Housing Coalition

April 24, 2018

Agenda:

- Legislative update
- Recap data, stories, funding content shared by stakeholders
- 2018-19 County funding update
- USDA Pilot Project update
- Agency updates

Legislative updates

Legislative updates -housing

- <u>HB 1570 Document Recording fee made</u> permanent and increased by \$22 per document beginning July 1, 2018
 - Estimated increase in revenue for Grays Harbor:
 - \$150,000 in local funds
 - \$130,000 in CHG(State) funds
 - \$280,000 total/year
- HB 2578 Source of Income discrimination
 - Source of income discrimination for tenants
 - Landlord mitigation fund established
 - Protects tenants from legal action if landlord has accessed fund on their behalf

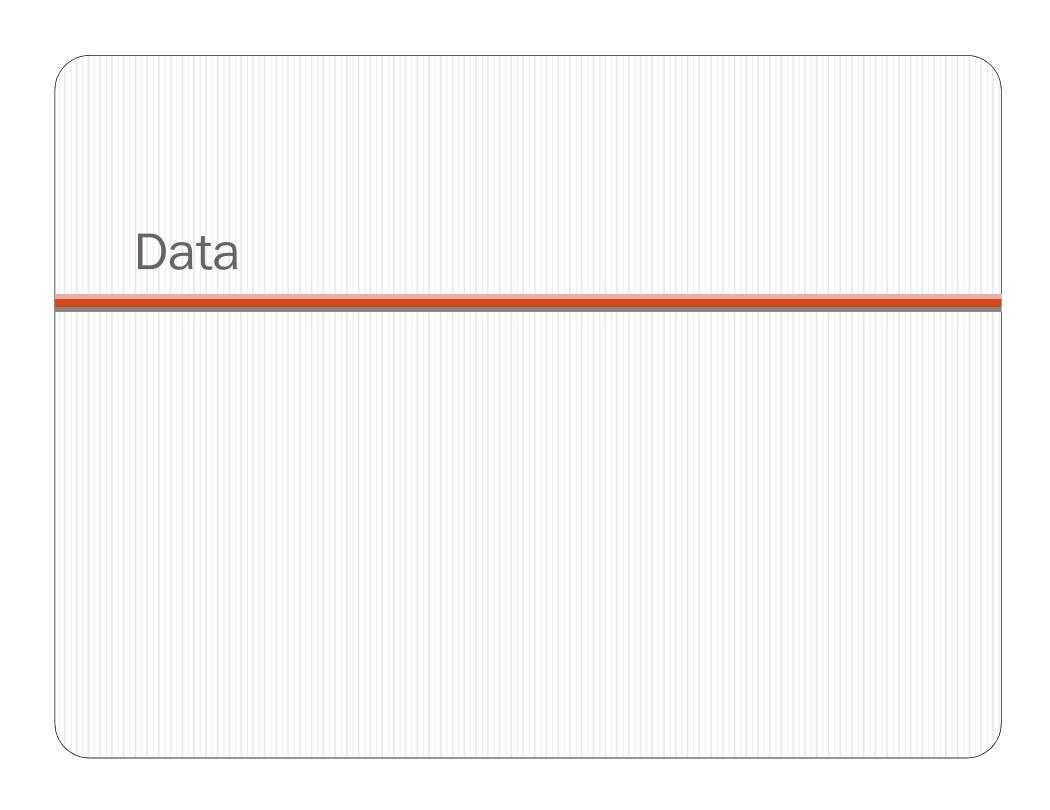
Legislative updates - Cont.

HB 2667 – Expanding HEN

- Expands "disability" definition to include individuals who have been diagnosed with substance use disorder as primary temporary barrier to employment
- Eligibility for HEN Housing assistance is now expanded to both HEN (temporarily disabled) and ABD (on Social Security tract) clients who are homeless or at imminent risk

New requirements for County 10 Year Plans

- Commerce will draft guidance based on new legislation and publish to Counties
- New/updated plans will be due in 2019



Scope of Homelessness in Grays Harbor

- Reasonable to estimate there are as many as 3,000 residents who are not stably housed at any given time between 500-700 are literally homeless
- 2017 Point in Time Count
 - 201 literally homeless: 91 unsheltered, 110 sheltered
- 2017 Coordinated Entry data
 - 625 HH assessed, 534 of those were literally homeless, 192 enrolled in programs (difference of 342)
- 2015-16 OSPI Data
 - 974 Homeless Students (75% doubled up, 10% shelters, 10% motels, 5% unsheltered)
- 2018 DSHS Data
 - 2,055 clients homeless (873 literally homeless, 1,177 unstably housed/couch surfing)

Affordable Housing in Grays Harbor

Income Status	Definition	Annual Income range	Monthly affordable housing costs	Number of renter households	Estimated number of affordable rental units
Extremely low income	<30% Median Income	<\$15,630 per year	\$390 or less per month	1,775	615
Very Low Income	30% to 50% Median Income	\$15,630 - \$26,050 per year	\$390 - \$650 per month	1,715	605

The Housing Authority averages an annual turnover of 8% and issues approximately 25 vouchers per year. The average voucher holder has received housing benefits for 6 years and 5 months. Persons who were issued a voucher in the preceding year waited an average of 39 months on the waiting list. *Source: Affordable Housing Online*

Performance Benchmarks

Grays Harbor County's mission is to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time

Make homelessness rare:

Reduce number of estimated literally homeless households

Make homelessness brief:

Decrease "Length of Time Homeless"

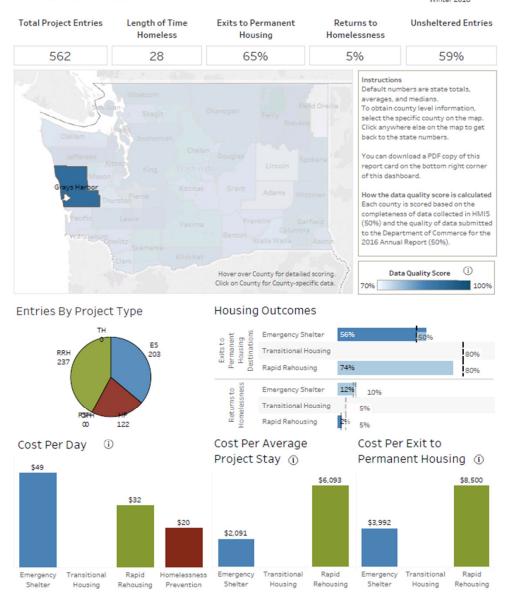
Make homelessness one-time:

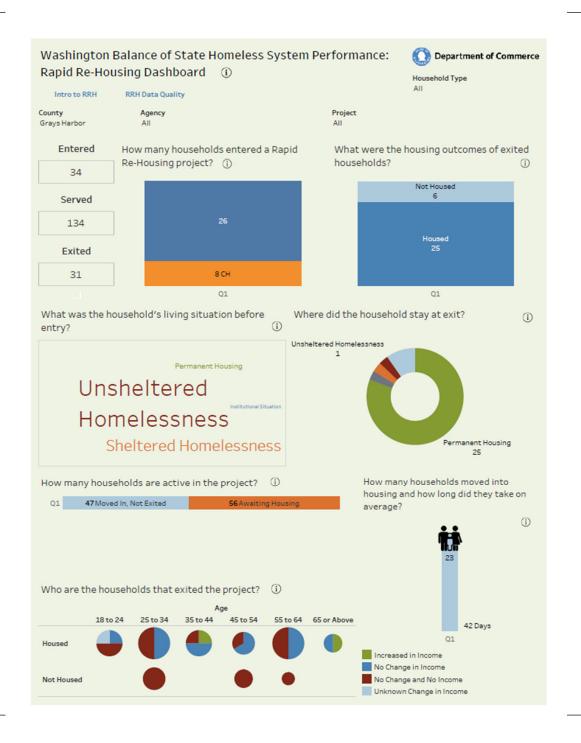
- Increase exits to permanent housing
- Decrease returns to homelessness

Measuring success

Number of Literally Homeless Households seeking services 2017	Number of literally homeless households provided assistance - 2017	Difference
534	192	342
Number of Literally Homeless Households seeking services Jan 1 – March 31, 2018	Number of literally homeless households provided assistance Jan 1 – March 31, 2018	Difference
135	62	73







Washington State Homeless System Performance: Department of Commerce Year to Year Comparison ① County Statewide (i) Adams Asotin 2015 2016 2017 Benton **Total Project Entries** 48,925 64,851 81,231 Chelan 50 70 Median Length of Time Homeless 37 Clallam Clark Exits to Permanent Housing 53% 52% 56% Columbia 10% 10% 796 Returns to Homelessness Cowlitz Unsheltered Entries 41% 50% 57% Douglas Rental Vacancy Rate 6.0% 3.9% 3.8% Ferry Point in Time (PIT) Count of Homeless Persons 20,105 20,844 21,112 Franklin Garfield Grant By County ✓ Grays Harbor Island County 2015 2016 2017 Jefferson 393 822 562 Grays Total Project Entries King Harbor Median Length of Time Homeless 17 34 28 Kitsap Exits to Permanent Housing 81% 73% 65% Kittitas 5% 14% 5% Returns to Homelessness Klickitat Unsheltered Entries 33% 51% 59% Lewis 3.8% 2.5% Lincoln 6.6% Rental Vacancy Rate Mason Point in Time (PIT) Count of Homeless Persons 201 Okanogan Pacific Pend Oreille Pierce San Juan Skagit Skamania Snohomish Spokane Stevens Unsheltered Entries for Grays Harbor All Thurston Select a Performance Measure Wahkiakum Unsheltered Entries Walla Walla Whatcom 0.6 51% Whitman Yakima 0.4 33% 0.2 0.0 2015 2016 2017 Point in Time (PIT) Trend for Grays Harbor County 101 Sheltered 100 81 Unsheltered 105 102 91 87 81 47 43 2017 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



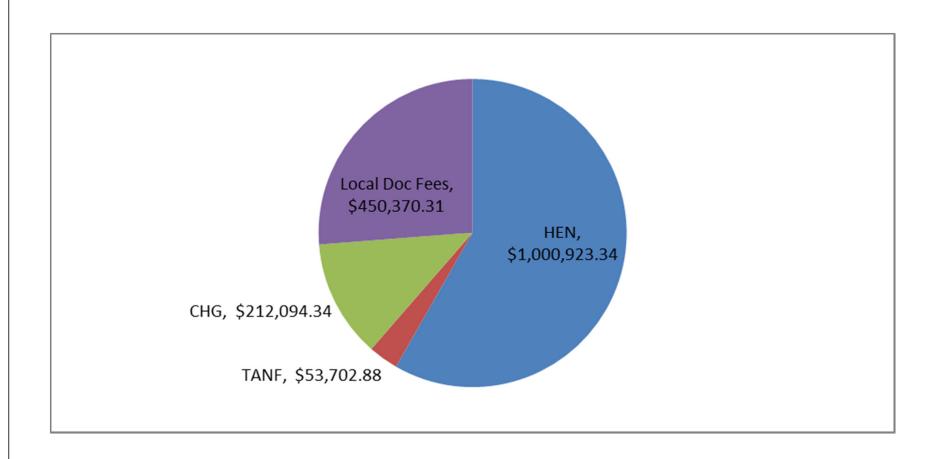
Themes

- Tenants need access to sustainable income to pay rent
 - Jobs
 - Benefits (SSI, TANF, etc.)
- Low barrier programs and units are critical to ending homelessness
 - Behavioral Health
 - Pets
 - Criminal/eviction history
 - Lack of income
 - Physical disabilities

- Individualized and long-term supports are needed to obtain and maintain housing for many
- Need all steps of continuum from emergency shelter to help now — all the way to permanent housing and supports
- Not enough affordable housing for low-income clients

Funding

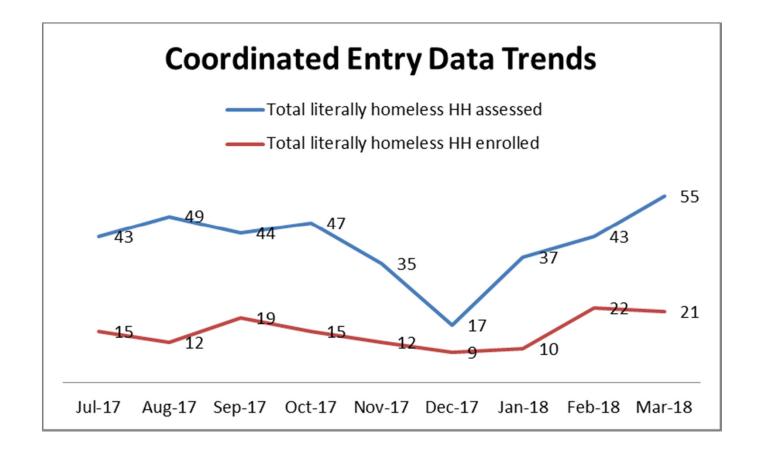
2017 County-Administered Services Funding

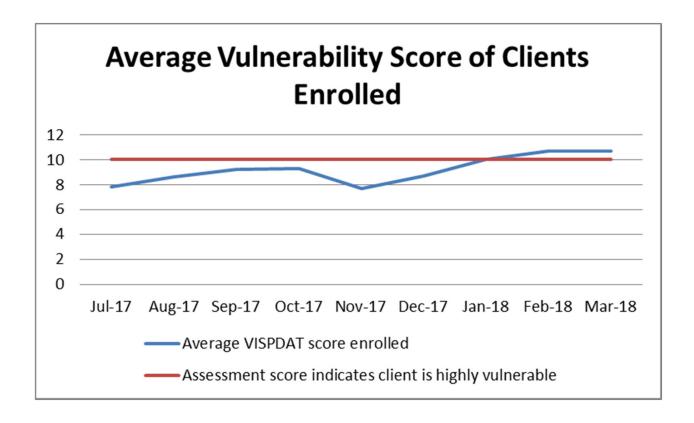


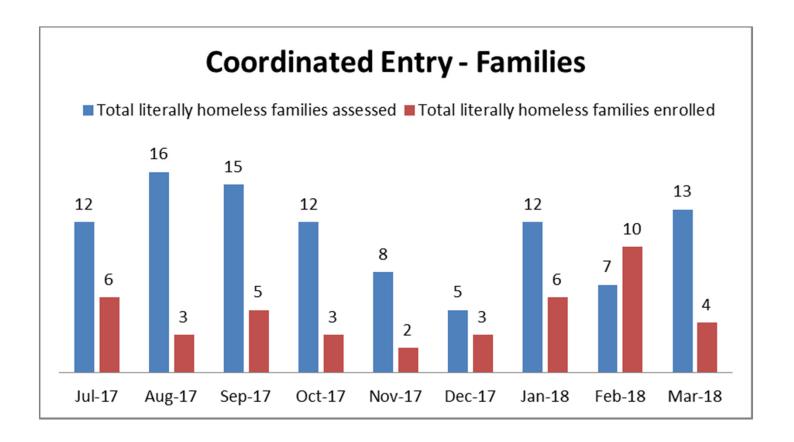
What does this mean?

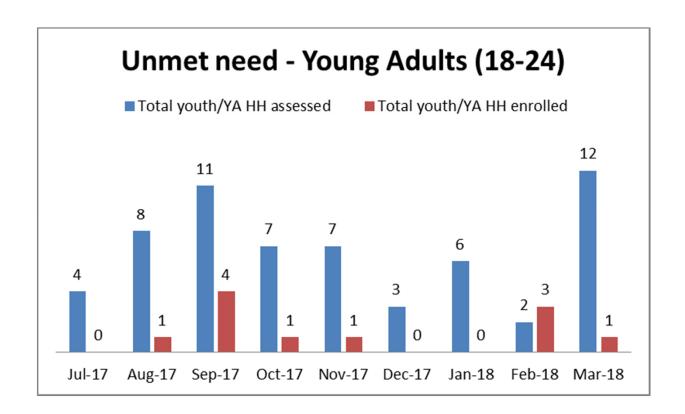
- The resources the County administers from the State prioritizes specific target populations:
 - Literally homeless, unsheltered
 - Long-term or chronically homeless
 - Households with disabilities (physical and/or behavioral)
 - Highly vulnerable clients (as assessed through VISPDAT)
- Who is not prioritized through these funds?
 - Households at-risk of homelessness (eviction prevention)
 - Households with existing support networks

- Who is served?
 - Single adults with complex challenges
 - A limited number of families with high barriers
- Conversely, who is underserved?
 - Families
 - Youth/young adults (18-24)
 - Households who require small or onetime financial assistance

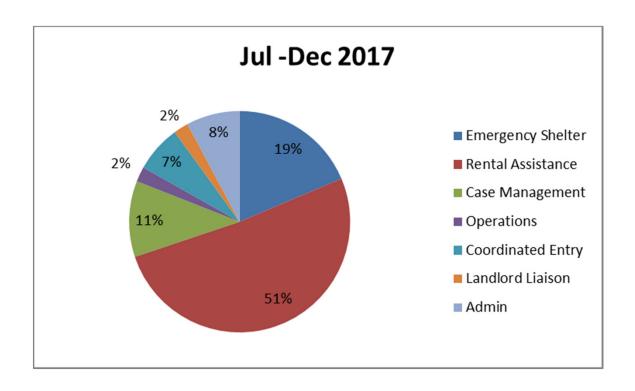








County administered funding



2018-19 Funding update

- Continue to invest in "Core Services" for 2018-19
 - Core services are currently funded through GHC Homeless Housing contracts, are required by RCW and/or State Contracts (Example: Coordinated Entry/Interested Landlord List) OR provide an immediate response to individuals experiencing homelessness. The discontinuation/disruption of such programs would have significant negative impacts to clients and system partners. (Example: Emergency shelter and rental assistance for households experiencing homelessness)
- Commissioners will set the "floor" for the Homeless Housing document recording fee account
- Social Services staff draft "Request for Proposals" with available additional funds and Commissioner identified priorities

USDA Pilot Project Update

USDA Pilot Project Update

- Medicaid Waiver officially live January 1, 2018 (delay from original timeline)
- Training and TA onsite in December 2017 and March 2018
- Selection Committee meeting regularly since February
- System barriers identified:
 - Lack of formal referral process/pipeline for clients from Behavioral Health to Housing under waiver
 - Education/understanding of waiver target population and referral process
 - Engaging most vulnerable clients through complex system
 - Volume of need
- Next steps
 - Refining selection criteria for pilot and continuing to identify candidates
 - Formalizing partnerships between Housing and Behavioral Health

Agency Updates