Houston's Regional, Community-Driven Homeless Response System

Marc Eichenbaum
Special Assistant to the Mayor for Homeless Initiatives









8,500

Enough is Enough



Basic Root Cause of Homelessness



Evolution to a Coordinated System

System Transformation...

Using evidence based practices and...

Unprecedented collaboration between the public and private sectors.

Evolution to a Coordinated System



Past: A diverse collection of independent providers employing lots of methods seeking various goals

Now: An integrated network of providers coordinating efforts & resources to achieve maximum impact.

Overview – Houston's Homeless Response System



Housing

Why Housing Works

Tickets

Shelter



Arrest

Sweeps

Traditional "Transitional" Housing













Housing First

- Shelters
- Data-proven, National Best Practice
- Individual Choice
- Housing first, then Services
- Fiscally Conservative

Strategy - Ending Chronic Homelessness

"Permanent
Supportive Housing"

New Units of Housing

(subsidized housing that removes barriers)

Supportive
Services – New
Integrated Care
Teams

(social services, behavioral & primary healthcare)

Housing
Placement
System –
Coordinated
Access

System to End Chronic Homelessness

Housing System funded through public/private partnerships. Public investment achieved through prioritization of existing funding.

Supportive Housing – What we think it is?



PSH Communities



New Hope Housing - Sakowitz



New Hope Housing's Rittenhouse

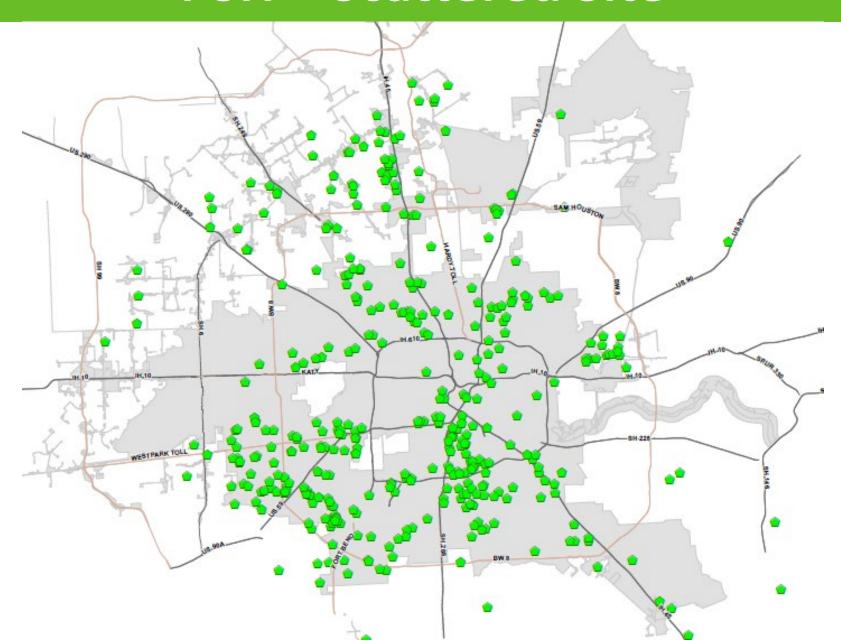


The Women's Home - Jane Cizik Garden Place



Travis Street Plaza Apartments

PSH – Scattered Site





APARTMENT
LANDLORDS, OWNERS, MANAGEMENT COMPANIES

WE NEED YOU

TO HELP HOMELESS FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS!

For more information call **(832) 531-6051**

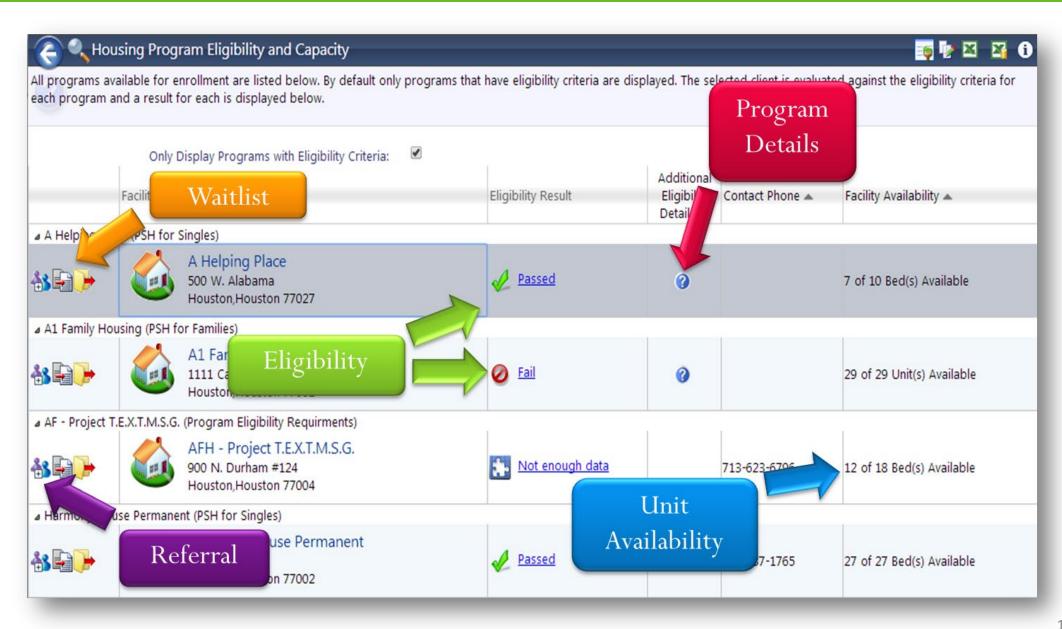
- Guaranteed rent and utility payments
- Lower your eviction rate and costs
- Supplemental tenant management and services provided





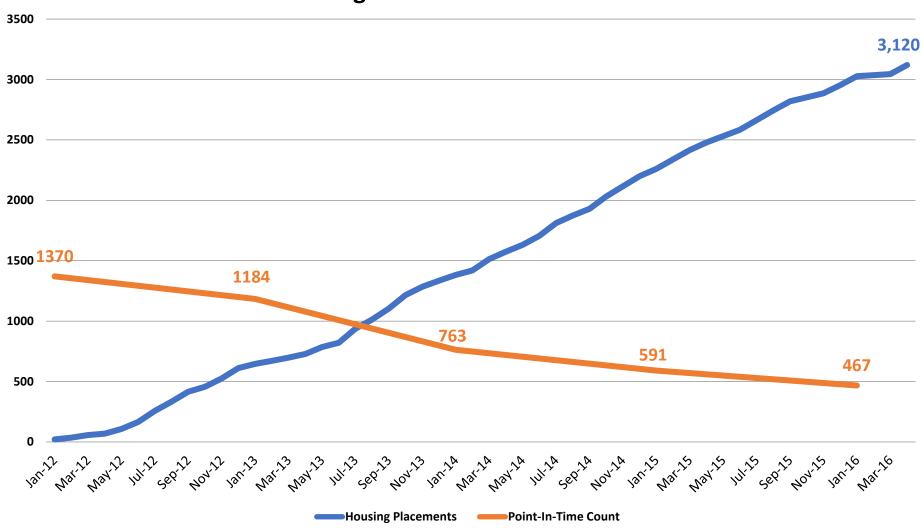


Coordinated Access



Chronic Homelessness

Housing Placements – First 4 Years



76% reduction in chronic homelessness (1/2011 – 1/2015)

COVID Homeless Housing Program

Homeless Population – Houston / Harris County



Community COVID-19 Homeless Housing Program (CCHHP)

Overview



Goal - House 5,000 Individuals

- 2 Year Program
- Housed 7,000+ individuals in first 14 months.
- Leading the nation in permanently housing the homeless during COVID



\$65 Million

- 90% Federal Funds
- 70% Federal COVID-19 Funds
- 13 different funding sources from 4 different entities
- Outreach/Housing Navigation, Rent, Supportive Services, etc.



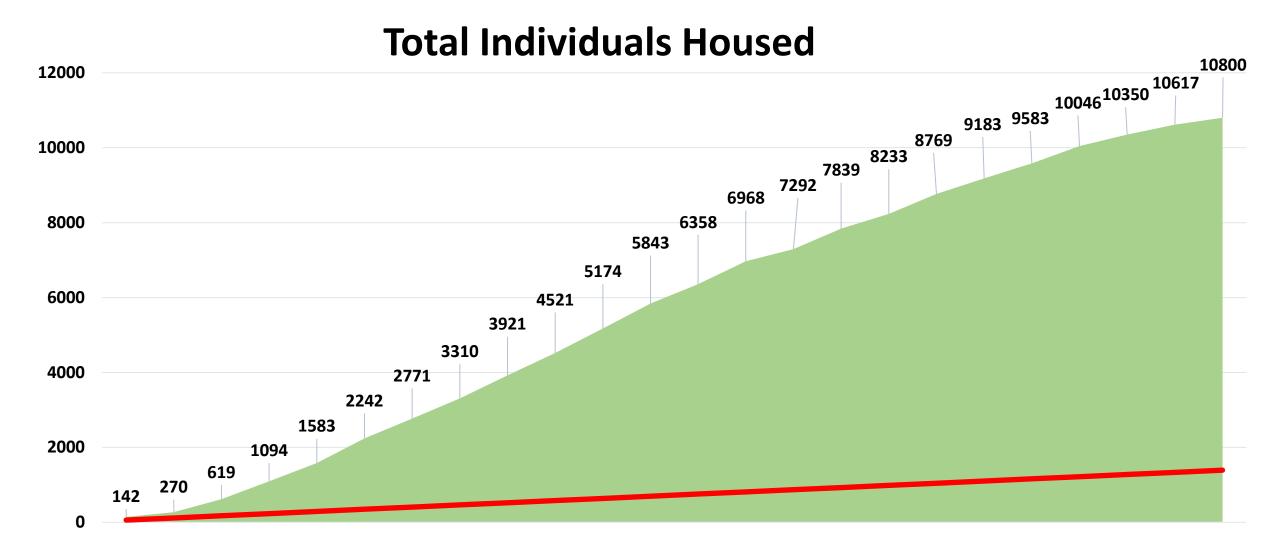
Joint Project – City + County

- Coalition for the Homeless planning & management
- Local homeless agencies housing and case management



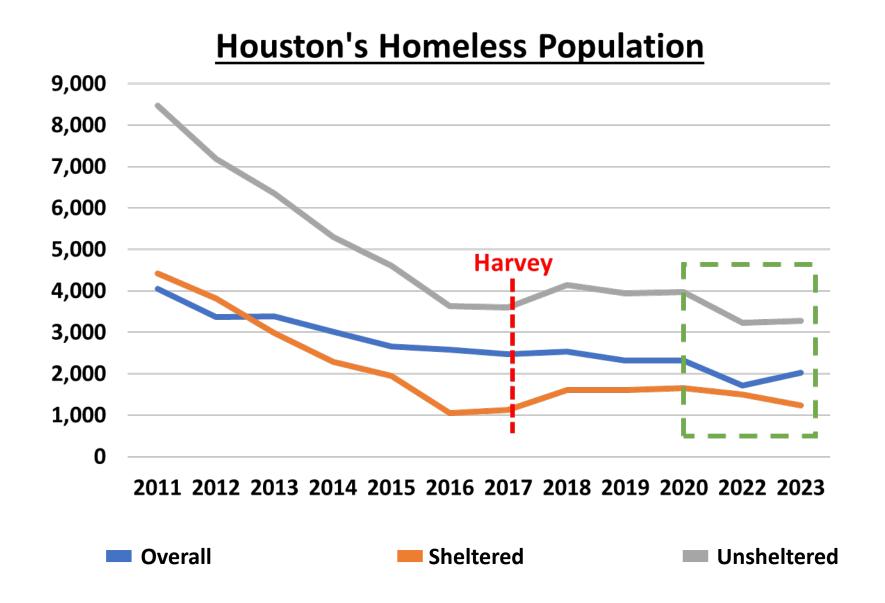
Housing as an Infectious Disease Control Response

COVID-19 Homeless Housing Program



Total Housing Placements

Impact: Population Trends/Changes



BIG IMPACT

29,000+
Homeless Individuals

PERMANENTLY HOUSED since 2012

60% reduction in homelessness since 2011



- 28,000+ Individuals Permanently Housed since 20011
- 9,300+ Clients Currently Housed

Creating Housing Units

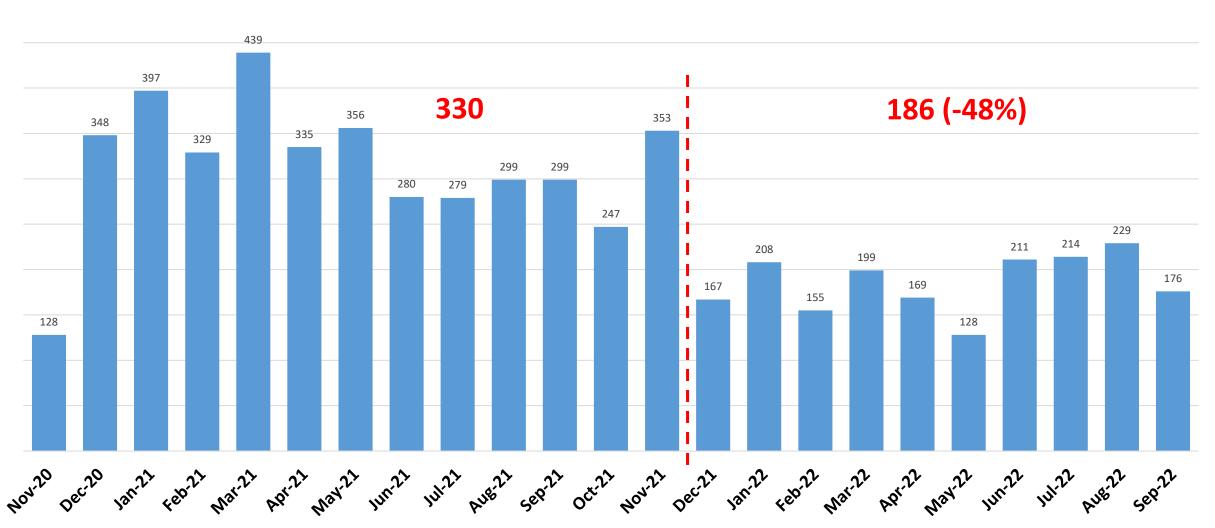
Three Keys of Homeless Housing





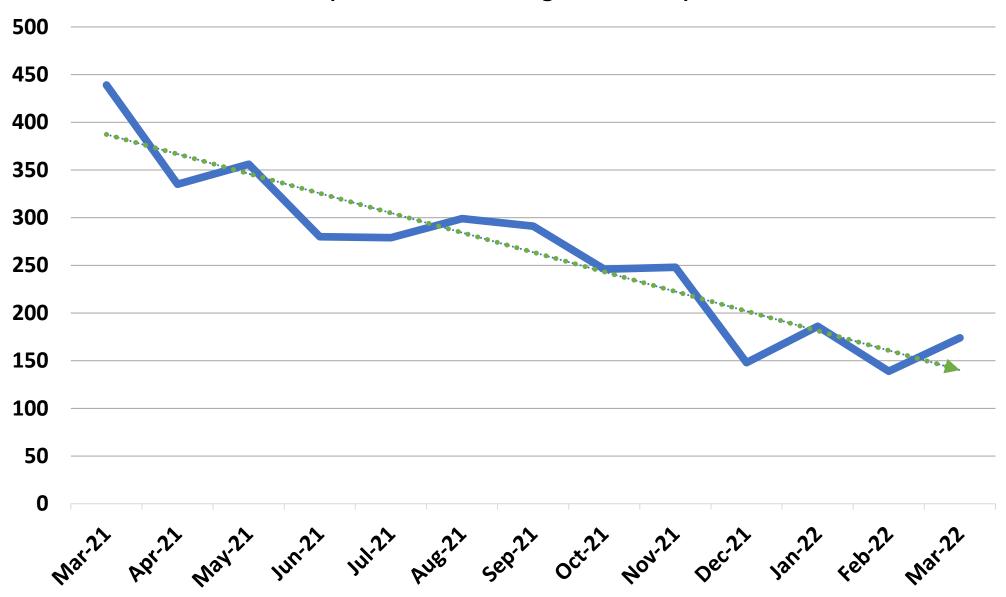


Total Monthly Housing Placements



1-Bedroom Shortage – Impact on Individuals Housed

(Permanent Housing: PSH + RRH)



Creating Housing Units

Which Option?

- Capital Development
- Multifamily Acquisition
- Non-Traditional Acquisition/Conversion
- Incentivize the Rental Market

Creating Housing Units

Additional Tools/Options

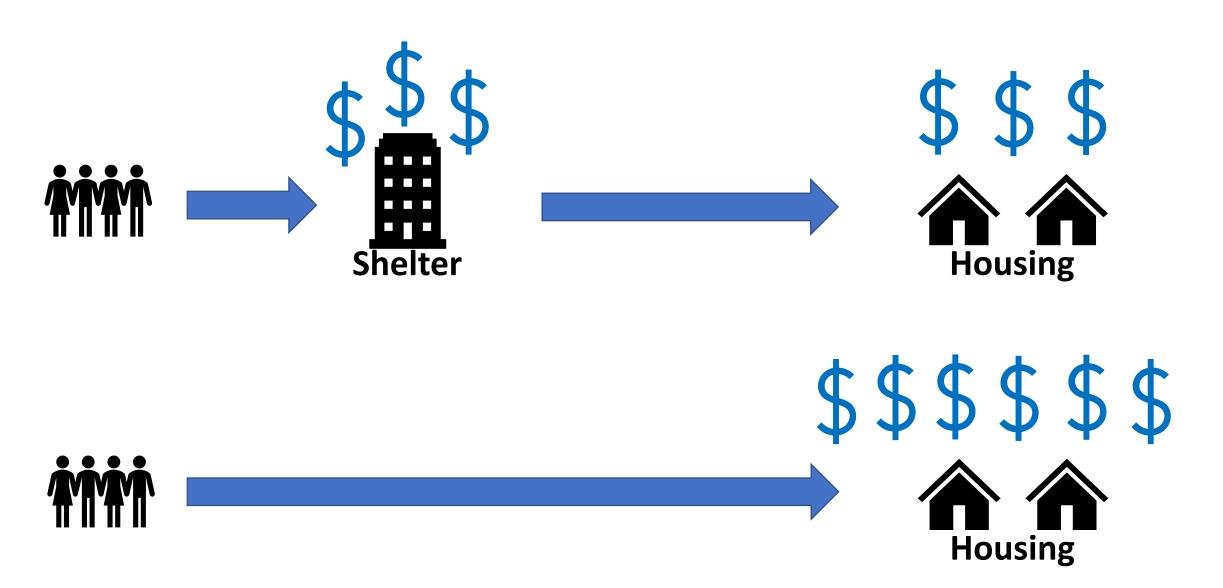
- Pipeline Meetings
- Concierge / Fast-Tracking
- Streamline Regulations

Key Principles

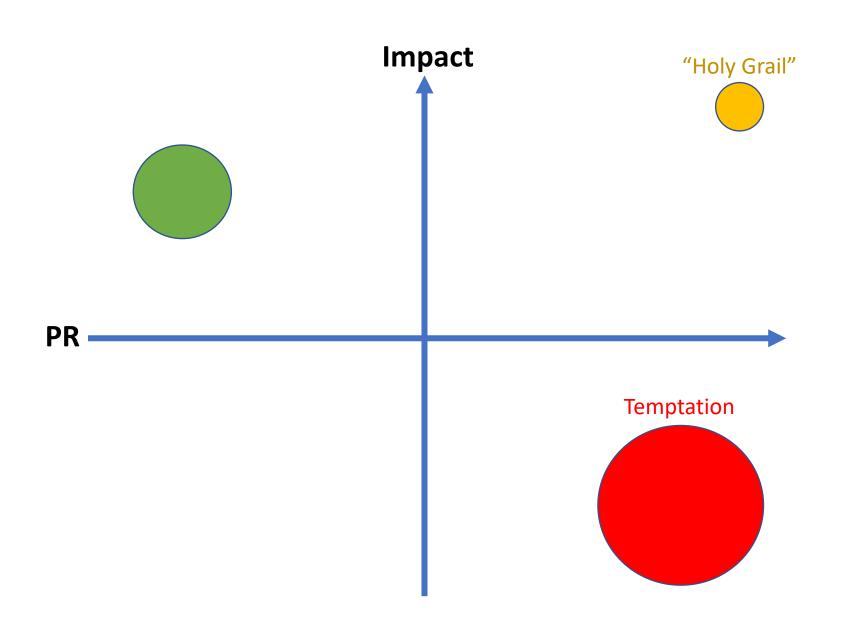
One Track Mind – Housing

Responding vs. Reducing

nousing rocused – Maximizing Resources



Impact vs. PR



Utilization ≠ Impact Creating Housing vs. Creating Housing to Drive Impact

Homeless System - Integration

Creating Affordable Housing is NOT Enough

Scalability

The Perfect vs. The Good

The 80% Rule

Move Fast, Modify As Needed

Culture of:

"Yes"

Barrier Busting

Political Will

Segmentation & Flexibility



Laser Focus

Marc Eichenbaum

marc.eichenbaum@houstontx.gov 281-660-6946







