



Housing and Homeless Coalition of Central New York

Annual State of Homelessness

Agenda

Welcome & Introduction to the HHC

Presentation

Racial Equity and Homelessness – Sherrain Clark

Presentation

Trends in Homelessness Before and After COVID-19- Fred Hintz and Sarah Schutt

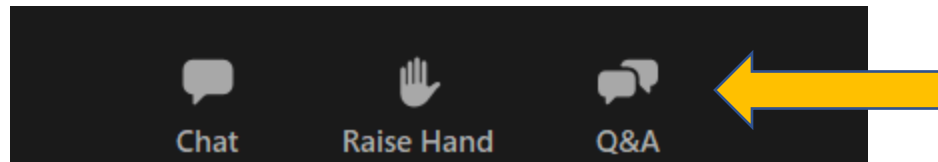
Presentation

Main Takeaways- Megan Stuart

Question & Answer

Housekeeping

- All participants are muted
- Use the Q&A to ask questions



- The presentation is being recorded and will be posted to our website

Who We Are



Coalition of organizations
across Onondaga, Oswego, and
Cayuga counties



Mission to end homelessness
and housing vulnerability in our
three-county region



Act as HUD's Continuum of
Care (CoC) which brings over 9
million dollars in housing
programs to our community



Foster community
collaboration



Operate and oversee the
homeless management
information system and
operate the community's
Coordinated Entry System

Our Core Values



HOUSING IS A HUMAN
RIGHT

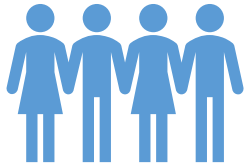


HOUSING FIRST

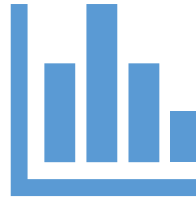


HOMELESSNESS CAN BE
ENDED

How We Do Our Work



Incorporating the Voices of
People with Lived Experience



Being Data Driven



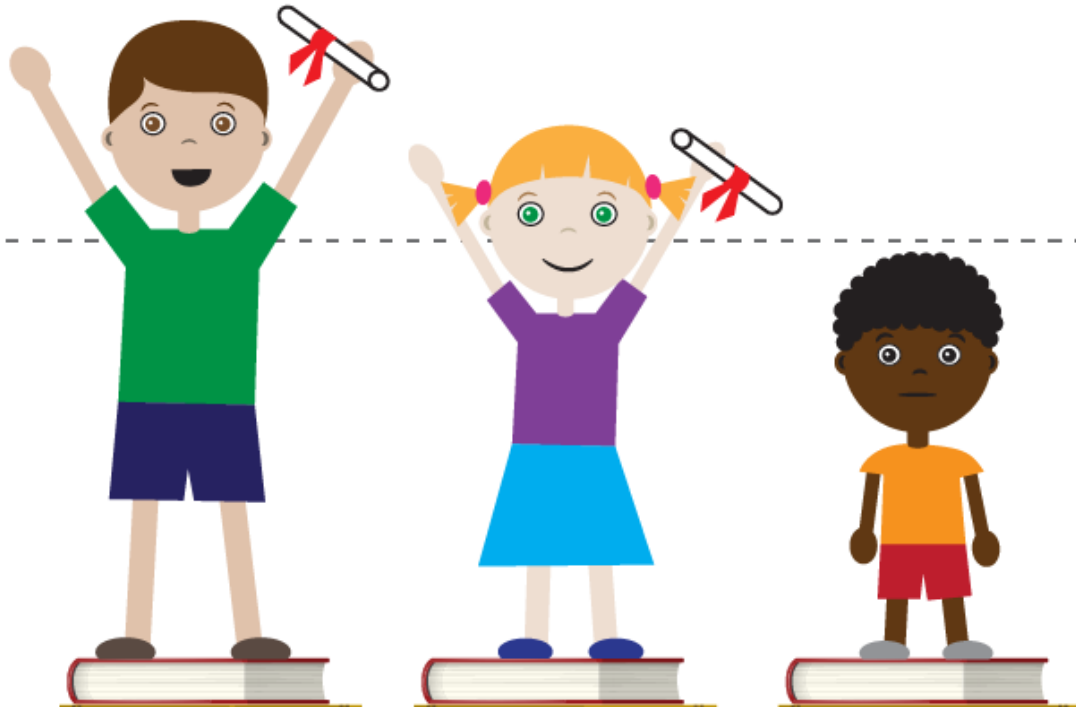
Working Together to Create
Solutions

A Look at 2020

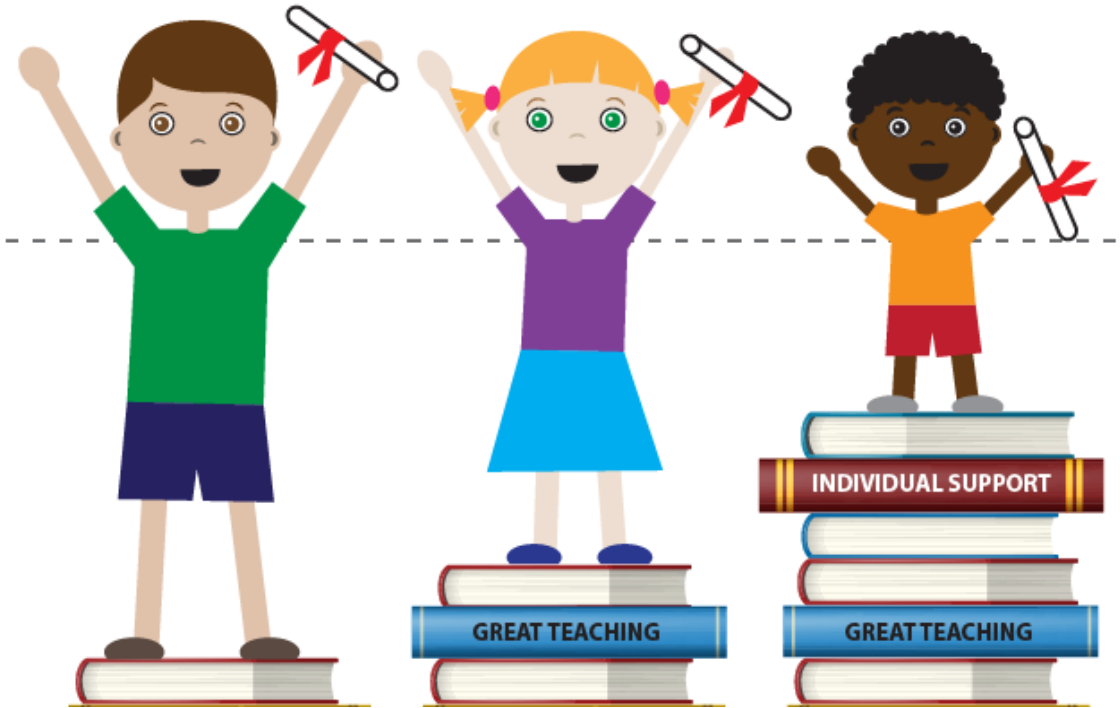
- A commitment to racial justice
- Trends in homelessness data before and after COVID-19

Racial Equity and Homelessness

EQUALITY



EQUITY



Equality vs equity: equality is the practice of giving people the same exact thing, equity gives people what they need to be successful



Targeted Universalism

- Goal: End homelessness for all
- Performance measure: The number of BIPOC experiencing homelessness is larger than the number of white people
- Different groups have different barriers to overcome



Definitions

- Nationally, Pacific Islanders are 9x more likely to experience homelessness than white people, Native Americans are 4x, and African Americans are 3x more likely
- Systemic Racism: A form of racism that is embedded as normal practice within society or an organization



Definitions

- Racial Trauma Informed Care: Practices that promote a culture of safety, empowerment, and healing and fully incorporates an understanding of racial trauma and culturally appropriate healing practices
- Cultural Competence: Ongoing process of self exploration and self critique combined with a willingness to learn from others. Honor others' beliefs, customs, and values

Definitions

- Othering: A set of common processes that engender marginality and persistent inequality across any other full range of human differences. The failure to recognize someone's full humanity at the conscious, unconscious, or structural level
- Neutrality- The state of not supporting or helping either side in a conflict or disagreement

SPARC Goals

- Building anti racist organizations
- Elevating the voices of people with lived experiences
- Equity based assessment and prioritization data
- Focusing on specific at risks groups
- Using data with a racial equity lens
- Cross sector collaboration
- Long term solutions

Building anti racist organizations

- Require all CoC and ESG funded agencies to have anti racism policies and practices in place
- Provide equity, fair housing, and trauma informed care training to frontline workers
- Hire more BIPOC in senior-level positions including executive level and increased board diversity

Elevating the voices of people with lived experience

- Create and facilitate lived experience boards
- Board electives from the lived experience board, act as representatives on the full CoC board
- Create panels for board members
- Provide advocacy training for board members and advocate to government officials

Equity based assessment and prioritization, data

- Length of time homeless trump VI-SPDAT score when prioritizing
- Eventually eliminate the VI-SPDAT
- Create an equitable Coordinated Entry system by developing a new tool that lessens the racial disparity by accurately assessing vulnerability



Focusing on specific at-risk groups

- Youth homeless including McKinney Vento
- Partner with school districts, juvenile justice system, foster care, to address barriers causing youth homelessness
- Ensure youth experiencing homelessness are connected to specific housing focusing on racial disparity and LGBTQ
- Assess youth data for disparities



Using data with a racial equity lens

- Assess entire homeless service system annually for racial disparity by developing policies and procedures for assessing data annually as part of the formal operations of the CoC
- Conduct census tract diversion, collect census tract data and compare against homelessness data-diversion efforts can be better targeted to vulnerable neighborhoods
- Conduct an annual presentation of data assessment and report on correlation between census tract and homelessness
- Using data to identify and address any existing racial disparities, identify projects or aspects that perpetuate racial inequity

Cross sector collaboration

- Partner with healthcare providers, insurance companies', and health home care managers
- Private sector collaboration and coalition partners
- End the healthcare disparity by ensuring that BIPOC have access to healthcare



Long term solutions

- Increase affordable housing
- End the disparity of BIPOC entering homelessness system
- Increase the number of color in leadership positions
- Have a community dedicated to anti-racism



Trends in Homelessness in 2020 Before and After COVID-19

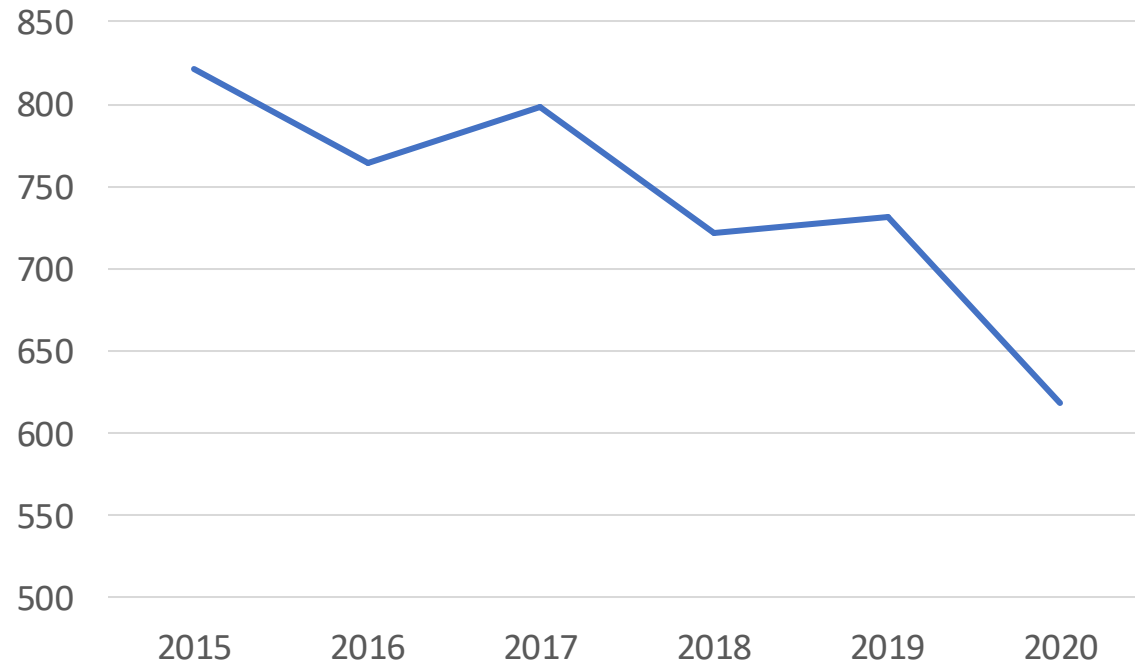
Housing and
Homeless Coalition
Annual State of
Homelessness

Where we were with System Performance in October 2019



- First Time Homeless numbers were decreasing consistently
- Yearly Numbers of people experiencing homelessness each year continues to decrease
- Returns to Homelessness over 2 years was staying at 32%
- Average Length of Time people were remaining homeless had a slight increase from 52 days to 54 days

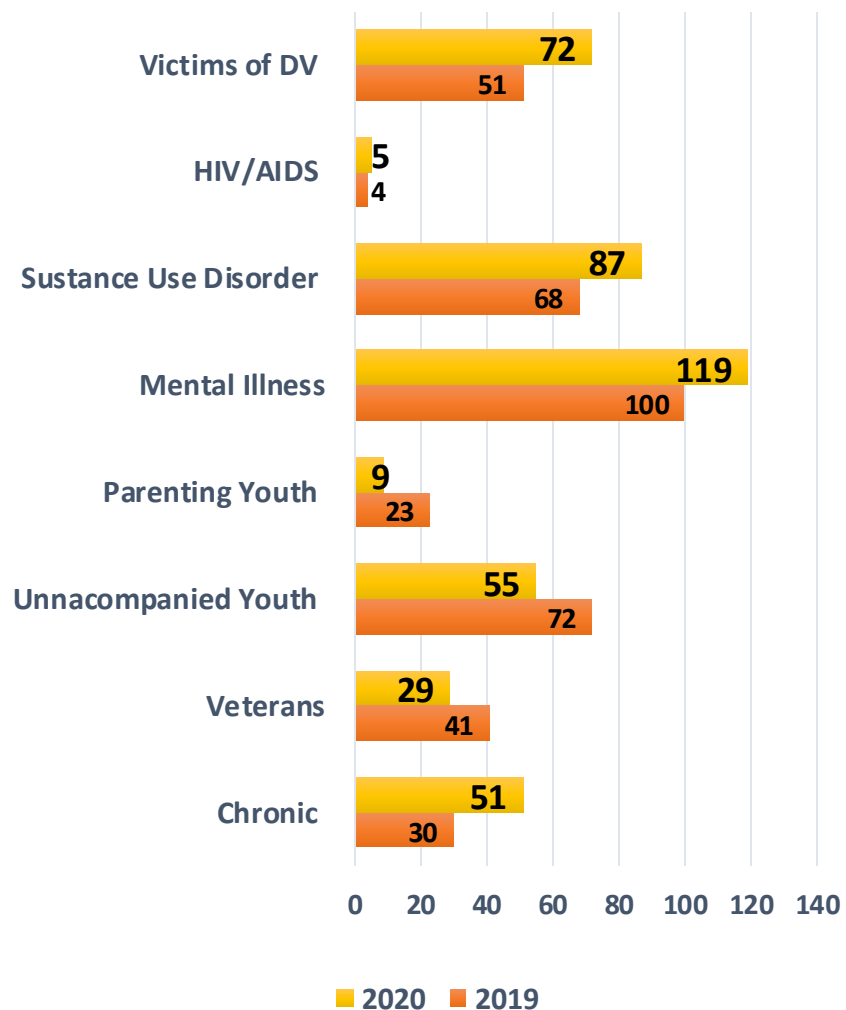
Point-in-time Count of Total Homeless
Persons in NY-505
2015-2020



How we were doing before COVID-19

16% decrease in
homelessness in January
2020 PIT count

Homeless Subpopulations



2020 PIT Subpopulations

- Increase in many of the high-risk subpopulations
 - Victims of Domestic Violence increased by 29% (21 ppl)
 - Substance Use Disorders increased by 22% (19 ppl)
 - Mental Illness increased by 16% (19 ppl)
 - Chronically Homeless increased by 39% (21 ppl)
- What does this mean?
 - Need for more supportive housing to assist people with more complex needs.
 - Shortage of at least 39 new chronic PSH beds to keep up with inflow
 - 1,922 homeless adults this year had a disability and would be eligible for Supportive Housing

COVID-19 and homelessness

What happened?

Initial Community Response

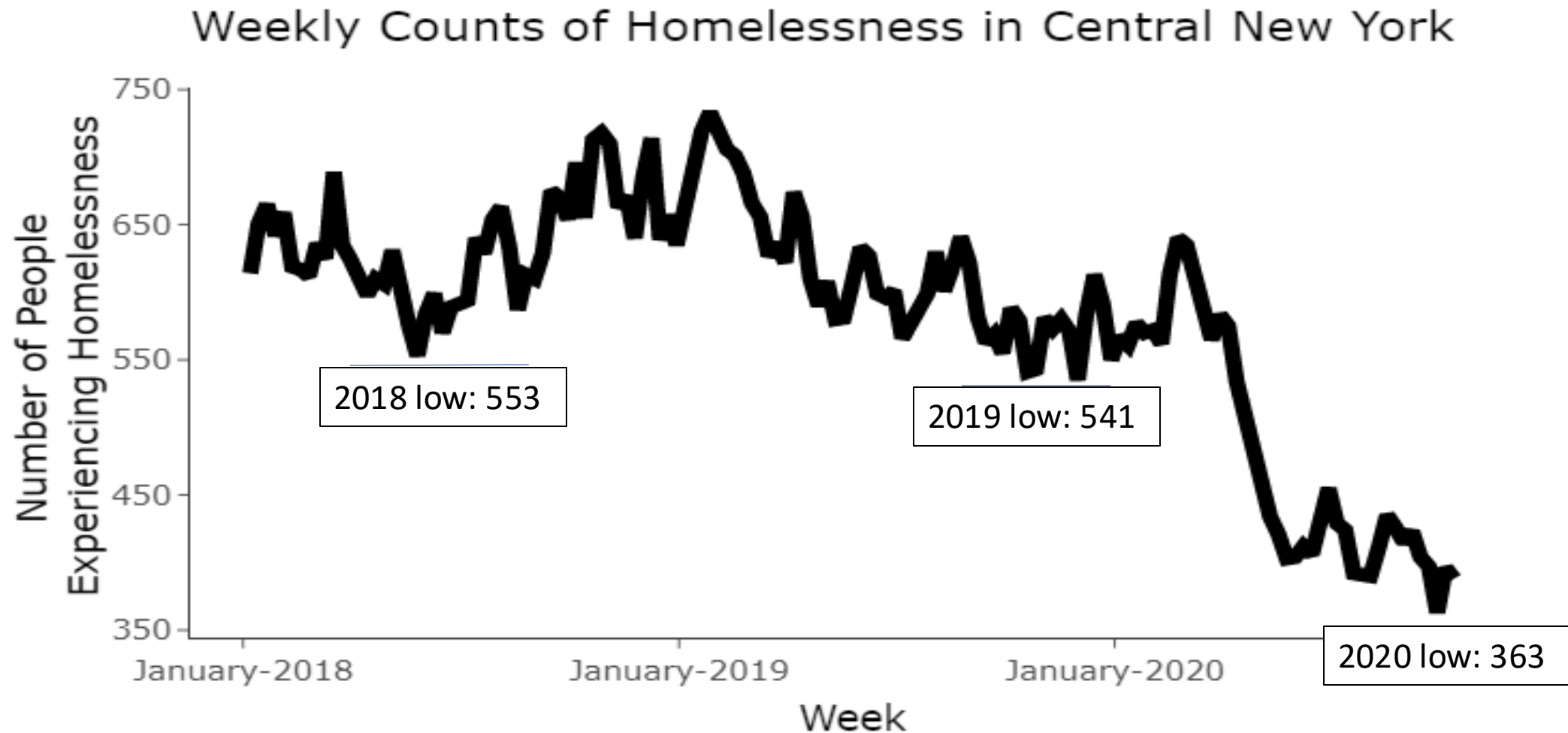
- Working closely with LDSS & Health Department to develop a comprehensive community plan to address the pandemic
- Assisting agencies and programs to continue to provide services to the homeless
- Development of COVID screening tools/ Assessments in HMIS to track positive cases and quarantine need
- Development and sharing of information and resources with all community agencies, engaging 2-1-1 crisis line to assist with this



State and Federal Response to the COVID Pandemic

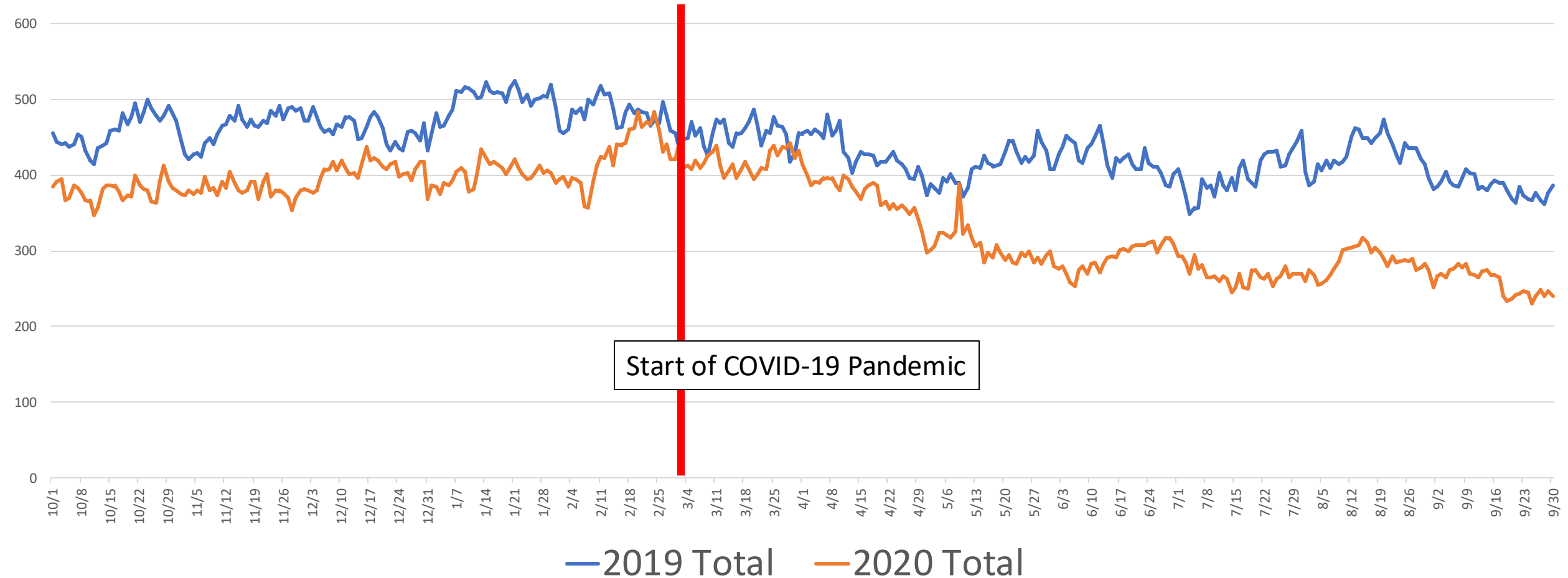
- Changes in HUD regulations for housing providers
- Addition and approval of Eviction Moratoria which are still in effect
- New Funding provided for communities for Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) programs, Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Homeless Prevention & Rapid Rehousing, as well as CDBG funds for housing assistance

How did COVID-19 affect Emergency Shelter numbers?



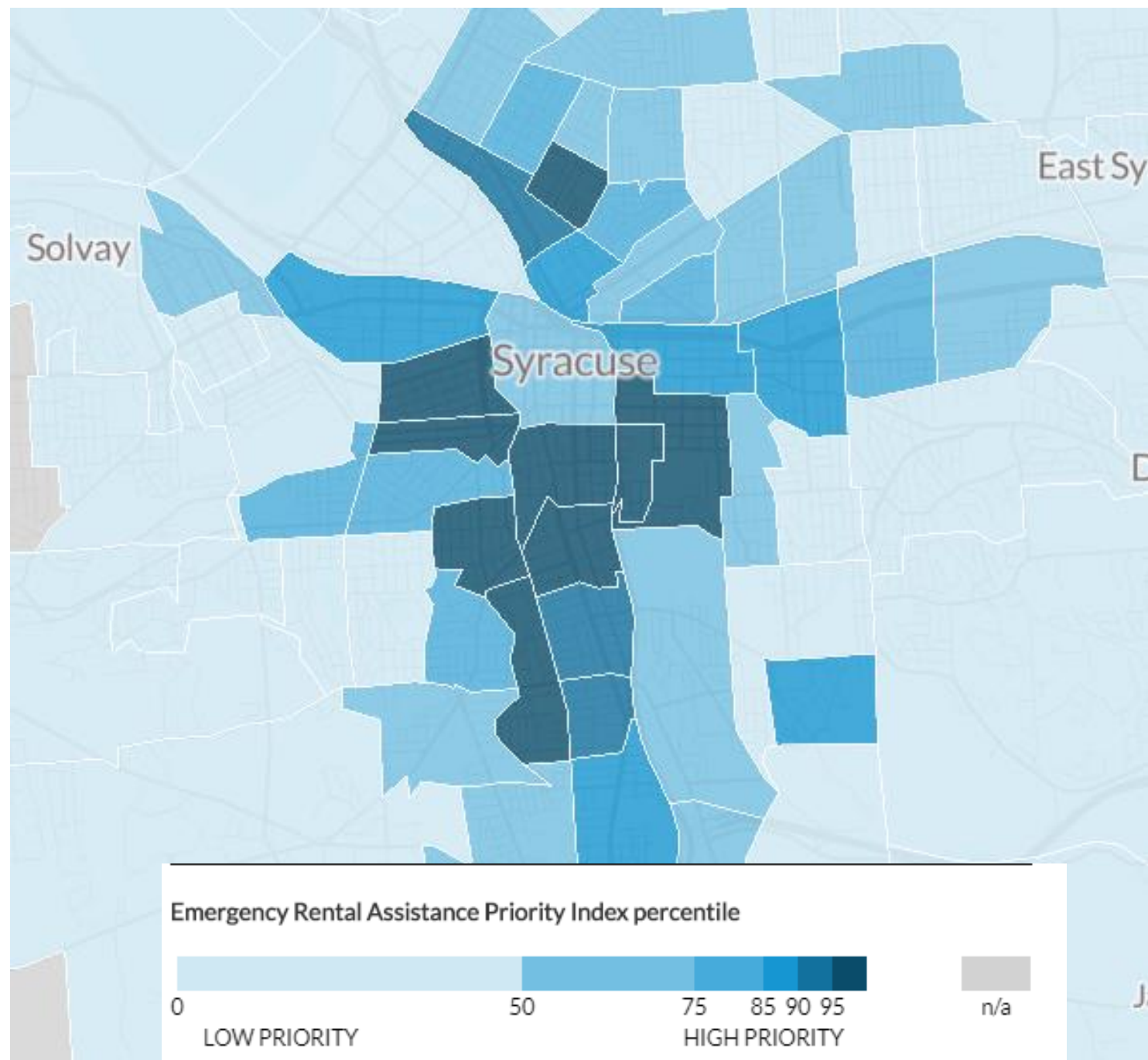
What we were seeing...

2019 vs 2020 Emergency Shelter Counts

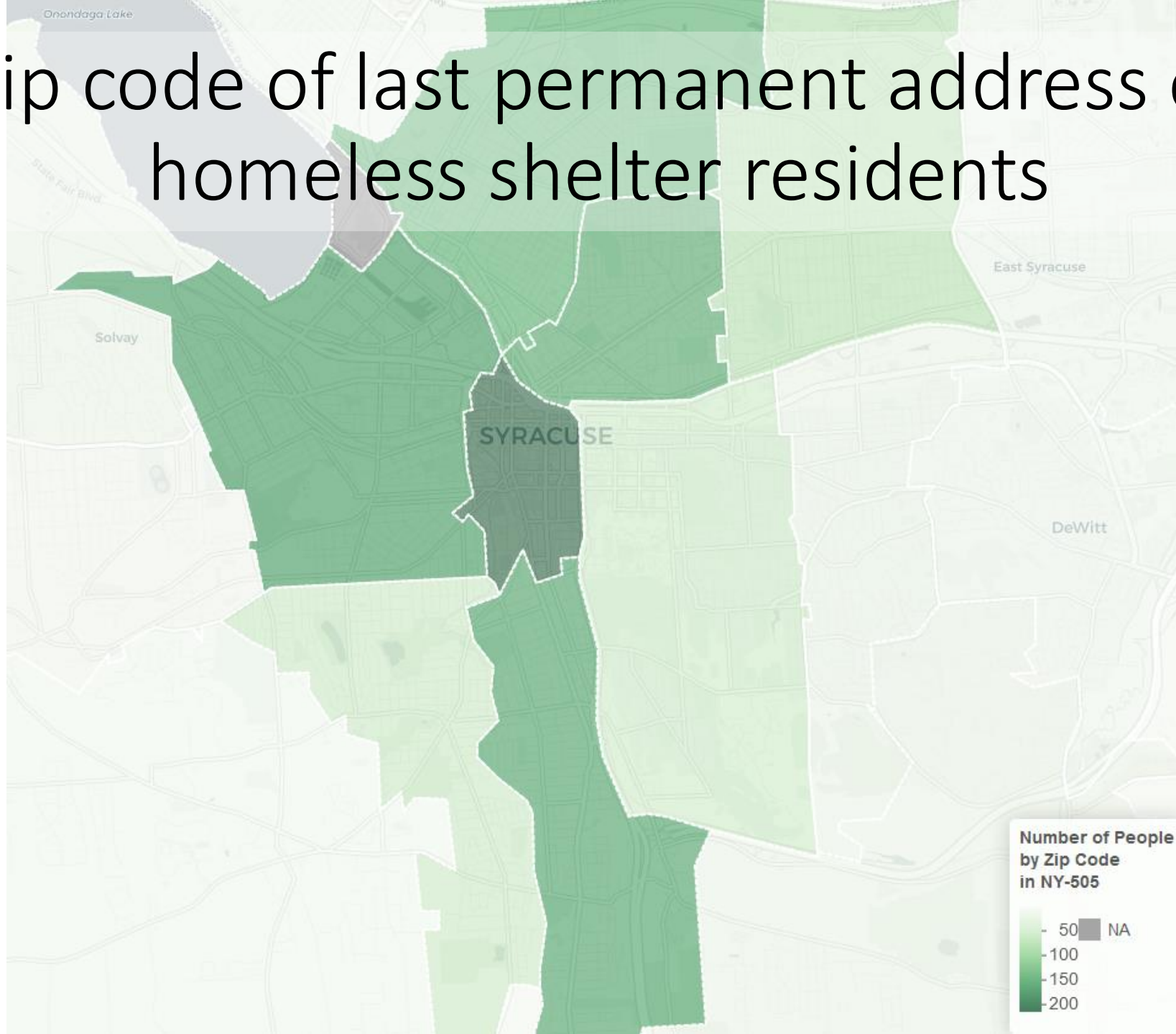


How will COVID-19 affect homelessness in the next year?

- Inflow into system
 - End of eviction moratoria –Increased risk of homelessness
 - Expect to be pronounced in vulnerable census tracts
- Placement of clients
 - Housing units are less available due to the eviction moratoria and restrictions on viewing and inspection



Zip code of last permanent address of homeless shelter residents



Housing Vulnerable Areas in Onondaga County

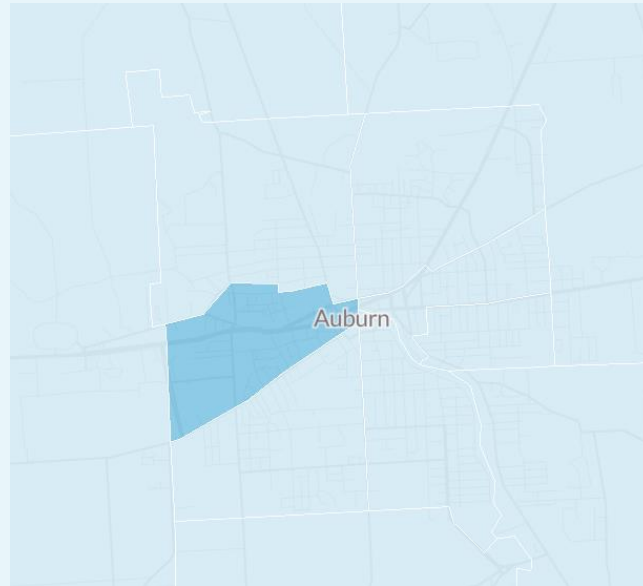
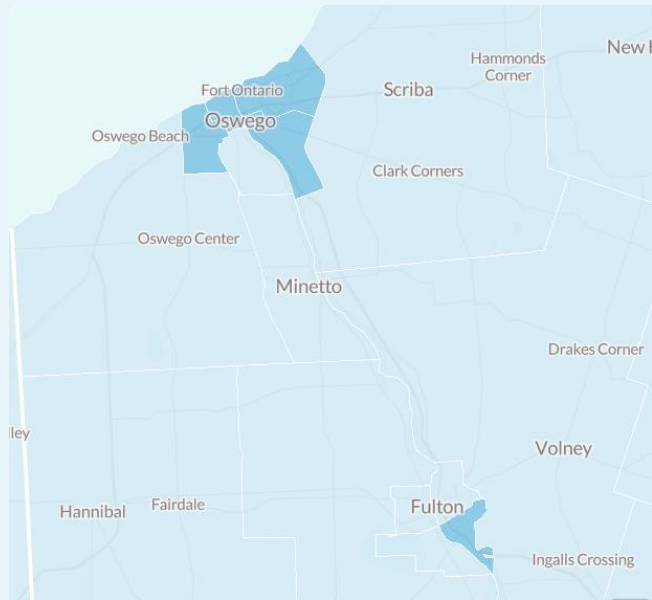
- Approximately 4,000-5,000 people have extremely low incomes* and rent housing in these high-risk census tracts
- Most pay more than 50% of their income in rent
- 20,000 people across all of Onondaga County are estimated to be extremely low income renters

*Extremely low income in CNY:

- <\$15,950/year for 1 person
- <\$26,200 for a family of 4



Housing Vulnerable Areas in Cayuga and Oswego Counties

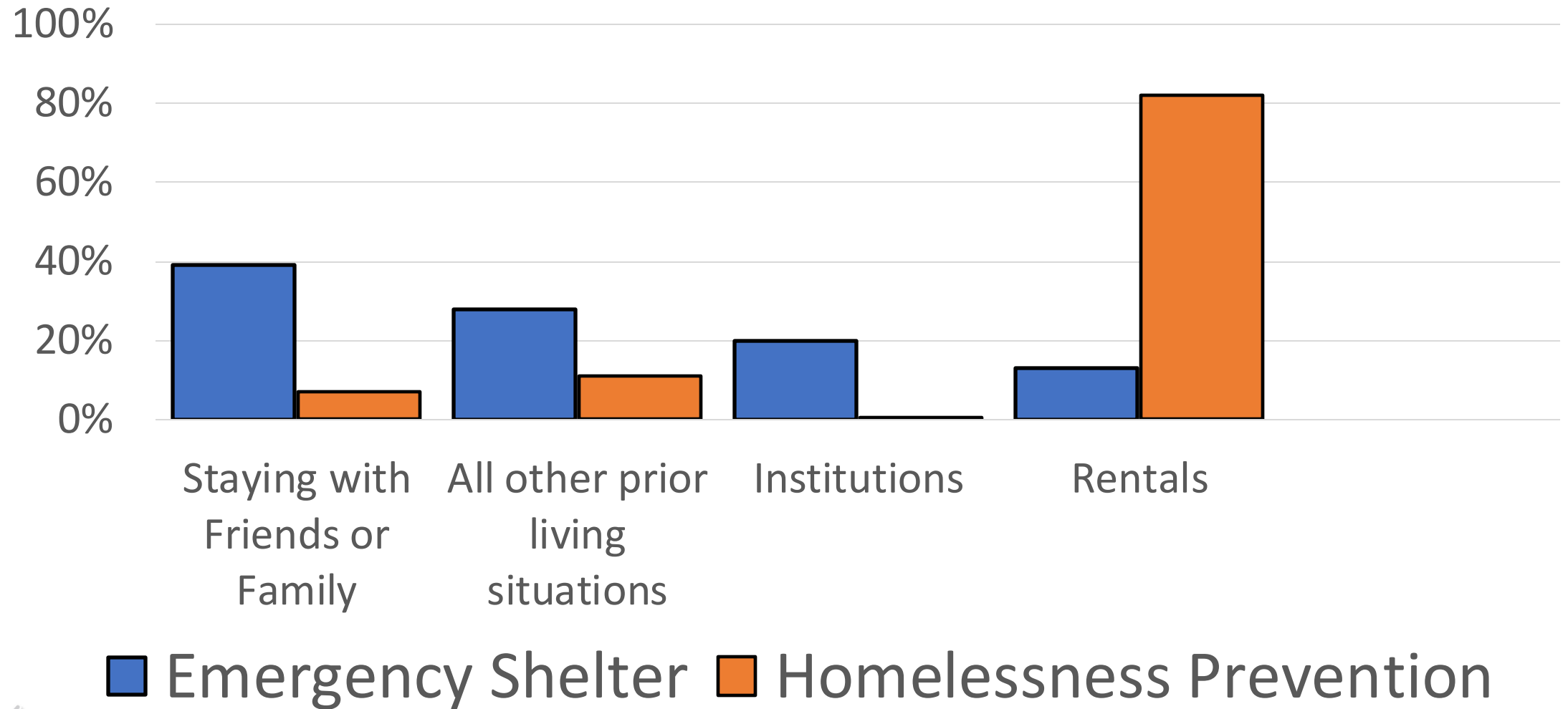


- 2000 people in Cayuga county are extremely low income renters
- 4300 people in Oswego county are extremely low income renters

How do we prevent homelessness for vulnerable households?

- Research shows that eviction increases risk of homelessness, but is not typically the direct cause
- Target people where they stay before entering shelter

Previous Living Situation, Emergency Shelter vs Homelessness Prevention



How are we preparing to assist people at high risk of homelessness due to COVID?

- Targeted homelessness prevention programs
 - Centralized intake line at Onondaga and Oswego DSS
 - Prioritizing people in high-need census tracts
 - Prioritizing people who are doubled up to focus on people imminently going to shelter
 - Special program to assist households who lost income due to covid-19
- Legal Aid programs to advocate for low-income tenants and utilize CDC moratoria
- Move vulnerable people out of shelter as fast as possible
 - Increased Rapid Rehousing capacity
 - Prioritizing people susceptible to COVID-19

Main Takeaways

01

Need strategic investment in housing, especially supportive housing for the most vulnerable members of our community

02

Need to prepare for unprecedented number of people facing housing insecurity

03

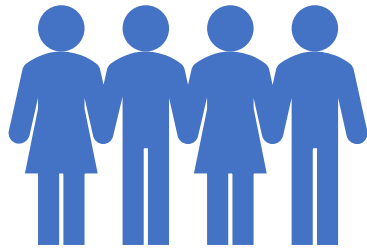
Need to ensure that racial equity is centered in decision making and policy creation



Supportive housing pipeline at risk

- In 2016 Governor committed to creating 20,000 units of supportive housing over next 15 years STATEWIDE – the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI)
- ESSHI was the first multi-year commitment to creating supportive housing outside NYC
- 2016-2020: State funded first 5 years/6,000 units
- The first five year commitment is expiring this year
- Advocates are pressing the Governor to re-commit to ESSHI in this year's budget

Expand Targeted Homeless Prevention Efforts



Use the data and evidence from current homeless prevention projects to better target people most likely to end up in emergency shelter



Continue to advocate for expansion of homeless prevention funding and emergency rental assistance and eviction prevention

Centering Racial Equity

Centering racial equity needs to be part of assessing existing projects and the creation of new ones



Thank You to Our
Partner Agencies

Special Thanks to our Client Advisory Board

Storytelling is the most powerful
way to put ideas into the world
today.





Q&A