



Mayor Muriel Bowser
City Administrator Rashad M. Young



District of Columbia

ICH Executive Committee



November 13, 2018

Meeting Agenda



- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Inflow Analysis Update
- III. Veteran Homelessness
- IV. 2018 Year in Review
- V. December 2018 Full Council Meeting
- VI. Summary & Adjournment



Inflow Analysis Update: Context

- ❖ **The annual Point in Time Count (PIT) is scheduled for January 23, 2019**
- ❖ PIT provides a snapshot of the scope and scale of homelessness in the District at a single “point in time.”
- ❖ Required of every community that receives federal homeless assistance funds from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- ❖ The Community Partnership (TCP) has coordinated and conducted the count on behalf of the District of Columbia Continuum of Care since 2001.
- ❖ PIT Data is used locally to plan programs, to allocate funding, to track progress toward goals outlined in *Homeward D.C.*, and better understand the needs of our homelessness neighbors.
- ❖ HUD provides guidelines for conducting a PIT Count, but every community develops its own methodology.

Creates a Snapshot of Homelessness in the District

Secures Funding

Aids Local Planning Efforts

Helps Us Track Progress

Makes Us More Efficient In Meeting Goals

2018 Point-in-Time Results

At PIT 2018, **6,904** people were experiencing homelessness in the District

UNSHELTERED: 600 Persons

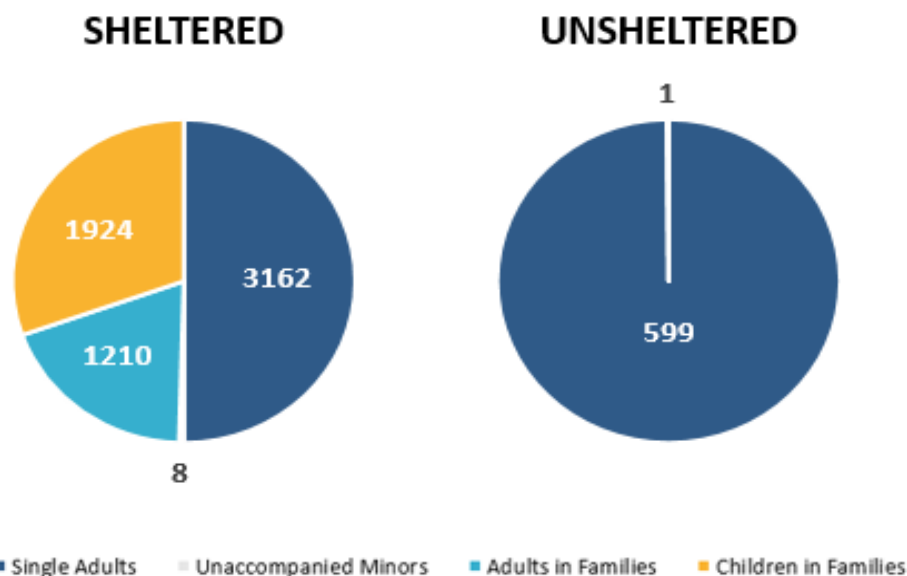
- 599 Single Adults
- 1 Unaccompanied Minor
- No Families

EMERGENCY SHELTER: 5,095 Persons

- 2,467 Single Adults
- 5 Unaccompanied Minors
- 1,010 Adults in Families
- 1,613 Children in Families

TRANSITIONAL HSG: 1,209 Persons

- 695 Single Adults
- 3 Unaccompanied Minors*
- 200 Adults in Families
- 311 Children in Families



* 3 unaccompanied minors are housed in a host homes program and are not living independently.

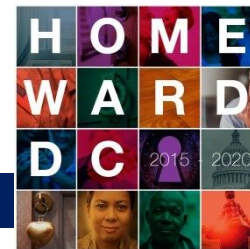
2018 Point-in-Time – Change from 2017



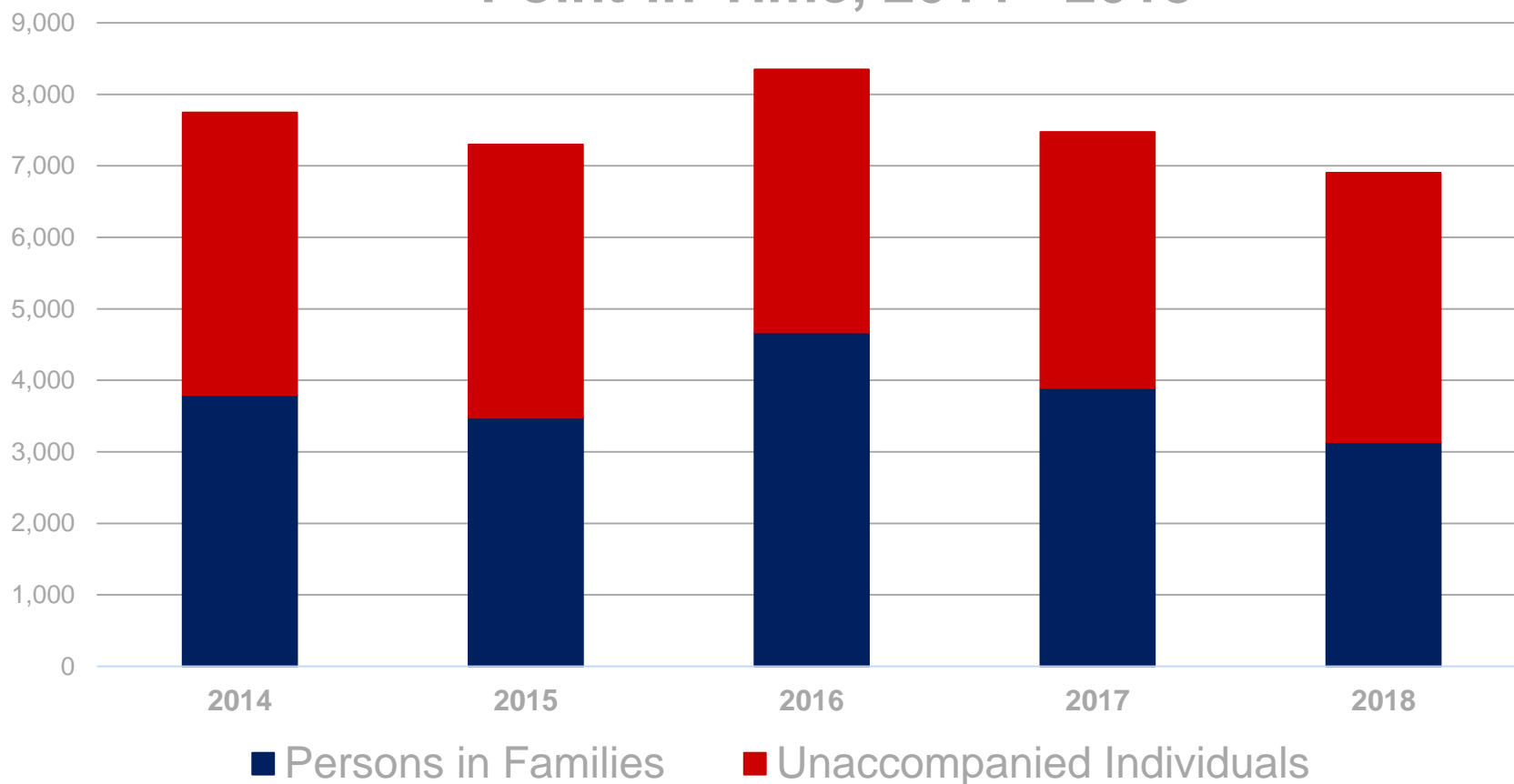
- ❖ Overall, there was been a **7.6% decrease** in people who are experiencing homelessness in the District from 2017 to 2018, driven by a **decrease of 20.8%** among families.
- ❖ However, there was an **increase of 5.2%** in single individuals.

Household Type	2018	2017	% Change
Total Persons	6,904	7,473	-7.6%
Singles	3,770	3,583	5.2%
<i>Single Adults</i>	3,761	3,578	5.1%
<i>Unaccompanied Minors</i>	9	5	80%
Family Units	924	1,166	-20.8%
Family Members	3,134	3,890	-19.4%
<i>Adults in Families</i>	1,210	1,609	-24.8%
<i>Children in Families</i>	1,924	2,281	-15.7%

2018 Point-in-Time – Change Since 2014



Point-in-Time, 2014 - 2018



2018 Point-in-Time – Single Adults



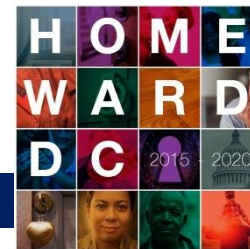
- ❖ **Count of unaccompanied individuals (single adults) was up 5.2%, to 3,761 people, from 2017**
 - ✓ This increase is despite having assisted over 1200 single adults to exit the streets or shelter to permanent housing between PIT 2017 and 2018.
 - ✓ To some degree the increase was due to newly added youth programs being occupied by young people who were “hidden” in past counts because they were not experiencing homelessness as defined by HUD.
 - ✓ However, the increase in individuals experiencing chronic homelessness (8% from 2017) suggested a pattern of persons continuing to have long stays or episodic use of homeless services.

PIT 2019 and PIT+



- ❖ The HUD-required PIT is primarily focused on counting the number of persons experiencing homelessness and does not provide the best opportunity to have in-depth conversation about reason(s) behind one's experience of homelessness, their service use histories, and patterns of housing security/insecurity over time.
- ❖ Given that the number of singles has been increasing despite hundreds of housing placements, ICH, DHS, and TCP have been looking to better understand the issues above for singles.
- ❖ The work done over summer 2018 provided good insight into service use patterns but a deeper look is necessary.
- ❖ TCP will build on the lessons learned and methodology of the Women's Needs Assessment and Homeless Youth Census to get at this type of information in a separate survey.

Inflow Analysis, July 2018



- ❖ To better understand system inflow and usage patterns, TCP looked the historical CoC system use of the unaccompanied individuals counted in emergency shelter during PIT 2018.
- ❖ This was done with the intent to look at how many of the individuals in ES at PIT 2018 were:
 - ✓ Previously housed, but returned to the CoC
 - ✓ Had multiple, distinct episodes
 - ✓ Had only episode that has lasted more than one year
 - ✓ Had only episode that has lasted less than one year

Inflow Analysis, July 2018



<i>Percent of Single Persons Counted in Shelter at PIT 2018, by Service Pattern</i>	<i>Single Women (n=650)</i>	<i>Single Men (n=1802)</i>
Category #1: Previously housed, but returned to CoC	5%	4%
Category #2: Multiple episodes (services rec'd a year or more apart)	34%	43%
Category #3: First/only episode, has lasted more than one year	28%	31%
Category #4: First/only episode, has lasted less than one year	33%	22%

Inflow Analysis, July 2018

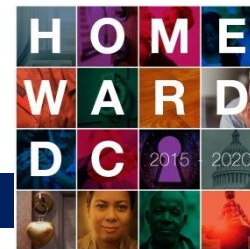


- ❖ Minimal demographic differences among cohorts though persons newly experiencing homelessness (1 episode) were slightly younger and those with a long single episode or multiple episodes were older and reported more disabilities
- ❖ Slim majority (51%) of those with episodic histories had two episodes, but some had as many as 6 over time; avg. amount of time between episodes was 4 years but there were outliers with 10-12 year breaks in service use
- ❖ Original Homeward DC modeling assumed that 30% of persons using shelter would self-resolve, but the findings from the July analysis put that estimate at closer to 12%



- ❖ To better understand inflow and causation, and to be able to intervene sooner, we need answers to questions such:
 - What caused someone to seek emergency shelter, and what could have altered that path?
 - How many people are experiencing homelessness for the first time each year?
 - When we see short or long breaks in service patterns, where are people going?
 - When people arrive from outside of the District, what factors influenced their decision to seek services here?
- ❖ We also want to compare and contrast responses to these questions among different groups:
 - Men/Women; Youth/Adults; Vets/Non-vets; Persons with disabling conditions v. those without; and persons entering homeless services system from other systems, i.e. Criminal Justice, Psychiatric, Child Welfare, etc.

PIT+ Survey

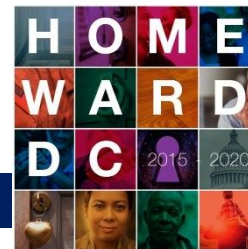


- ❖ The PIT+ survey tool will be lengthier than the traditional PIT survey tool, so it will not be feasible to administer on just the PIT night;
- ❖ Because of the length and the nature of the survey, we cannot rely on volunteers as much as we do with the blitz count on the PIT night;
- ❖ Findings from other studies have suggested more of an interview setting as opposed to immediate question and answer;
 - Allows individuals to respond at greater length; narrative responses will be coded to set response categories by those administering the PIT+ (so that quantitative analysis can be done)
- ❖ TCP/DHS are requesting that agencies that do outreach, drop-in/meal/day service programs, etc. conduct the PIT+ over the last 7-10 days of January (instead of just focusing efforts on a single day)
- ❖ Training on the survey tool will be available Dec/Jan for partner agencies

PIT vs. PIT+



PIT	PIT+
Conducted on January 23 rd only	Conducted 7-10 days at the end of January (exact dates will depend on which agencies participate)
Counting/surveying done in Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing programs, and during the evening hours outside	Surveying (ideally) done by outreach, day services, meal programs, drop in centers, etc.; possible magnet event(s)(?)
Survey is 12-15 questions long, primarily about demographics and service needs; questions determined by HUD	Survey will include PIT questions plus 12-15 additional inflow/causation/service history questions; questions determined by review of similar assessments conducted elsewhere and will be workshopped in consumer spaces, i.e. Consumer Engagement
Usually takes 5 minutes to complete	Estimating 15-25 minutes per survey, depending on length of answers, coding to correct response
Done with a mix of volunteers and professionals/peers	Ideally done with professionals/peers only



PIT vs. PIT+

PIT	PIT+
Ideally a survey is done on every adult and unaccompanied youth	Will seek to have surveys done with 500-800 participants (higher number is to minimize margins of error)
TCP will provide incentives for participating (\$10 gift cards)	TCP will provide incentives, possible of higher value due to additional time commitment



- ❖ In addition to the new survey tool, TCP/DHS are working on other improvements to PIT, incorporating feedback from past PIT counts that response rates to questions about service needs are too low;
- ❖ We are establishing data sharing agreements with District Departments that have information on PIT/PIT+ questions to inform what we report back to ICH and HUD;
- ❖ Seeking assistance from District gov't reps in facilitating those conversations to move the agreements forward.

Point in Time 2019



- ❖ Agencies interested in having staff administer the PIT+ or to set up data sharing agreements, please contact me at:

tfredericksen@community-partnership.org

Inflow Analysis: Regional Coordination



- ❖ CM Nadeau and CM Leventhal (MoCo) co-hosted roundtable discussion on 11/8.
- ❖ In preparation for that discussion:
 - Developed summary of shelter capacity, policy, and protocol across jurisdictions; currently under review.
 - Conducted data match between DC & MoCo to identify users of both systems.
 - ✓ Will conduct additional analysis, using a longer lookback period, and including PGC.
 - Low hanging fruit: tracking turnaways, reducing barriers to entry, providing transportation assistance, etc.
 - Discussed potential regional coordinated entry pilot for veterans.

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❖ Functional Zero

- Recognizes that there will always be people or veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, but as long as these people can be identified and re-housed quickly and effectively, the homeless rate will be effectively or functionally zero.

❖ Current Community Aim

- The District of Columbia will achieve functional zero for Veterans by January 2020.





❖ Framing & Background

➤ USICH Benchmarks:

- ✓ Target A: Chronic and long-term homelessness among Veterans has been ended.
- ✓ Target B: Veterans have quick access to permanent housing.
- ✓ Target C: The community has sufficient permanent housing capacity.
- ✓ Target D: The community is committed to Housing First and provides service-intensive transitional housing to Veterans experiencing homelessness only in limited instances.





❖ Framing & Background (continued)

➤ USICH Benchmarks Recap from 2016

- ✓ The only benchmark DC did not meet was the target benchmark for the length of time homeless, set for 90 days
- ✓ At the time, USICH did not approve any communities with an actively homeless number of more than 100 people/Veterans



Veterans Homelessness



❖ General Updates

➤ Data Quality & Methodology:

- ✓ Since August 2017, DC has maintained 100% data reliability when evaluating progress from month to month;

➤ Recent Reductions:

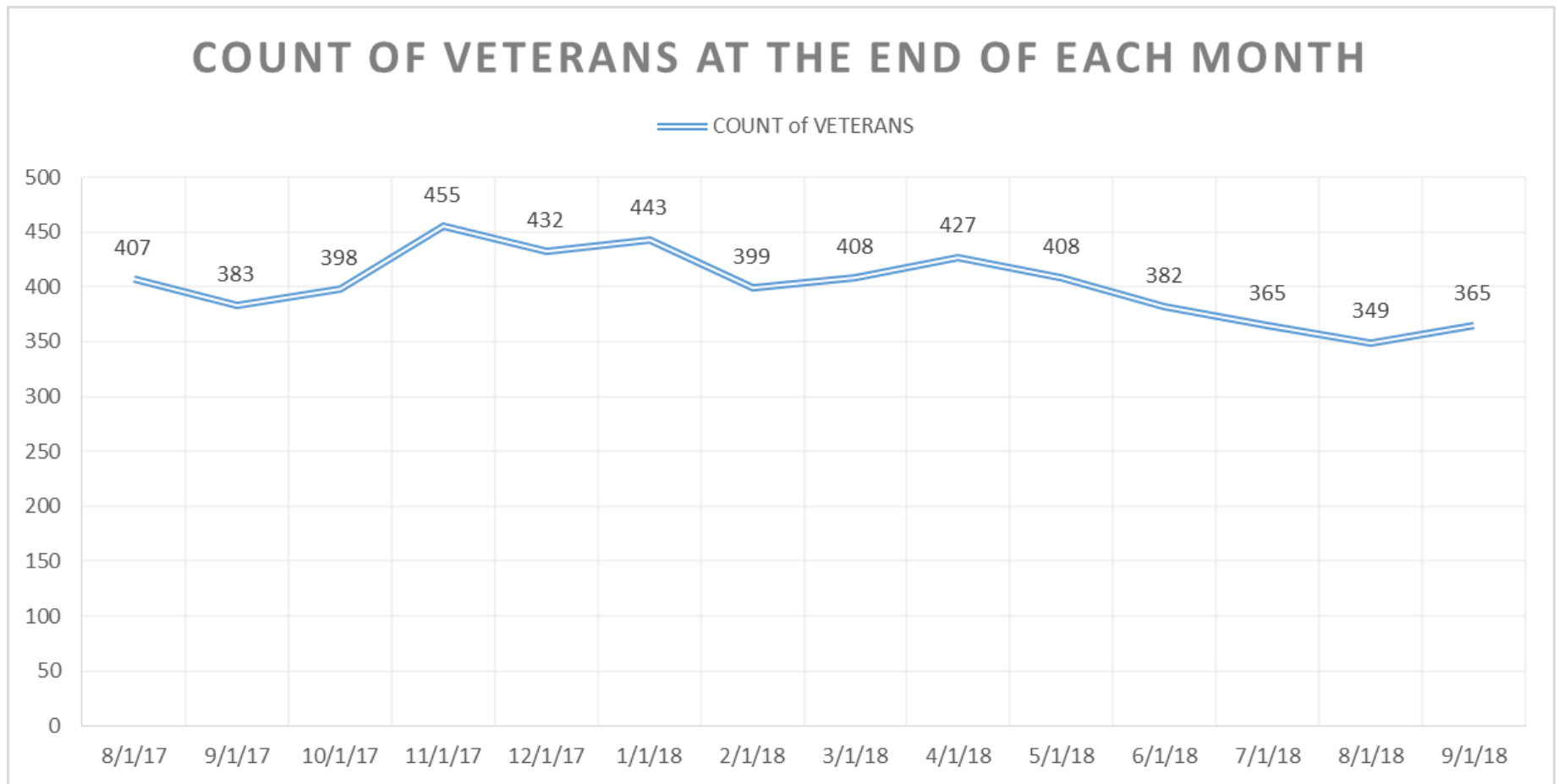
- ✓ Since December 2017, the monthly By Name List of Veterans has been reduced from 455 to 365 (almost 100 Veterans);

➤ Actively Homeless/Weekly By Name List Success:

- ✓ The weekly By Name List is under the count of 300 Veterans, and we have:
 - Verified history and length of homelessness to confirm chronicity for every Veteran;
 - Established a consistent process with the VA to review and confirm Veteran eligibility for VA resources;



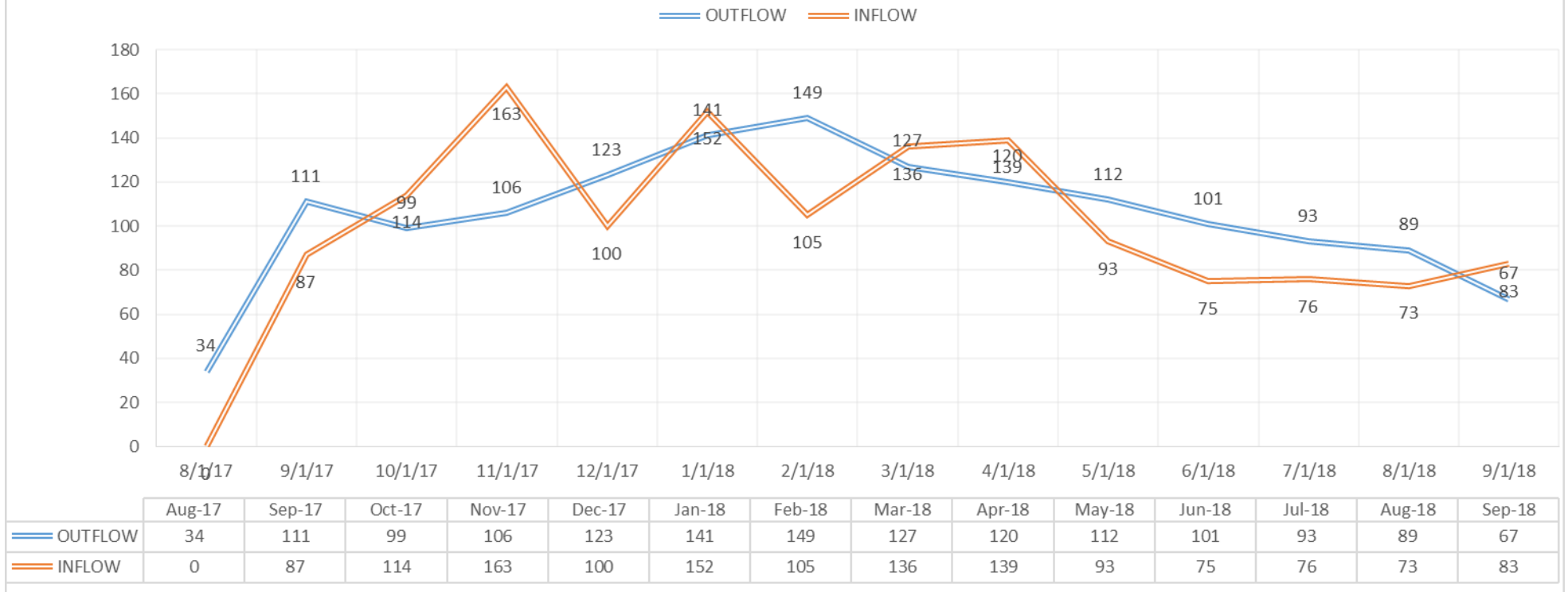
Veterans Homelessness



Veterans Homelessness



VETERAN SYSTEM EXITS & INFLOW EACH MONTH





- ❖ **Average Monthly Exits to PH = 28**
 - From August 2017 to September 2018
 - Primarily attributed to exits from SSVF
- ❖ **Average Monthly Exits = 83**
 - From August 2017 to September 2018
 - Includes confirmed exits to permanent destinations **and** other system exits



❖ **Pilot Project: Diversion/Rapid Resolutions** **(via VA SSVF)**

- **The Problem:** Too many people are accessing homeless crisis response services such as emergency shelter when they could be successfully diverted AND the crisis response system cannot adequately address the crisis needs for persons who have no other safe, available housing options
- **The Proposal:** Implement a pilot locally to gather information about effective rapid resolution practices including:
 - Staff training and structure
 - Approaches to problem solving conversation
 - Amount and type of financial assistance



- ❖ **Pilot Project: Inflow (via Community Solutions)**
 - **The Problem:** Communities cannot reliably reach and sustain Functional Zero for their homeless veteran populations if inflow into homelessness is consistently exceeding outflow.
 - **The Proposal:** The Built for Zero team has designed a multi-pronged, two phase project around veteran inflow into homelessness during which we will engage in systems level assessment to determine what is happening around veteran inflow into homelessness in communities.





❖ **Lessons Learned & Next Steps**

- Momentum with regional coordination with Prince George's and Montgomery County;
- Knowledge of Veterans who are not eligible for VA resources, indicates a need for DC or HUD funded resources;
- The By Name List can appear to include people who are at risk, so investigating these cases has allowed us to see further reductions;
- Pairing RRH providers with shelter locations and outreach areas has allowed us to target the right resource for Veterans

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2018 Year in Review



- ❖ Objective is to ensure we are being intentional & strategic as we continue with plan implementation.
- ❖ Would like to solicit feedback on progress, priorities for 2019, and any recommended changes to ICH committee structure.
- ❖ Will bring recommendations back to January 2019 Exec Comm meeting.

2018 Priorities: Executive Committee



- ❖ Establishes the annual agenda/priorities and determines issues to come before the full council for discussion/resolution;
- ❖ Assigns new/unanticipated issues to committee for resolution;
- ❖ Ensure coordination among committees;
- ❖ Oversees ICH governance & reviews ICH functioning on annual basis
- ❖ Special Projects
 - HMIS Visibility
 - Support consumer engagement

2018 Priorities: Strategic Planning



- ❖ Homeward DC Performance Management
 - Review of system-wide performance data
 - Tracking investments toward the plan
 - Annual update to system modeling
 - Produce public progress report
- ❖ Continue scaling CAHP systems (standardizing operations and messaging, improving transparency and accountability, etc.)
- ❖ Develop strategy for building capacity and scaling effective program models across the system
- ❖ Leverage Medicaid to pay for homeless services
- ❖ Follow up on implementation of special planning initiatives (ie, Women's Task Force, LGBTQ Listening Sessions)
- ❖ Leverage data governance infrastructure to promote transparency/navigation of the homeless services system

2018 Priorities: ERSO



- ❖ Continue real-time monitoring and troubleshooting
 - Shelter Capacity, Shelter Conditions, Transportation
- ❖ Development of FY2019 Winter Plan
- ❖ Evaluation and sustainability of (CABHI-funded) street outreach infrastructure
- ❖ Implementation of key improvements to the Low Barrier Shelter system for single adults, including:
 - Implement prevention/diversion pilot
 - Increase case management and ensure better coordination w/ CAHP and other services
 - Formalize bed reservation policy
 - Increase specialized beds
 - Expand harm reduction efforts in shelter

2018 Priorities: Housing Solutions



- ❖ Solicit feedback on and provide updates re: HPTF
- ❖ Enhance tracking of low income housing unit availability
- ❖ Develop CoC-wide strategy for landlord & unit identification
- ❖ Improve efficiency of lease-up process of PSH units funded through consolidated RFP
- ❖ Identify strategies for mitigating unfair tenant screening practices

2018 Priorities: Youth



- ❖ Identify, assess, and, if appropriate, implement new and innovative program models for youth experiencing homelessness in the District;
- ❖ Evolve the youth CAHP system, with a particular emphasis on ensuring efficient and effective matching of youth to available resources;
- ❖ Develop/refine youth-focused street outreach protocols;
- ❖ Preparing a grant application for U.S. Housing and Urban Development Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program, a federally funded demonstration grant designed to fund innovative and effective ways to reduce youth experiencing homelessness;
- ❖ Identifying youth experiencing homelessness who are served by other systems in order to 1) understand the needs of multi-system involved youth and how to better target services; and 2) develop transition planning protocols for youth receiving long-term services from, or in the custody of, CFSA, DYRS, or DBH;
- ❖ Engaging new partners to join the ICH Youth Committee to ensure that all partners who have a role in preventing and ending youth homelessness have a seat at the table; and
- ❖ Engaging youth with lived experience to meaningfully engage with and participate in the ICH Youth Committee.

Discussion Questions



For each committee:

- ❖ 4-5 biggest accomplishments
- ❖ Topics/projects that are still underway and should remain priorities for 2019
- ❖ Topics you spent a lot of time on that were NOT stated priorities (i.e., were we spending time on wrong things? Or should those items be priorities for 2019?)
- ❖ Any recommendations regarding the work groups supporting the committee's work?

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