Prevention & Rapid-Rehousing Interventions
• Homelessness affecting nearly every community across the country.
• Continuum of Care (CoC) = local agency designated by HUD to lead the system
• US Departments of Housing & Urban Development, Veterans Administration, Labor are coordinated by the US Interagency Council on Homlessness (USICH) = “Federal Partners”
System Components:

• Coordinated Entry
• Street Outreach
• Targeted Prevention & Diversion
• Temporary Shelter
• Rapid Re-housing
• Transitional Housing
• Community Based Permanent Housing
• Permanent Supportive Housing
Unable to find housing on own within short period (e.g. 7-10 days)

Coordinated Entry

Targeted Prevention and Diversion

Able to retain housing or gain new housing, bypassing shelter

Unable to find housing on own within short period (e.g. 7-10 days)

Temporary Shelter

Able to exit shelter on own

Unable to find housing on own within short period (e.g. 7-10 days)

Rapid Re-housing

Targeted to specific populations

Transitional Housing

Highest needs, unable to maintain housing without ongoing services, subsidy

Community-Based Permanent Housing (includes market rate and subsidized)

Community-Based Services and Supports

Permanent Supportive Housing

Street Outreach

Does not need shelter tonight

Need shelter tonight

SYSTEM GOALS = Rare + Brief + Non-recurring

HOMELESS CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM
General Components & Client Flow
Two Tasks:

• Targeting: identify people at highest risk for becoming homeless
• Services: help them avoid that fate (primary prevention)

Bad targeting is often confused with successful services.
Targeting for Secondary Prevention:

• Most people are only briefly homeless
• The issue becomes identifying those likely to have longer stay (or repeated stays)
  – Single individuals: long-term and episodic users have more mental health and substance issues.
  – Families: Episodic, but NOT long-term, users have more involvement with other systems.
Targeted Prevention/Diversion

• SVdP USA is heavily involved in this area – however, often not connected to the overall system.

• Prevention = inquirer has a place to stay – but, it is unstable. They can sleep there tonight as long as it is safe.

• Diversion = inquirer has exhausted all places to stay - shelter is eminent.
Targeted Prevention/Diversion

• Resources used are very similar in each intervention: (rent, utility assistance, food support, etc.)

• However, in diversion mediation skills are required in an effort to restore (or find) a placement other than shelter.
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) ends homelessness for families and individuals.

RRH HELPS

FIND HOUSING
Help people quickly find housing within one month or less.

PAY FOR HOUSING
Help people pay for housing short term; longer-term help an option.

STAY IN HOUSING
Help access services so people can stay in housing.

The Core Components of Rapid Re-Housing help people find housing fast, pay for housing, and stay in housing.
**FIND HOUSING**
Help people quickly find housing within one month or less.

**PAY FOR HOUSING**
Help people pay for housing short term; longer-term help an option.

**STAY IN HOUSING**
Help access services so people can stay in housing.

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**FIND FAST HOUSING IDENTIFICATION**

**Build** relationships with landlords to have access to as many housing units as possible.

**Find** and secure housing as quickly as possible after a person or family becomes homeless.

**Limit** the time a family or individual spends homeless. Move people into housing within **30 days or less.**
FIND HOUSING
Help people quickly find housing within one month or less.

PAY FOR HOUSING
Help people pay for housing short term; longer-term help an option.

STAY IN HOUSING
Help access services so people can stay in housing.

HELP PAY RENT AND MOVE-IN ASSISTANCE

Pay for security deposits, move-in expenses...

... and/or rent and utilities.

Length of assistance varies, but often 4 to 6 months.
FIND HOUSING
Help people quickly find housing within one month or less.

PAY FOR HOUSING
Help people pay for housing short term; longer-term help an option.

STAY IN HOUSING
Help access services so people can stay in housing.

HELP STAY
RAPID RE-HOUSING CASE MANAGEMENT AND SERVICES

Connect families and individuals to services and supports in the community.

Help resolve issues that may threaten housing stability, including conflicts with landlords.
What Is Rapid Re-Housing?

- **Rapid**: (Adj.) Moving, acting, or occurring at great speed
- **Re-Housing**: (Verb) Provide (someone) with new housing
- **Rapid Re-Housing**: An intervention designed to help individuals and families to quickly exit homelessness and return to permanent housing
GOAL:
HEARTH Act – 30 days or less from homelessness into permanent housing

REALITY:
Housing location and placement process should begin as soon as person has been assessed and prevention and diversion have been eliminated.
Things to Keep in Mind

• Rapid re-housing is not a program, it is a critical system intervention to end homelessness

• Households experiencing homelessness are not significantly different than other poor families

• Majority experience homelessness due to a financial or other crisis

• Prolonged exposure to homelessness has a significant negative impact on adults and children
Why Rapid Re-Housing?

The Results

• Reduced length of shelter stays frees up crisis beds for others in need

• Reduces the negative impacts of long-term homelessness

• Lower cost, better results than TH or ES

HOUSED PEOPLE ARE NOT HOMELESS

National Alliance to End Homelessness
Why try rapid re-housing first?

- Research has found **no characteristic** (of clients or of the programs assisting them) that predicts who will succeed or return to homelessness.

- The majority of persons who exit homelessness do not return, regardless of the type of assistance provided.

- No one knows how to assess resiliency.

- Progressive Engagement: RRH programs are flexible and individualized—offering longer or more intensive assistance when needed.
Core Components of Rapid Re-Housing

- Housing Identification
  - Recruit landlords

- Rent and Move-In Assistance (Financial)
  - Address potential barriers to landlord participation such as concern about short term nature of rental assistance and tenant qualifications

- Rapid Re-Housing Case Management and Services
  - Assist households to find and secure appropriate rental housing.

National Alliance to End Homelessness
Core Components of Rapid Re-Housing

- **Housing Identification**
  - Provide assistance to cover move-in costs, deposits, and the rental and/or utility assistance (typically six months or less) necessary to allow individuals and families to move immediately out of homelessness and to stabilize in permanent housing.
### Core Components of Rapid Re-Housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Identification</th>
<th>Rent and Move-In Assistance (Financial)</th>
<th>Rapid Re-Housing Case Management and Services</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Help households find permanent housing and negotiate lease</td>
<td>• Help resolve issues that impede access to housing</td>
<td>• Be available to help resolve crises</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Provide time-limited services that help households stabilize in housing</td>
<td>• Connect households to resources to help them achieve short and long-term goals</td>
<td>• Services are client-directed and voluntary</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

National Alliance to End Homelessness
Core Components of Rapid Re-Housing

• Core services are performed “en vivo” (in home) = Vincentian “home visit” model
• Level of success directly relational to ability to ‘care’ using progressive case management
• Respect/Dignity of client is critical
**Strengthen and support Councils in providing housing and services to those without shelter**

<table>
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<th>OBJECTIVES</th>
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<td><strong>5-3.1</strong></td>
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<td><strong>5-3.2</strong></td>
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<td><strong>5-3.3</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
• Connect current Prevention/Diversion type services to local CoC
• Cease paying for emergency shelter (hotels) without services – it only makes the problem worse
• Support CoC housing placements (with furniture, food vouchers, home visits)
• Advocate Locally for “Housing First”
  – cease ‘fixing people first’ mentality/programs
  – urge current SVdP service providers to participate
• Become actively involved in your local CoC
• Consider embarking in Rapid Rehousing intervention
• Link SVdP prison re-entry programs to housing initiatives