



## Homeless Housing Discussion

Our Local Continuum: July 6th, 2021

## Goals of workshop:

---

- ▶ Increase understanding of how programs and agencies work together to serve clients with different needs and different circumstances
- ▶ Include panel describing experience with homelessness from a variety of lived experiences



## What is the County's role?

---

- ❖ Design, implement, and evaluate effective service delivery system for individuals experiencing homelessness
  - ❖ Leverage all available funds
  - ❖ Accountable for system performance – which includes both funded and non-funded pieces
  - ❖ In current system we prioritize investing in rent assistance which is the one expense all other fund sources do not pay for
- 



# Grays Harbor 5-Year Plan to Address Homelessness

Strategies and vision

2019-2024

## Increase the availability of affordable housing for all income levels

The private housing market will have an adequate number of units that are affordable to our lowest income neighbors, so fewer people will need housing subsidies.



### PREVENT HOMELESSNESS

Youth and families will have access to community-based resources so that they can avoid the trauma of homelessness.



### QUICKLY IDENTIFY & ENGAGE PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS

Coordinated Entry (the process for ensuring that all people have fair and equal access to housing assistance) will be robust, consistent, and truly accessible in all parts of the County.



### PROVIDE TEMPORARY & EMERGENCY SHELTER

Shelter will be available for all household types - youth, adults, families, and survivors of domestic violence.



### RAPIDLY REHOUSE WITH PERMANENT HOUSING

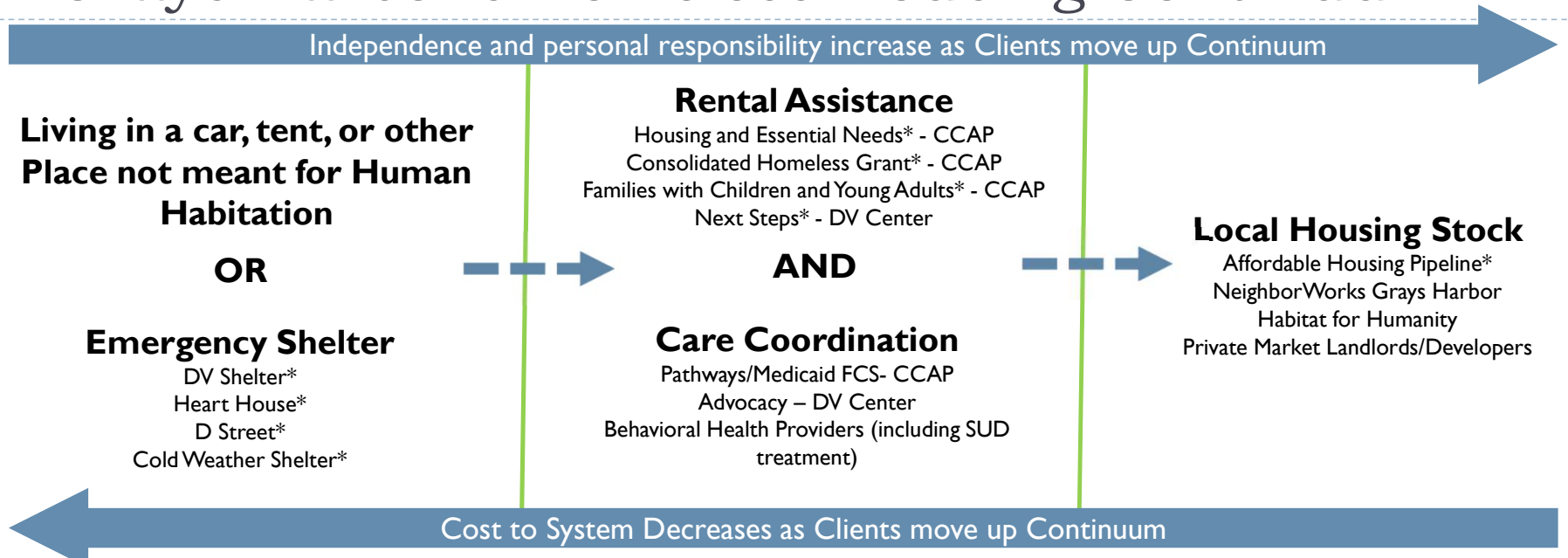
Programs that result in permanent housing will be prioritized. No families with children should be unsheltered in our community.



### PROVIDE PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The most intensive services will be given to those who are most in need in our community - those who have been homeless for a long time and face complex challenges.

# Grays Harbor's Homeless Housing Continuum

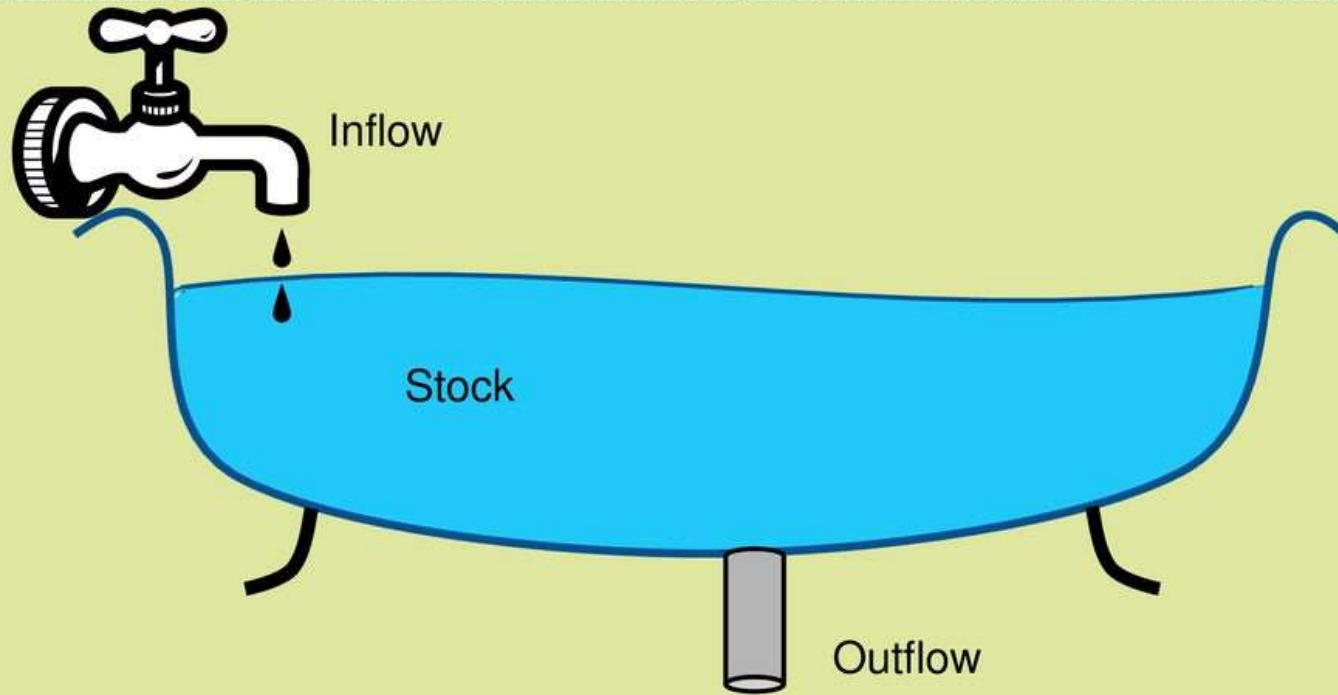


- It takes a complex array of services to provide housing and supports for people experiencing homelessness or housing instability.
- Each community partner plays a critical role and must frequently interact with other partners so all parts of the system must be able to work together smoothly
- Grays Harbor does not yet have adequate resources to address the needs in our community, but good work is being done on a daily basis

\*Services listed with an asterisk are funded by Grays Harbor County's Consolidated Homeless Grant.



# Bathtub System



# Bathtub model

---

## ▶ Stocks

- ▶ At Risk/Stably Housed (In the pipes)
- ▶ Literally Homeless (in the bathtub)
- ▶ Engaged with the crisis response system (outflow/down the drain)

## ▶ Flows

- ▶ Stably housed to at risk=systemic drivers of homelessness such as increasing price in rent, COVID, restricted housing stock, opioid crisis. *We cannot control these drivers just like we can't control the pressure in the pipes without major systemic changes that happen outside of our local context.*
- ▶ At risk to literally homeless = Personal crisis such as medical emergency, sudden job loss, behavioral health issues. *We can slow down this flow (turning off the tap) with prevention, diversion, therapeutic court, and other early intervention strategies.*
- ▶ Literally homeless to engaged= moving people into our programs. *We can INCREASE this flow, with additional resources like subsidies and services and/or we can DECREASE it by creating barriers to programs.*

