



Housing First

Is It Veteran Friendly?

CAEH23

November 8, 2023

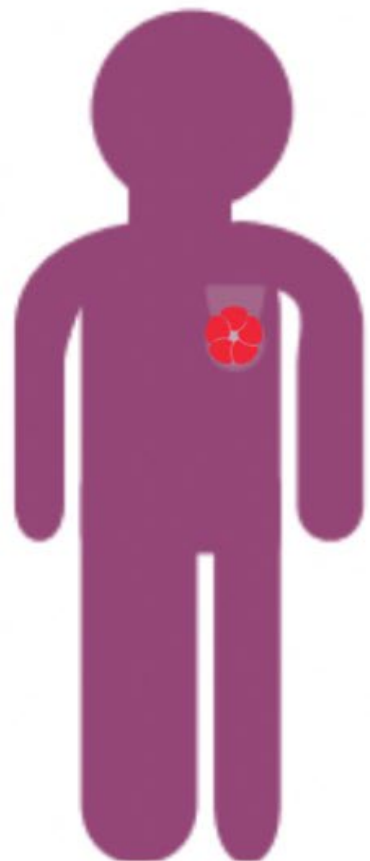


CAEH Training &
Technical Assistance

November 5 to 11

VETERANS' WEEK





approximately
2,950 VETERANS
EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS

2.2% OF SHELTER POPULATION

Challenges Faced by Homeless Vets

Shelters too
unstructured

Victims of
crime
(robbery)

Traumatic
brain injury

PTSD

Mental health

Addictions

Transition to
civilian life

“

**The transition [from
military to civilian life] is
like being on Mars and
coming back to earth**

- Canadian Veteran

”

Fornchuk, 2011



7 Key Principles

Peer Support

Emphasis on Self-Respect

Structure

Veteran-specific Services

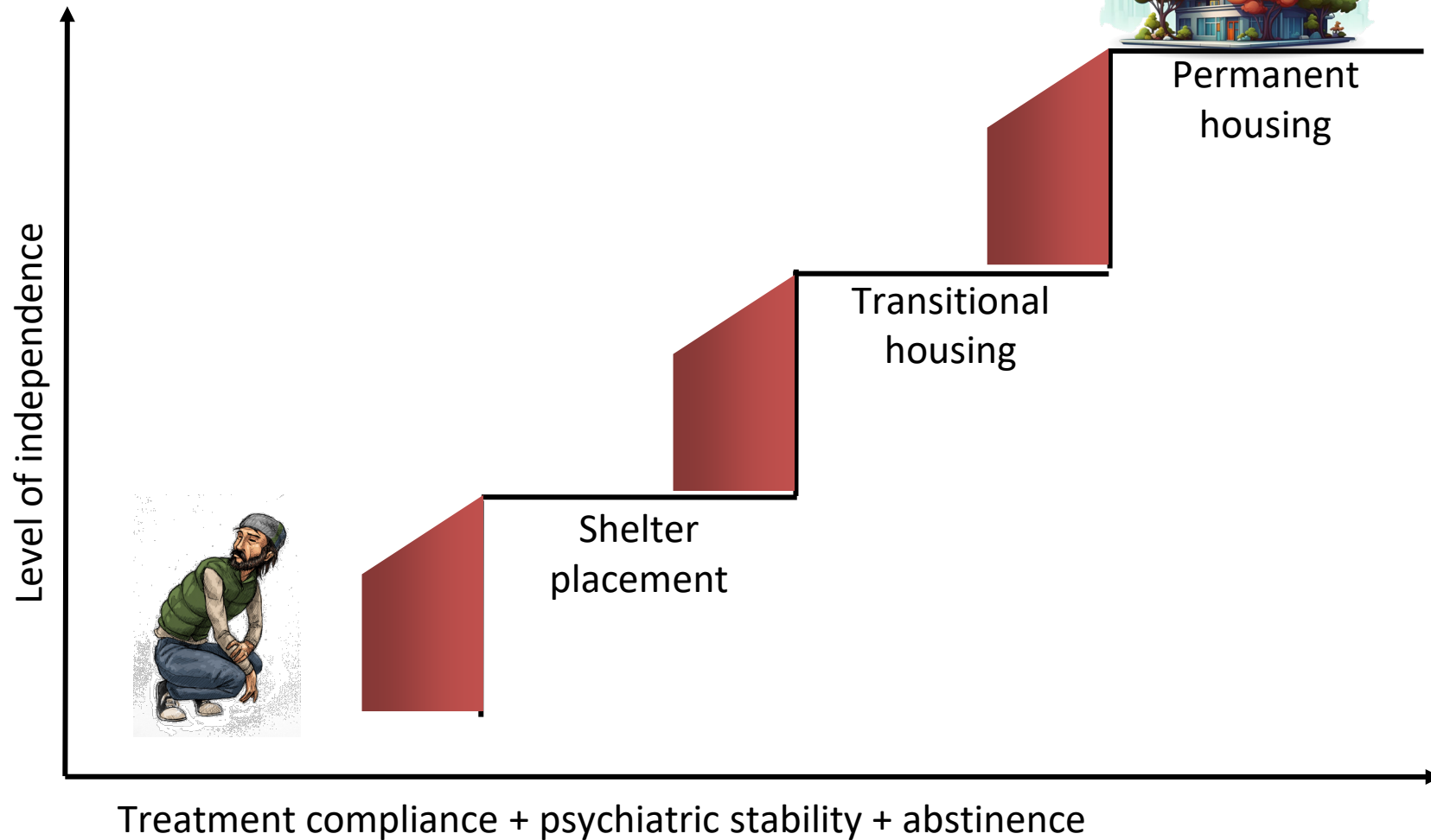
Transition Process to Housing

Addressing MH/Addictions/Trauma

Harm Reduction Approach

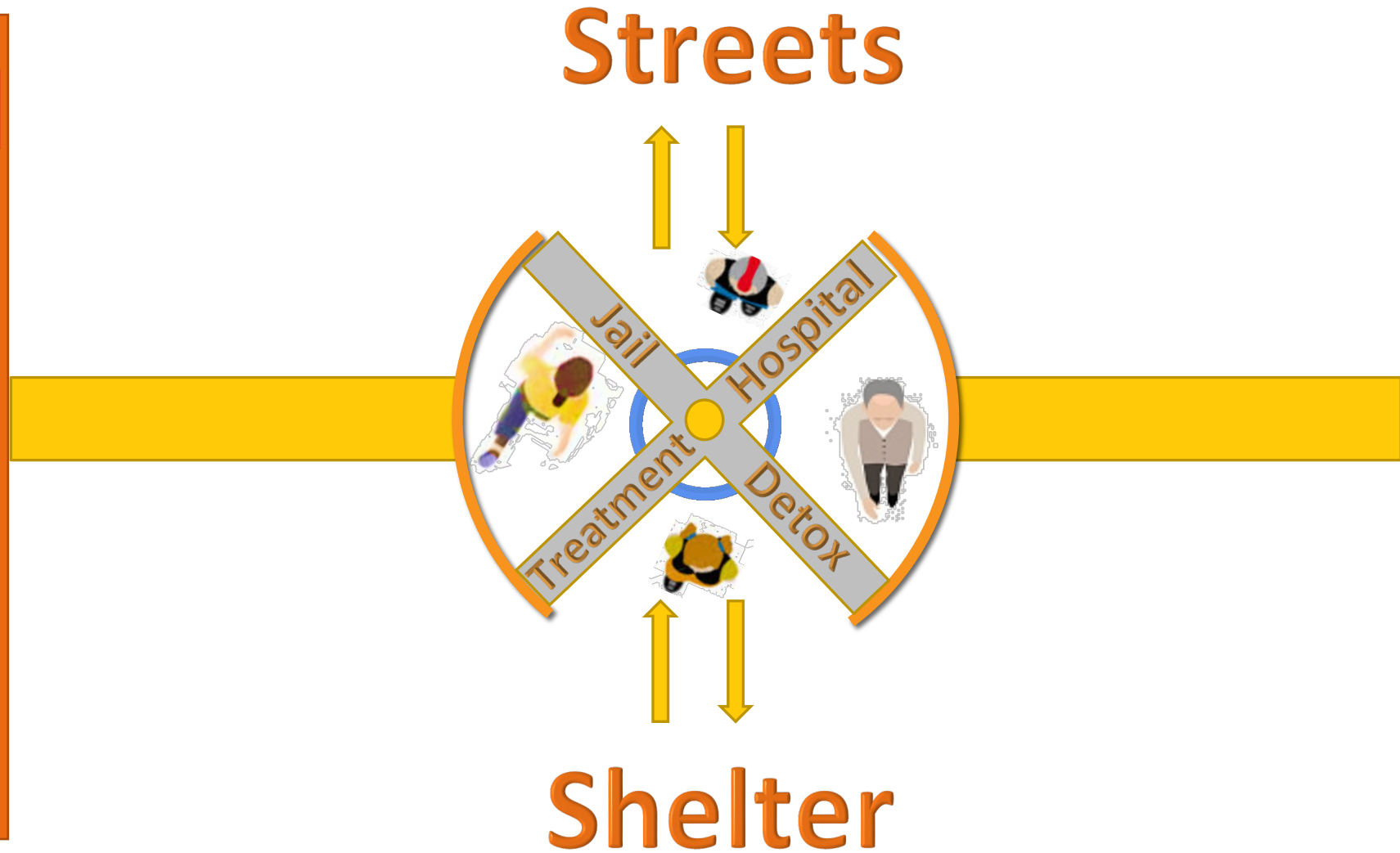


Traditional/ Treatment as Usual



Institutional Circuit

When people
can't or won't
comply with
treatment as
usual



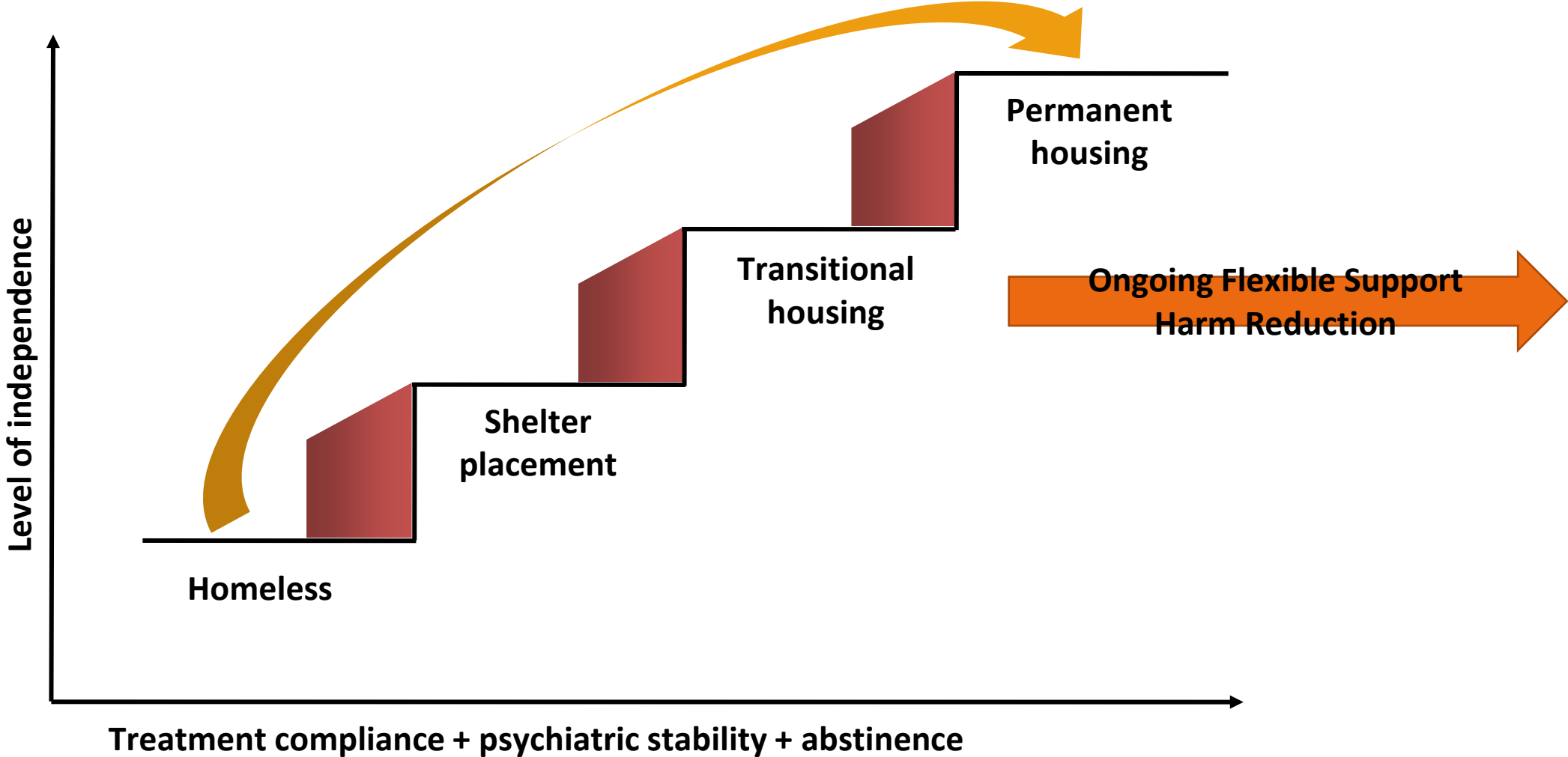
Staircase

to

Housing



Intervention Re-design: Housing First



3 P's of Housing First



Philosophy

(What & Why)

- Immediate access to safe, secure, permanent housing.
- No readiness requirements.
- Supports and services provided (not time-limited)
- Recovery/stability better achieved if housed first
- Priority enrollment
- All people can change given opportunity and support



Principles

(How)

- Choice in Housing and Supports
- Separation of Housing and Supports
- Service Array
- Recovery Orientation
- Program Structure



Practice

- Service delivery program/activities by an agency
- General chronic population or specific target populations
- ICM / ACT / FACT (low caseload ratios)
- Subsidy's
- Home visits
- Landlord engagement



Choice



- Housing
 - Location and type
 - Permanent if possible
 - Furnishings
- Services and Support
 - Involvement
 - Frequency and intensity
 - High expectations / no requirement

Separation



- Housing not contingent on participation in services.
- Services not contingent on housing
- Housing only contingent on adherence to standard lease
- Supports through housing loss or institutional stay
- Commitment to rehousing
- Support workers not mini-landlords (PSH)

Service Array



- Target broad range of life goals
 - Health
 - Employment
 - Family, etc
- Offered, not required
- Direct or brokered
- Formal and informal linkages
- Person-centred, participant-driven

Recovery Orientation



- With proper supports, all can improve their lives.
- All goals and activity are participant-driven
- Individualized
- Community and social integration
- Beyond housing stability
 - Life meaning
 - Quality of life



Additional Recovery Concepts and Practices



Harm Reduction



Trauma-informed care and practice



Assertive Engagement

- Strength-based practice
- Assertive Outreach
- Motivational Interviewing



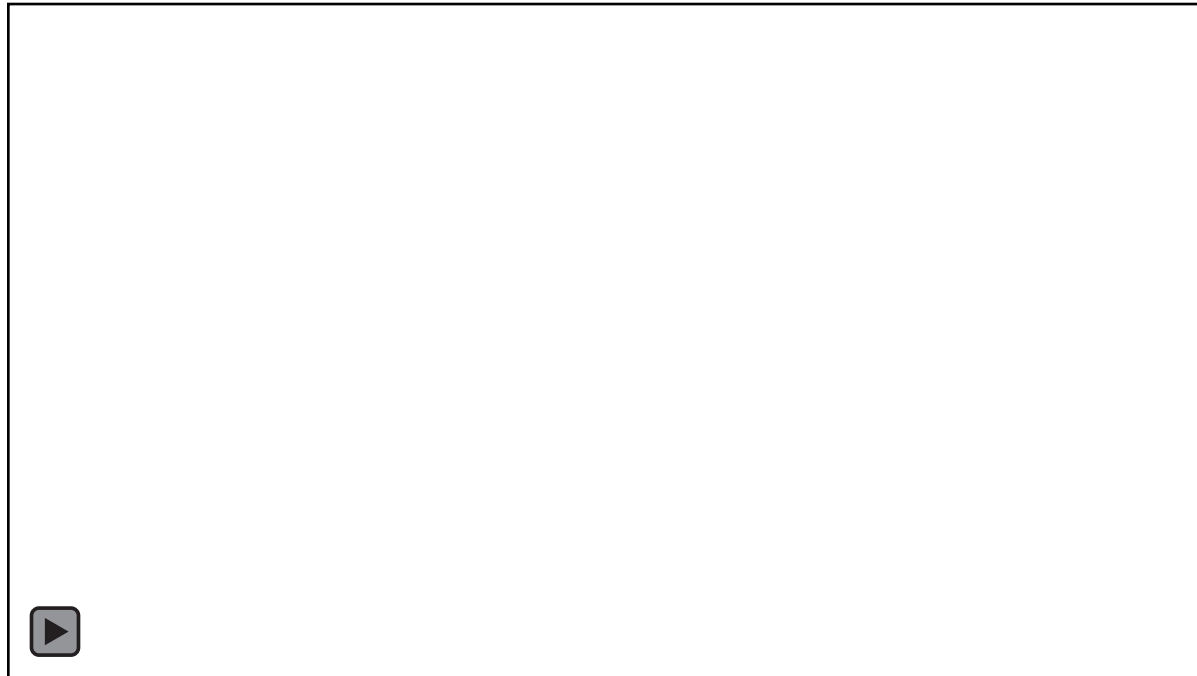
Person-centred service plans

HOPE

COMPASSION

CONNECTION

Program Structure: Team Operations



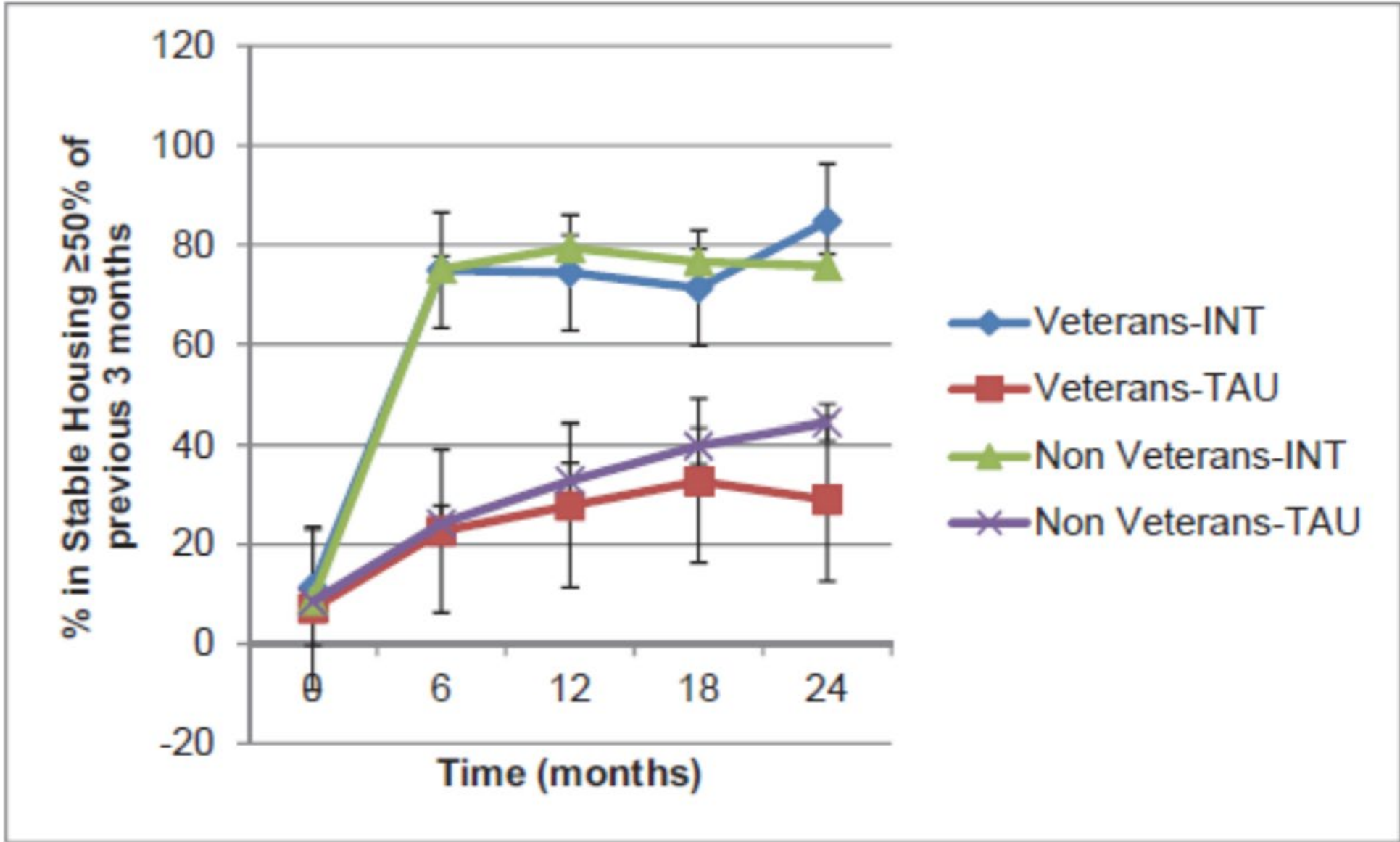
ICM / ACT / FACT	Team lead	Housing specialist
Case management	Peer specialist (military experience)	Priority intake
Frequent team meetings	Regular supervision	Home visits and regular contact
Landlord engagement	24/7 support	Rental assistance



How Effective is HF with Veterans?



- Reduces wait times for housing placement
- Increases housing retention
- Decreases emergency service usage
- Improves social functioning
- Improves quality of life
- Increases sense of safety




Housing First Effectiveness Articles



Thank You

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