

TUESDAYS @ 2: Reductions in Chronic Homelessness

Asheville/Buncombe
August 20, 2013



North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness

securing resources • encouraging public dialogue • advocating for public policy change

919.755.4393 • www.ncceh.org

Today's Presenters

- Brian Alexander
Executive Director
Homeward Bound of Western North Carolina

- Heather Dillashaw
Coordinator
Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Initiative

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- Asheville: August 20
- Wilmington: September 24
- Winston-Salem: October 15

- <http://www.ncceh.org/trainings/upcoming/>



Looking Homeward:

Asheville-Buncombe's 10 Year Plan to
End Chronic Homelessness and
Reduce all Types of Homelessness



Chronic Homelessness

- Chronic homelessness is down 82% in annual Point in Time Counts since the 10 Year Plan was published in 2005. Nine out of 10 placed in housing are successful.
- Homeward Bound has placed more than 640 people in permanent supportive housing, focusing on chronic.
- VA Supportive Housing Program has placed more than 250 homeless veterans in permanent supportive housing, focusing on chronic.



Housing First Approach

- Fundamentally: the solution to homelessness is a home.
- High costs to the community of homelessness, particularly chronic homelessness – law enforcement/jail, first responders/emergency room, health, mental health, and social engagement challenges.
- Moving the highest need folks into permanent housing with supportive services helps them stabilize and reduces the overall cost to the entire community.



Key Players: Funding & Supportive Services

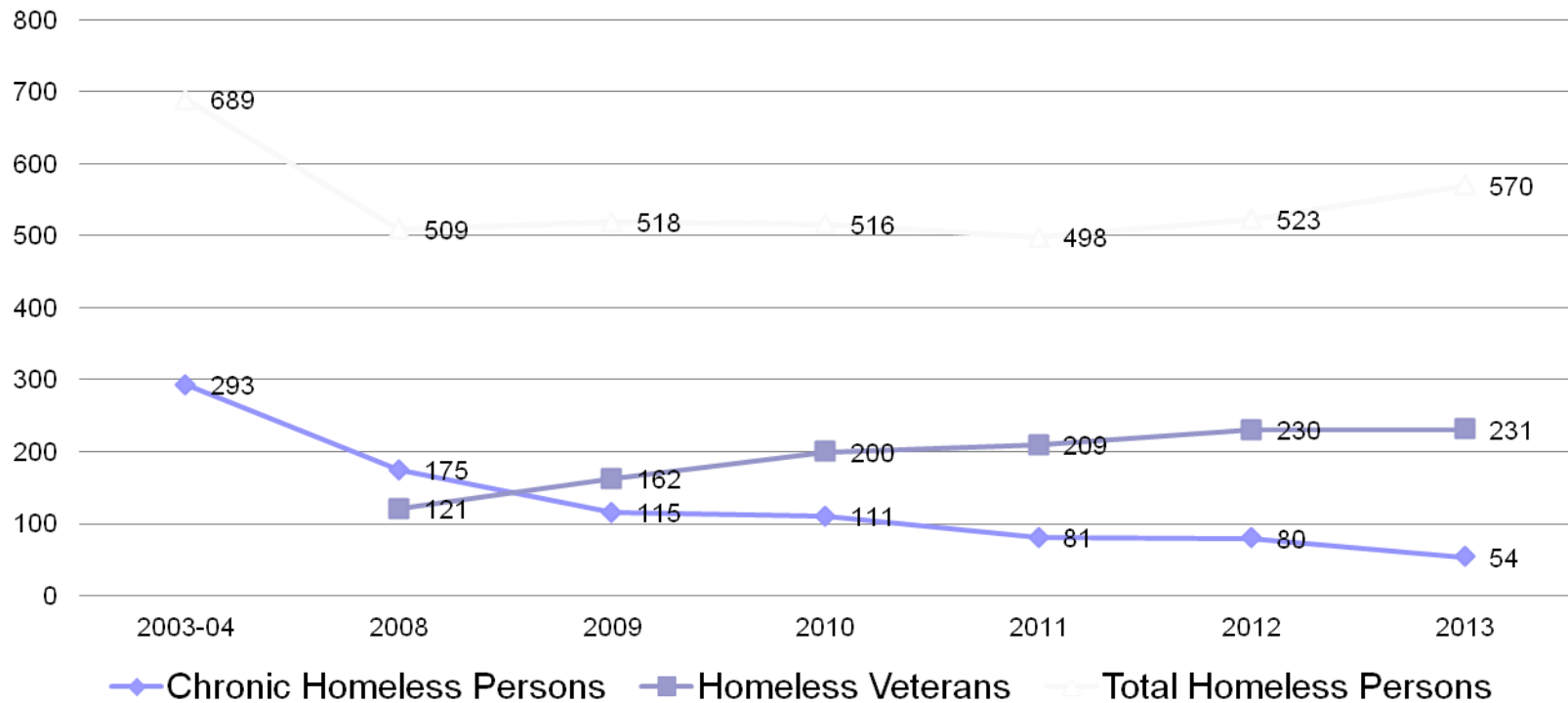
- Housing Authority of the City of Asheville
- Buncombe County
- Western Highlands Network
- Mission Hospital
- Homeward Bound



Public Housing Preference

- Preference for applicants who are chronically homeless and receiving case management services. 1:1 preference on waiting list. Reduced wait time from 12+ months to 2 months in first 2 years of the project
- Case management provided by Homeward Bound. Other agencies also eligible, but have not been able to provide the required level of supportive services.
- Round table case management meetings monthly.
- As of July 2013 in public housing/HCV: 185 placed total; 148 actively being case managed

Chronic, Veterans & Total





Expanding PSH in AVL-Buncombe

- Re-allocated FY12 Continuum of Care funds from transitional housing to permanent supportive housing
- Leveraging United Way, County, City, hospital and other local funds to expand funding resources for case management
- Housing specialists intensifying outreach to private landlords
- Hard to House work group



Hard-to-House Summit

- Funding through Western Highlands helped us bring in experts from around the state and country last November to look at the needs of the hardest to house.
- Estimated number: 25-30 individuals
- Frequent users of jail and emergency room; most have uncontrolled mental health and substance abuse issues, many have failed in our current programs.
- Subcommittee is looking into new/different housing options for this group.



Asheville-Buncombe Contacts

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