

Shelters as a Gateway into Housing

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BC Housing

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Presentation Outline

- Context
- Shelter Review Highlights 2015-2016
- Key Program Updates

Context

Policy Mandate: ***Housing Matters BC***

- Serving the most vulnerable
- Breaking the cycle of homelessness

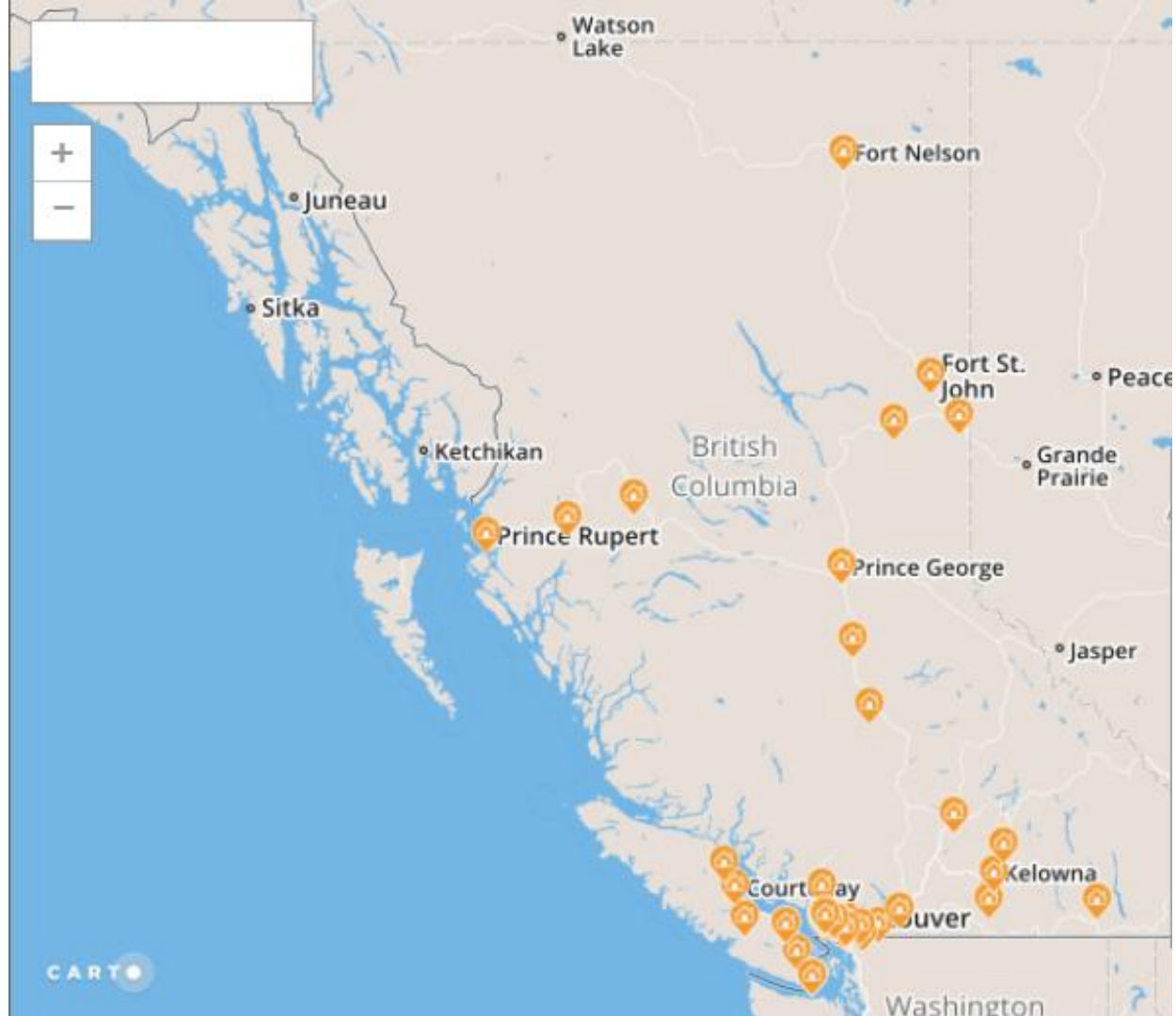
www.housingmatters.bc.ca

Context

- Provincial scope
- Delivery of emergency shelter program via non profit partners
- Partnership with NP partners via 5 regional offices

Addressing Homelessness:

- 63 year-round shelters
- 33 communities
- 1850 beds
- 25 Single shelter communities



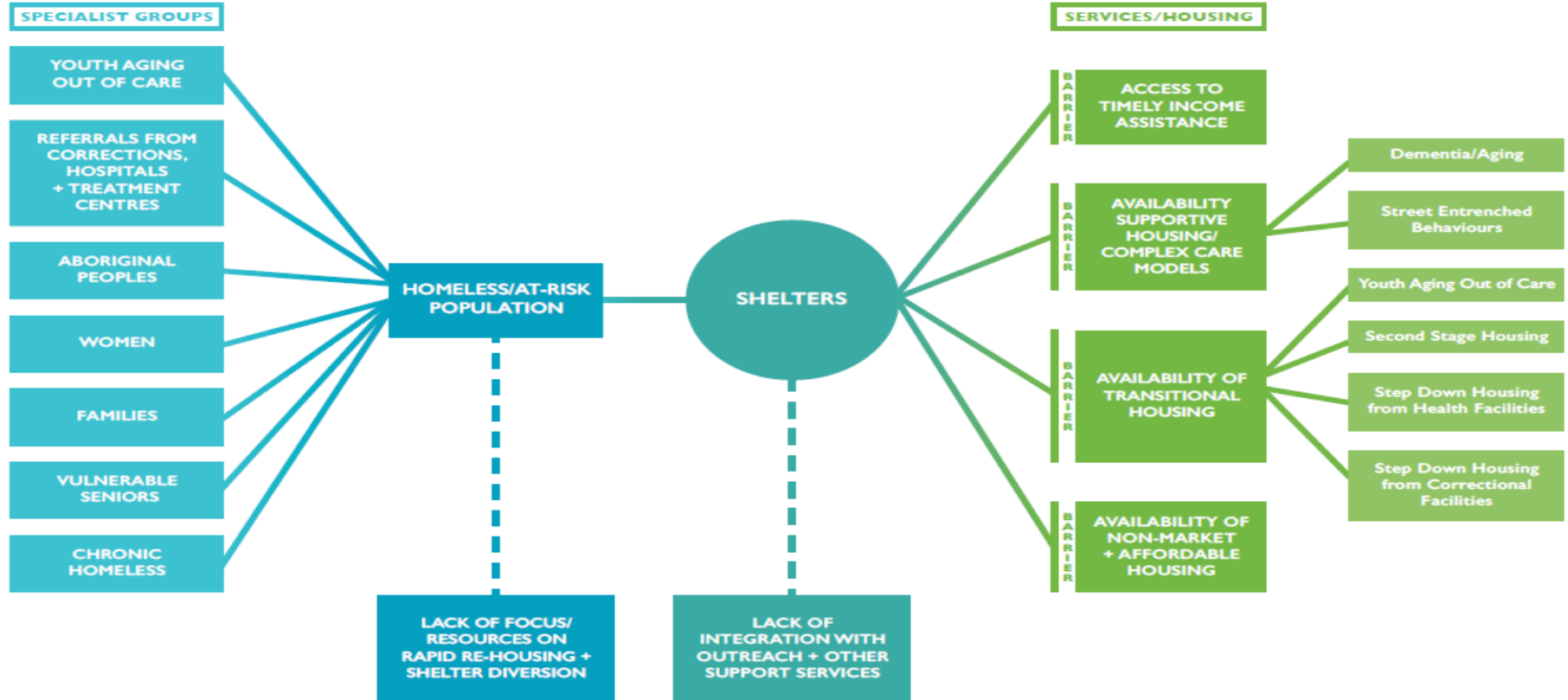
Shelter Review: What's Working?

- Flexibility
- Collaboration
- Homeless Prevention Program
- Case Planning

Shelter Review: Areas of Improvement

- ❖ Housing affordability
 - Collaboration with Regional Health Authorities
 - Access to IA
 - Data limitations
 - Staffing
 - Landlord relations
 - Continued supports once housed

Shelter Review: Identified Issues/Key Findings



Emergency Shelter Program

10 Years On....

2006: **868** spaces  **\$17.8M**

2016: **1850** spaces  **\$75M**

Strategic Direction

- Shelters are a ***Gateway into Housing***
- Integrate shelters, outreach & health
- Targeted approach for chronic shelter users
- Approach for non-chronic/one time shelter users
- Review staffing models – e.g. Role of day staff

Strategic Direction

- Support homelessness tables-at all levels
- Increase collaboration with Health Authorities
- Updated performance measures &
- Data integration

Program Updates

- Shift to measuring outcomes, not activities
- Recognition of different shelter populations
 - chronic
 - non chronic
 - individuals who don't require housing

Program Updates

Revised Performance Measures

- ❖ Non-Chronic homeless housed within 60 days
- ❖ Chronic homeless housed within 100 days
- ❖ Remain housed at 12-months *

Program Updates

Chronic Homeless:

- homeless for one year; and/or
- at least 4 episodes of homelessness within the last 3 years;
- may have no options for housing due to history, or the ability to participate in process, etc.

(VAT Definition)

Program Update – Service Standards

Single Shelter Community =
Minimal barrier service delivery

Program Updates

Minimal Barrier Shelter: accommodates individuals who:

- Require physical accessibility
- Are dealing with addictions and/or mental health
- Have a pet
- Require safe storage of their belongings, including a cart
- Require harm reduction supplies, including clean needles, access to safe disposal (sharps container), condoms, etc.
- Link to primary health care
- Can't be refused service unless extenuating health/safety issues present. If so, contact appropriate agency.



EH&P
LAWYERS

NO
UNAUTHORIZED
PARKING (ANYTIME)
PRIVATE LOT
UNAUTHORIZED VEHICLES
WILL BE TOWED
DEL ORO TOWING
769-2100

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Emp

Program Updates

- Common Assessment Tool for Outreach and Shelter Providers
 - Vulnerability Assessment Tool (VAT)

Program Updates

HIFIS 4

- Integrated data sharing
- Mandatory : ESP, HOP, HPP
- Vulnerability Assessment Tool (VAT)

Program Update – Training Outreach & ESP

- VAT
- Aboriginal/Indigenous awareness training;
- Mental health first aid training or equivalent;
- Naloxone training;
- Violence against women
- Safety for women in co-ed shelters;
- Substance use awareness – safety
- LGBTQ2S

Integration Pilot – VCH & BCH

SHELTER PROJECT 2015-2016

Report Period: 01-Jun-2015 to 31-Oct-2016

Total Priority Shelter Referrals to Date: 91



***Average Wait Time for Priority Shelter**



4 Days

**Wait time is defined as the time between the client being ARTG (Assessed and Ready To Go to MH&A Supported Housing) from hospital and the date the client moves to the Priority Shelter.*

Integration Pilot – VCH & BCH

Total Discharges from Shelters to Date: **83**

Housing secured: (SRO, Market, MHSUSH, Regular Ship, Housing First, Tertiary, etc) **36**

Hospitalized **14**
Hospitalized - medical reasons 2; Hospitalized - psychiatric reasons 12

Other Discharge Reasons **33**

Average Days in Shelter



44

Deceased 0; Declined - by Client 12; Declined - by Shelter 1; Detox/Treatment 3; Evicted 0; Evicted - Aggression Verbal/Physical 4; Evicted - Drug/Alcohol Abuse 1; Evicted - Sexually Inappropriate 0; Homeless/Street 1; Jail/Forensic 1; Lost to Contact 8; Moved Out of Region 0; No Participation 0; No Show 1; Not eligible 0; Other 1;

Thank you!

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