



HOMELESSNESS

Department of Commerce

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Department of Commerce
Innovation is in our nature.



Background: *Spanning across systems*

- **Employment**

Access to job training and job supports help individuals and families move from homelessness to self-sufficiency.

- **Education**

Housing homeless school children improves their test scores by 30%.

- **Health**

Housing chronically homeless people reduces their use of high-cost emergency care.

- **Criminal Justice**

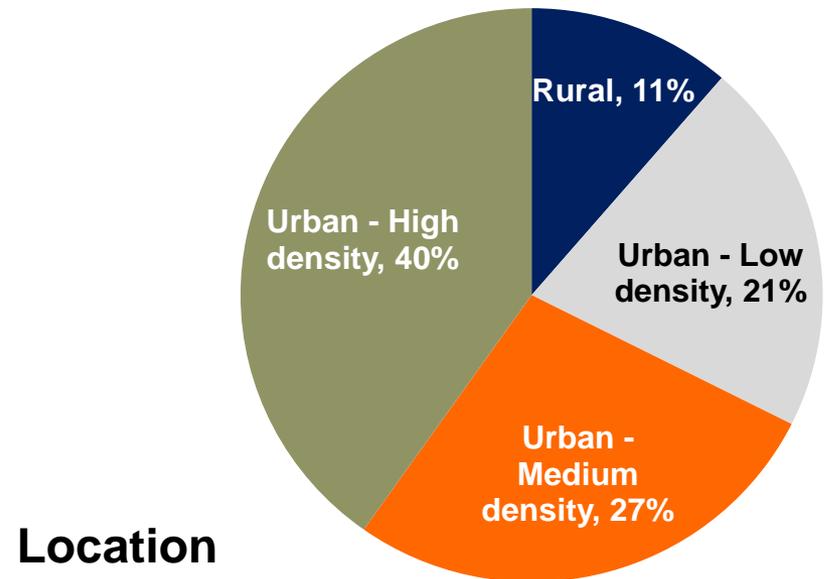
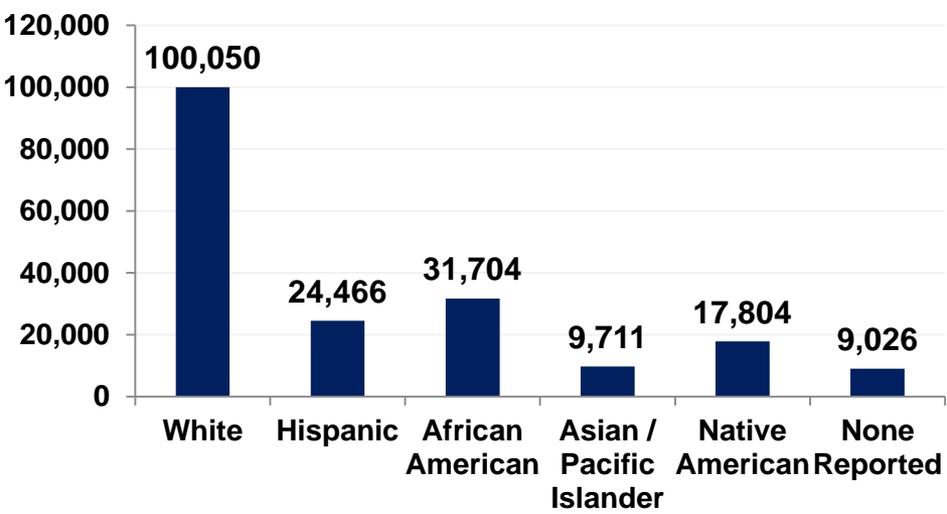
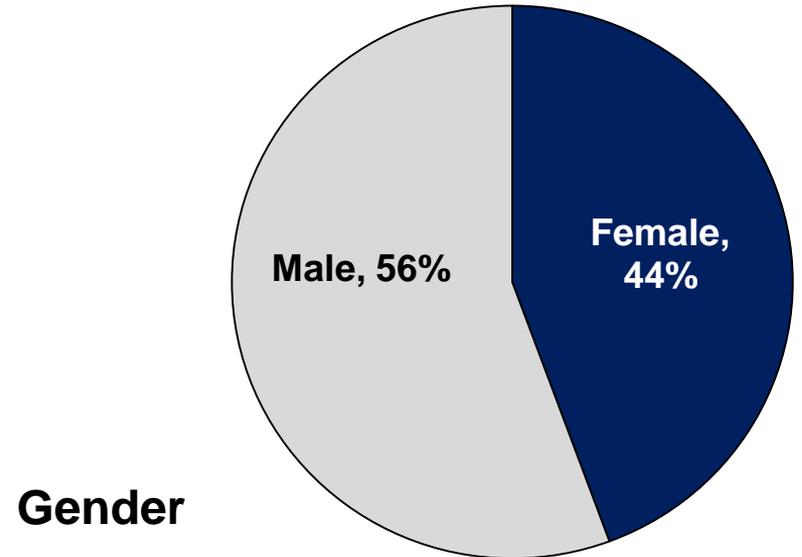
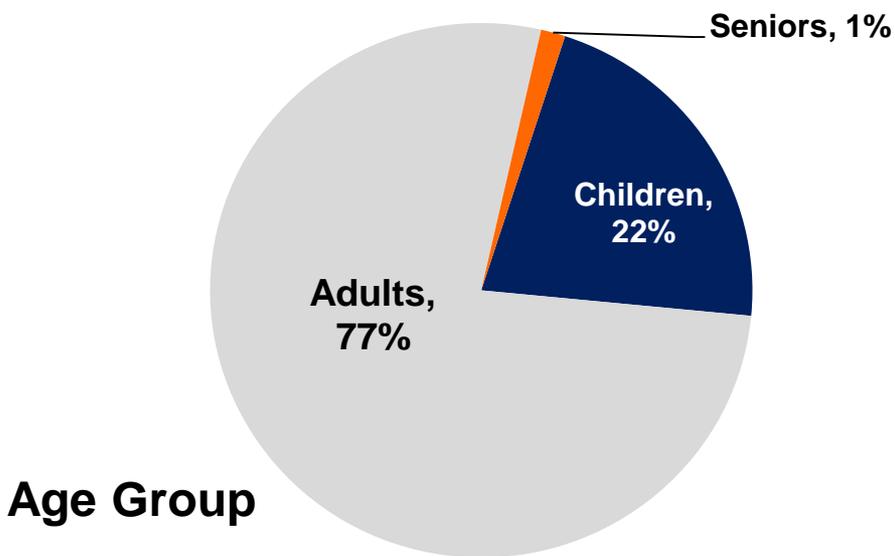
Reentry planning that includes housing reduces recidivism among offenders.

Background: *Homelessness*

Results Washington Goal	2006 Homelessness Housing and Assistance Act
Decrease number of people who are homeless from 17,775 in 2013 to 16,000 by 2015 (10% reduction)	Decrease homelessness by 50% (from 21,962 to 10,981) by July 2015

- Requires local and state plans, guided by performance data
- Provides \$47 million/year via document recording fees (\$31 million local; \$16 state)

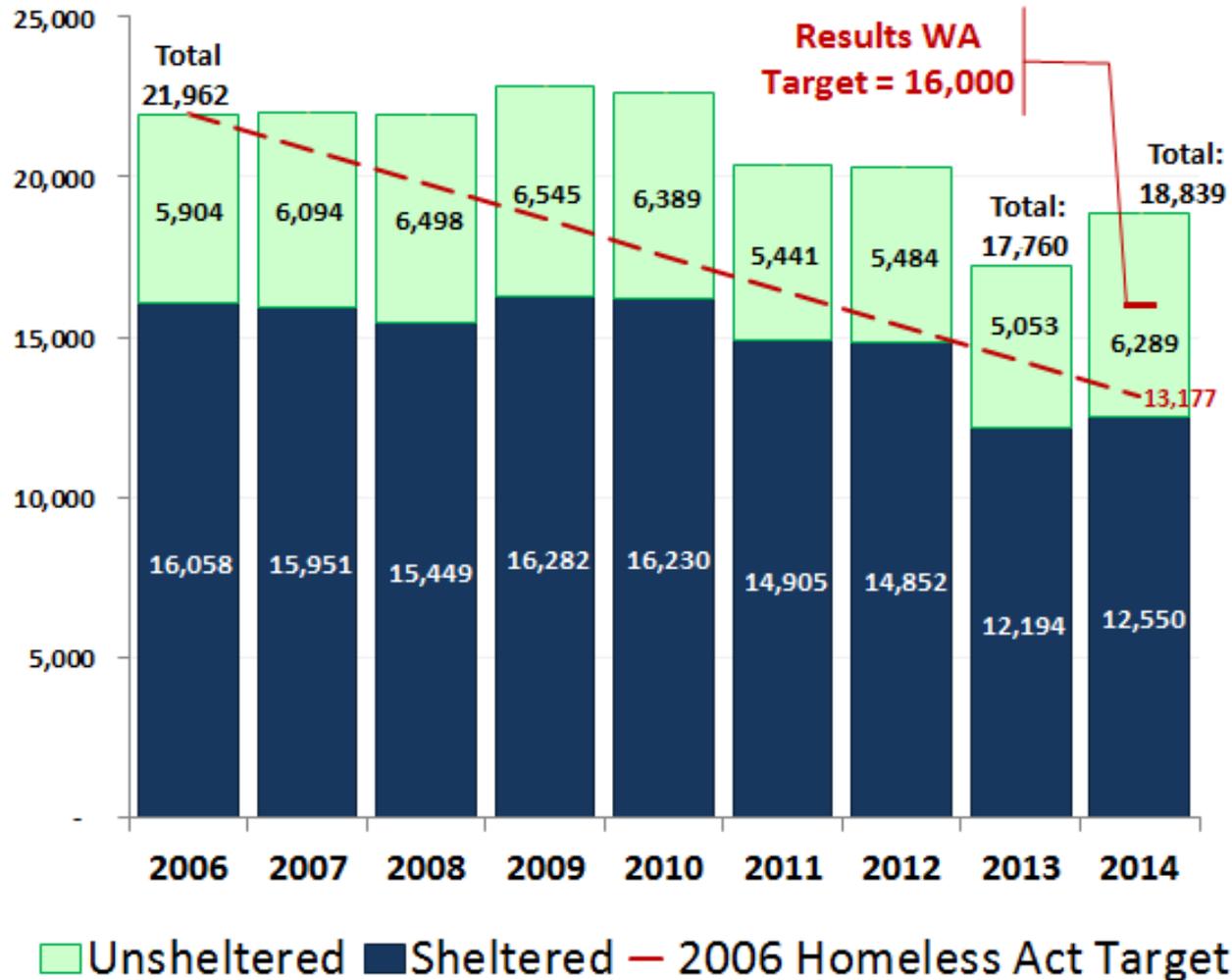
Current State: *Demographics of homelessness*



Race/Ethnicity

Location

Current State: *Needs Improvement*



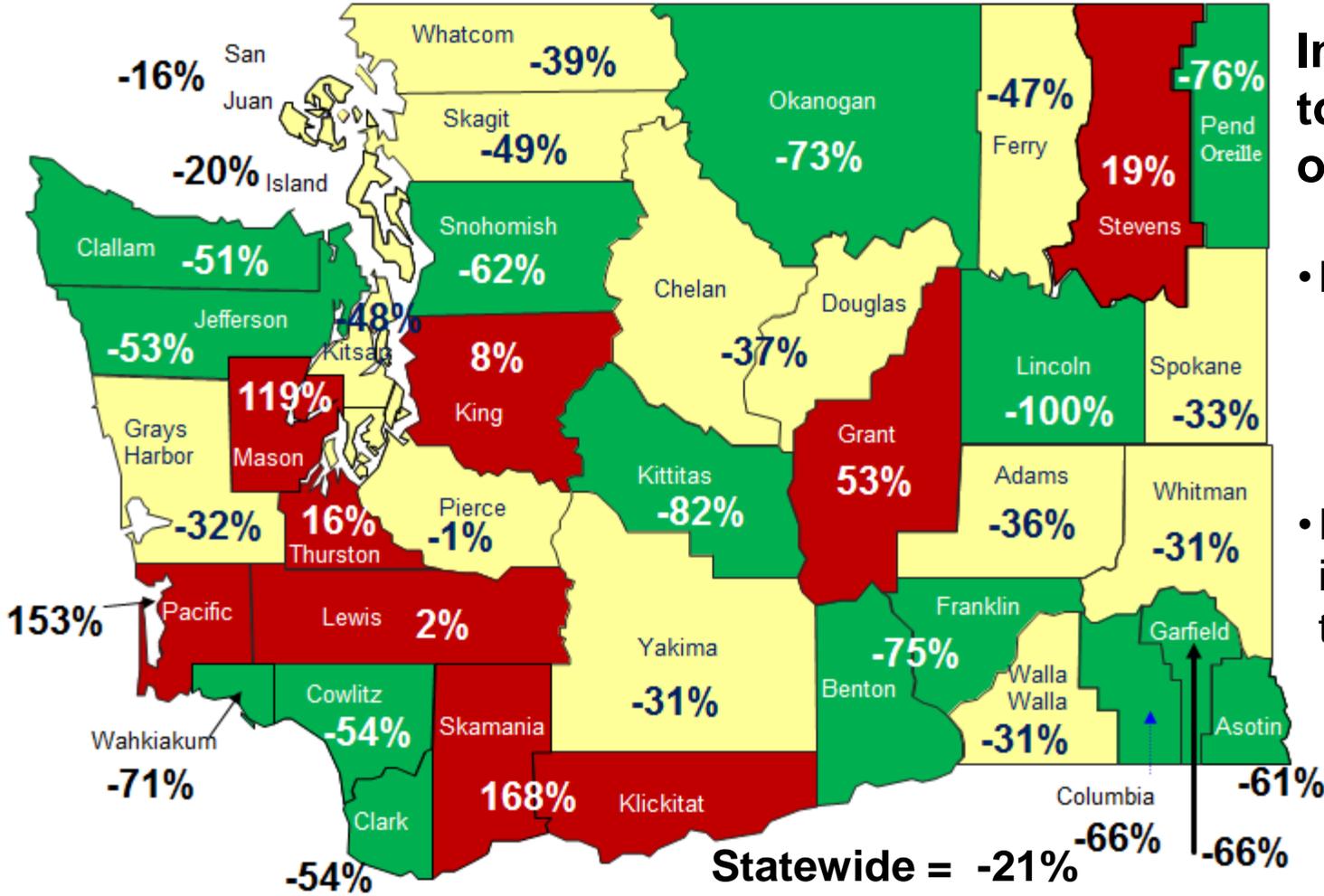
Count of people who are homeless ↓14% compared to 2006

- January 2014 count:
- 18,839 TOTAL
 - 6,289 unsheltered

Prevalence of unsheltered people in families with children ↓ 56%; from 1,690 to 840 people

13 counties have met the 50% reduction goal

Opportunity: *Inconsistent performance between counties*



Inconsistent due to combination of:

- Different:
 - Implementation of best practices
 - Local economies
- Potentially inaccurate point in time counts

■ ≥ 50% reduction in homelessness
 ■ ≤ 50% reduction in homelessness
 ■ ↑ in homelessness

2006-2014 change in prevalence homelessness

Strategies:

I. Quantify differences between county implementations of best practices:

Measure correlation of success and county implementation of the following:

1. Coordinated entry
2. Rapid re-housing
3. Use of transitional housing
4. Targeted/limited prevention

II. Quantify differences between county economies:

Measure differences between counties in the following areas:

1. Change in rent burdens
2. Affordability
3. Rental availability
4. In-migration
5. Income changes

Strategies:

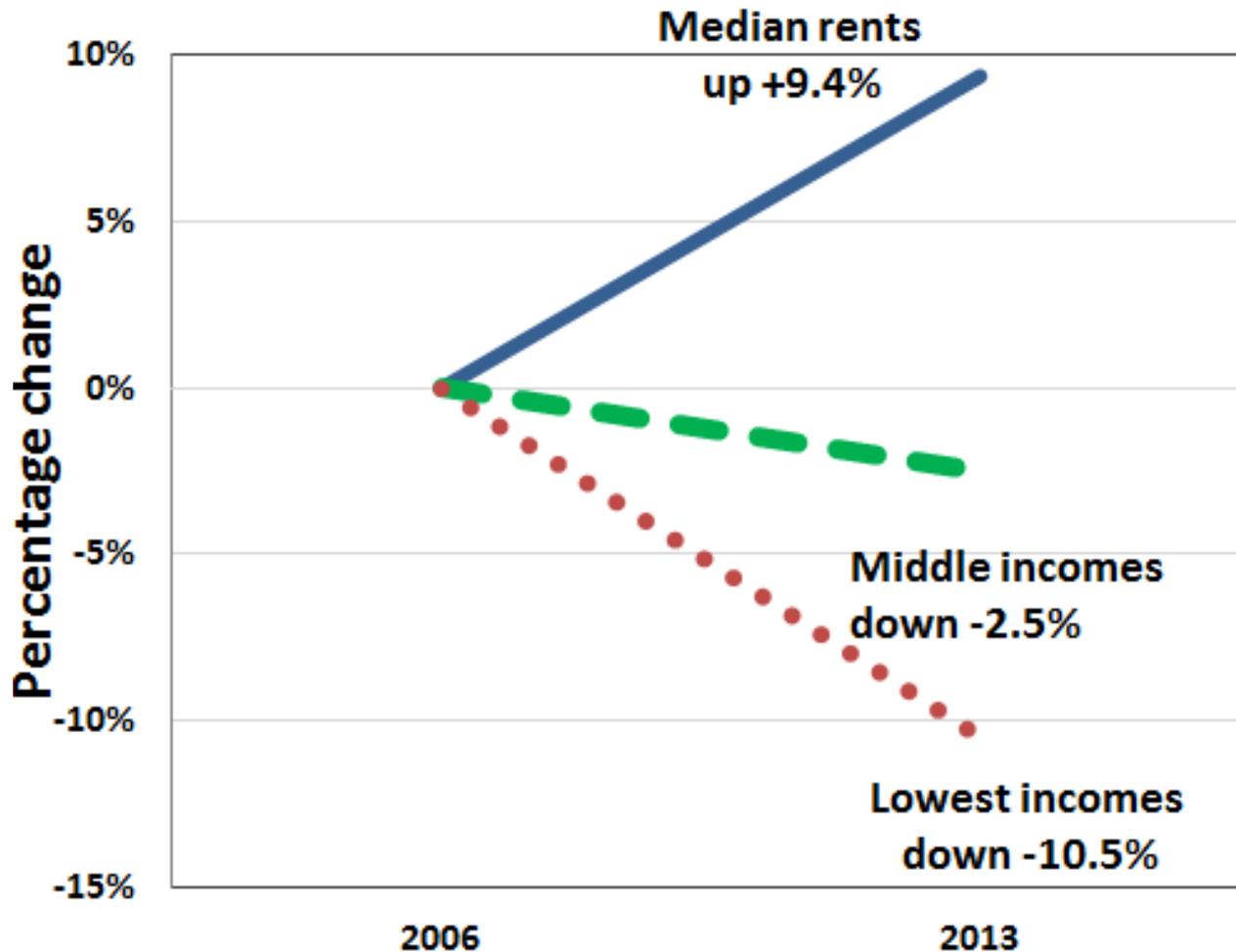
III. Restructure state contracts to promote successful strategies

For best practices that are correlated with success in Washington counties, modify state contracts to incentivize or require implementation
~ September 2015

IV. Supplement point in time count measure

Supplement count with twice annual measure of homelessness by county using existing administrative data from schools, DSHS, and housing providers
~ December 2015

Problem: *Rents increasing / incomes declining*



195,235 households with extremely low incomes and severe cost burdens...and likely growing

Strategies:

V. Address affordability

Affordable Housing Advisory Board will update plan to quantify the impact of proposed strategies on the number of cost burdened households
~ *July 2016*

VI. Replicate successful inter-agency partnerships

Continue and expand collaborations such as Ending Family Homelessness pilot and Vulnerable Families Partnership. Replicate this inter-agency coordination with other state partners
~ *September 2015*

Strategy: *DSHS Homeless Prevention Tools*



7,000

RISE Grant Basic Food Employment and Training

Food assistance recipients to be served in King, Pierce, Spokane and Yakima counties

299 Housing Pathway Pilot Program

Families who receive assistance from housing providers in Spokane, Snohomish, Mason, Cowlitz, Pacific, Jefferson, Whatcom and Wahkiakum counties



2,016 Additional Requirements for Emergent Needs

Families who received emergent assistance*

9,522 Housing and Essential Needs

Incapacitated adults*

*SFY14



Detailed Action Plan:

Task	Task Lead	Partners	Expected Outcome	Status	Due Date
Change contracts to incentivize or require best practices	Commerce	DSHS, ESD	Use of existing limited resources toward proven strategies	On track	September 2015
Replicate successful inter-agency partnerships	Commerce	DSHS, DOC, OSPI, Workforce Dev, HCA, ESD	Improved system integration and efficiencies through targeted interventions.	On track	September 2015
Quantify differences between counties	Commerce	DSHS, Counties	Measure of best practice use, economic drivers and relationship to homelessness	On track	December 2015
Create supplemental measure of homelessness	Commerce	DSHS, OSPI, DVA, OFM, DOL	Supplement will provide more regular/timely data, and provide a way of validating point in time	On track	June 2016
Create affordable housing plan with quantified strategies	Commerce	Housing Finance Commission	Plan that clearly shows the scale of the proposed strategies	Not started	July 2016

Assistance Needed: *Inter-Agency Collaboration*

Employment – *Workforce Development Council, DSHS,
Employment Security*

Access to job training and job supports

Education – *Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction*

Identify and assist homeless school children to improve educational outcomes

Health – *Health Care Authority, DSHS*

Pursue linkage between housing and health care delivery

Criminal Justice – *Department of Corrections*

Collaborate on re-entry to ensure stable housing





***SPOKANE'S H3 PROGRAM:
HEALTH, HOUSING, AND HOMELESSNESS FOR THE
MEDICALLY VULNERABLE***

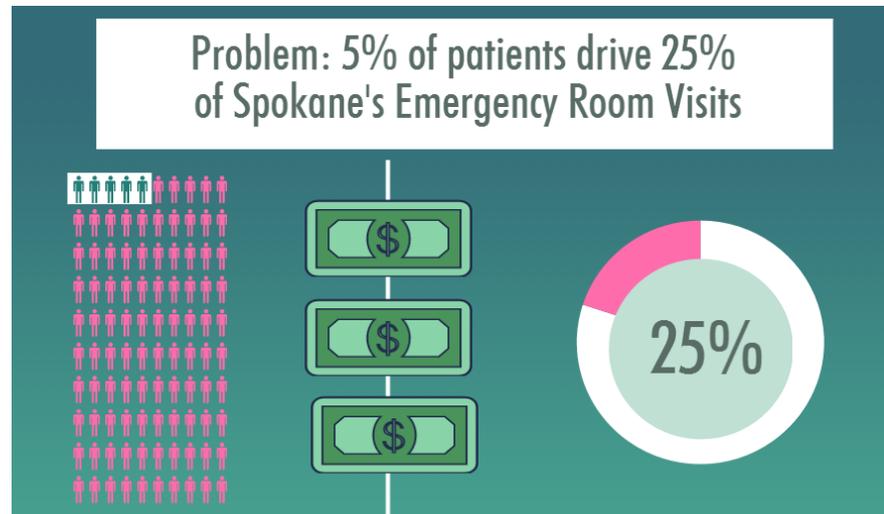
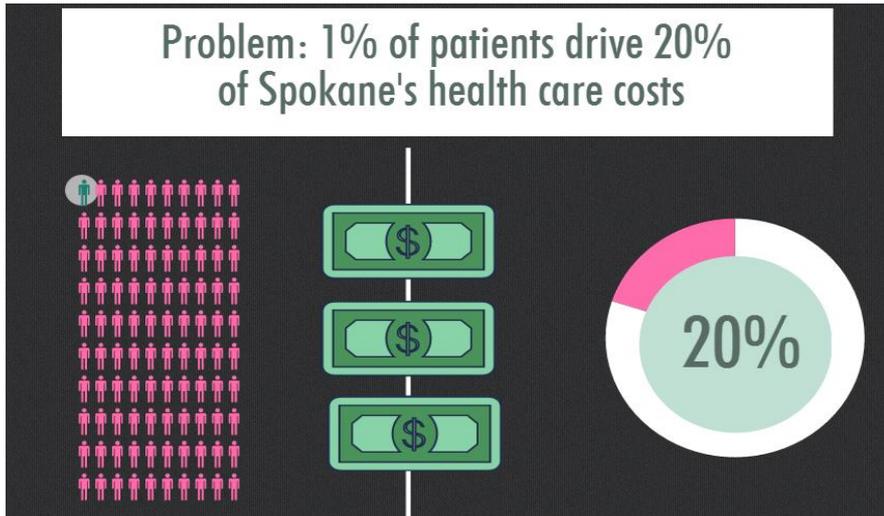
Empire Health Foundation

Kristen West-Fisher

Vice President of Programs and Operations



Problems, Opportunities & Approach:



Problem: Perverse Policies

- Policies drive low-income people to access high-cost health care

Opportunities: Cost Savings

- Medicaid/Medicare
- Emergency Room
- Criminal Justice system

Approach: Integrated Service Delivery

- Co-Investment
- Network Hub Administrator
- Network Service Providers
- Rapidly Adaptive

Current State & Challenges:

2014 - 2015 Results



85% of clients housed to date



Many clients housed in 20 days or less



68.5 days to housing (median)



Time & effort needed to navigate program, funding, & data silos

Current State:

- Early positive results
- Network developing, but incomplete

Challenges:

- Creating a new way of doing business
 - Fitting people into program silos
 - Accessing funding to operate network
 - Capturing savings
- Lack of specialized housing