



# Austin Chamber of Commerce providing shelter and services: addressing homelessness

steve cramer
president & ceo
mpls downtown council
Mpls Downtown Improvement District

mplsdowntown.com mplsdid.com



#### Role of the mpls downtown council (mdc)

#### mission

creating an extraordinary downtown

#### history

- o the mpls downtown council was formed in 1955
- one of the most historic central business district associations in the nation

#### purpose

mpls downtown council connects, leads, and empowers people to make downtown a place everyone wants to be.



#### Role of the Mpls Downtown Improvement District (DID)

#### history

- the Mpls Downtown Improvement District was formed in 2009
- DID encompasses over 120 blocks of downtown

#### mission

to support, preserve, create and enhance a vibrant, competitive and thriving downtown that attracts and retains businesses, employees, residents and visitors

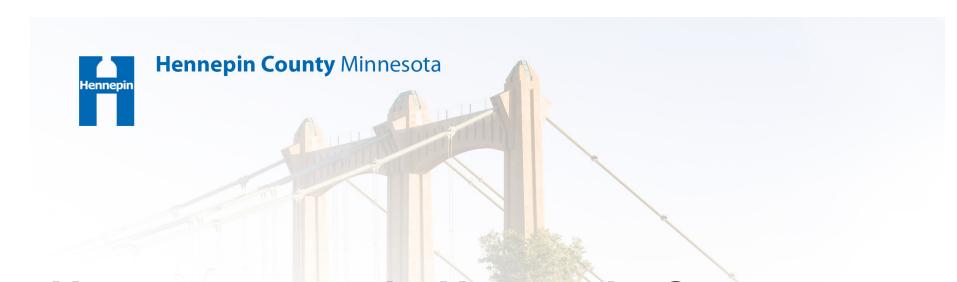








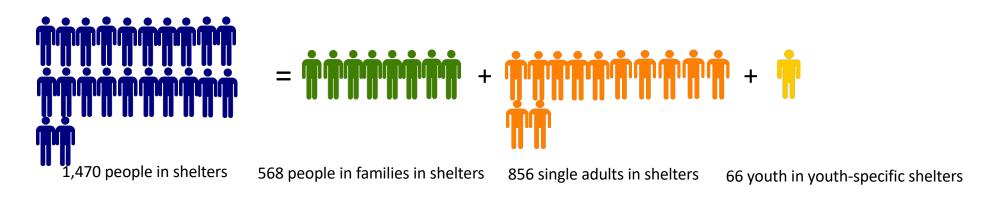
- Homelessness in Hennepin County
- mdc/DID responses
- Ongoing challenges

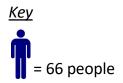






#### Hennepin County Nightly Homelessness 2018-19





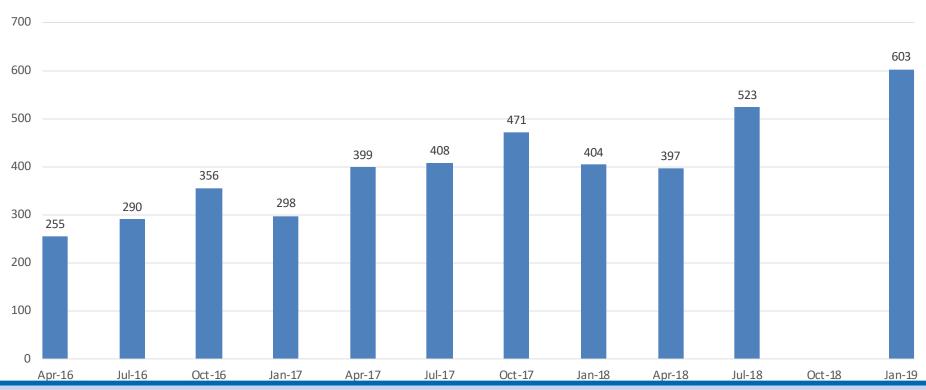




	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Change (pct.)
Total	3,731	3,215	3,056	3,057	3,013	3,400	-9%
Single Adults	1,620	1,464	1,444	1,348	1,662	2,032	+25%
Families	594	473	412	453	348	386	-35%
People in Families	2,088	1,704	1,591	1,662	1,321	1,343	-36%



#### **Unsheltered Point-in-time Count**



Hennepin County **Human Services** 



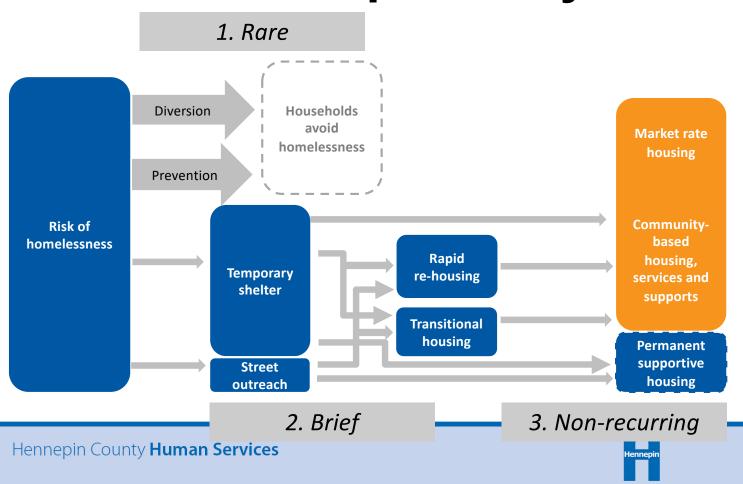
# Housing for extremely low income households



# Extremely low-income households experience affordable housing scarcity



## Homeless response system



# **Coordinated Entry System (CES)**

#### ☐ What is it?

 A process for prioritizing access to homeless-dedicated supportive housing programs

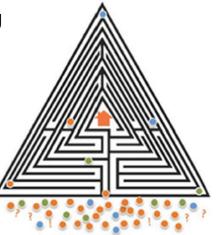
#### ■ Why is this needed?

- HUD mandated
- Targets resources towards those most vulnerable

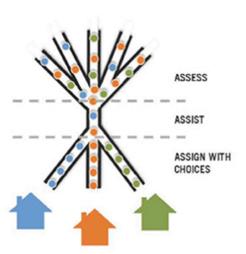
#### ☐ Who is it for?

 Single adults and families residing in an emergency shelter or sleeping outdoors

#### WITHOUT CES



#### WITH CES





#### **Coordinated Entry System (CES)**

determines eligibility and

refers to programs

People needing housing People in Coordinated Entry

People needing housing Programs select tenants by their criteria plus waiting lists

People in Coordinated Entry Programs

#### **Outcomes**

- Inefficient for programs
- Onus on person seeking housing
- Denied housing to most vulnerable
- Most vulnerable get referred first
- Resources go to literally homeless
- Programs focus on housing and services and outreach



Programs select

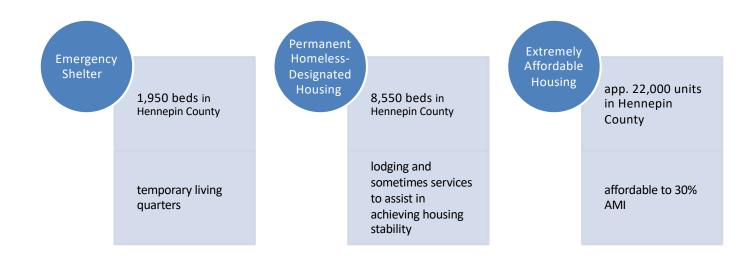
accept tenant

referrals

shelter or on

the street

Now





## mdc responses



#### 2025 plan ending street homelessness committee



"Extend housing and outreach efforts so that 300-500 people who sleep outside or in inhumane places have shelter, treatment and job training that keep them off the streets."



#### mdc responses

# Website and public education outreach www.mplsgivechange.com







#### Raising funds for grants

Awarded \$86,500 to four organizations working to help those experiencing homelessness

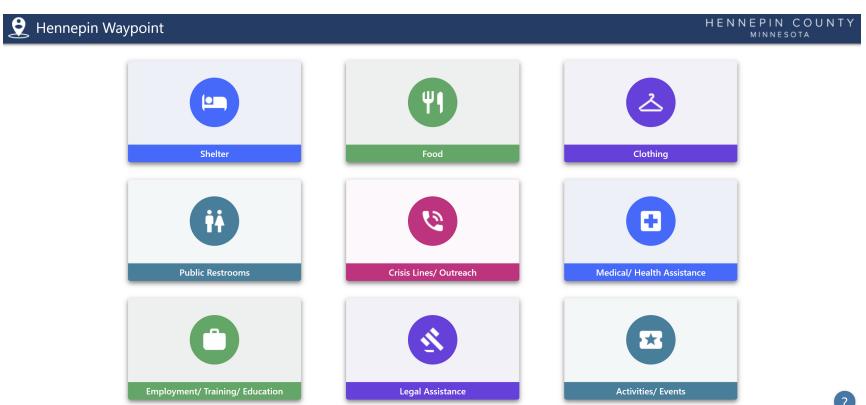
#### Recipients included:

- YouthLink: Street outreach expansion—addition of a worker for evening hours
- St. Stephen's Human Services: Enhancing engagement protocol to improve street outreach outcomes
- **Teen Tech Hennepin County Library:** Street outreach worker to serve as a community resource mentor for Teen Tech Center at the Minneapolis Central Library
- Avenues for Homeless Youth: Housing stability/eviction protection fund





#### **Waypoint App**





## **DID** responses

#### DIDLivability Team: Program core engagement areas



- \* Street-level/Resource Referrals
- \* Business/Property Management
- \* Community Resident/Visitor
- \* Public Safety
- \* Public Health



#### Street-level Resource Referrals

- \* Engagement that is nonjudgmental, focused on building trust and resourceful.
- \* Assess the individuals needs
- \* Immediate and long-term resource referrals
- \* Service coordination









#### Outreach program support







# Downtown Street Outreach Coordination—Incident Management System

The Mpls Downtown Improvement District

#### Downtown Street Outreach Coordination - IMS

#### Execution



Street outreach enter incidents or engagements using the mobile application



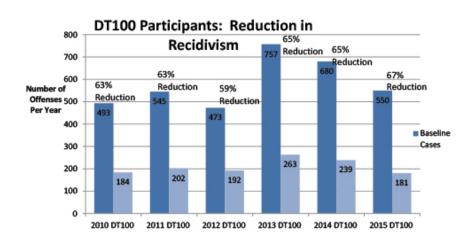
This information becomes available to the DID Safety Communication Center to dispatch to an available outreach team or follow the progress of an incident

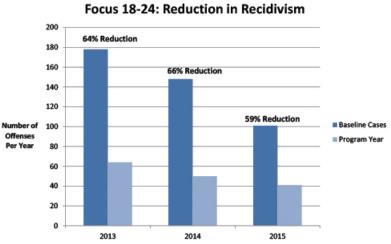
Each communication is tagged with certain features, allowing DID and all of our partners to capture the work being done in a usable format.

DID is now aware of and in communication with all street outreach available in the district at any time.



#### Downtown 100 Program | Focus 18-24 Results









#### Storage pilot



The picture can't be displayed.





# **Ongoing challenges**





- Affordable housing shortage
- Encampments (at right)
- Policy environment for livability issues/offenses

#### Ongoing challenges



**★StarTribune** 

#### Large Nicollet Mall sculpture barricaded to stop homeless encampment

By David Chanen Star Tribune AUGUST 24, 2019 — 3:58PM



The 10-ton sculpture called "Nimbus," outside the Hennepin County Central Library in downtown Minneapolis has been fenced off for a second time this

For the second time this summer, the largest sculpture on Nicollet Mall has been sealed off to discourage a growing number of homeless adults from gathering and sleeping there.

The 10-ton sculpture titled "Nimbus" resembles a curved airplane wing and includes a few rows of amphitheater seating for public performances. The art piece was installed in December on space outside the Minneapolis Central Library between 3rd and 4th streets.







- Impact on law enforcement
  - o Metro Transit HAT & mobile unit
  - o MPD co-responders
  - o MPD homelessness liaison
- Urban design considerations





#### questions?

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#### thank you

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