

VIRTUAL POLICY BRIEFING ON
UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH

Learning from Washington State to Maximize
California's Historic Investment

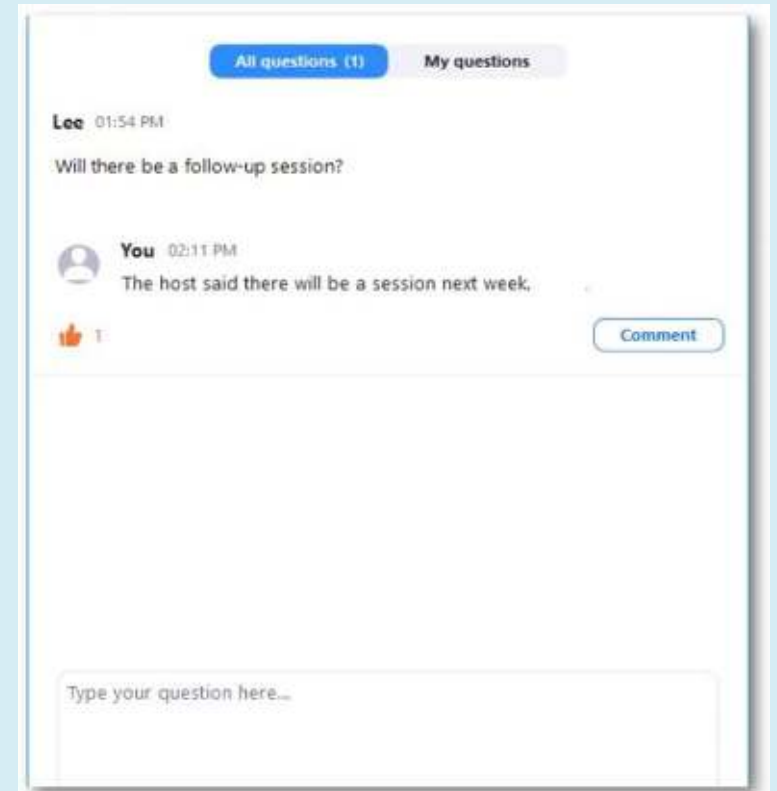
September 28, 2022

USING ZOOM WEBINAR

To submit questions, click on the Q & A icon on the control panel. The Q & A window will appear, allowing you to ask questions to the host and panelists.*



Webinar materials and recording will be posted at <https://jbay.org/resources/> and sent out to all registrants following the live presentation.



AGENDA

- 1 Welcome & Opening Remarks
- 2 California's Investments in Youth Homelessness: Where Are We Now?
- 3 Presentation by Community Solutions: *Solving Homelessness at Scale: The Journey to Zero*
- 4 Presentation by A Way Home Washington: *Anchor Community Initiative*
- 5 California's Investments in Youth Homelessness: Where Can We Go From Here?
- 6 Question & Answer

OPENING REMARKS BY SENATOR ANNA CABALLERO



- Represents California's 12th State Senate District (D-Merced)
- Chair of the Senate Governance and Finance Committee

TODAY'S SPEAKERS

Simone Tureck Lee

Director of Housing &
Health

**John Burton Advocates
for Youth**

Melanie Lewis

Dickerson

Portfolio Lead, Large-Scale
Change

Community Solutions

Beth Sandor

Principal

Community Solutions

Julie Patiño

Executive Director

**A Way Home
Washington**

Ashley Barnes-Cocke

Anchor Community
Initiative Project Director

**A Way Home
Washington**

THERE ARE AT LEAST 13,299 YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA

13,299 youth experiencing homelessness (to age 24)



12,172 unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness

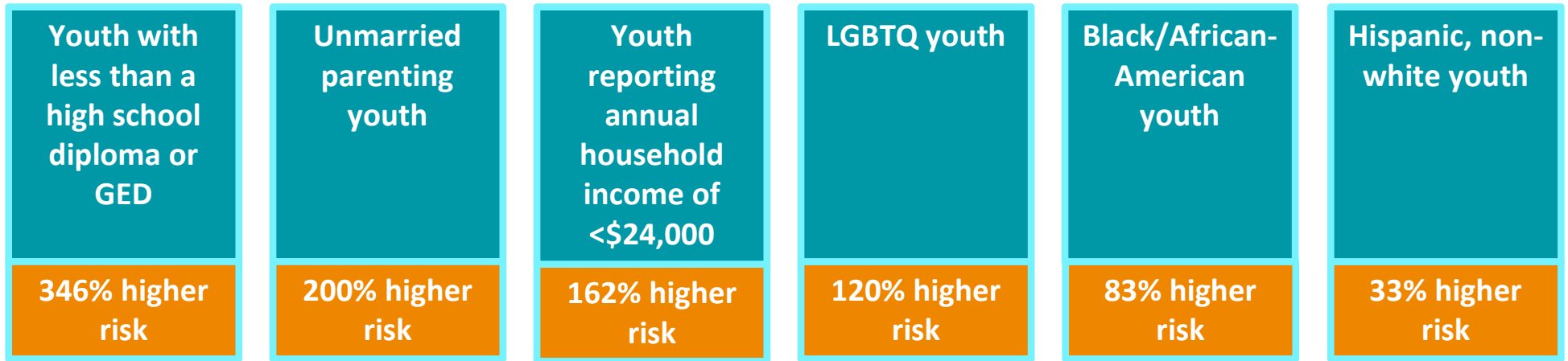


1,127 parenting youth experiencing homelessness

- Accounts for 32% of the nation's total youth experiencing homelessness
- Accounts for 8% of California's total homeless population

WHO IS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS AS A YOUNG PERSON?

2017 Voices of Youth Count study found that certain subpopulations are at higher risk for homelessness:



CALIFORNIA HAS MADE RECENT PROGRESS ON ADDRESSING YOUTH HOMELESSNESS



Established **“youth set-asides”** in mainstream homelessness funding, with **\$533 million** committed up until next year’s budget.



The California Interagency Council on Homelessness is charged with **5 goals** related to youth homelessness, of their 18 total goals.



Local homeless Continuums of Care now administer **youth homelessness funding**.



Through the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program more than **11,000 youth** have been served since 2019.



Early Point-in-Time (PIT) data show a **25% decrease** in the number of homeless youth in the 8 largest cities that have released their 2022 data.⁸

Since 2018, California has invested **\$533 million** in youth homelessness through “youth set-asides”

Budget Year	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22		2022-23	
Program & Funding Level	HEAP: \$500M	HHAP Round 1: \$650M	HHAP Round 2: \$300M	HHAP Round 3: \$1B	Homekey Round 2: \$1.6B	HHAP Round 4: \$1B	Homekey Round 3: \$1.3B
Youth Set-Aside	5% = \$25M	8% = \$52M	8% = \$24M	10% = \$100M	8% = \$128M	10% = \$100M	8% = \$104M

HEAP = Homeless Emergency Aid Program

HHAP = Homeless Housing, Assistance & Prevention Program

QUESTIONS REMAIN

 Are these investments working? Are we making progress?

 What is the full extent of our state's need?

 Are people being served with the right interventions?

 Are people remaining housed—is the impact sustained?

 Are people being housed more quickly?

 Are people being served equitably?

An illustration of a city at night. In the foreground, there is a light blue building with a red roof and a white archway. A large, dark green tree stands to the right. In the background, a person in a white shirt and dark pants stands on a ledge of an orange building, holding a child's hand. The sky is a deep blue with several glowing white circles representing the moon or stars. A street lamp is visible on the right side of the orange building.

Solving Homelessness at Scale

The Journey to Zero

HOMELESSNESS IS **SOLVABLE**

Communities in the Built for Zero movement are proving it.

105

communities are
participating
in Built for Zero

147,000+

individuals housed
by Built for Zero
communities since 2015

14

communities have
functionally ended
homelessness for a
population

64

communities have achieved
quality real-time data

42

communities have achieved
a measurable reduction



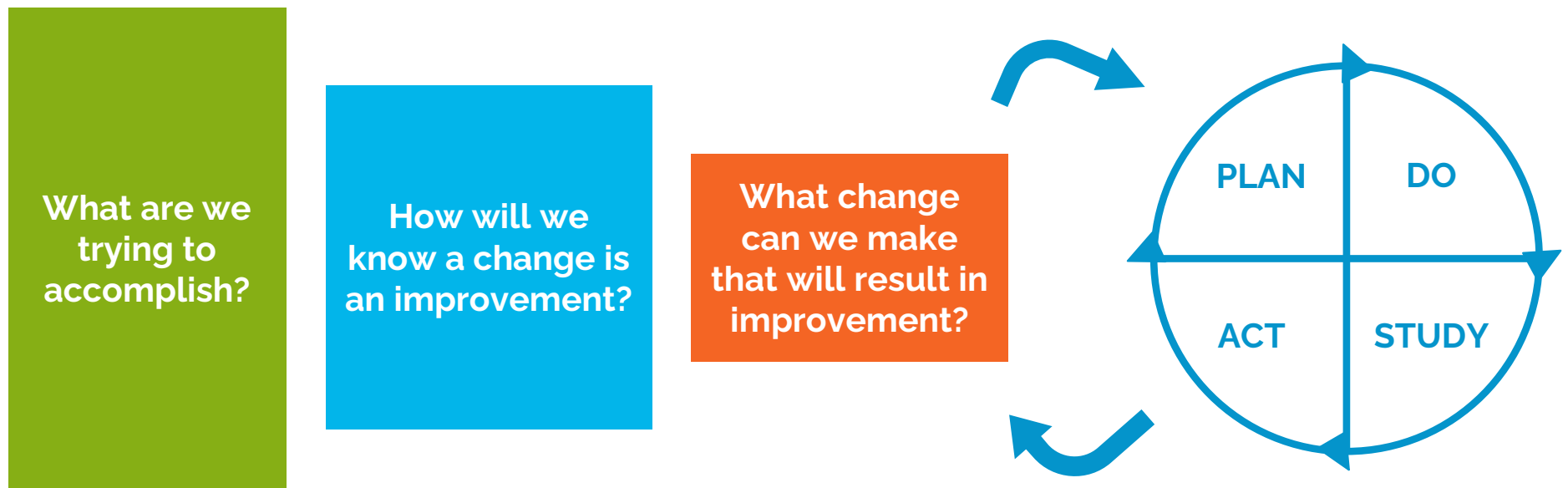
[SEE OUR INTERACTIVE MAP >](#)

The Fundamental Question

*Are all our programs + investments
adding up to thing we really want:
equitable reductions in homelessness over time?*

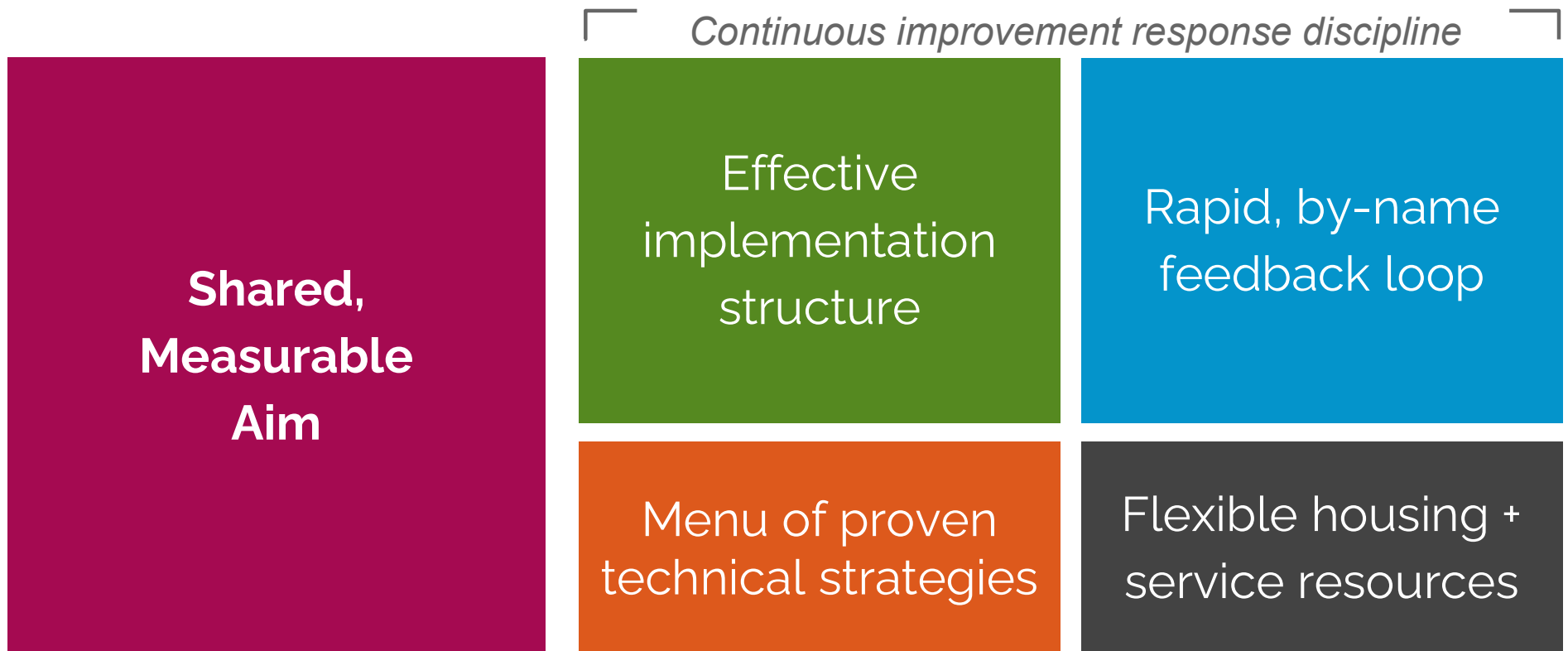
*And if not, how quickly would we know,
and how quickly could we pivot?*

The Shift from Technical Solutions to Iteration



The Model for Improvement was developed by **Associates in Process Improvement** and taught to us by the **Institute for Healthcare Improvement**. Thank you!

An Operating System for Ending Homelessness



Shared Aim



First Principles for Functional Zero Definition

- Objective and replicable
- Standardized but dynamic to local conditions
- Simple and usable
- Credible with critical stakeholders, including people with lived experience, practitioners in the field, adjacent system stakeholders, and the general public

System Outcomes

For each population:



- *Single Adults:* Unaccompanied individuals 25 years old and over
- *Youth:* Unaccompanied individuals under 25 years old
- *Families:* Families with minor children

Racial Equity Indicators

INDICATORS

SYSTEM DECISION-MAKING POWER

Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) at all levels of the homeless response system have decision-making power to influence the design of the system.

LIVED EXPERIENCE

BIPOC receiving services from the homeless response system have experiences that preserve their dignity and have their needs met in a timely manner.

QUALITY DATA

All people experiencing homelessness have access to the system and are known by name in real-time. Communities accurately collect data around race and ethnicity.

SYSTEM OUTCOMES

Communities close all racial/ethnic disproportionality in housing placements, returns to homelessness, and the average length of time from identification to housing by improving outcomes for BIPOC who experience homelessness.

Rapid Feedback Loop



Quality Data Defined

FULL COVERAGE

- All agencies and programs are represented (linked systems involved)
- List includes households sleeping in shelters, on the streets and/or in unsafe/unstable living conditions
- Comprehensive geographical reach
- Accessible, equitable system

PERSON-LEVEL DATA

- Each household has an entry that includes their name, history, health and housing needs
- Each household and person can be followed through the system

RELIABILITY

- Data balances month over month, just like your checkbook
- Changes in actively homeless numbers are accounted for in inflow + outflow

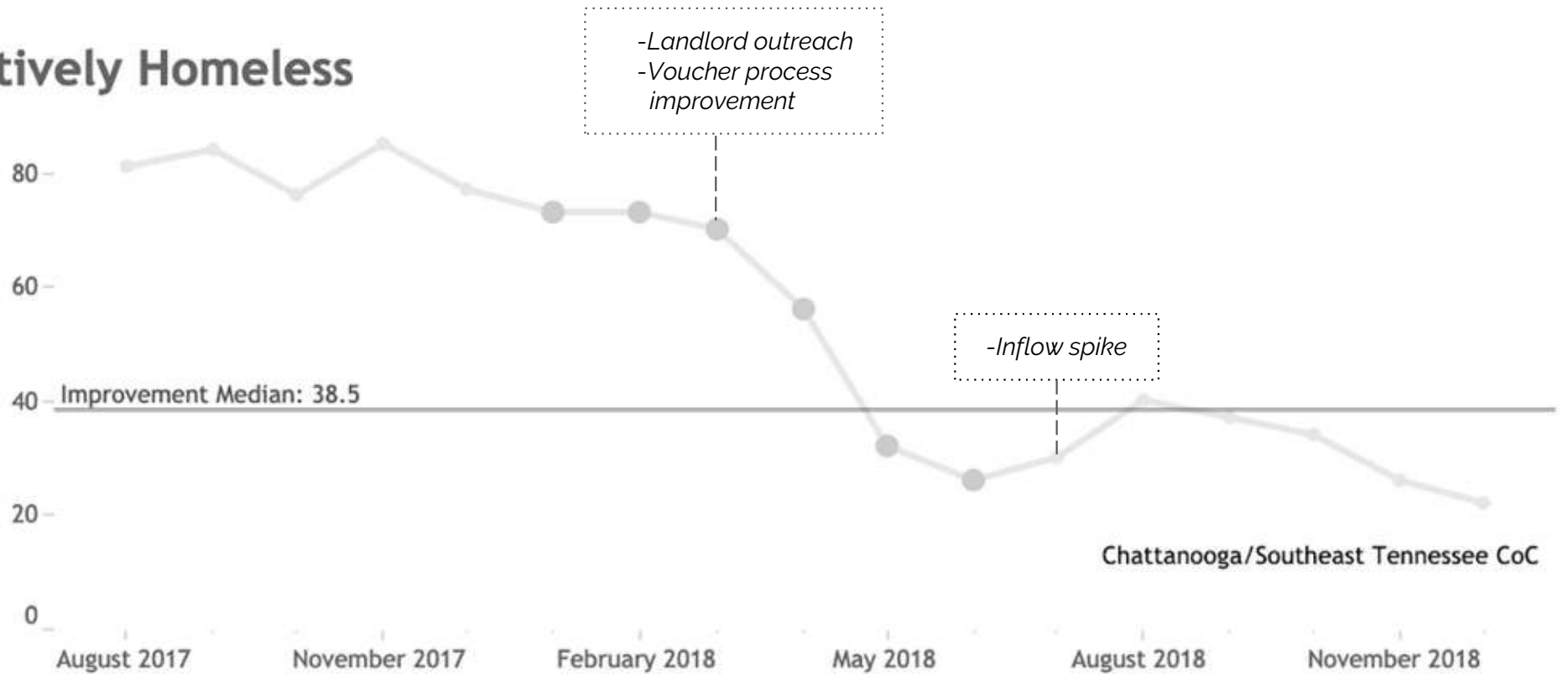
REGULAR UPDATES

- List is updated monthly, at a minimum (goal of real-time)
- As household's housing and population status changes, so do their list entries



System-Level Problem Solving

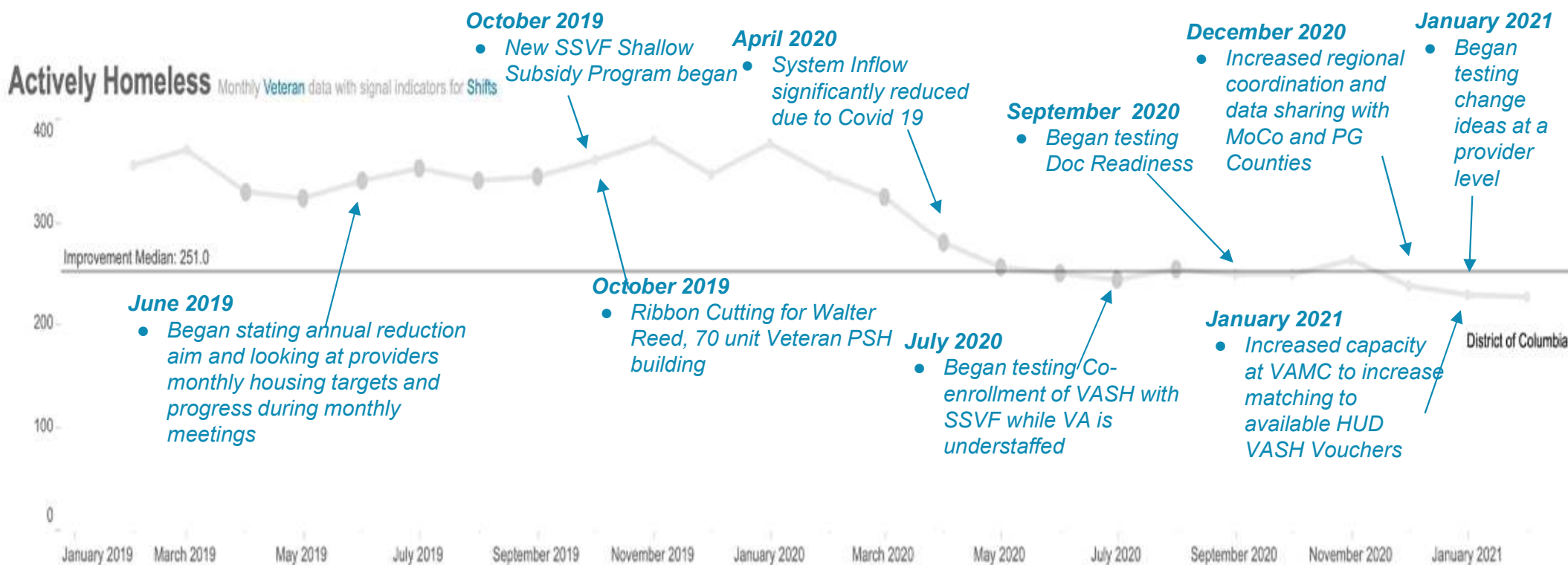
Actively Homeless



An illustration of a park scene. A large tree with orange and brown foliage dominates the upper half. A person is sitting on a pink blanket on the grass, accompanied by a white dog. The background features rolling green hills and a city skyline. A street lamp is visible on the left. The title 'Testable Programs + Strategies' is overlaid in a white box with purple text.

Testable Programs + Strategies

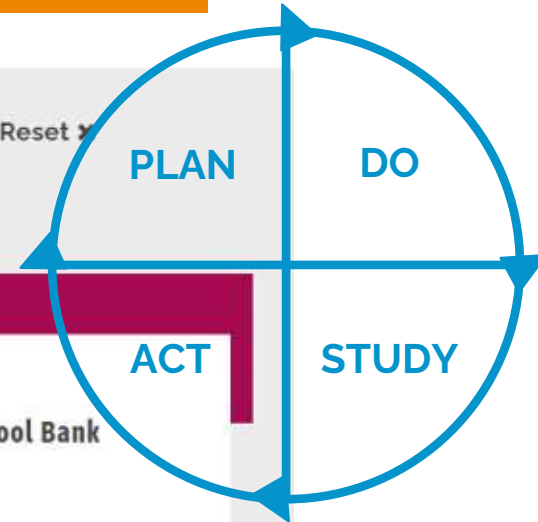
Washington D.C.



Menu of Proven Technical Strategies

Problem Solving ▾ Communities ▾ Type ▾ Enter Search Term → Reset x

<p>🔒 Problem Solving</p> <p>Driver Diagram Template</p> <p>Tool</p>	<p>🔒 Problem Solving</p> <p>Improvement Foundations Training</p> <p>Training</p>	<p>Problem Solving</p> <p>Case Conferencing Tool Bank</p> <p>Tool</p>
<p>🔒 Problem Solving</p> <p>Resources To Increase Data Literacy</p> <p>External Resource, Training</p>	<p>🔒 Problem Solving</p> <p>Resources For Leaders New To Racial Equity Work</p> <p>External Resource</p>	<p>🔒 Problem Solving</p> <p>Engaging Community Residents With Lived Experience</p> <p>External Resource, Report</p>

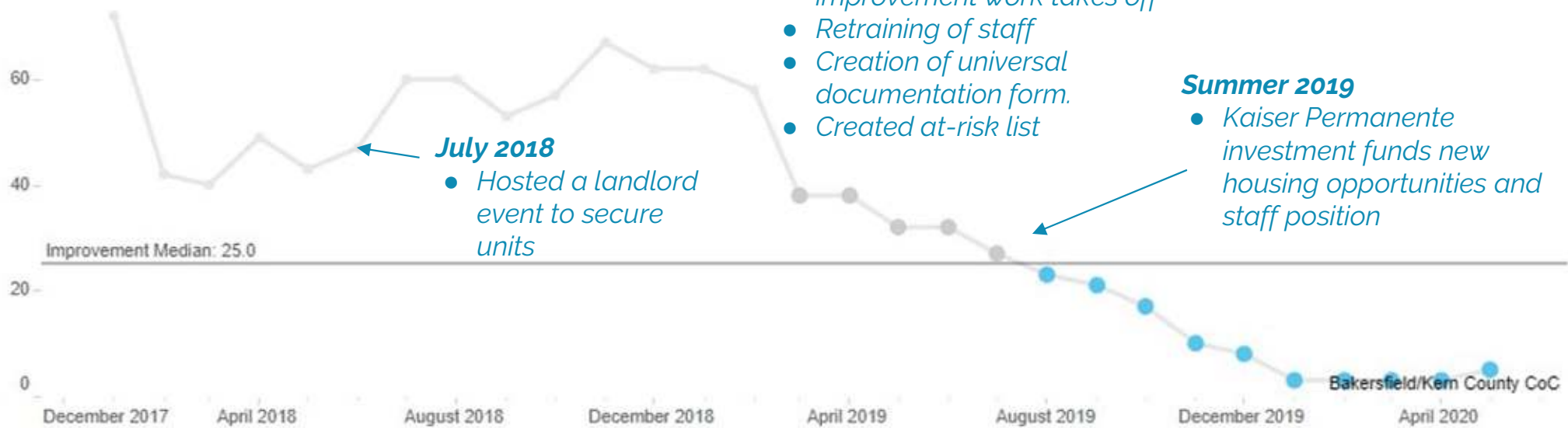


Flexible Resources



Bakersfield/Kern Cty: Targeted Investments

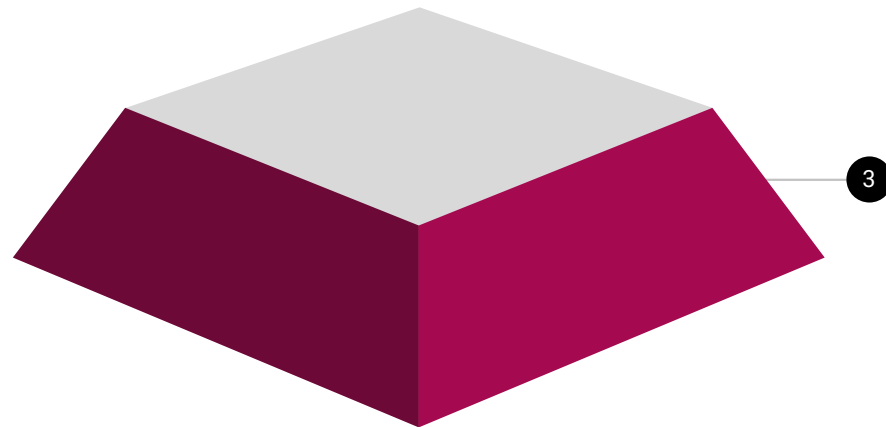
Actively Homeless Monthly Chronic data with signal indicators for Shifts



An illustration of a park scene. A large tree with orange and brown foliage dominates the upper half. A person in a yellow shirt and dark pants sits on a pink blanket on a path, accompanied by a white dog. A picnic basket is nearby. The background features rolling green hills and a city skyline. Two street lamps are visible: one on the left and one on the right.

Implementation Structures & Intermediaries

Improvement Opportunities in a System



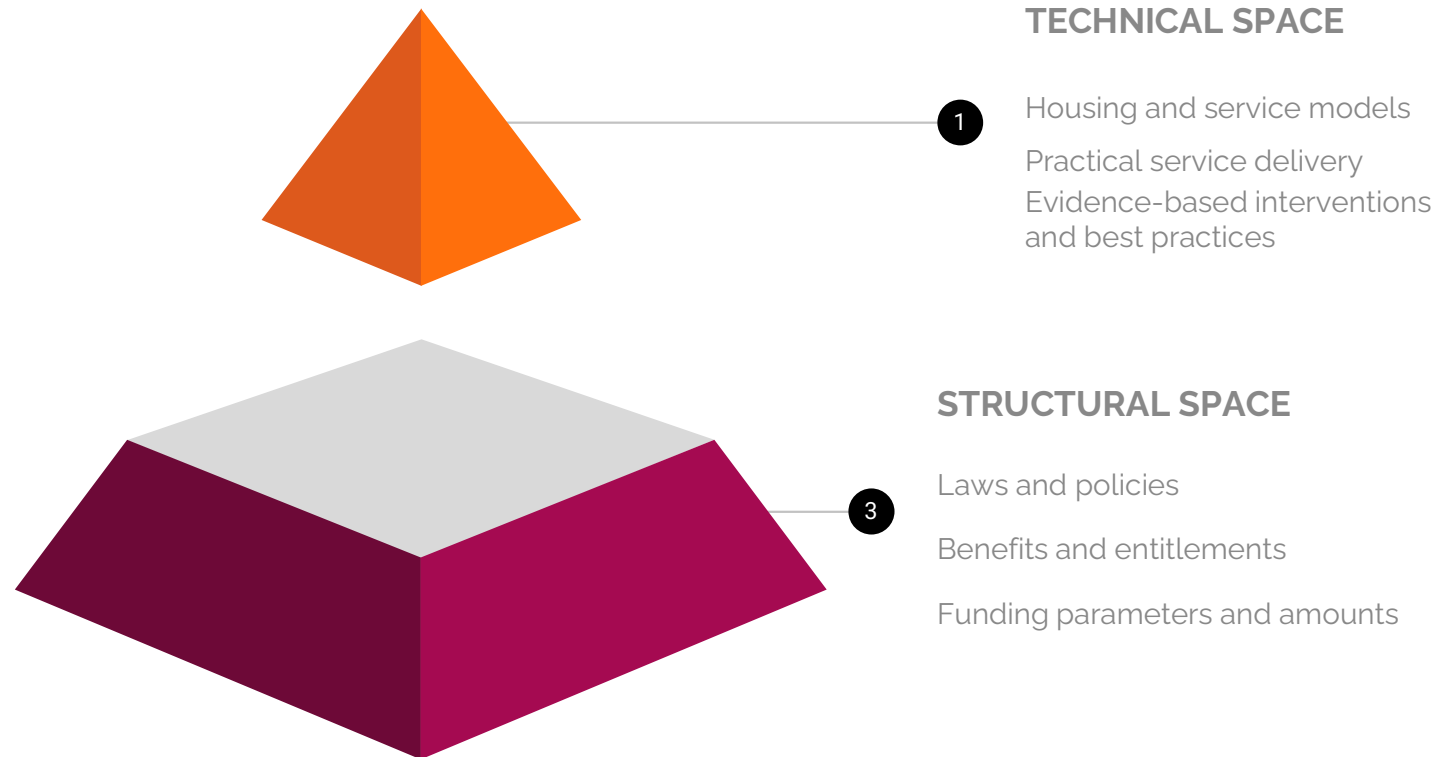
STRUCTURAL SPACE

Laws and policies

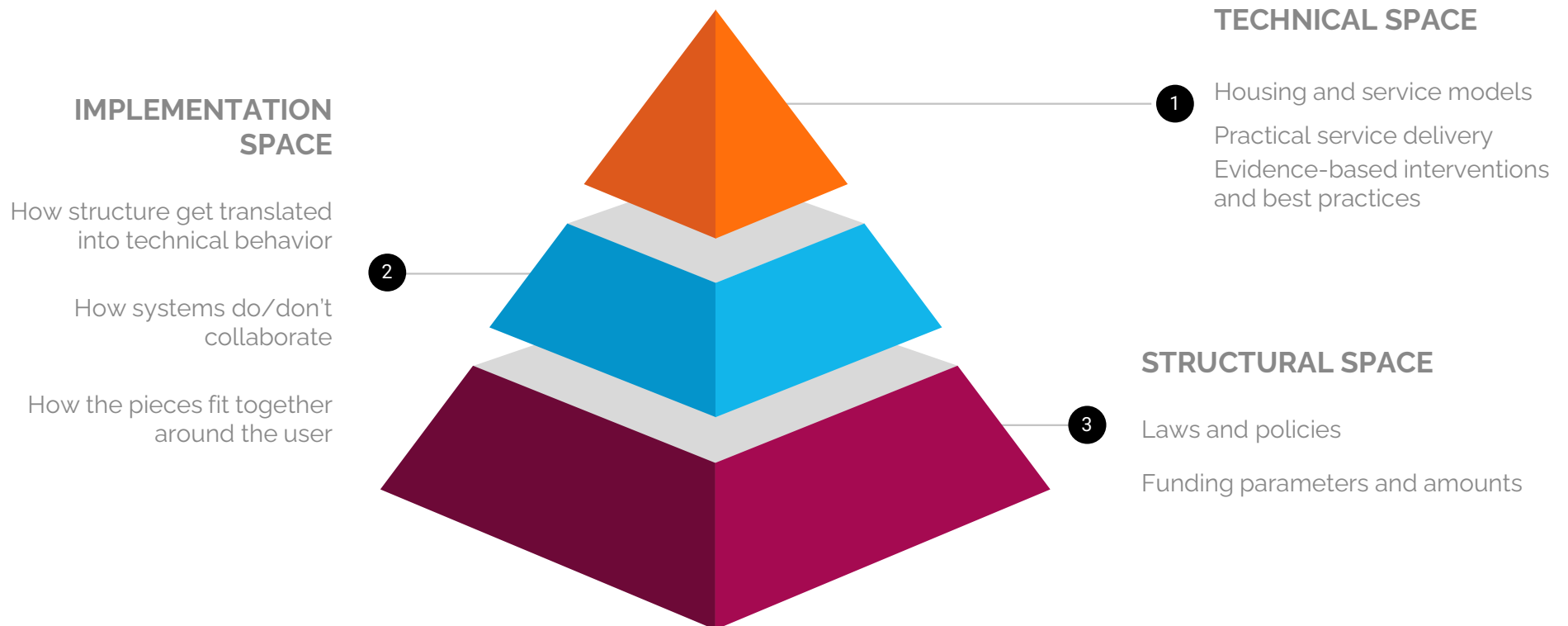
Benefits and entitlements

Funding parameters and amounts

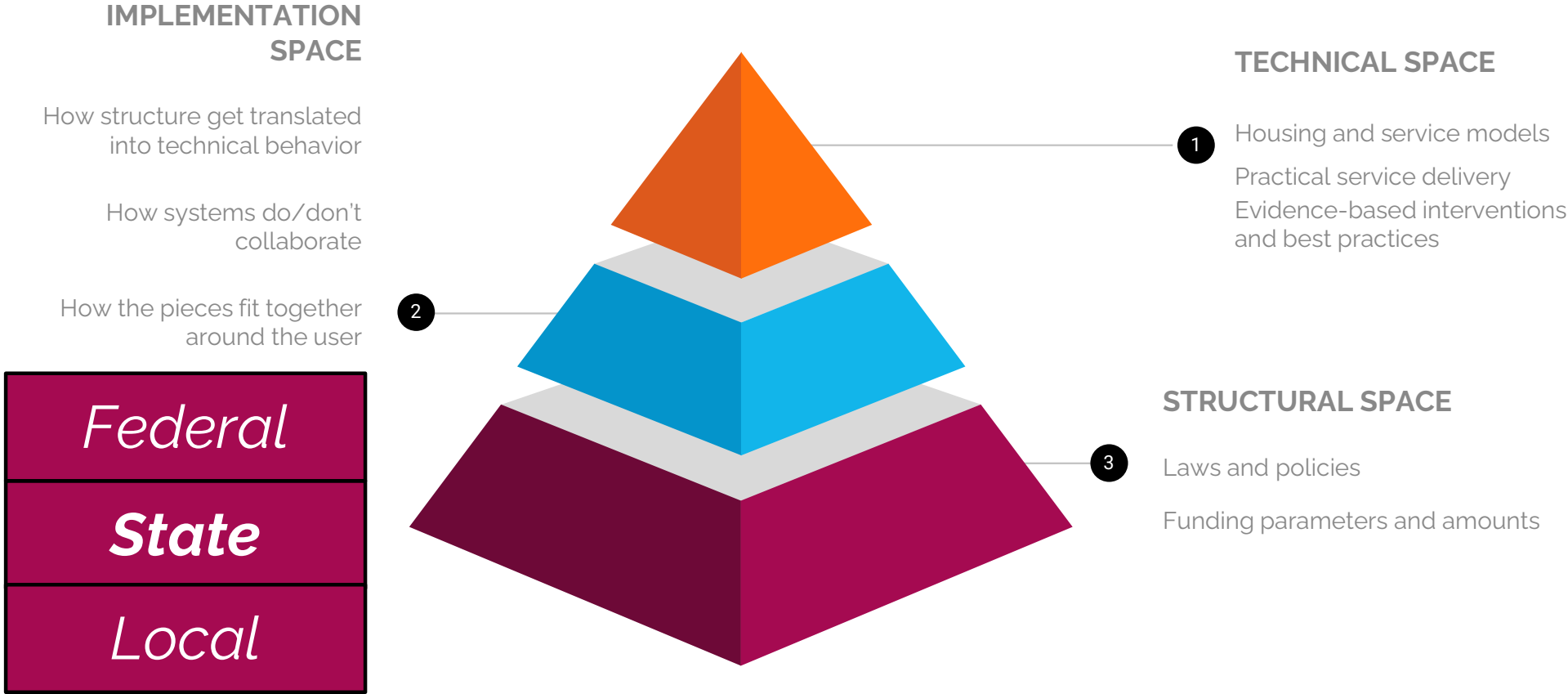
Improvement Opportunities in a System



Improvement Opportunities in a System



Improvement Opportunities in a System



Local Intermediaries

Continuums of Care

City or County Government

Other Local or Regional
Backbone Organizations



1. Shared Goal: Community, elected and sector leaders share a commitment to the goal of ending homelessness.



2. Authority and Accountability: Lead organizations have the authority to make changes towards the goal of ending homelessness for all, and they hold the accountability for this aim.



3. Strategic Partnerships: Critical partners are actively involved in supporting the goal of ending homelessness.



4. System Capacity: System improvement leadership and staff are dedicated to supporting goal achievement.



5. System Culture: The culture in the community is data-driven, nimble and trust-based with shared accountability to equitably ending homelessness.



6. Data and Evaluation: Data is used for improvement, findings are made transparent to the public, and learnings inform policy making.



7. Financial Resources: Leadership understands the landscape of opportunities and the types of funding needed to make the greatest impact, and has access to the funding for effective utilization.

State Intermediaries



COLORADO
Department of Local Affairs



National Intermediaries



Action
Tank
Entreprise
& Pauvreté



aaeh australian alliance
to end homelessness



Thank You

COMMUNITY
SOLUTIONS

A Way Home Washington Anchor Community Initiative



Agenda

A Way Home Washington Overview

What is the Anchor Community Initiative (ACI)

How ACI works with Communities

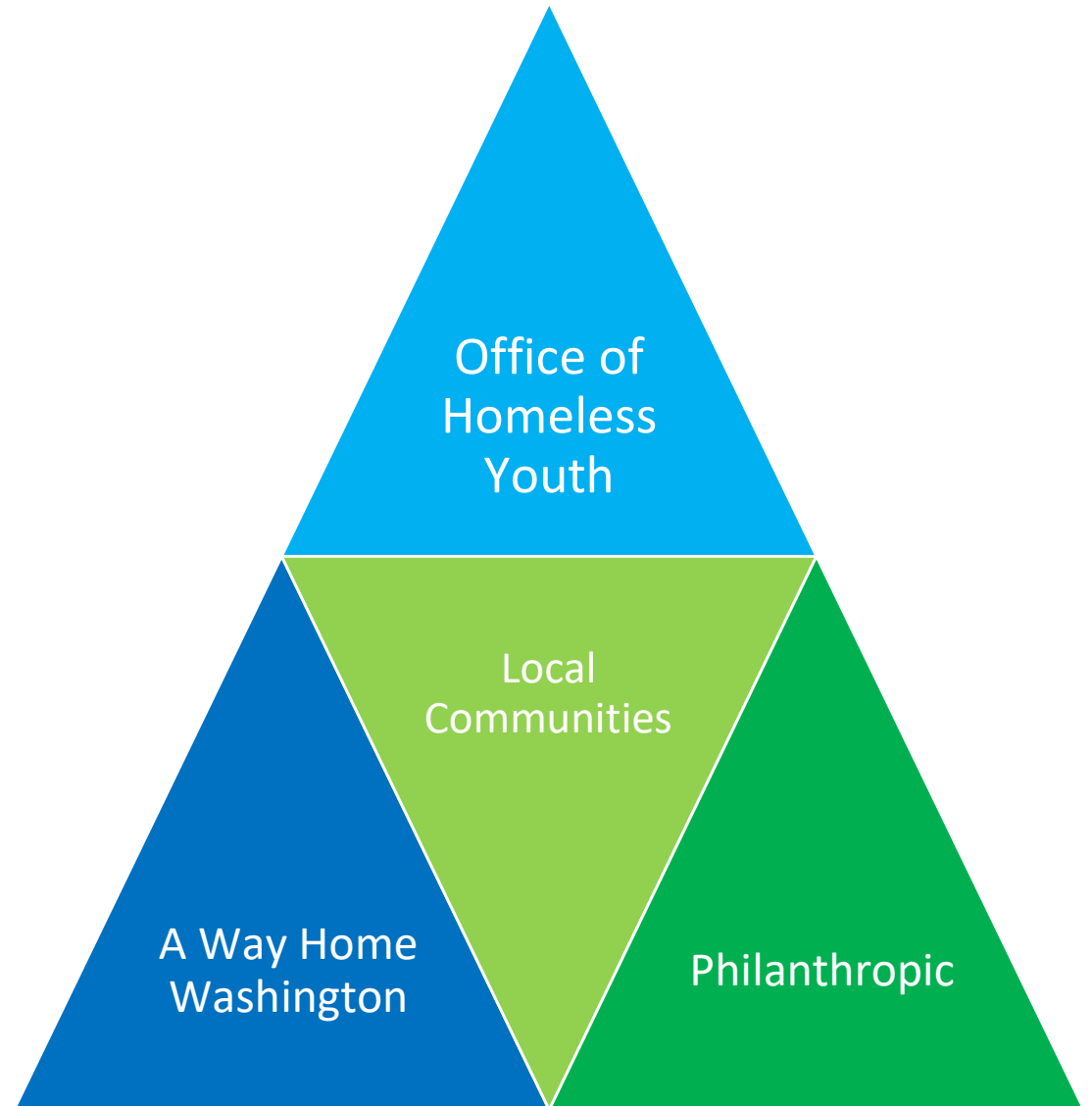
Successes and Learnings

Q & A

A Way Home Washington



Public-Private Partnership



**We envision a Washington State
where every young person can access
the services they need and want
quickly, without having to leave their
home community — and see them
stably housed as a result**

Yes to Yes



Building Yes-to-Yes communities

- AWHWA wants to prevent and end **unaccompanied** youth and young adult **homelessness** across WA.
- We value:
 - Ending, not just responding.
 - Justice – to end homelessness, we need to end disproportionality too.
 - Data – we need to know our impacts, pivot and learn.

Advocacy for
increased
services for
young people
across the state

Continuous
System
Improvement and
Quality Data
communities can
rely on

Elevating local
barriers to the
state level &
partnering to find
solutions

Centering Youth Voice and Justice Driven Strategies

Who are we talking about?

A Way Home Washington's Definition

Young people who are **unaccompanied**, age **12-24**, and are:

- Unsheltered
- Staying somewhere not meant for human habitation
- Fleeing domestic violence or trafficking
- Sheltered
- **Unsafely or unstably couchsurfing or doubled-up**

The Anchor Community Initiative





In ACI, we are **testing, trying,** and **learning** what it takes for individual communities to

1. House all the young people coming into their system in 30 days or less,
2. Ensure every young person has immediate access to shelter, and
3. There are equitable outcomes for LGBTQ youth and youth of color

And prove it is possible to functionally end youth and young adult homelessness

By Name List

Achieve a comprehensive, real-time, quality By-Name List that produces reliable data.

BNL Scorecard

+

Reliable Data

+

YYA Engagement

Reduce to Zero

Drive monthly reductions in active youth and young adult homeless number

Systems Improvement

+

Monthly Reductions

+

Race/LGBTQ+ Equity

End & Sustain

Reach functional zero, end disproportionality and sustain gains

Confirm Zero

+

Equitable Outcomes

+

Sustain

Leadership, Building the Will, Youth & Young Adult Voice

ANCHOR COMMUNITY INITIATIVE



**ANCHOR
COMMUNITY
INITIATIVE**





Helping
communities end
youth homelessness

ACI team

Data team

imgflip.com

Let's Talk
Data

ANCHOR 
COMMUNITY
INITIATIVE

What is a YYA By Name List?

- Real-time
- Person-specific (unique identifier)
- Full coverage
- Reliable
- Builds on Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data

What is a YYA BNL used for?

- House young people!
- Resource matching
- System improvement
- Highlight and take action on equity issues, housing gaps and data quality



All Anchor Communities Collect and Use These System-Level Data Points Each Month



Inflow



Actively Homeless



Outflow



- New
- Returning (from housing)
- Returning (from inactive)

- Unsheltered
- Sheltered
- Doubled-up/ couchsurfing
- Other/unknown

- Permanently housed
- Inactive
- No longer meets population criteria
- # of days from ID to positive exit

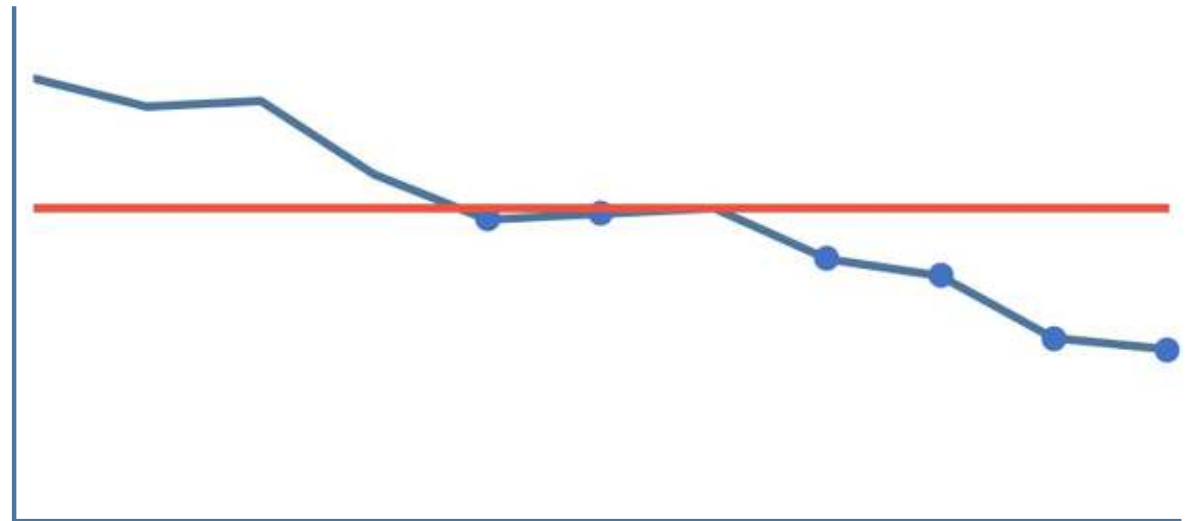
Age

YYA of Color

LGBQ

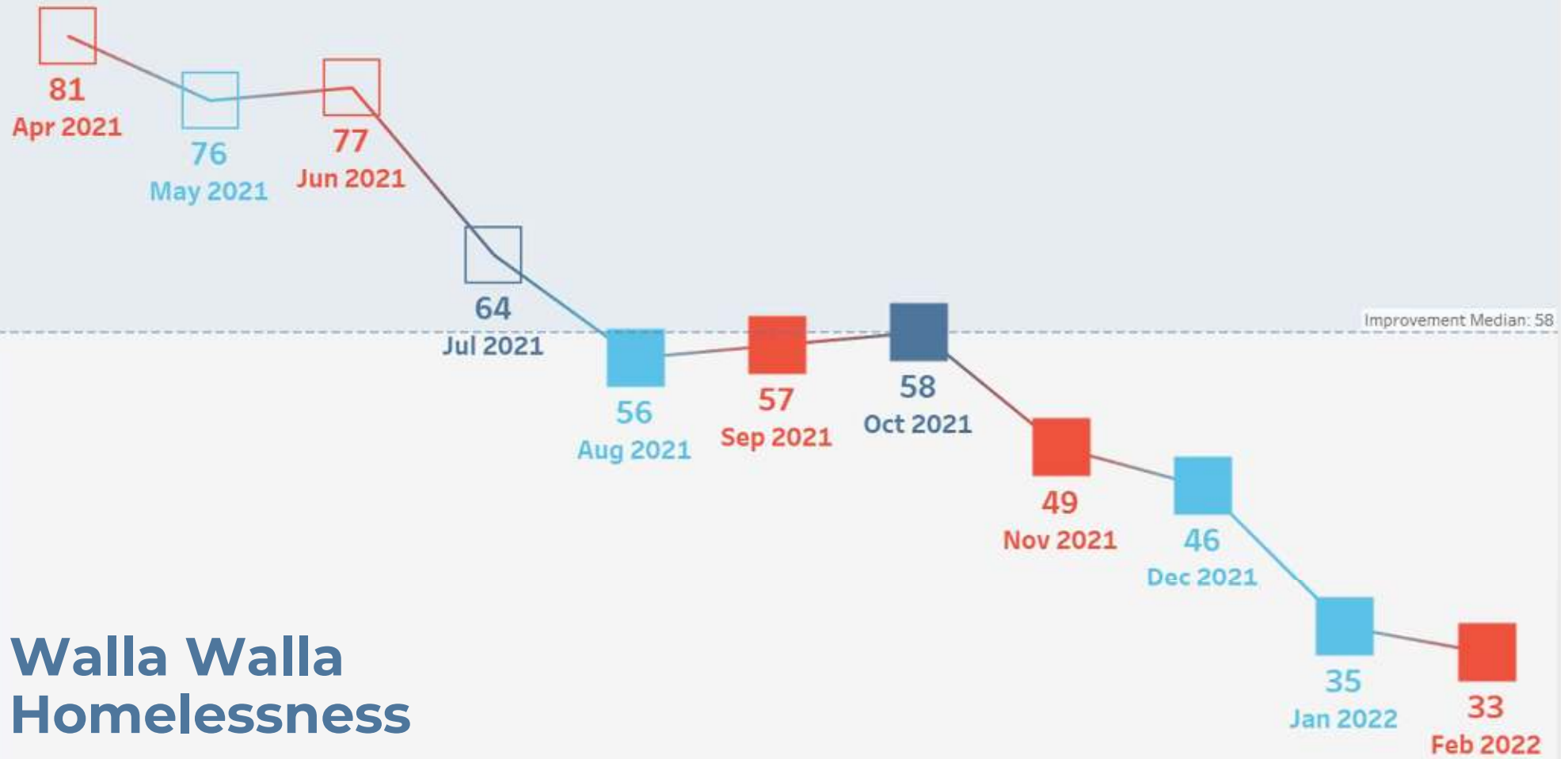
Gender Diverse

Using quality,
real-time data,
communities
can tell if
system changes
they make are
having an
impact month
over month



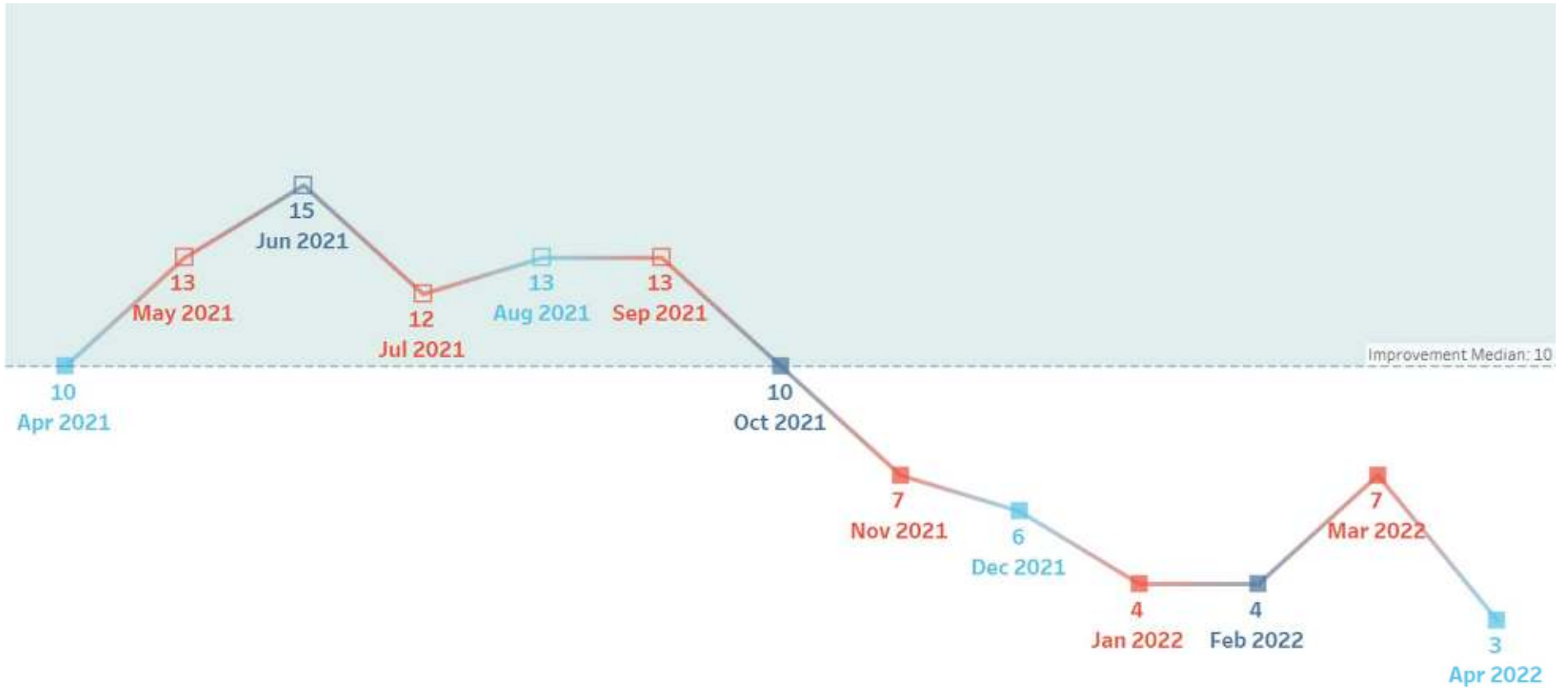
To be confident a homelessness system has fundamentally changed, we need to see **6 data points** below a system's baseline.

We call that a SHIFT



Walla Walla Homelessness

Total number of young people actively experiencing homelessness in Walla Walla April 2021 to February 2022



Walla Walla Unsheltered Homelessness

Total number of young people actively experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Walla Walla April 2021 to April 2022

Filling System Gaps

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT TEAM



LCYC
ATTORNEY

OUTREACH
HOUSING

MENTAL HEALTH
COUNSELOR

(not added — on hold)

IN PROCESS OF BEING ADDED

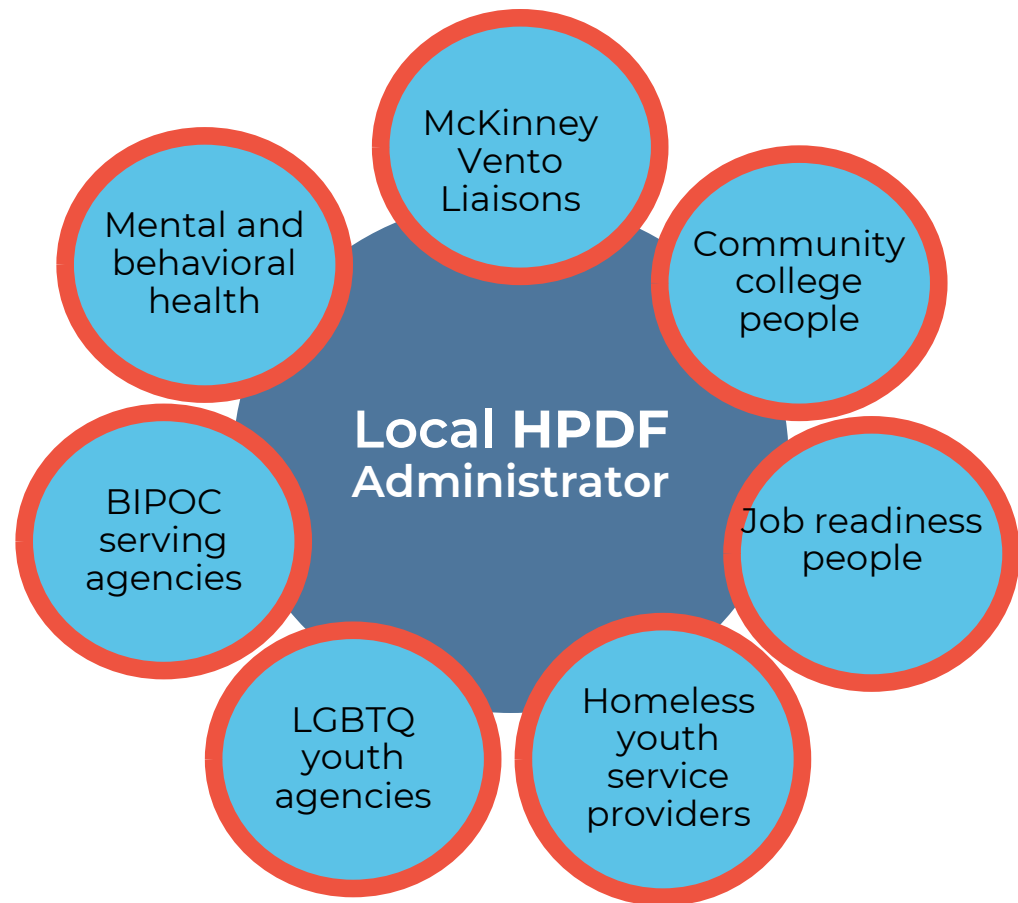
Young Adult Rapid Re- Housing Program



By scaling up resources in alignment with goals to END YYA homelessness, Walla Walla is hitting on a “right-size” system for their community

**669
Households
so far!**

Homeless Prevention and Diversion Fund



System and Practice Change Innovations

**Walla Walla and the
Prepaid Debit Card**

**Spokane's Next Step
Form**



Youth Expertise is Key to the Process

We believe that we cannot end youth and young adult homelessness without young people's expertise and leadership.



Communities need young people's expertise to identify what changes will actually reduce and end YYA homelessness.

Young people bring unique and critical perspectives that are key to informing this work.

Key Learnings

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACHIEVING FUNCTIONAL ZERO YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA



Existing framework: Communities across the country are successfully working toward functional zero using the **Built for Zero** approach or an adaptation.



Existing California precedent to work toward functional zero: The Governor has a stated goal of reaching **functional zero for family homelessness** through a series of existing, expanded, and new investments including the new “Family Homelessness Challenge Grants & Technical Assistance Program.”



Existing state interagency council with the authority and responsibility of working to address homelessness: Charged with **5 goals** related to youth homelessness.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACHIEVING FUNCTIONAL ZERO YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA



Demonstrated motivation & commitment to ending youth homelessness:

Several CA communities have applied for the federal **Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)** which provides funding to develop a plan to end youth homelessness.



Existing sizable investment: The Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program's current rounds provide at least **\$100 million** for youth homelessness.



We're making some progress: Early Point-in-Time (PIT) data show a **25% decrease** in the number of homeless youth in the 8 largest cities that have released their 2022 data.

HOW CAN CALIFORNIA MEET THE MOMENT?



Make an ongoing funding commitment:

Currently, investments made through the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program have been **one-time commitments** which leaves local jurisdictions uncertain about future investments.



Establish technical assistance and data infrastructure:

To establish a framework for working toward achieving functional zero, communities must adopt a **framework** for doing so, and have the capability to **measure data and progress in real time.**

QUESTION & ANSWER:

SUBMIT QUESTIONS VIA THE QUESTIONS BOX

FOR FUTURE QUESTIONS:

- Simone Tureck Lee: simone@jbay.org
 - Melanie Lewis Dickerson: mlewisdickerson@community.solutions
 - Beth Sandor: bsandor@community.solutions
 - Julie Patiño: jpatino@awayhomewa.org
 - Ashley Barnes-Coche: abarnes-cocke@awayhomewa.org
-