

Permanent Supportive Housing for the Re-Entry Population in Austin/Travis County, Texas



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Texas Housing/Service System Perspective



SERVICE SYSTEM LIMITATION ON SUPPORTS

NEW MILESTONES FOUNDATION

POLITICAL SHIFTS AROUND “MODELS”

GROWING CONSENSUS AROUND PSH

“GLASS CEILING”

What is Supportive Housing?



A cost-effective combination of permanent affordable housing with services that helps people live more stable, productive lives.

Supportive Housing Works



1. Denver's *Road Home* Housing: **76% reduction** in days spent incarcerated.
2. A study of supportive housing in the State of Maine found a **62% reduction** in incarceration for people placed into supportive housing.
3. In Seattle, studies of supportive housing at 1811 Eastlake demonstrate:
 - 52% reduction in jail bookings
 - 45% reductions in days spent in jail
4. After six months of New York City's supportive housing reentry program:
 - 89% of tenants remained stably housed.
 - 100% of tenants avoided return to shelter.
 - 89% of tenants avoided return to jail.

Corporation for Supportive Housing



**CSH HELPS COMMUNITIES
CREATE PERMANENT HOUSING
WITH SERVICES TO PREVENT
AND END HOMELESSNESS**

CSH Core Services



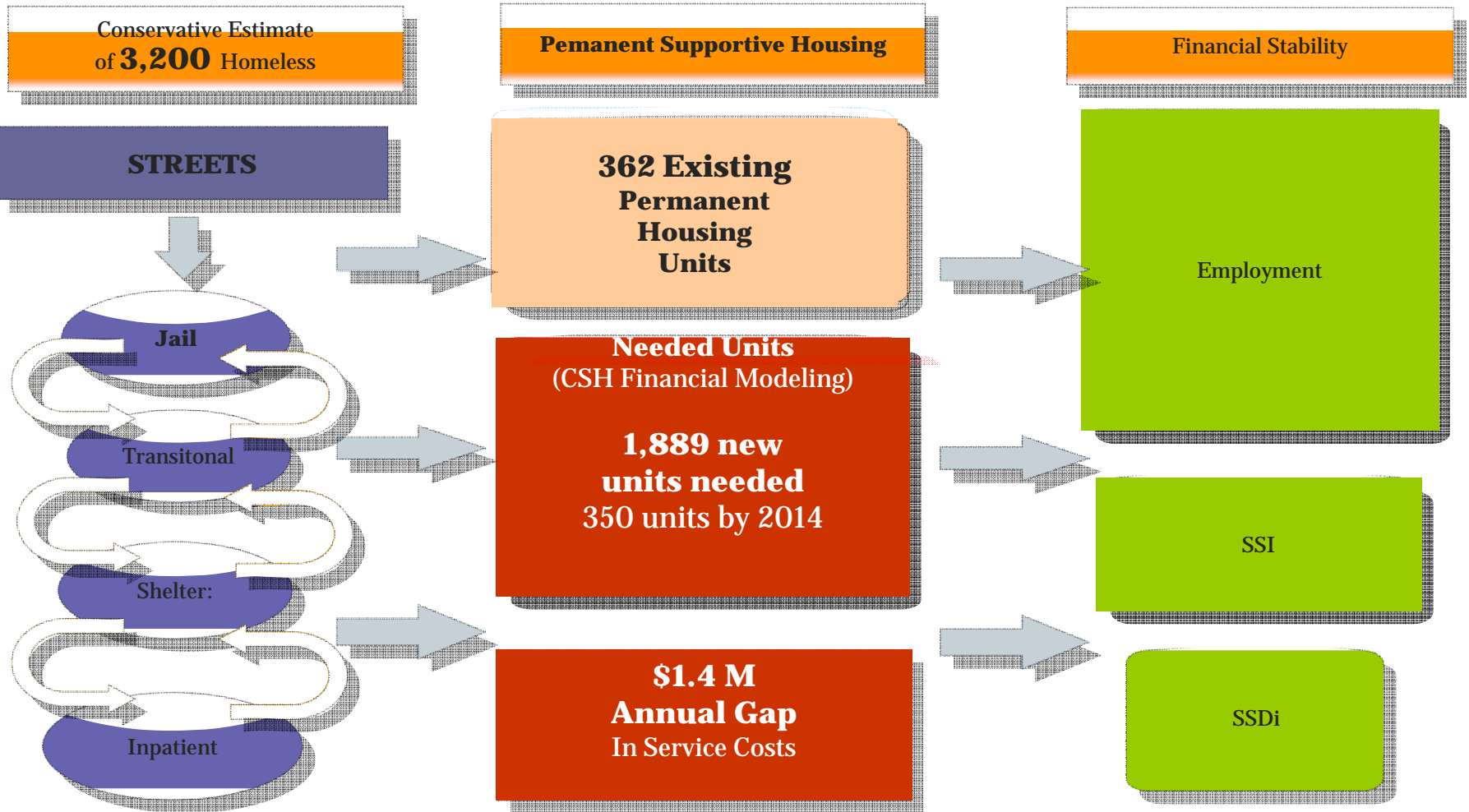
- **Project development and finance assistance**
- **Organizational/industry capacity building**
- **Advocacy/public policy reform**

History of CSH work in Texas



- **Discussions in 2007**
- **2009: Financial Modeling Study Commissioned and collaboratively funded**
- **2009: Austin Travis County CSH Re-Entry Project**

Permanent Supportive Housing Financial Modeling Gap In Austin/Travis County



Supports

Austin Travis County Integral Care, Caritas, Front Steps, LifeWorks, Trinity Center, Others?

Summary of Financial Model for Texas



350 PSH Units	Total Cost	Identified Sources	Remaining Gap
Capital Cost (Constr/Rehab: 260 units)	\$23.2 Million (one time)	\$23.2 million (one time)	\$0
Operating/Rental Subsidy Cost (350 units)	\$3.3 Million Annually	\$1.3 million (annually)	\$2.0 million (annually)
Service Costs (350 units)	\$4.1 Million Annually	\$2.7 million (annually)	\$1.4 million (annually)

Summary of Recommendations



- **Establishment of PSH as preferred approach;
Educate about Low Demand**
- **Leveraging local, county, federal and state subsidies**
- **Prioritize ATCIC Clients**
- **Mobilize VASH subsidies**
- **Protect and expand existing programs**
- **Advocacy efforts**
- **Build Data**
- **Establish a Pipeline Working Group**

A/TC CSH Re-Entry Initiative: Project Goals

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Goal 1: Establish/strengthen housing planning partnerships related to reentry, homelessness, and disabled persons and housing

Goal 2: Determine scope of the issue related to the need for permanent supportive housing for a reentry population

Goal 3: Design a permanent reentry supportive housing project/strategy for persons leaving correctional settings returning to Austin/Travis County, TX

Project Partners

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Full Partners:

- A/TCRRT (Lead Agency)
- Austin Travis County Integral Care (ATCMHMR)
- Basic Needs Coalition
- Caritas
- Community Action Network
- ECHO
- Mayor's MH Task Force Monitoring Committee
- TDCJ-Parole
- TC Criminal Justice Planning
- TC Jail

Support Partners:

- A New Entry
- A/TC MH Jail Diversion
- Catholic Diocese
- COA HHS
- Community Court
- Crime Prevention Institute
- The Arc of the Capital Area
- TC Adult Probation
- TC HHS & VS

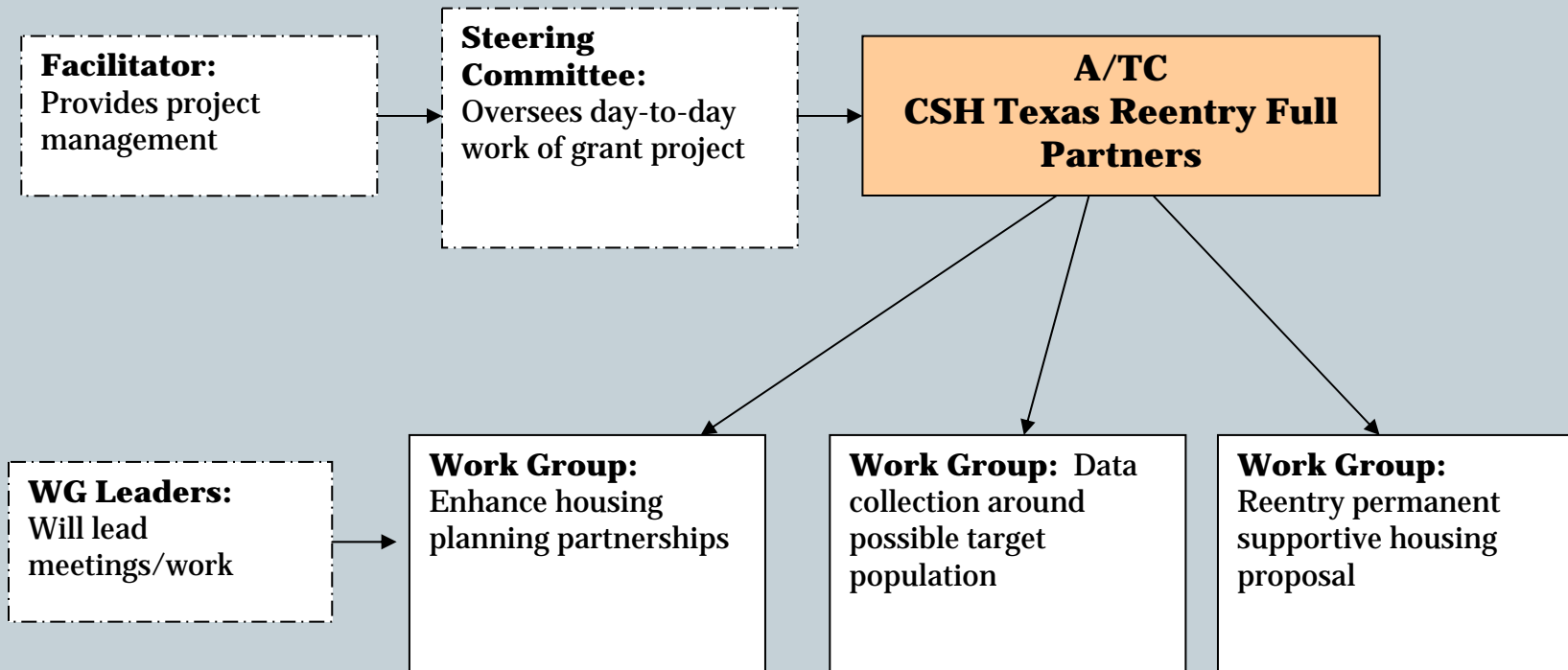
Advisory Partners:

- Front Steps
- Green Doors
- Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid

Structure/Process

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- Proposed



A/TC CSH Texas Reentry Initiative Housing Planning

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- **11 Different Planning Bodies**
- **110 Organizations Involved**
- **Only 2 small community based housing providers involved in the 11 planning bodies identified**

A/TC CSH Texas Re-entry Initiative

Definition of “Re-entry Population”

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1) Persons being released from a correctional setting OR currently involved in a criminal justice program;

AND

2) Has a disability (including mental illness, chemical dependency, physical, or DD/MR);

AND

3) Is or will be homeless at release or during program participation;

AND

4) Are returning to Travis County.

The Re-Entry Population (CSH)

Low Need

Individuals who are able-bodied and employable, who face an income/affordability gap; also may need short-term assistance with community reintegration

Moderate Need

Individuals with limited employment history and educational achievement, and who may have substance abuse, health or mental health challenges

High Need

Individuals with disabilities such as serious mental illness and chronic health and substance abuse issues who will need longer-term services

Texas Recommended Assessment Guidelines

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- **TRAG Housing Stability Score:**
 - 4) Person experiences consistent financial difficulties in meeting basic needs, is marginally homeless or at imminent risk of being homeless.
 - 5) Person is literally homeless and without shelter except for emergency shelter such as the Salvation Army.

A/TC CSH Texas Reentry Initiative Data Collected from TC Jail

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Unduplicated Analysis:

- Approximately 800 persons assessed at TRAG 5 who attributed for 1,100 bookings
- 50 persons at TRAG 5 with three or more arrests in FY2008
- 30 had four or more arrests --attributed for 183 bookings
- 147 individuals scored 5 on Housing TRAG in 2008 (out of 957 arrests)
- 251 homeless in jail on January 29, 2009 (Base 2191)

Data Collection—TC Jail

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# of Arrests:	# of Individuals:	% of Total # of Individuals:	Total # of Arrests:	% of Total Arrests:
1	301	37%	301	11.60%
2	173	22%	346	13.40%
3	107	13%	321	12.40%
4	75	9%	300	11.60%
5	45	6%	225	8.70%
6	29	4%	174	6.70%
7	18	2%	126	4.80%
8	13		104	4%
9	8		72	2.70%
10 or more	45	5.50%	611	24.00%
	814		2580	99.93%



A/TC CSH Texas Re-entry Initiative Data Collection—TC Jail

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- **74% (606) Males**
- **26% (208) Females**

- **54,774 Jail bed days (150.07 years)**
X \$48 per day = \$2,629,152
(for 814 individuals in 2008)



Best Practice Service Elements

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- Data & evaluation developed early in design
- Individualized housing options
- Case management: more intense at beginning & low case manager to client ratio
- Focus on income stability
- Flexible leasing options
- Formal agreements for mental health, substance abuse and legal advocacy services
- Formal agreement between criminal justice, housing, and service provider entities
- Local champions identified

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