



THRESHOLD
HOUSING SOCIETY



Addressing Youth Homelessness through a Harm Reduction Lens

CAEH 23 – Kacie Stirrett & Angela McNulty-Buell
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Territorial Land Acknowledgement

As a youth housing organization, we recognize the historic land displacement experienced by Indigenous youth and families and the disproportionate representation seen in unhoused communities.

We acknowledge our responsibility to provide culturally safe housing to youth residing on the traditional territory of the Esquimalt, Songhees and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples land where we do our work.

We also acknowledge and thank the Mi'kmaq peoples whose stolen lands we are gathering on today.



Welcome pole by Coast Salish
artist Stan Modeste

Vision

A community where all youth thrive.

Mission

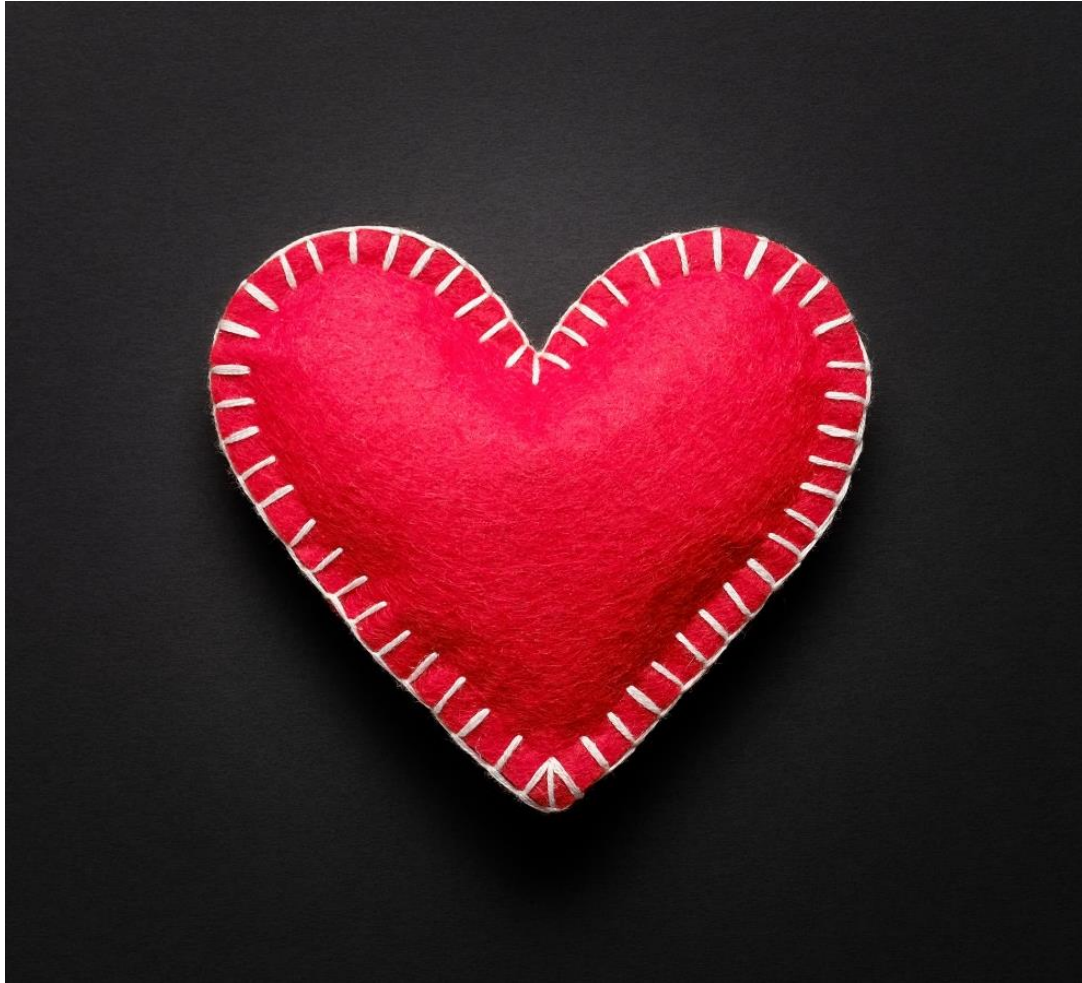
To prevent adult homelessness by providing safe housing, support services, and community to at-risk youth.

Mandate

To provide safe housing to youth, aged 15 to 24, who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness, and to support their healing and growth through

- robust wrap-around supports,
- innovative and flexible programming, and
- increased community connections.





Harm Reduction and Recovery

- Youth substance use is a deadly reality
- Abstinence is not the only way
- Recovery happens along a continuum
- Harm reduction- is an important part of recovery

Threshold's Supportive Recovery Program

- 8 beds for youth aged 15 to 21 battling substance use issues
- 24/7 staffing, including a case manager
- Recovery group, life-skills programming, community outings
- Threshold also offers a registered clinical counsellor, Indigenous cultural wellness, and Family & Natural Support
- Spectrum of post-recovery housing options



Youth Substance Use & Homelessness

Risk Factors

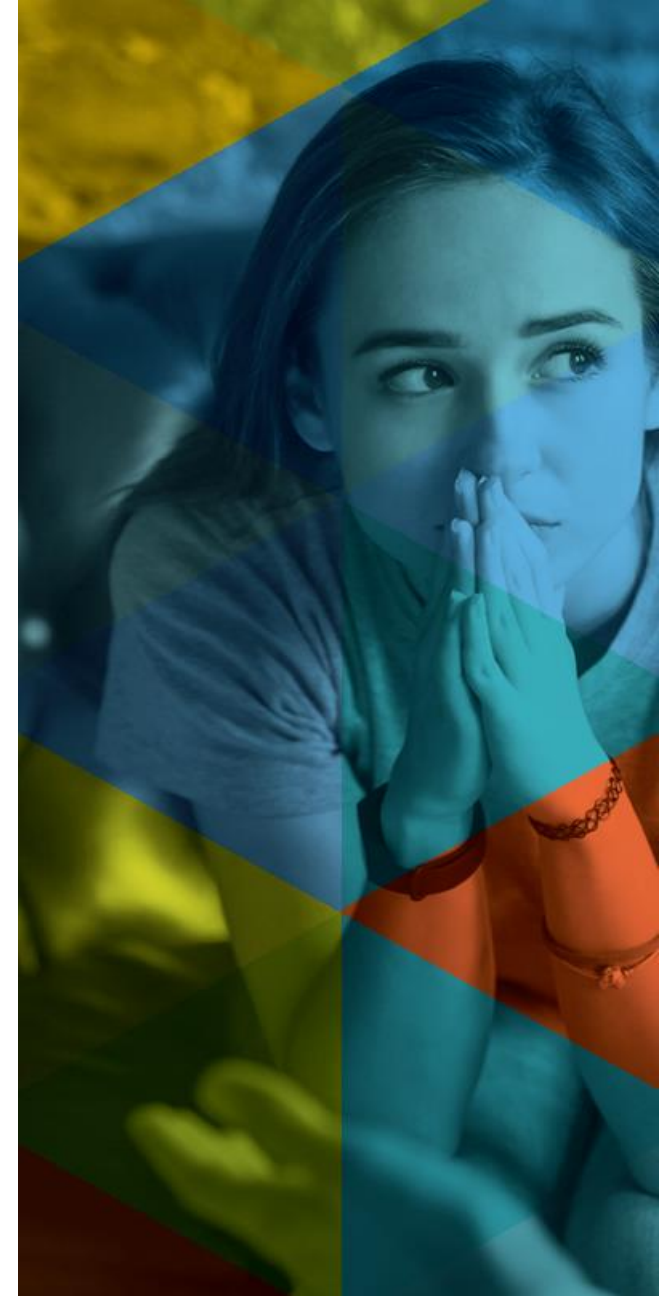
Addiction, unstable relationships, financial problems

Co-occurring Factors

Family conflict, mental illness, lack of social support

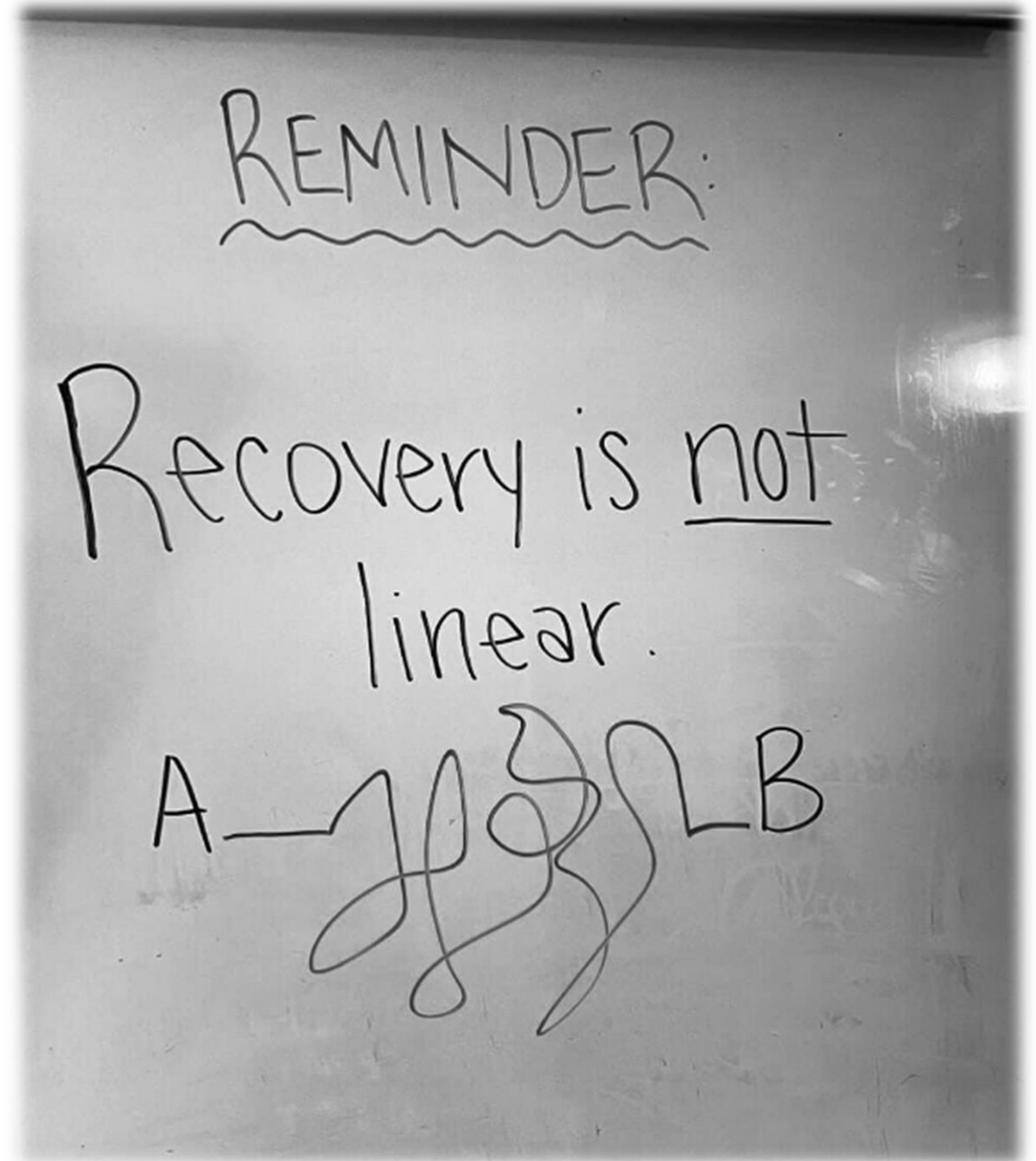
Prevention & Intervention

Addiction treatment, mental health services, housing



Conclusion

- Each individual experiences substance use and homelessness differently
- Broad social and economic factors contribute to homelessness and to substance use
- Youth require a variety of support options, including residential supportive recovery





THANK YOU !!