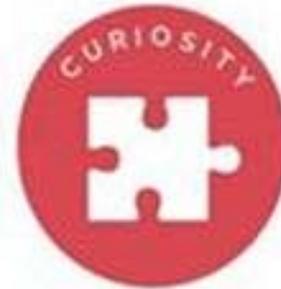


Susan McDowell, CEO LifeWorks

Work Session Presentation
December 3, 2019

LIFEWORKS CORE VALUES





Ending Youth Homelessness in Austin / Travis County

December 2019

Austin's Campaign to End Youth Homelessness

- Build and sustain a community system that ensures that youth homelessness is **rare, brief and non-recurring** by 2020
- This system is similar to the framework achieved for Veterans in 2016
- The system involves deep collaboration with dozens of nonprofit and public organizations with the planning co-led by LifeWorks and ECHO

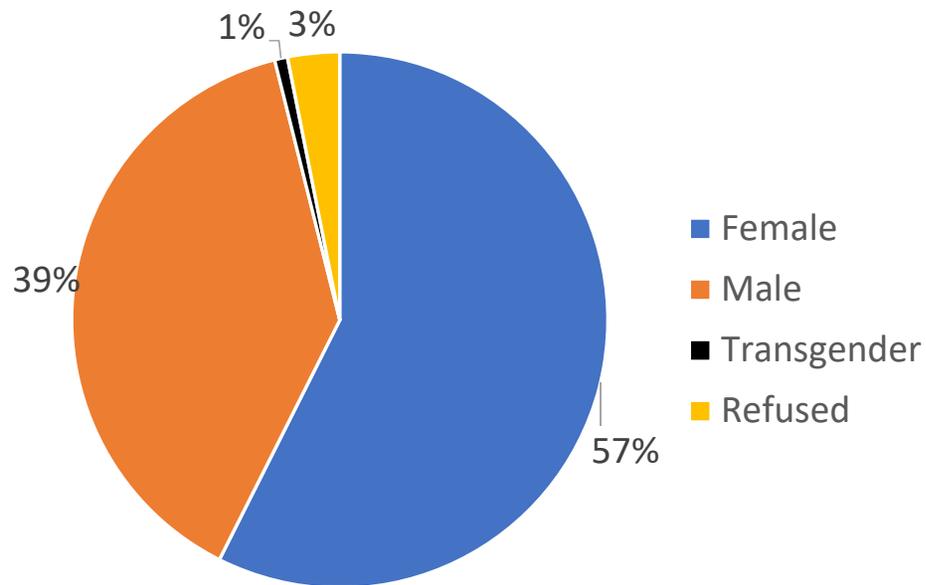
Census of Youth Experiencing Homelessness

425 youth identified as experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness

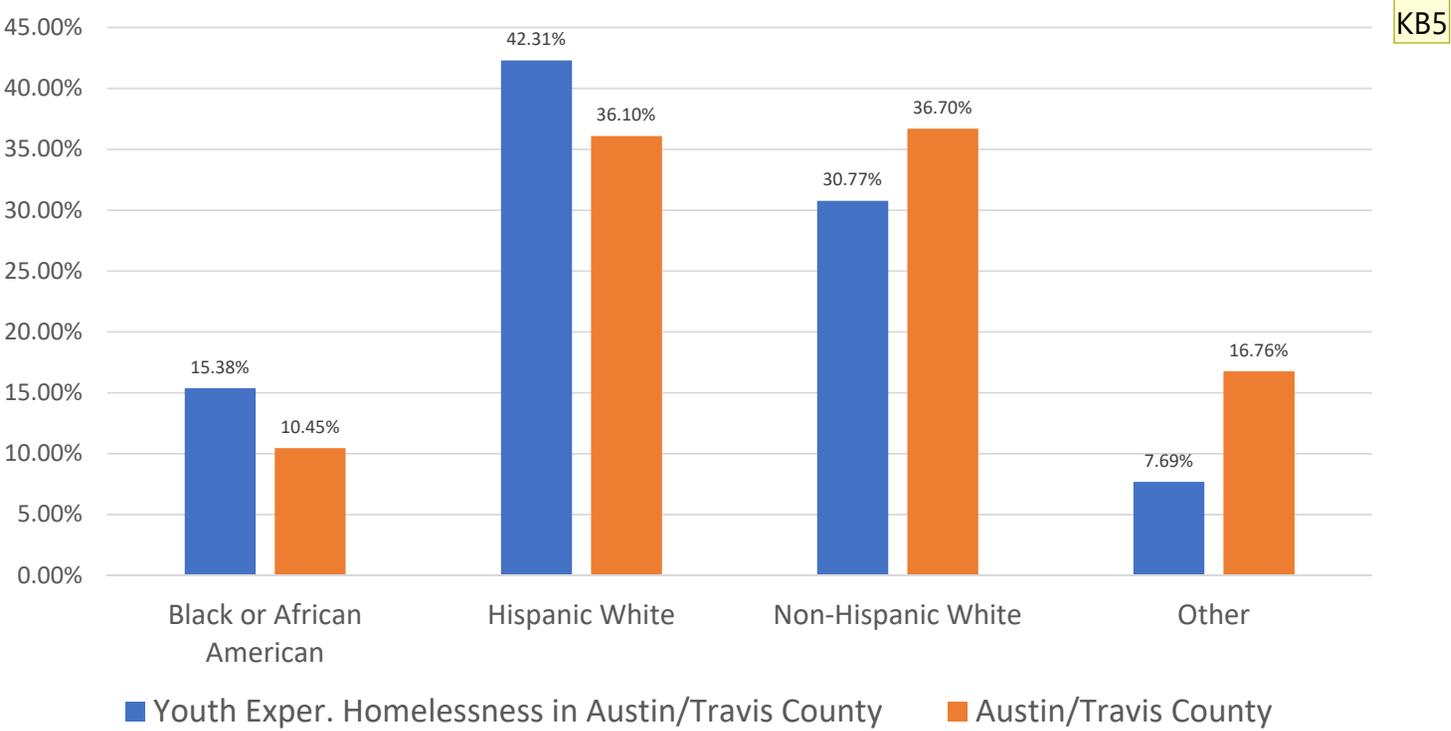
- This is the system-wide number of youth, so it includes all youth on the by-name list and youth who have not yet completed the Coordinated Assessment but otherwise accessed homelessness services
- 308 unsheltered youth
- This includes youth who are literally homeless, as well as those who are staying in shelters, transitional living programs, hotels, institutional settings, and in precarious housing arrangements with family/friends

Youth Experiencing Homelessness

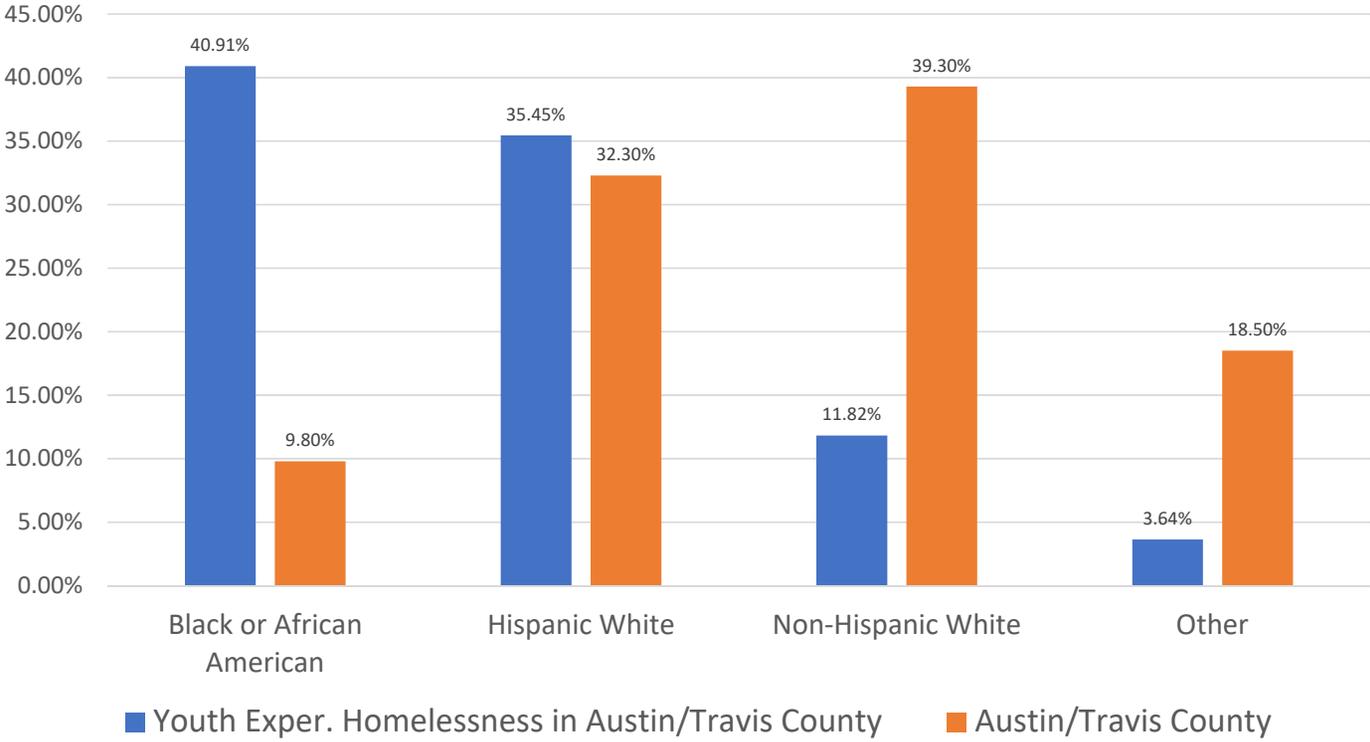
- Age: $M = 21.30$, $SD = 1.95$, Range = 16–24
- 31.64% have a partner or a child (household size > 1)
- 76% have experienced foster care, juvenile justice, or both



System-wide race/ethnicity trends among youth, February 2019 Ages 15-17

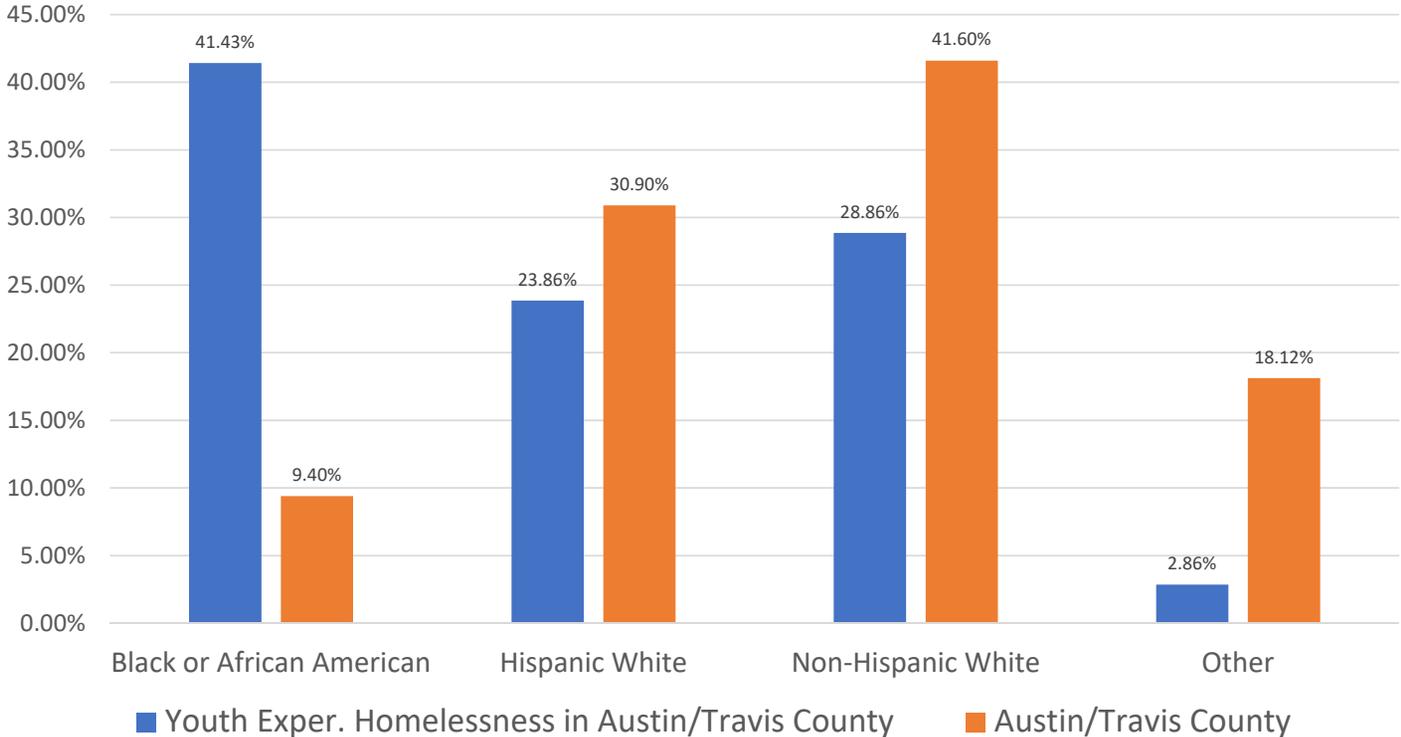


System-wide race/ethnicity trends among youth, February 2019 Ages 18-19

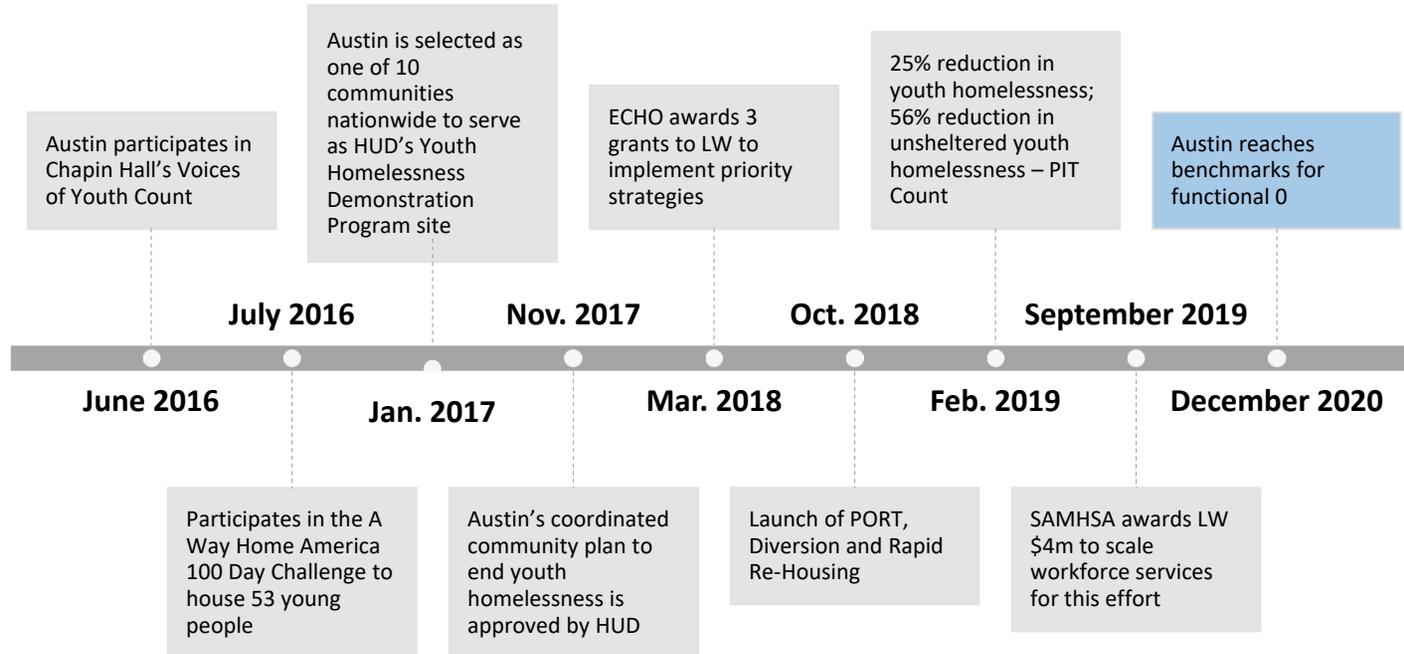


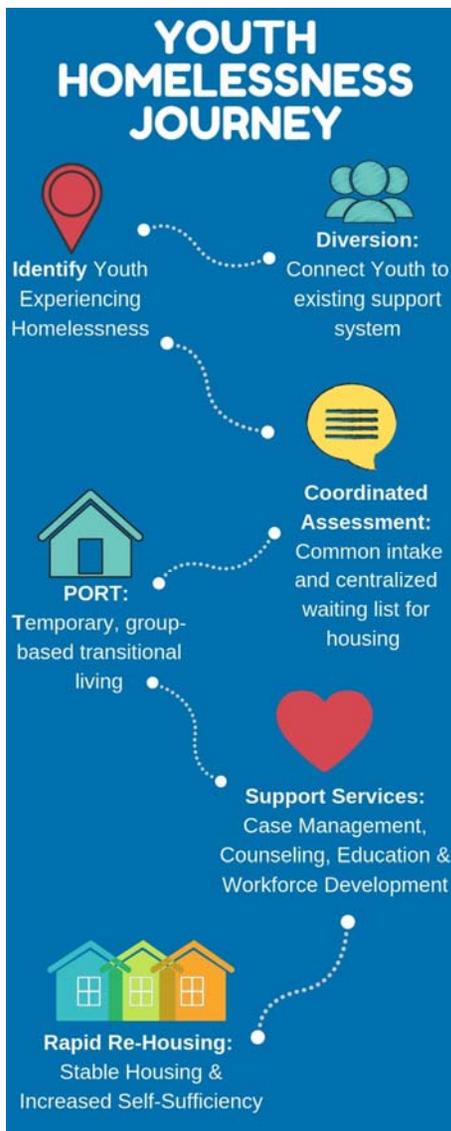
System-wide race/ethnicity trends among youth, February 2019

Ages 20-24



Team And Timeline





Key Elements of the System

Diversion: Assists youth at imminent risk of homelessness with financial support and wraparound services. Youth remain connected to support systems, stabilize, and maintain current housing or connect to safe and supported housing options.

Coordinated Assessment: An evaluation process used to determine the most appropriate housing intervention that best matches the needs of the client.

Permanency through Outreach and Rapid Transitions (PORT): Temporary housing for literally homeless youth (18-24). Youth may live in this dormitory-style, 15-bed shelter while they navigate into permanent rapid re-housing apartments.

Support Services: Wraparound support to build well-being and increase self-sufficiency. Supports include employment services, community-based counseling, peer support, and client-centered case management.

Rapid Re-Housing: Time-limited financial assistance and targeted support services to connect youth experiencing homelessness to permanent housing.

Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)

- 2-year, \$5.2m HUD grant focused on moving youth to permanent housing
- 202 transition-age youth served to date (unduplicated):
 - 74 in Diversion
 - 57 in PORT
 - 98 in Rapid Rehousing “Plus”
 - 34 served by Caritas
 - 32 served by SAFE
 - 32 served by LifeWorks
 - 60 served in Rapid Rehousing through non-YHDP funding sources
- **Total of 262 youth**

These numbers only reflect services for the population focused directly on achieving permanent housing. 11

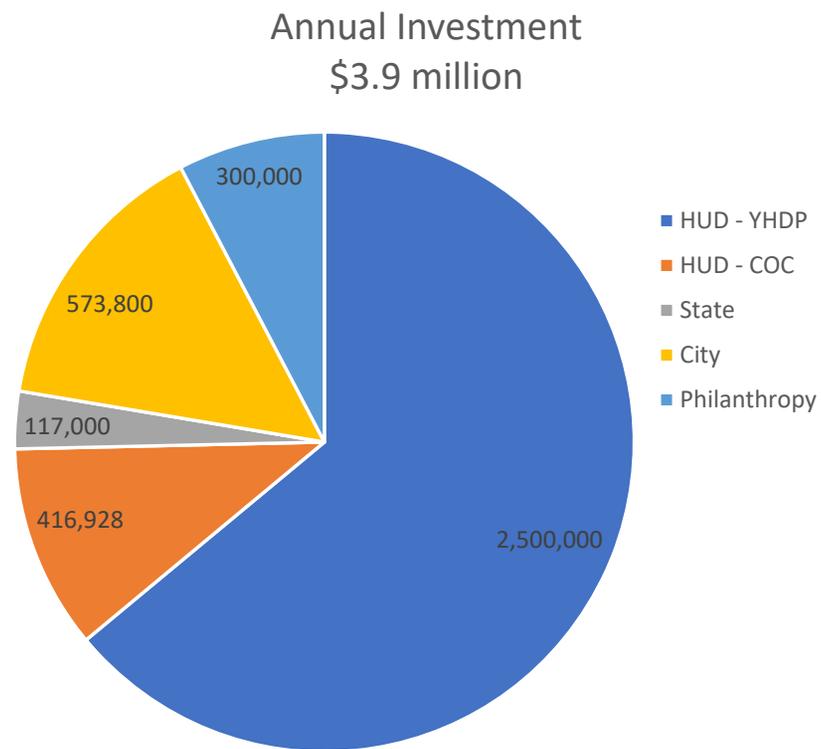
Public and Private Investment

This represents investment in services directly related to achieving permanent housing.*

Philanthropic Partners* Include:

- St. David's Foundation
- MSDF
- Religious Coalition to Assist the Homeless
- Bill Wood
- Glimmer of Hope
- Kozmetsky Family Foundation
- University Christian Church
- DPR Construction

The City invests more than \$500k in additional shelter, outreach and transitional services. Philanthropic Partners invest more than \$700k annually in these services as well.



Targeted Assertive Outreach

An effort to determine the housing status of every youth currently in our local HMIS

- Coordinated Assessment records remain open for the youth, unless someone informs ECHO that a youth is no longer in need of services
- The number of youth who are in need of services is likely overinflated, based on the number enrolled in HMIS (some may have relocated, self-resolved, or entered an institutional setting)
- Involves systematic outreach efforts to every youth, including those who are not yet selected to receive housing

Why?

- Need a clear number to inform broader community engagement efforts, to inform fundraising goals, and to better understand our progress toward the federal benchmarks

Targeted Assertive Outreach



- Starting in July, LifeWorks began engaging in a six-week push to systematically reach out to every unaccompanied youth in HMIS by mid-September
 - If staff were unable to contact the youth after making these attempts (within 30 days), then the youth was be put on the BOLO list. After 30 days on BOLO, the record is inactivated.
 - If the youth was contacted, then their housing status was assessed, and their record was either inactivated (if the youth self-resolved, relocated, or was subject to a long-term institutionalization) or they were referred to Diversion and/or Street Outreach services.