



National Alliance to  
**END HOMELESSNESS**

# Homelessness: Lessons Learned, the Path Ahead

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# What does homelessness look like?

- Chronic homelessness
- Single adults
- Families and children
- Youth
- Elderly Individuals
- Veterans



# What have we learned about homelessness?

- Chronic homelessness
  - Research on prevalence/dynamics/costs
  - Interventions that work
    - Housing First/Permanent supportive housing
- Families with children
  - Research on prevalence/dynamics/costs
  - Impact of the economy
  - New interventions



# Lessons from Communities: Ending Family Homelessness

- Prevention assistance
- Rapid Re-Housing
- Helping families pay for housing
- Strategic use of services
- Coordinated intake, assessment, and services
- Data for planning and program management

# Shifting Policy Responses to Family Homelessness

- Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP)
- Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Program
- Federal Strategic Plan to End Homelessness



# The Road Ahead: Practice and Policy

- Emphasis on prevention – challenging targeting of prevention resources
- More options for rural communities
- Focus on outcomes:
  - Reduce average length of homeless episodes
  - Prevent recidivism
  - Increase permanent housing outcomes

# The Road Ahead: Practice and Policy

- To achieve outcomes:
  - Emphasis on rapid re-housing strategies
  - Shift from longer-term transitional housing programs
  - Permanent supportive housing
- Achieving outcomes also requires strengthened and better targeted use of safety-net programs
  - Housing Trust Fund
  - Housing Choice Vouchers
  - TANF/Home Visiting/Child Welfare



# Making a Difference

- Advocacy Assistance
  - Federal funding for housing, homelessness programs
  - Improving safety net programs
- Improving Local Practices
  - Inform local point-in-time count (include youth)
  - Encourage use of promising and best practices
  - Improve access to and use of social support resources to assist at-risk and homeless families and children

# Questions?

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