

Information to Build a Housing Crisis Response System

Megan Kurteff Schatz

National Alliance to End Homelessness National Conference

July 15, 2015

www.focusstrategies.net



We believe the HEARTH Act and Opening Doors lead the way to finally ending homelessness.

ABOUT FOCUS STRATEGIES



FocusStrategies.net

Conditions of a Housing Crisis Response System

- Rare, Brief, & One Time
- Person-centered
- Data-informed

A System to End Homelessness

- Divert people from becoming homeless
- Prioritize those with highest needs for housing
- Quickly engage people in the least expensive intervention to end their homelessness
- Short lengths of stay
- High rates of permanent housing exits
- Use data to achieve continuous improvement

Achieving a Housing Crisis Resolution System Requires Analytic Work

- Assess what the existing homeless system and programs are accomplishing
- Identify what is working and what needs improvement
- Determine how much of what needs to change given available resources

Performance Measures

1. HMIS Data Quality
2. System Capacity in Relation to Need
3. Bed/Unit Utilization
4. Entries from Homelessness
5. Length of Stay
6. Exits to Permanent Housing (PH)
7. Cost per Permanent Housing Exit
8. Returns to Homelessness

Typical System Analysis Results

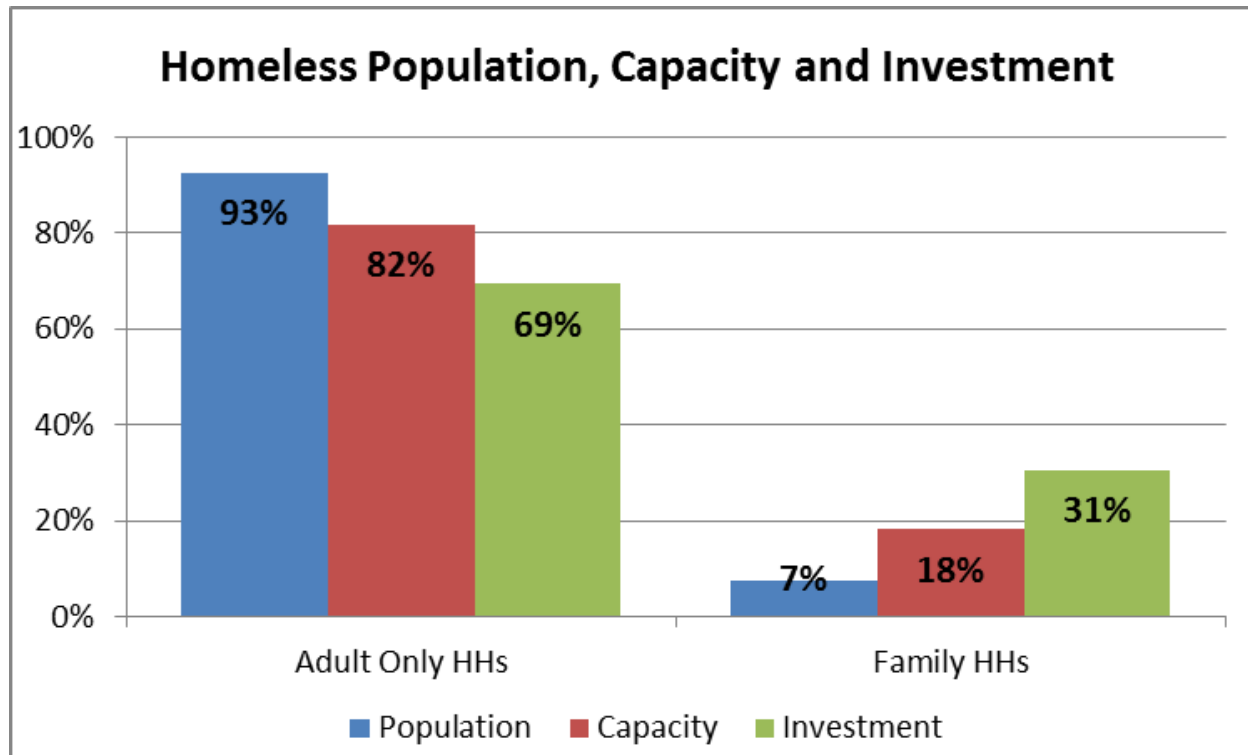
- Data quality compromised in certain programs or fields
- Array of programs/interventions not precisely matched to populations
- Rapid re-housing outperforms transitional housing
- Within program types, superstars and low performers
- Across program types, highest need households not prioritized and served/housed
- Returns to homelessness not significant issue

Example Results

- Community examples
 - Richmond, Virginia
 - San Mateo County, California
 - City of Berkeley, California

Match: Population to Resources

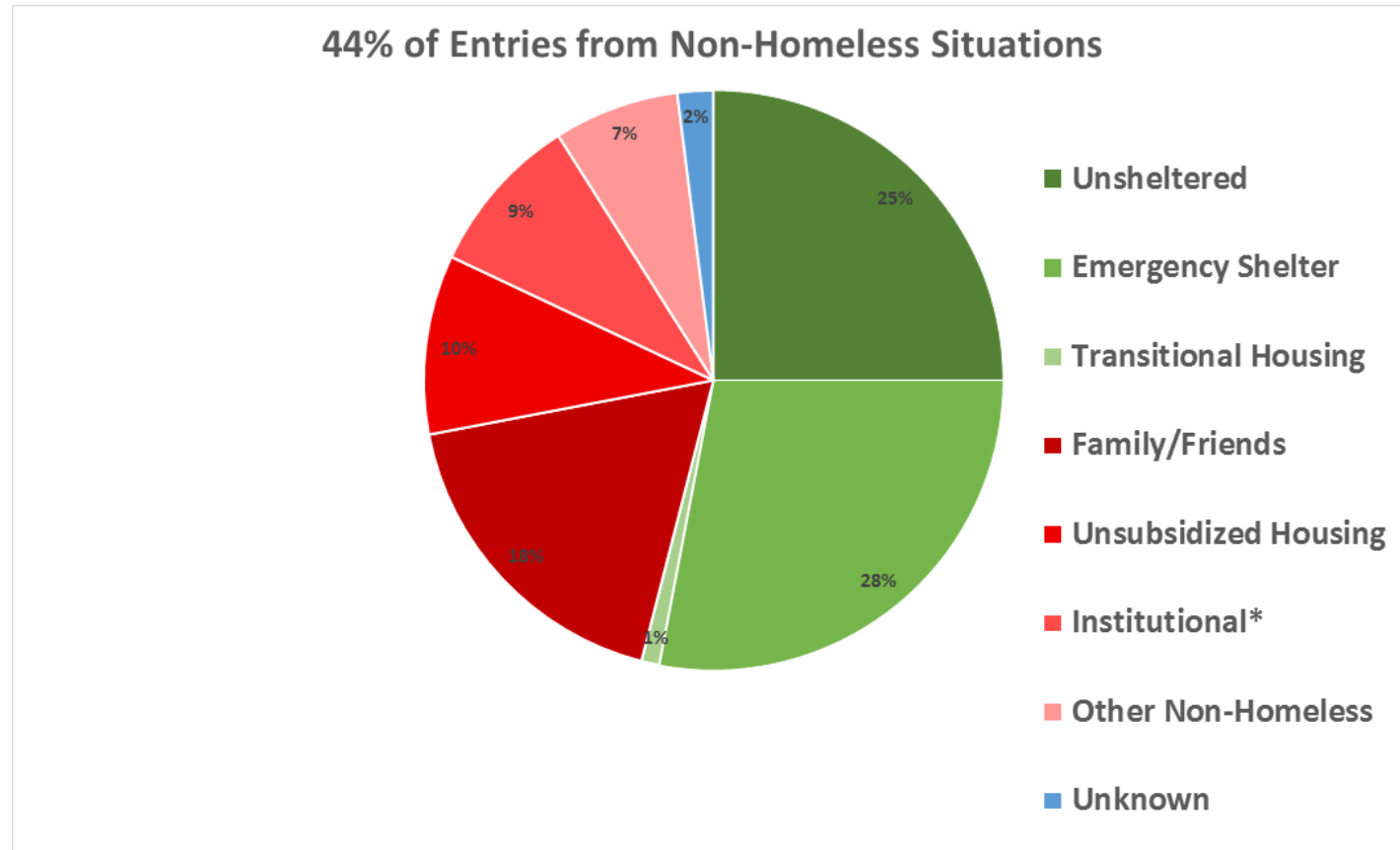
Richmond, Virginia



Presented at Virginia's Governor's Housing Conference, November 2013

Performance
SYSTEM

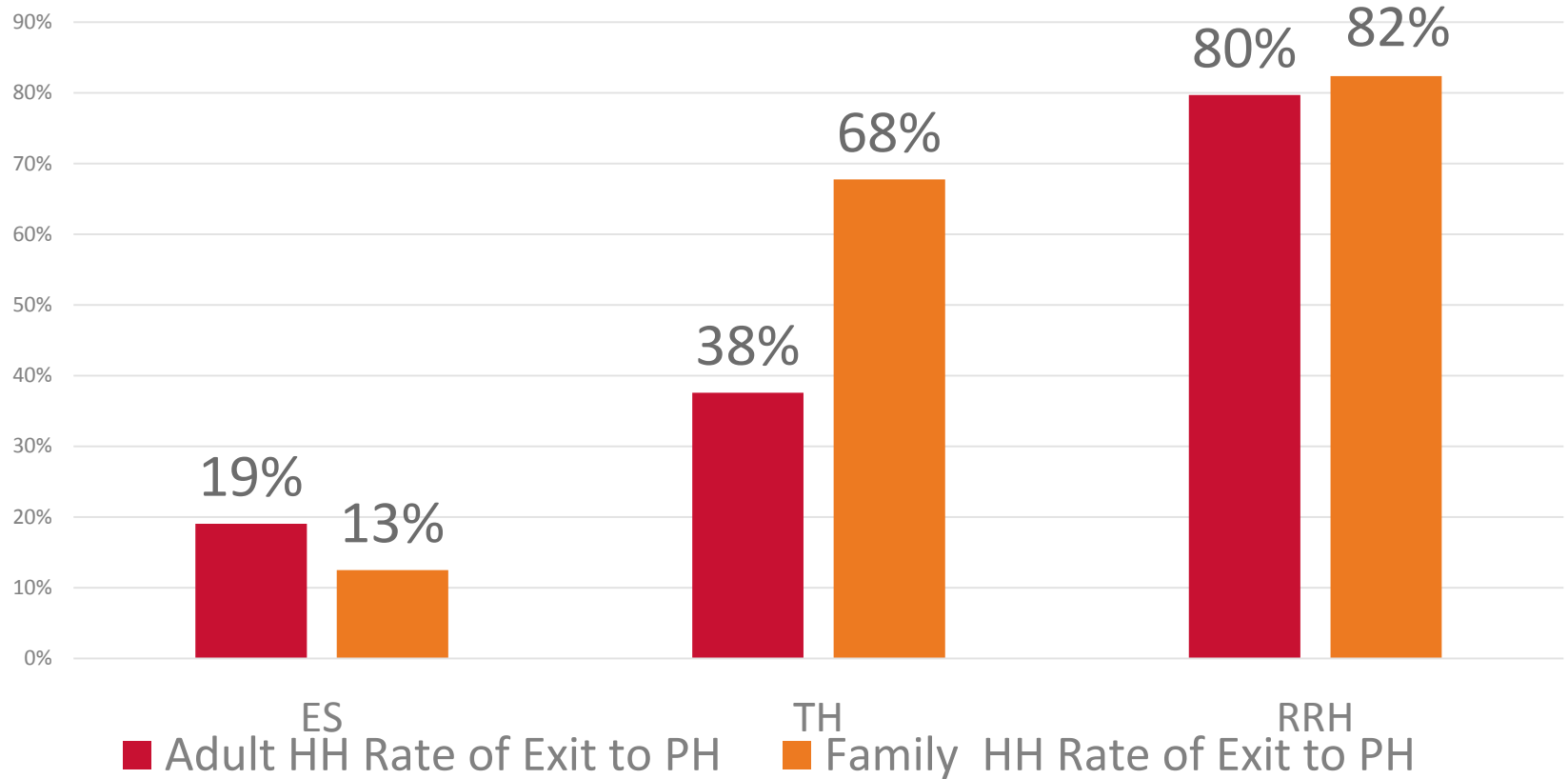
Entries: San Mateo County, California



2012-2014 HMIS and Budget Data – Prepared for San Mateo County.
“Analysis of Homeless System Performance”, June 12, 2015.

Exit to PH 2015, San Mateo County, CA

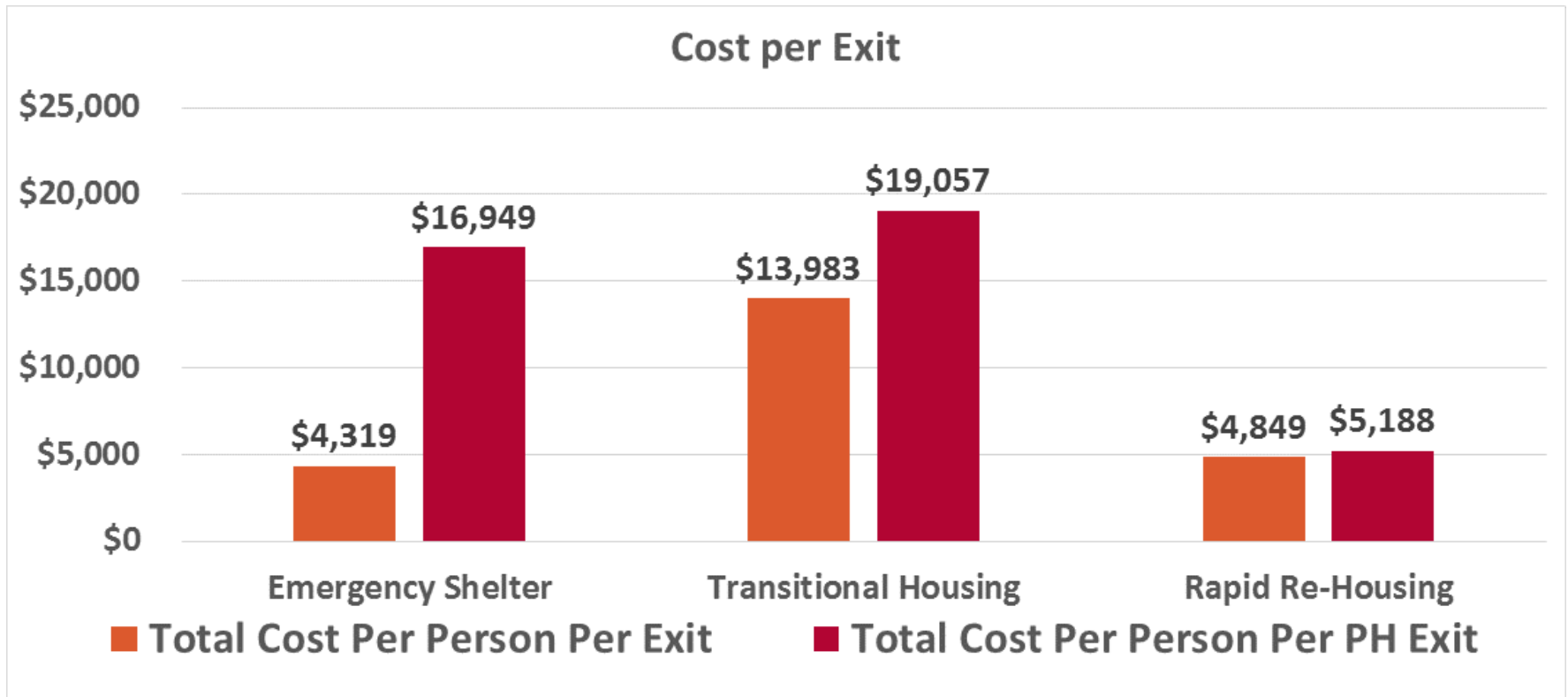
Rate of Exit to PH



Measuring Cost vs. Cost Effectiveness

- Typical: Cost per bed or unit
- Outcomes-oriented: Cost per permanent housing exit

Cost-Effectiveness: City of Berkeley, CA

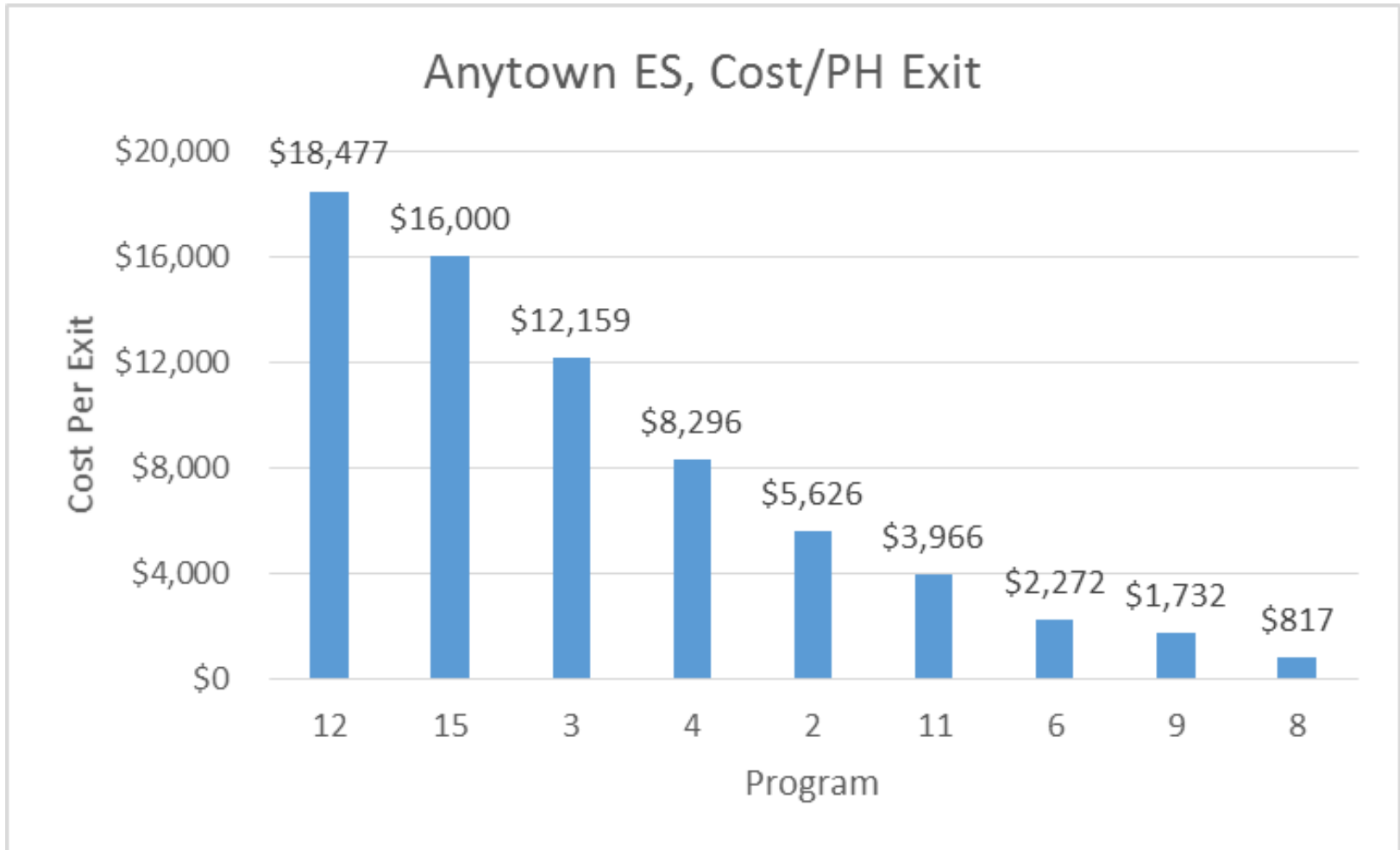


2013-2014 HMIS and Budget Data – Prepared for the City of Berkeley. “Coordinated Access System for Homeless Services and Housing”, August 2014.

Performance

WITHIN PROGRAM TYPES

Sample Results: Cost Per PH Exit



HCRS System Analyses

- Helps realize Housing First orientation
- Prioritization of system change initiatives locally tailored
- Community conversation based on data and information

Q & A

