Youth Homelessness

Impact of Homelessness

- Health declines

- Mental health deteriorates

- Exploitation

- Greater risk of addictions

- Trauma & Victimization

- Involvement with the law

- Entrenchment in street life

- School Drop Out

Homelessness Prevention
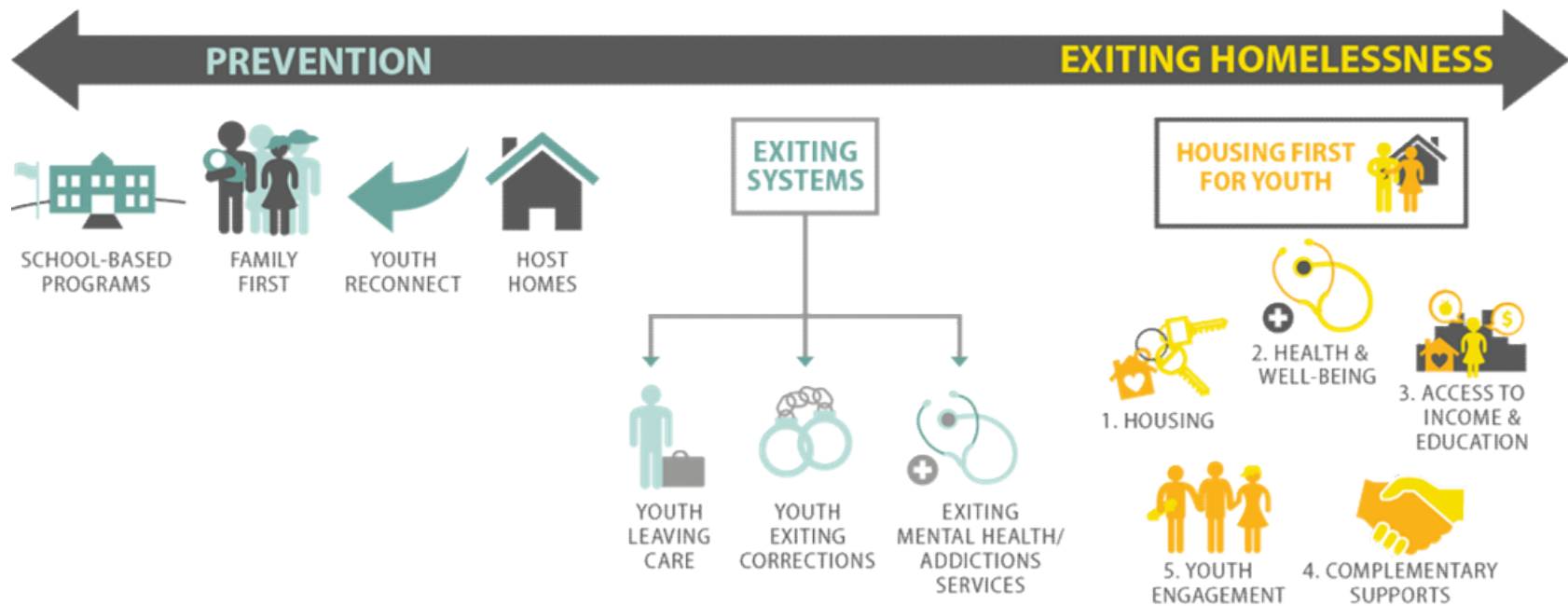
- Based on the Public Health Model

Primary Prevention

Secondary Prevention

Tertiary Prevention

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

Youth Homelessness Prevention

Preventing, Reducing, & Ending Youth Homelessness

PREVENTION ← → EXITING HOMELESSNESS

SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS · FAMILY FIRST · YOUTH RECONNECT · HOST HOMES

EXITING SYSTEMS
- YOUTH LEAVING CARE
- YOUTH EXITING CORRECTIONS
- EXITING MENTAL HEALTH/ADDICTIONS SERVICES

HOUSING FIRST FOR YOUTH
1. HOUSING
2. HEALTH & WELL-BEING
3. ACCESS TO INCOME & EDUCATION
4. COMPLEMENTARY SUPPORTS
5. YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

(Canadian Observatory on Homelessness & A Way Home, 2016)

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

What is The Upstream Project?

The best way to address youth homelessness?
By working upstream to prevent it from occurring first place.

- The Upstream Project will take innovative approaches developed in Australia and adapt them to the Canadian context.
  - **The Geelong Project** (TGP)

- Working with schools and local community agencies, The Upstream Project will identify students who are at-risk and connect them with the wraparound supports they need.

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

Why Schools?

- School-based Prevention

  Virtually every young person who becomes homeless **was in school at one point**, and was very likely in contact with an adult (teacher, guidance counselor, coach) who knew something was wrong.

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

Our Goals

1. Transform the way we respond to youth homelessness by **shifting the focus to prevention**

2. **Support Canadian communities** with planning and implementation of school-based prevention programs based on the TGP model

3. Noticeably **reduce school drop-out rates, family breakdown and involvement in crime**

4. Significantly **increase school engagement, graduation rates and access to safe, stable housing**

5. **Reduce the number of young people who experience homelessness**

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

A Collaborative Venture

We can only achieve our goal of preventing youth homelessness by working together.

Pilot Program

- We have selected **two communities**

- Each community will select **two schools** for the pilot project

- **All students grade 9-12** will be asked to participate in the pilot project

- An estimated **5% of the student population will identify risk factors** through the student survey

How does it work?

1. Collective Impact
2. Population Screening
3. Flexible Service Delivery Model
4. Outcomes Measurement and Evaluation

Collective Impact

Getting the right people at the table:

- Lead Agencies (The Raft and 360kids)
- School Boards (YRDSB, NRDSB, NRCDSB)
- Community Agencies (Mental Health, CAS, etc.)

Work toward a common goal:
-Change the way we respond to the issue
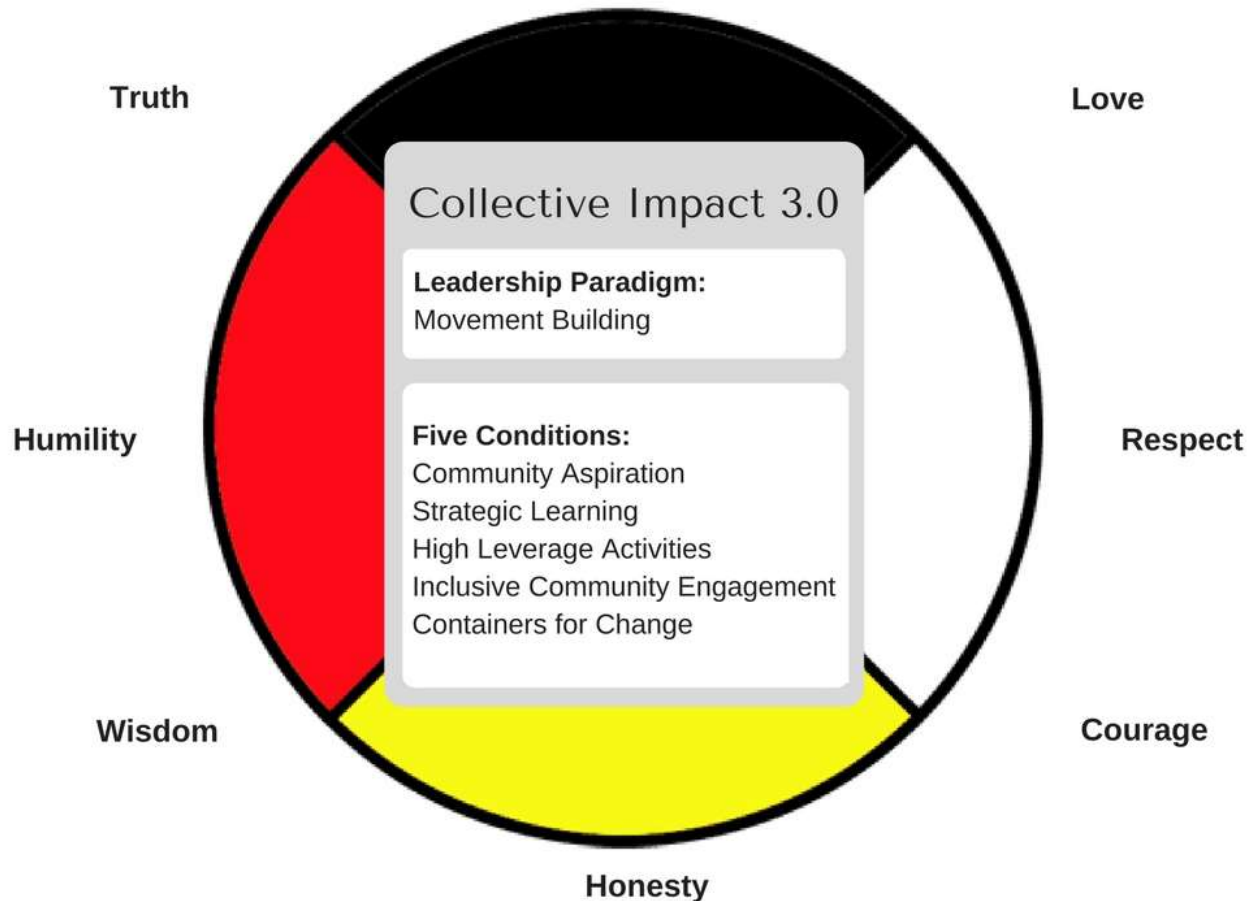
6   Make this two slides
          include the logos of the partner agencies
          service mapping activities
          Invovlment wiith Contact in each city
          Elisa Traficante, 10/18/2016

Collective Impact

How will we do the work?

Indigenous Teachings

Truth

Love

Humility

Respect

Wisdom

Courage

Honesty

Collective Impact 3.0

Leadership Paradigm:
Movement Building

Five Conditions:
Community Aspiration
Strategic Learning
High Leverage Activities
Inclusive Community Engagement
Containers for Change

Adapted from:

Collective Impact 3.0
(Cabaj & Weaver, 2016)

The Winnipeg Plan to
End Youth
Homelessness
(Here and Now, 2016)

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

Community Outputs

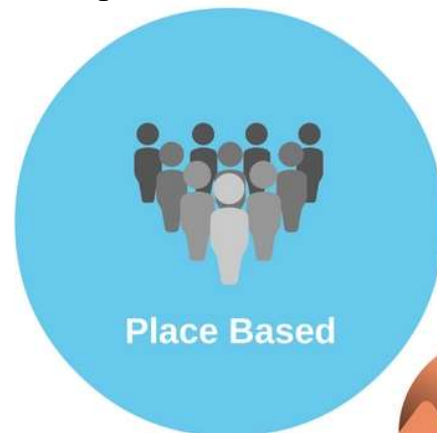| School Board	Lead Agency
Provide opportunity to survey students	Youth Outreach
Refer identified youth to lead agency for support services	Family Reconnection Support
Ongoing student monitoring	Mental Health Counselling
Space for Lead Agency services	Referrals to other necessary supports

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

Population Screening

(The Geelong Project, 2016)

- The Canadian Index of Adolescent Development is a 4-page survey

- It is comprised of 12 questions measuring: self esteem, resilience, psychological distress, self efficacy, connectedness to home, connectedness to school/community

- The survey contains 9 standardized assessment tools

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

Population Screening

We are presently undergoing an extensive consultation process.

Key Considerations	Informants
Anti-Oppressive Practice	Youth with Lived Experience LGTBQ2S Community Indigenous Community
Language Accessibility	High School Students Student Success Teachers Cultural Group Representation
Privacy and Consent	School Board Ethics Committees Parent Teacher Associations

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

Flexible Service Delivery Model

Core Principles:

3   New slide about AOP and considerations for the Canadian Concept

Elisa Traficante, 10/18/2016

Follow Up with Absent Students

Survey Students → **Analyze Survey Data** → **Identify Students 'at risk'** → **Screening Interviews**

School Staff Identify Students 'at risk'

Tier 1
Temporarily Disconnected (approx 1.5%)
Active monitoring and referrals to programs (2-10 hrs of CM)

Tier 2
Unstably Connected (approx 2%)
Family Reconnect, Housing Support and/or Counselling (10-40 hrs of CM)

Tier 3
Chronic Disconnection (approx 1.5%)
'Wrap Around Support' involving multiple services (40-110 hrs of CM)

Outcome Measurement

- Youth and Case workers will chart their progress using Outcome Star, a case management measurement tool
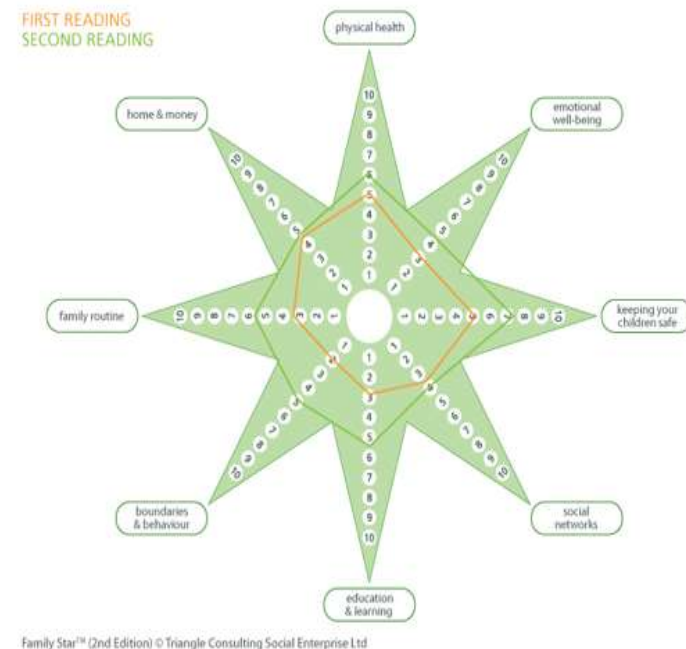
4   Sample of the shortened survey tool (or accuity scale)
Elisa Traficante, 10/18/2016

Outcome Measurement

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

Canadian Index of Adolescent Development Survey Acuity Tool

First Name: _____ Surname: _____
Preferred name: _____ Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / _____
Grade: ____ ____ Class: _____
Name of School: _____

This survey asks some questions about you and your life and relationships at home, at school and outside of school. Your answers to various questions will be treated in strict confidence. A few questions might seem a little personal, but please have the confidence to answer honestly.

1. The following statements are about how connected you feel to your school and to your family. Choose what you think is the best answer to describe your relationship – from Not true at all, Not really true, Sort of true, True, or Very true.

	Not true at all	Not really true	Sort of true	True	Very True
4. My family has fun together.	1	2	3	4	5
6. I work hard at school.	1	2	3	4	5
14. It is important that my parent(s) / guardian(s) trust me.	1	2	3	4	5
16. I enjoy being at school.	1	2	3	4	5
24. I enjoy spending time with my parent(s) / guardian(s).	1	2	3	4	5
26. I get bored in school a lot.	1	2	3	4	5
34. My parent(s) / guardian(s) and I disagree about many things.	1	2	3	4	5
36. I do well in school.	1	2	3	4	5
44. My parent(s) / guardian(s) and I get along well.	1	2	3	4	5
46. I feel good about myself when I am at school.	1	2	3	4	5
54. I care about my parent(s) / guardian(s) very much.	1	2	3	4	5
56. Doing well in school is important to me.	1	2	3	4	5

- Every 6 months, students receiving case management will complete a condensed version of the survey

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

Program Evaluation

Fidelity to The Geelong Project Model

- Creation of a Fidelity Criteria Framework
  - Core Components and Adaptive Components
  - Structural Fidelity and Process Related Fidelity
- Agency Staff Checklist
- School Staff Checklist
- Observational Checklist

Program Evaluation

- Raising the Roof is working with a third-party evaluator to measure our defined evaluation metrics

- The evaluation considers a variety of data sources from developmental and outcome evaluation frameworks

- The final evaluation will take place in the Conclusion Phase of the pilot project

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

5   Something about the logic model?
          Elisa Traficante, 10/18/2016

Target Outcomes

100% remaining engaged in school, increasing engagement or returning to school (who were not attending regularly or had recently left)

100% supported at home or obtaining safe, sustainable accommodation

(The Geelong Project, 2016)

THE UPSTREAM PROJECT

For more information about The Upstream Project, contact:

Elisa Traficante, Project Manager Community Initiatives
(416) 481-1838 ext. 203
elisa@raisingtheroof.org

Additional information can also be found on our website:
www.raisingtheroof.org