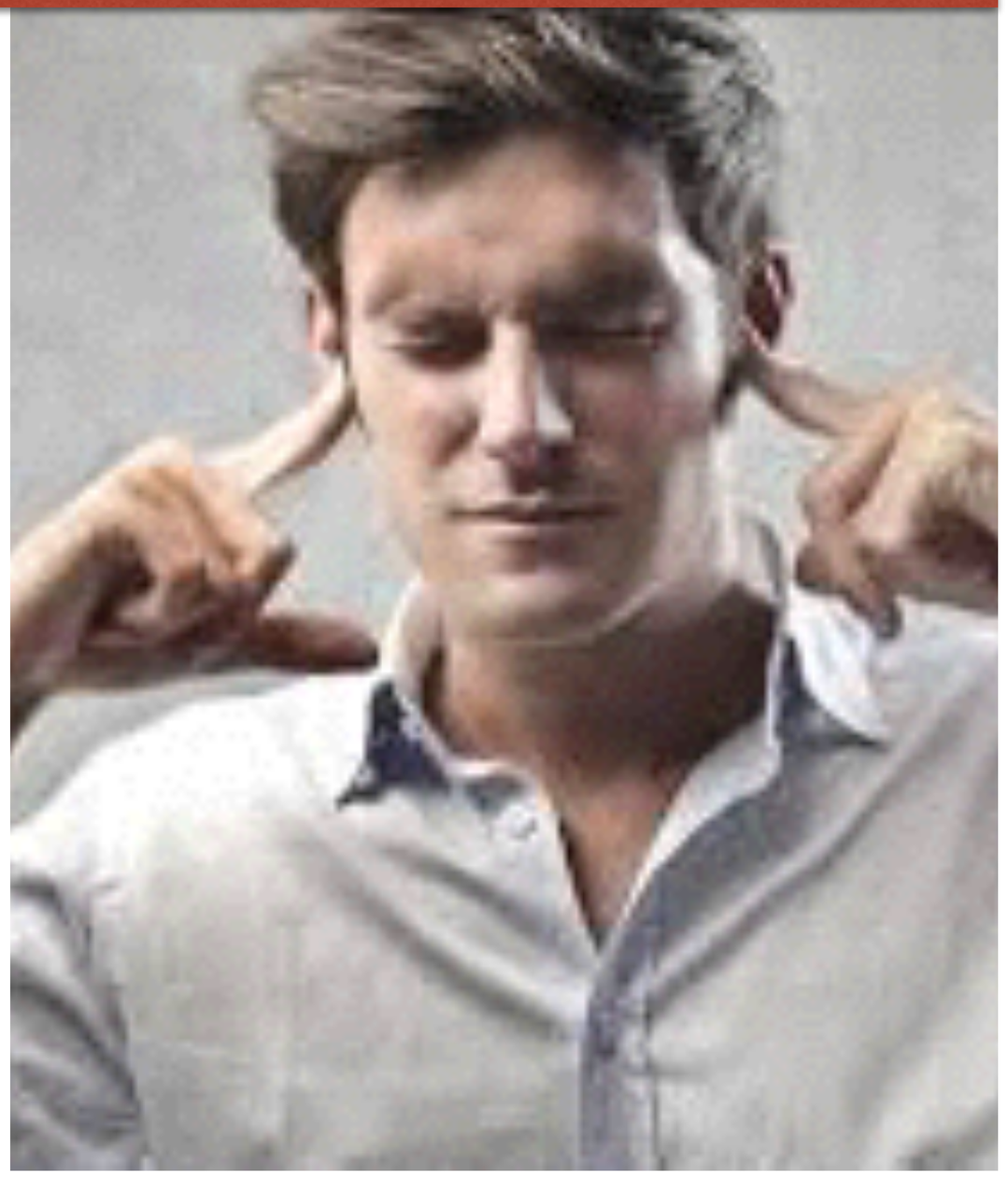
- You may want to look at:
  - Which organization was supporting them in housing
  - The type of support that was provided
  - How long after they were housed did they return to homelessness
  - The type of housing they moved into/out of
  - Income source at time of return to homelessness
  - Where in the community they moved into/out of

Stepping it Up a Notch

So What?

Outputs: the number of households or people housed through Rapid ReHousing.

Outcomes: the difference made by housing those households or people.



The Experience

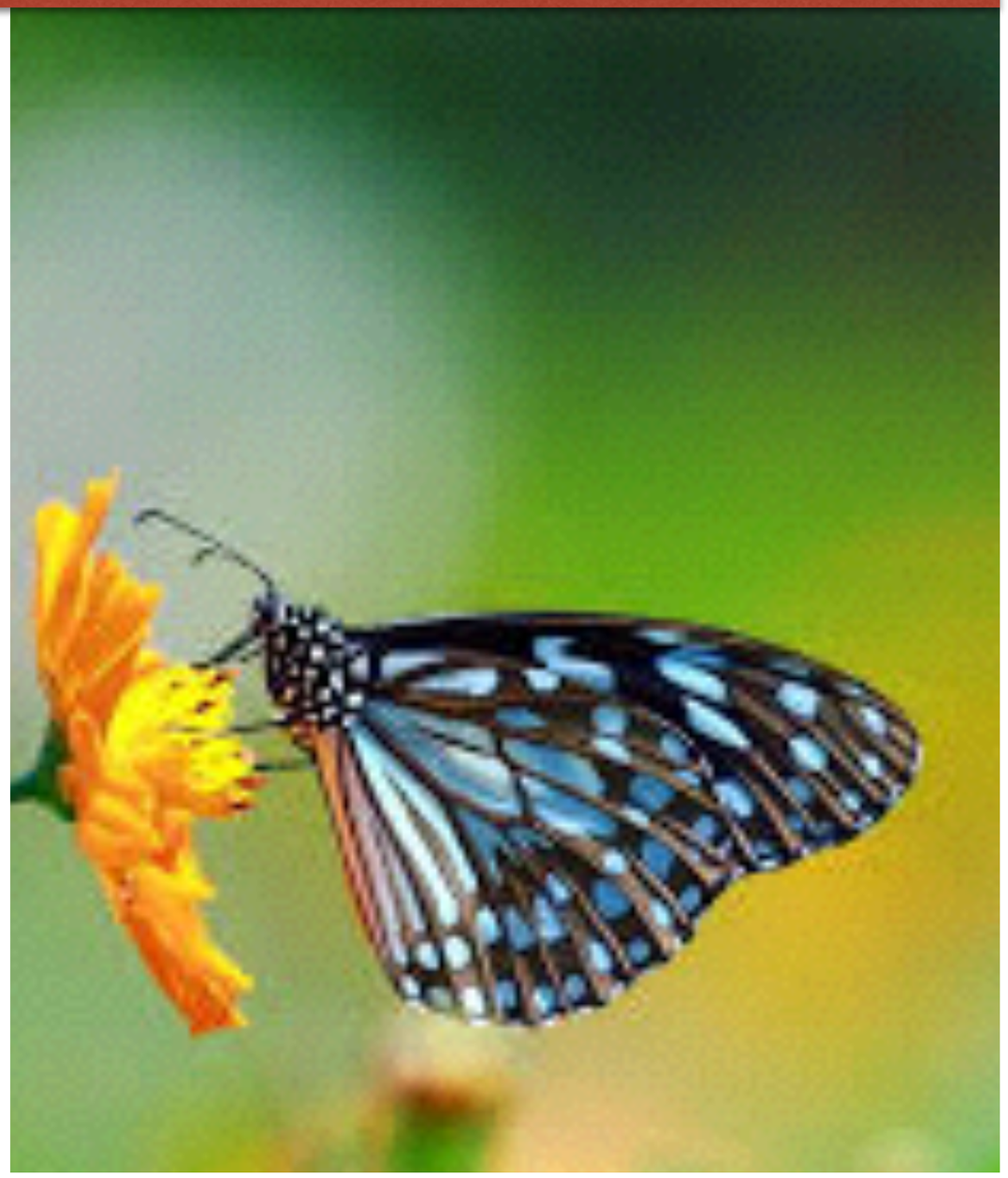
- How do households feel about the experience?
- How do funders feel about the results?
- How do frontline staff assess what is happening?
- What do landlords have to say?

Impact

- Has homelessness gone down amongst households with similar characteristics?
- Has shelter length of stay gone down?
- Are there fewer people to be rehoused?
- Has money been saved to the system through this approach?

Change from Results

- What is the training opportunity to be more successful?
- What is the landlord recruitment strategy that will improve success?
- Where will funders put money as a result of findings?
- What do service providers need to do differently in processes?



The OrgCode Leadership
Academy on
Ending Homelessness
October 25-27, 2016
Stonewall Resort, West Virginia

Like OrgCode on Facebook

Follow @orgcode on Twitter

Get free stuff at www.orgcode.com