

Burlington County's Plan to End Homelessness

Department of Human Services



September 24, 2014

Overview

Summary Statistics:

- ◆ Almost \$21.2 million in funding
- ◆ 12,200+ individuals served
- ◆ Work with over 20 providers through the Continuum of Care and consolidated planning process
- ◆ Provide emergency, transitional, and permanent housing operations
- ◆ Provide Code Blue Sheltering in the winter



By the Numbers: **\$21.2 Million & 12,200+ individuals**

- ◆ County Prevention dollars - \$120,000
 - Assisted 28 families in 2013
 - 28 families maintained their housing or were successfully relocated
- ◆ HUD HOME/CDBG Grant Dollars - \$1,942,466
 - Assisted 7,567 individuals
 - 214 new units of permanent affordable housing funded in 2013
- ◆ HUD McKinney-Vento funds –\$571,422
 - 54 units of permanent housing funded
- ◆ State Social Services for the Homeless - \$478,271
 - helped 2,857 Individuals
- ◆ SSH – Sandy funds - \$457,800
- ◆ BCBSS serves 1,821 individuals through
 - TANF & GA Emergency Assistance funds - \$11, 657,760
 - Section 8 Rental Assistance Program - \$6,016,583



Burlington County's Plan to End Homelessness

- ✓ Establish a Single Point of Entry
- ✓ Improving Sheltering Options that quickly turn to Permanent Housing
- ✓ System Coordination
- ✓ Integrating Services
- ✓ Improved Electronic and Data Monitoring
- ✓ Establish a task force to monitor progress and prioritize goals



Burlington County's Plan to End Homelessness

- ✓ Establish a Single Point of Entry into a uniform system:
 - ◆ Restructure use of existing beds & develop new beds
 - ◆ Establish a true front door through HMIS, uniform assessment
- ✓ Improving Sheltering Options that quickly turn to Permanent Housing:
 - ◆ Reduce reliance on motels: SSH Funding restructured to reduce spending by 10% per year
 - ◆ Increase the use of Rapid Re-housing & Housing First



Burlington County's Plan to End Homelessness

- ✓ System Coordination:
 - ◆ Veterans Services coordination
 - Identifying and obtaining benefits for homeless veterans
 - Partnership with Soldier On
 - ◆ Restructuring the Continuum of Care into a performance management and oversight group
 - New governance structure adopted in August 2014
 - ◆ Exploring opportunities for regional coordination and integration
 - Met with neighboring counties
 - New governance structure allows for the development of lead agency and partnership



Burlington County's Plan to End Homelessness

- ✓ Integrating Services:
 - ◆ Tracking our social services for the homeless performance
 - ◆ More structured collaboration with mental health planning partners, mental health board, residential health care facilities, and transportation planning
 - ◆ Creating a uniform assessment

- ✓ Improved Electronic and Data Monitoring:
 - ◆ Using HMIS in new ways
 - Tracking and monitoring performance
 - Enhancing access to HMIS



A **New** Approach: Rapid Re-housing

- ✓ Transforming the use of grant dollars to end long term hotel placements as a solution to family homelessness:
 - ◆ 14 new households to be served using existing grant dollars.
- ✓ Developing Request for Qualification (RFQ) for Case Management of Emergency Assistance clients
 - ◆ ***Only County in State to develop a program that reallocates emergency assistance dollars for case management***
 - ◆ Pilot services to 60 individuals who receive emergency assistance housing in 2015
 - ◆ Agency will be responsible for development of self-sufficiency plans, quick transition to permanent housing and increase in income.
 - ◆ Job training support and improving access to disabilities benefits



A *New* Approach: Emergency Shelter Transformation

- ✓ Developing RFQ to establish a pool of providers who will serve as a front door to the homeless delivery system
- ✓ Placement into housing within 24 hours
- ✓ Uniform Assessment to be coordinated through HMIS
- ✓ Tracking of client success as part of Continuum of Care oversight



A *New* Approach: Permanent Housing

- ✓ Developed 214 new units of permanent housing through HOME funding
 - ◆ Integrating new permanent units into homeless system planning
 - ◆ Capital Subsidies to support rapid re-housing development
- ✓ Housing counseling
- ✓ Homeowner preservation
- ✓ First-time homebuyer programs



A *New* Approach: Income & Sustainability

- ✓ Established Homeless Planning Liaison in Division of Employment & Training
 - ◆ Will coordinate with Homeless service providers
 - ◆ Work closely with Work First staff at the Board of Social Services to divert new applicants
 - ◆ Increase diversion to training programs and on-the-job training opportunities
- ✓ Establishing SSD/I Outreach Access and Recovery (SOAR) Initiative:
 - ◆ Targeted planning group to facilitate access to long-term benefits for disabled residents
 - ◆ Mental Health & Drug/Alcohol Prevention Joint planning



No Wrong Door Approach

- ✓ **System Coordination**
 - ◆ Workgroup to track system effectiveness
 - ◆ Tying prevention, front door shelter, rapid re-housing, and income tracking together
 - ◆ Sharing of data/assessment
 - ◆ Tracking of Performance

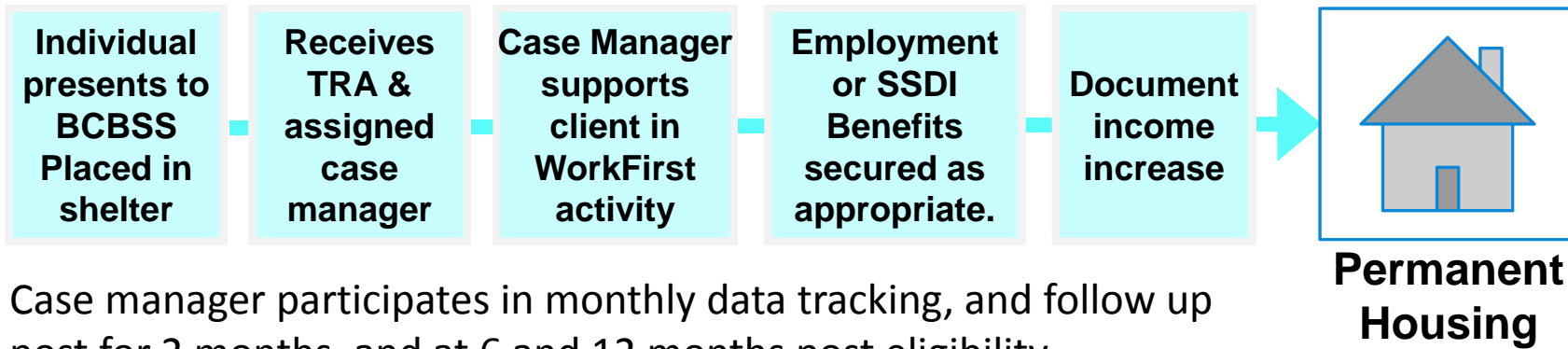
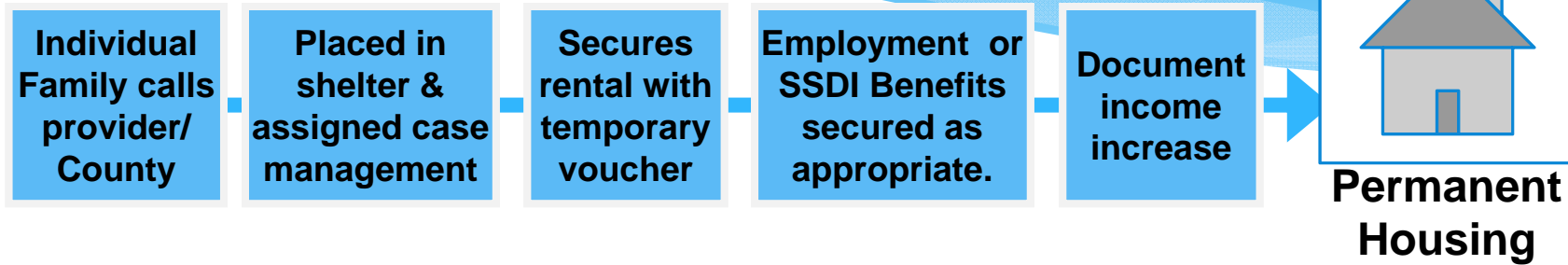
- ✓ **Piloting Services to 74 new households in 2015**
 - ◆ Program participants will demonstrate increased income within 9 months
 - ◆ Obtain affordable permanent housing within 6-9 months
 - ◆ Continue to maintain housing and stability at 12 months follow-up

- ✓ **Exploring new sources of funds and innovative models**
 - ◆ Developing a uniform assessment
 - ◆ Improving immediate access to shelter

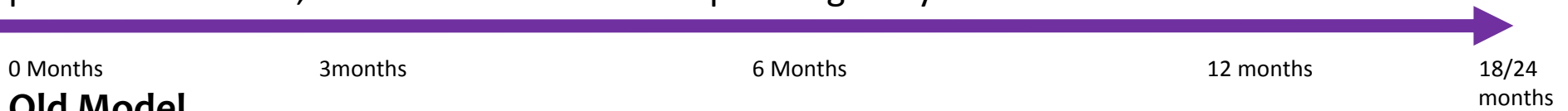


A Change in Approach

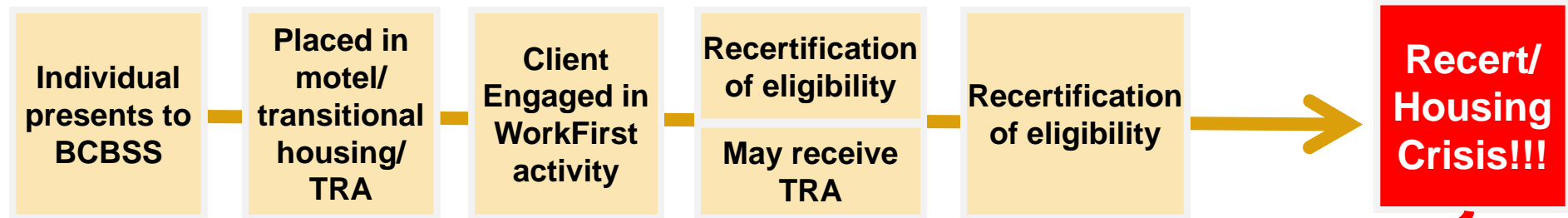
Rapid Rehousing Model



Case manager participates in monthly data tracking, and follow up post for 2 months, and at 6 and 12 months post eligibility



Old Model



Thank You!

