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NATIONAL ALLIANCE TO
END HOMELESSNESS

New Cities Project Meeting

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Costs of Homelessness

- ◆ **Mental Health**
- ◆ **Corrections**
- ◆ **Hospitals**
- ◆ **Shelter**
- ◆ **Human Cost**

Costs of Homelessness

- ◆ We pay *\$44,000 per year* to keep someone like Charles homeless

A New Approach

When we talk about ending homelessness, what we are really talking about is doing a much smarter, more effective, more efficient job of delivering assistance.

We can – and must – reallocate resources in order to get better outcomes

Who is Homeless, and Why?

- 2.3 – 3.5 Million Homeless Per Year



Who is Homeless, and Why?

- ◆ **80% Are Homeless For a Relatively Short Period of Time**
 - Not different from other poor people
 - Have had a housing crisis
 - They stay homeless until they find new housing – services may or may not help.



Who is Homeless, and Why?

- ◆ **20% are Long-Term Homeless**
 - Often suffer from mental illness, substance abuse disorders, HIV/AIDS, other physical ailments
 - Homeless for long periods of time
 - Mostly single adults



What Have We Been Doing For People Who Are Homeless?

- ◆ For the 80%
 - Lots of services plus shelter and transitional housing
 - Too little focus on permanent housing.

- ◆ For the 20%
 - Very few services
 - Some shelter.



What Can We Do to End Homelessness?

- ◆ In Communities Where Progress is Being Made, Three Common Elements:
 - Effective Implementation
 - Key Strategies
 - Solutions brought to Scale.



Implementation

- ◆ **Implementing Body Controls Resources**
 - ◆ New York City
 - ◆ Columbus
- ◆ **Shift From Nonprofit Sector to Public Sector**



Key Strategies

- ◆ Homelessness is Driven by Housing
- ◆ Key Strategies are Focused on Housing:
 - Prevention/Diversion
 - Housing First
 - Rapid Re-Housing
 - Supportive Housing



Key Strategies

◆ Examples

- Hennepin County, MN
- Westchester County, NY
- Columbus, OH
- New York City

Scale

Examples

- Chronic Homelessness Initiative
- San Francisco Direct Access to Housing
- Portland Central City Concern
- Philadelphia Street Outreach



Challenges

- **Scarce Federal Resources**
- **Access to State Funding**
- **Transforming Systems**
- **Overlapping and Mismatched Funding**



It Can Be Done

- ◆ **Doing Things Smarter**
- ◆ **Solving A Problem**
- ◆ **Targeting Resources**
- ◆ **Good and Effective Governance**
- ◆ **Public Morality and Conscience**
- ◆ **ENDING Homelessness**



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