

3.03 From Unsheltered to Housed Insights from Communities Successful Approached to Unsheltered Homelessness

INNOVATIONS & SOLUTIONS
for Ending Unsheltered Homelessness

March 4-6, 2024

San Francisco, CA

#NAEH2024

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As unsheltered homelessness is increasing nationally, some communities have made their numbers go the opposite way. Learn about the innovation utilized by communities that quickly moved people living outdoors directly into housing, how they built community support, and how they maintained momentum throughout the process.



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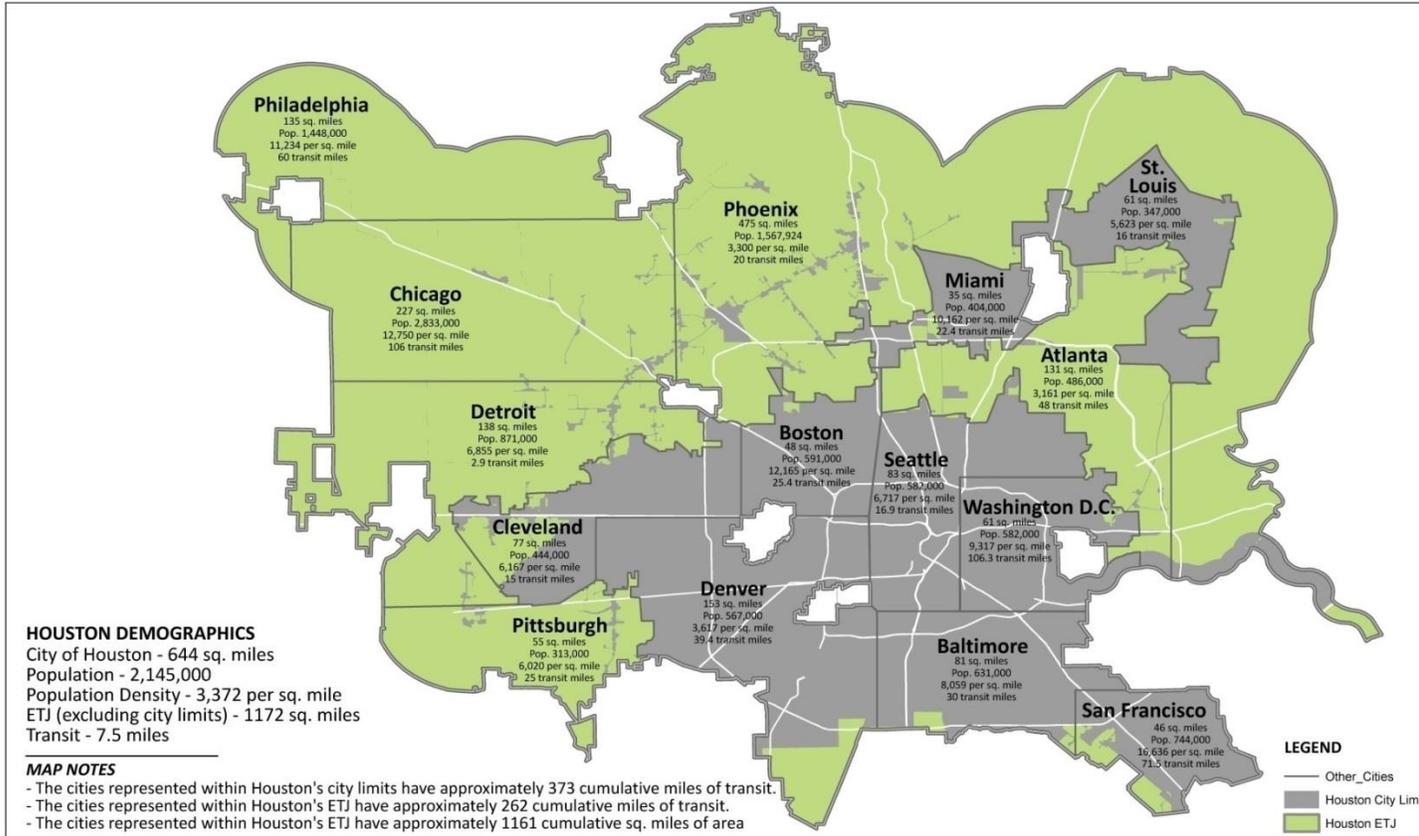
Coalition for the Homeless-Houston, TX

- Lead agency for the TX-700 Continuum of Care (CoC)
 - AKA- The Way Home
 - Consists of Harris, Montgomery, and Fort Bend County
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) lead
- Coordinated Access Lead
- The Way Home is:
 - The collaborative model to prevent and end homelessness in Harris, Fort Bend, & Montgomery Counties
 - Comprised of 100+ stakeholder partners from all sectors of the community
 - Nonprofits
 - Government
 - Philanthropy
 - Faith-Based Organizations

My, how big you are!!

TX-700 CoC = 3,711 sq miles

2023 PIT- 3270 Individuals experiencing homelessness
1242 living unsheltered



LAND AREA COMPARISON : HOUSTON AND OTHER U.S. TRANSIT CITIES
 Source: City of Houston, U.S. Census Bureau (2006 Population Estimates and 2000 Land Areas), Wikipedia
 November 10, 2010

www.knudsonlp.com

What triggers homelessness?

- Most common reason: People cannot find housing they can afford.
- In Houston specifically: From 2011 study on homelessness in Harris and Fort Bend counties:
 - For 50% homelessness is due to an economic crisis, e.g., lost their job, or they have an unexpected expense that puts their bills higher than their earnings
 - Others: domestic violence, incarceration, illness or disabilities, and substance use disorder.
- 2023 Homeless Count:
 - 33% of those that are unsheltered cited an economic impact as the primary cause of their homelessness.
 - 8% experiencing homelessness due to a natural disaster
 - 9% experiencing homelessness due to COVID

What works for us?

➤ Housing First-

- An approach to quickly and successfully connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to entry, such as sobriety, treatment or service participation requirements.
- Housing with supportive services

➤ Encampment Decommissioning-

- COVID funding allowed for the roll-out of an Encampment Decommissioning program that has demonstrated proven results in placing individuals living on the streets into housing.
- To date we have decommissioned over 115 encampments
- Currently being used by HUD as a national best practice.

➤ Landlord Engagement

- Help to increase the number of affordable housing units
- Decreases the amount of time it takes to house someone
- Troubleshoot issues with property managers and leasing office staff
- Educate service providers on best practices for working with Landlords.
- Provide education & support to demystify assumptions surrounding the homeless population

➤ Pre-Navigation

- Assisting individuals obtain documents/services prior to a housing referral
- Outreach is navigation



Lessons Learned

Collaboration

- Bring everyone to the table
- A coordinated approach
- Standards of Practice

Pre-Navigation

- Prepares individuals for referrals
- Prevents individuals from “falling through the cracks”

Stabilization

- Supportive Services
- What Works and Why



COALITION
FOR THE
HOMELESS

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Work



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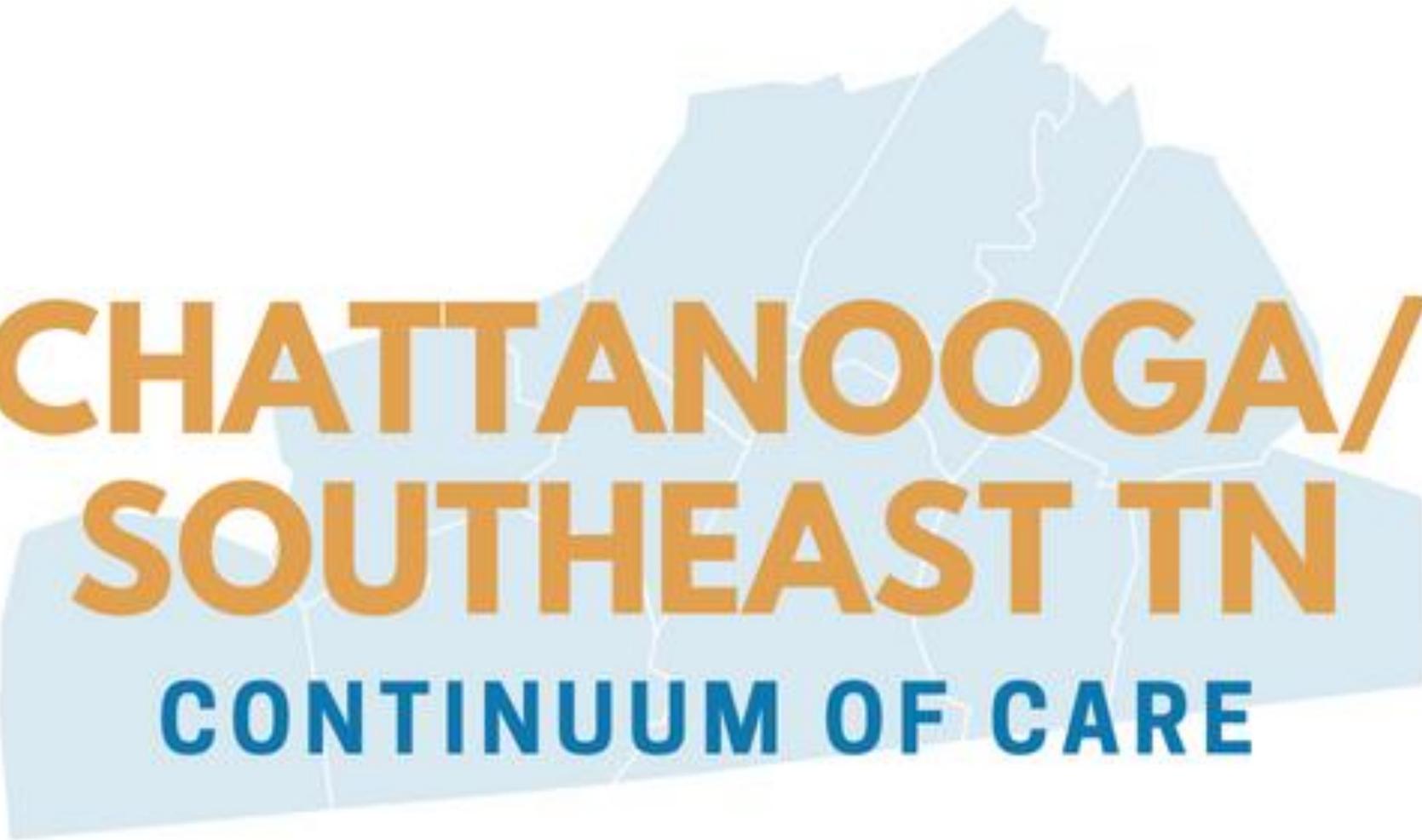


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**CHATTANOOGA/
SOUTHEAST TN**
CONTINUUM OF CARE



Chattanooga Regional
Homeless Coalition

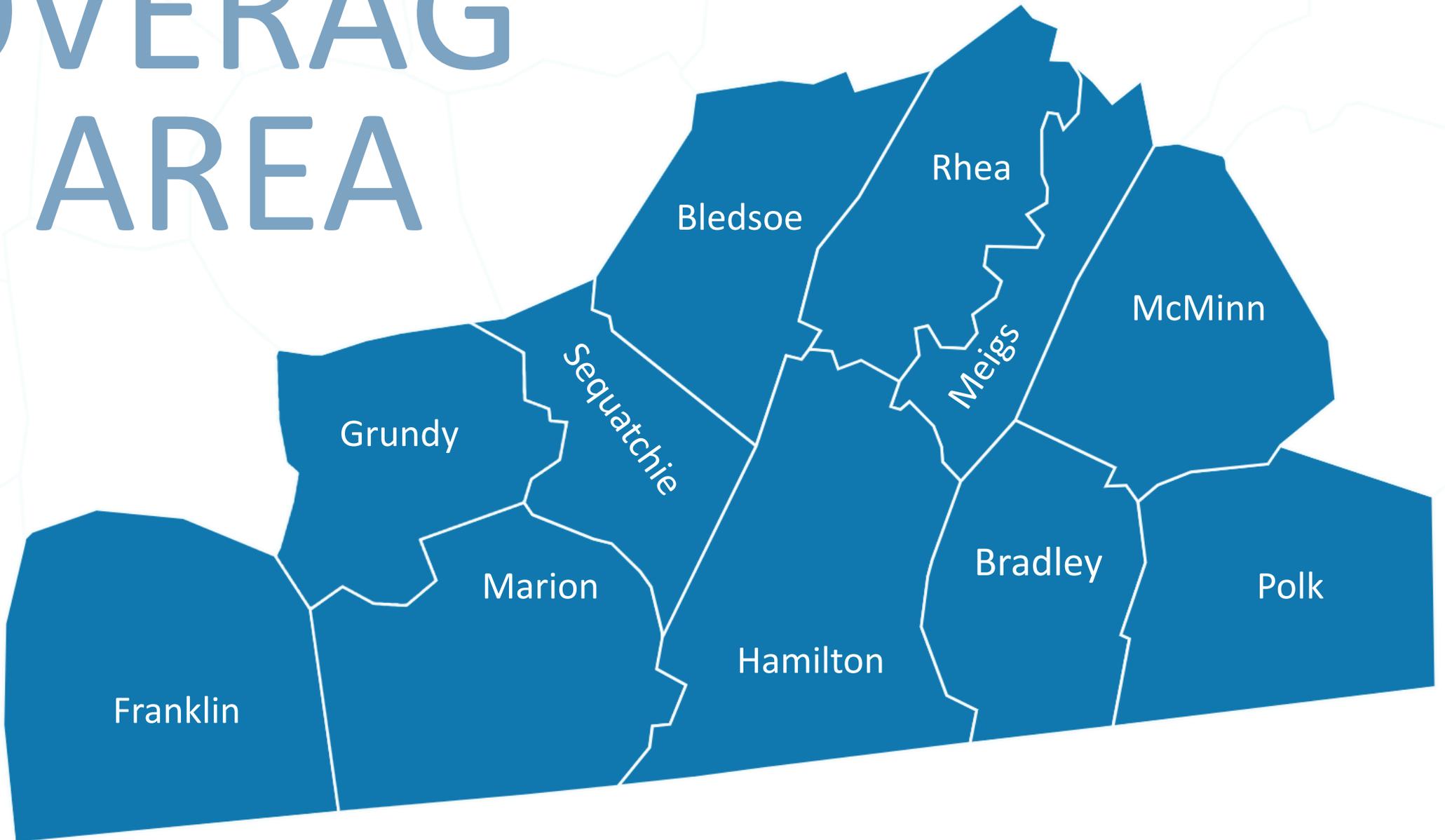
The Chattanooga Regional Homeless Coalition exists to lead, coordinate, and strengthen efforts to prevent and end homelessness throughout Southeast Tennessee.

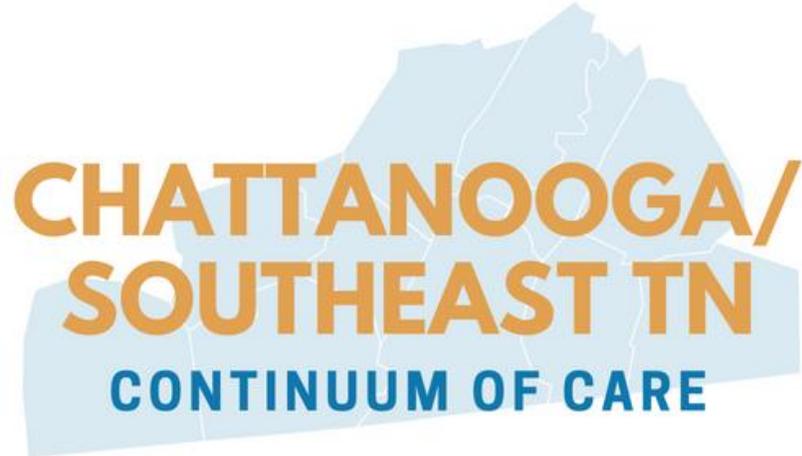
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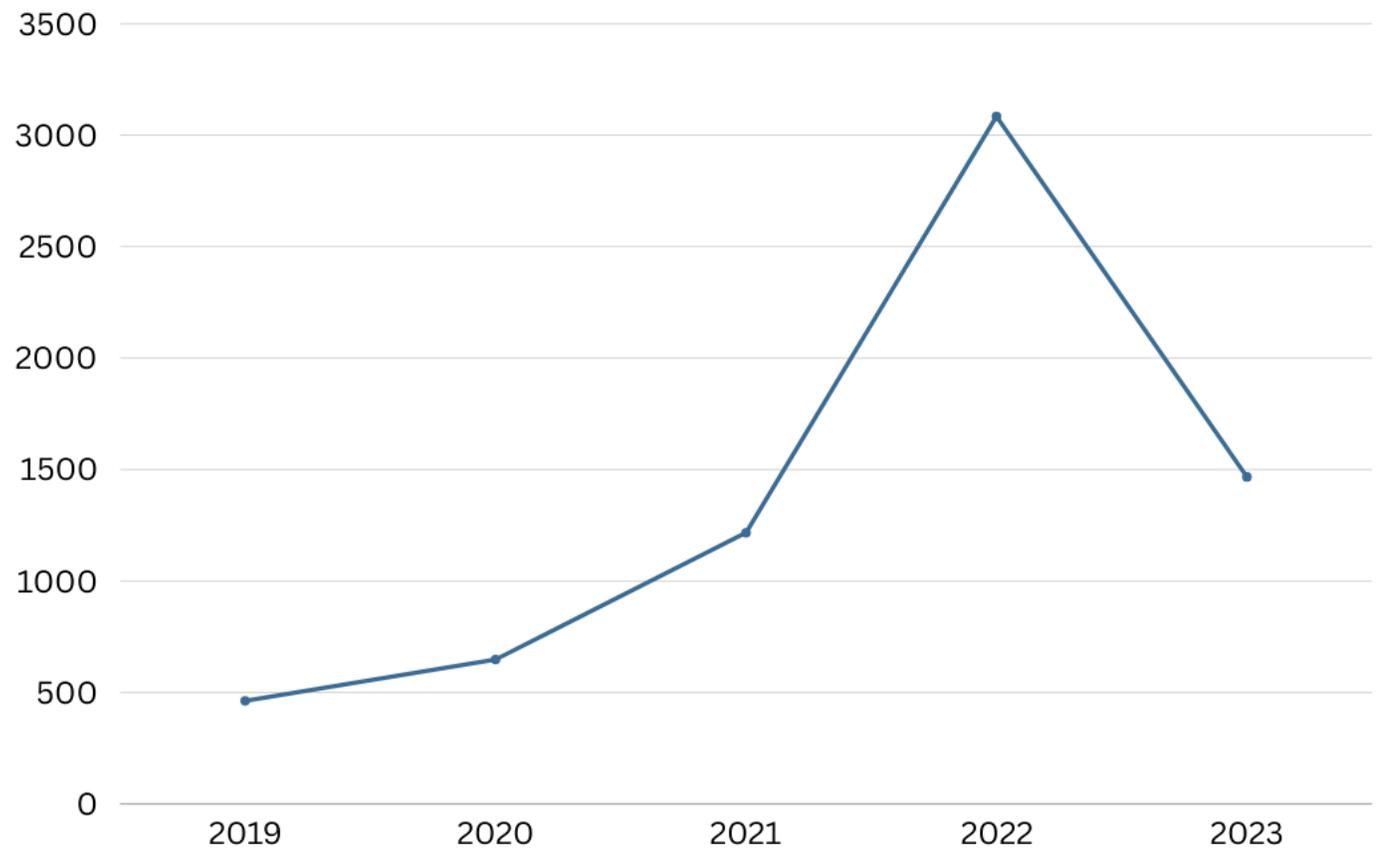
COVERAG E AREA





PIT COUNT DATA

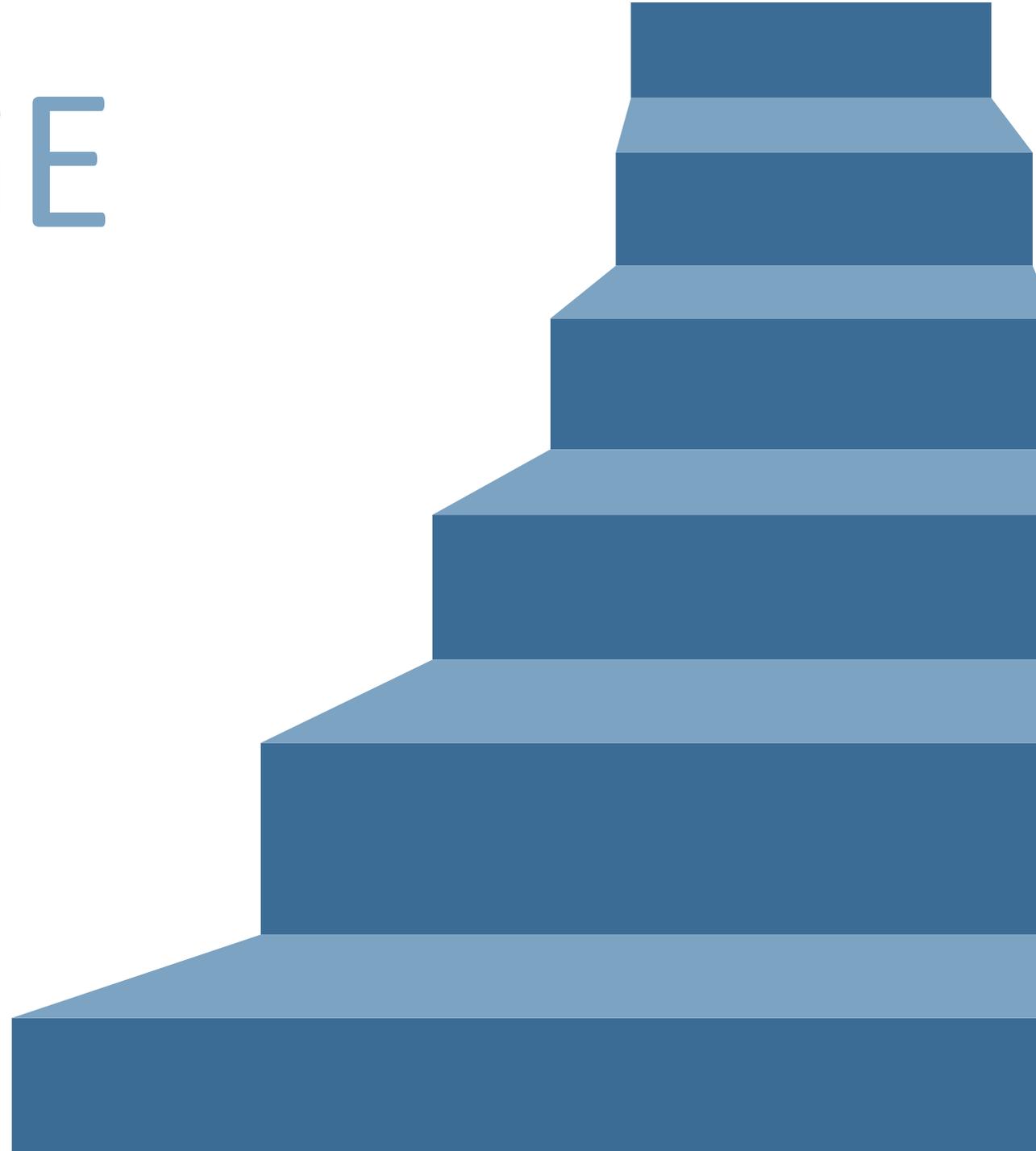
2019- 463
2020- 648
2021- 1217
2022- 3084
2023- 1467



CHALLENGE

S

- Housing prices and stock
- Coordinated Entry System
- Voluntary CES Participation
- Duplication of Services
- Communication between Service Providers
- Innovative projects and programs



INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS



- Coordinated Outreach
- Customized Housing Assessment
- Coordinated Entry Upgrades
- Eviction Prevention Program
- Lead Agency Growth
- Coordination between Providers

LESSONS LEARNED

- Coordination is key
- Housing ends homelessness
- Geographic differences require different approaches
- Community input is imperative





Chattanooga Regional
Homeless Coalition

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From Unsheltered to Housed:

Insights from Community's Successful Approaches to Unsheltered Homelessness



Mike Savara

Special Initiatives Director

Oregon Housing & Community Services | March 5, 2024

2023 Homelessness in Oregon



20,100 people experiencing homelessness
48 people homeless per 10,000

Sheltered

7,106 (35%)

Unsheltered

13,004 (65%)

Youth Under 24

3,813 (19%)

Trans or Nonbinary

411 (2%)

Veterans

1,346 (6.6%)



OREGON HOUSING and
COMMUNITY SERVICES

2023 Oregon's Emergency Homelessness Response

Create **600** new shelter beds & rehouse **1,200** households by **January 10, 2024** in EO 23-02 regions.

Prevent homelessness for **8,750** households by **January 10, 2024** statewide.

Create **100** new shelter beds & rehouse **450** households by **June 30, 2025** in EO 23-02 regions.



Rehouse at least **1,200 unsheltered households** in emergency areas

Add **600 low-barrier shelter beds** in emergency areas



Prevent **8,750 households** from becoming homeless statewide

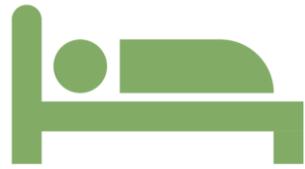


Rehouse at least **450 unsheltered households**

Add **100 low-barrier shelter beds**



2023 Oregon's Emergency Homelessness Response



1,047 low-barrier shelter beds created, surpassing the original goal by 447 beds (175%)



1,828 households were rehoused, exceeding the original goal by 628 households (152%)



8,993 households prevented from homelessness, exceeding the original goal by 243 households (103%)



Addressing Disparities

- MAC groups submitted a Community Plan including:
 - Community engagement process
 - Disparity Analysis
- Funding to support capacity of culturally specific organizations
- Technical Assistance
- Public dashboard with services disaggregated by race
- Accountability
 - Tracking outcomes each month (households served, demographics)
 - Engagement with communities if off track on outcomes, including racial equity

The 2022 PIT data showed racial disparities amongst the following populations:

Black, African American or African: 1,514 (7.5%)

American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous: 930 (4.6%)

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: 360 (1.8%)



Innovations Oregon Emergency Homelessness Response

Statewide Innovations:

- Support coordination of state & local governments
- Emphasize equity in service outcomes
- Focus on system-level upstream prevention methods
- Improve accessibility to opportunities for housing stability
- Invest in continued housing production

Community Innovations:

- Unit Access & Block Leasing
- Technical Assistance & Capacity Building
- Landlord Engagement & HCLGP
- Eviction Prevention
- Street Outreach



Lessons Learned



Integration with
Local Services



Rehousing &
Unit Access



One-Time
Funding



Workforce



Sanitation
Services



Landlord
Engagement

Questions?



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