

TIPPING POINT  
COMMUNITY

# Reducing Chronic Homelessness in San Francisco



The 1970s and 1980s resulted created homelessness as we see it today



### Declining Supply of Affordable Housing

Cuts to housing **construction** and Federal housing **assistance**

**Demolition of substandard housing** due to high maintenance, aging infrastructure

Conversion of **rental units to condos** for urban renewal

**Lapses in assistance:** three quarters of qualifying households do not receive income-based rental assistance



### Rise in Income Inequality

**Increased cost of living** with local growth of high-skilled jobs

**Loss of low-skilled** and manufacturing jobs; rise of service and retail sector jobs

Stagnation in **low-income wages** jobs

Changes in minimum wage **lagging behind inflation rate**



# A growing shortage of affordable housing continues

*Affordable units vs. number of low-income renters in San Francisco*

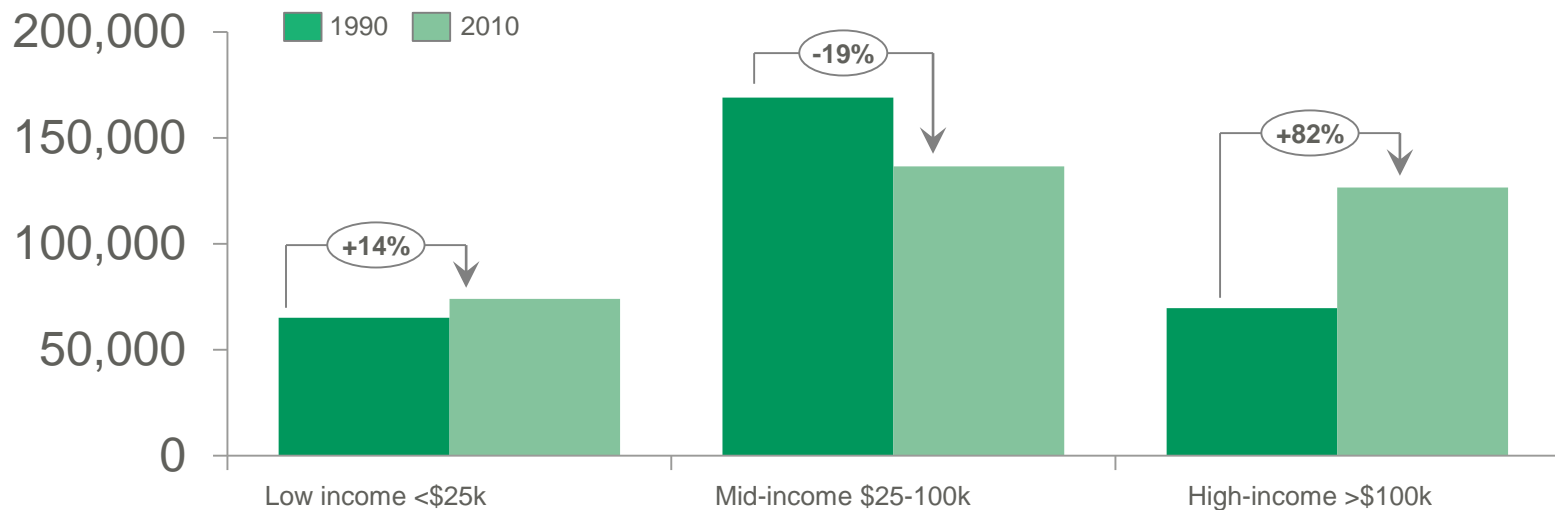




# Along with unprecedented income inequality paired with the stabilization of poverty

Since 1990, the number of low-income and high income households have increased dramatically while the number of mid-income households has declined.

Approximate number of households in San Francisco



Today, the top 5% households in San Francisco **make 17x more annual income** than the bottom 20% households...

...and **>53% of low-income households** in Bay Area at-risk of or experiencing displacement



# Public policy changes further exasperated growth of homeless and vulnerability of population

**Policy reforms targeting social systems failed to provide corresponding community investments**



## **Mental Health**

**Deinstitutionalization of mentally ill** without an increase in funding for community supports; Began in the 1960s with major funding cuts in the 1980s



## **Social Welfare**

**Loss of subsidies for low-income** groups:

- HUD authority shrank from \$83B to \$18B<sup>1</sup> from 1978 to 1983; loss of rental subsidy, rise of homeowner subsidy
- Dramatic cuts to cash assistance (e.g. Aid to Families with Dependent Children and General Assistance)



## **Criminal Justice**

**Mass incarceration** that increased jail and prison population from <200,000 in 1972 to 2.2M today; **Reforms** without investment in community reentry supports, leaving individuals with a record, debt, social disconnection

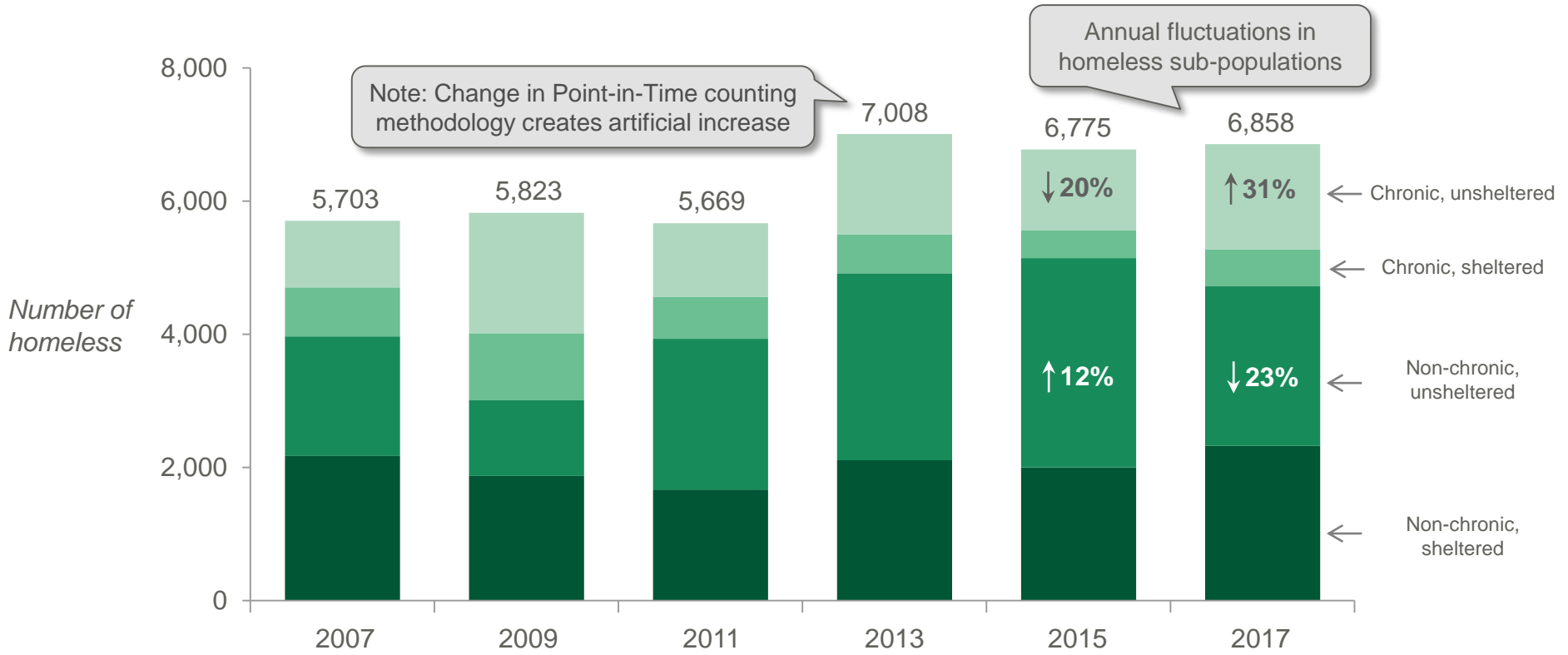
Result

**Systems failure resulting in clear failure of our safety net: homelessness**

# Approximately 7,000 homeless in San Francisco on any given night



Total homeless population has stayed steady while sub-populations have fluctuated



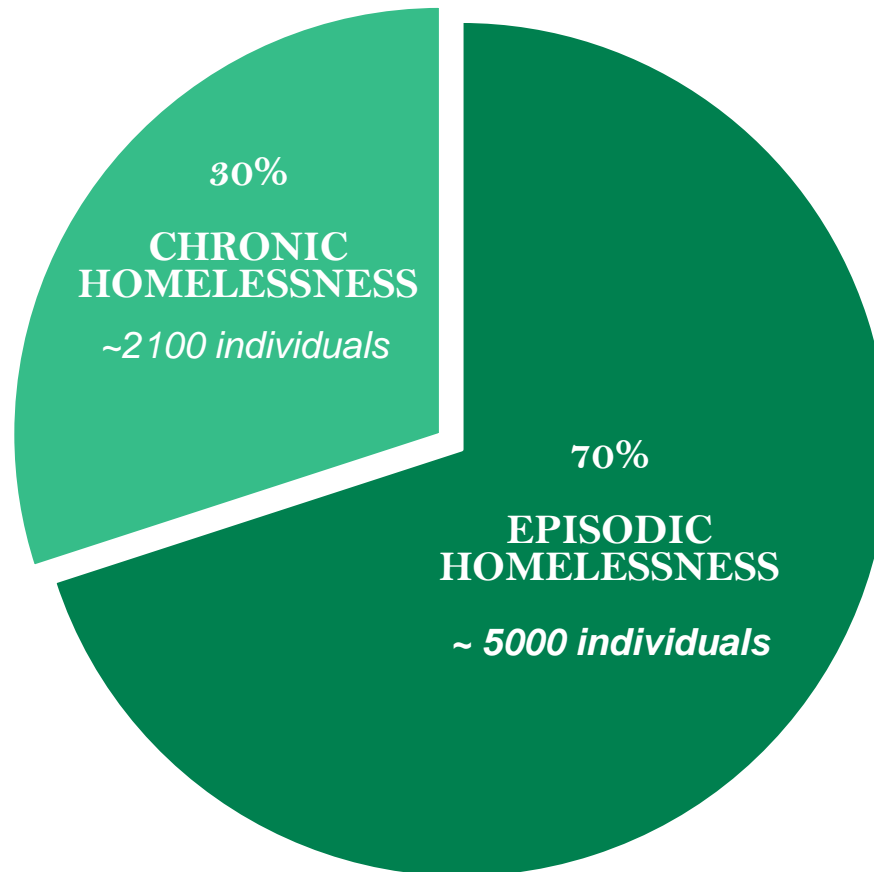
Note: Change in Point-in-Time counting methodology creates artificial increase

Annual fluctuations in homeless sub-populations



# Our \$100 million investment will focus on chronic homelessness

*Chronically homeless are those who have a disabling condition; and have been homeless for over a year or 4 times in 3 years*



# Emergency medical, mental health, and substance abuse services spend greatest amount on chronically homeless




	All homeless			High users, long time homeless			
	Total cost	# people	Cost / person	Total cost	# people	Cost / person	
<b>Medical</b> <i>Includes ED, Urgent Care, Medical Inpatient, Medical Respite, EMS</i>	\$109.4 million	6,401	\$17.1k per person	\$38 million	536	<b>\$70.9k per person</b>	Top 8% of users: 35% of cost
<b>Mental health</b> <i>Includes PES, Dore Urgent Care, ADU, Psych Inpatient, Mobile/Westside Crisis</i>	\$34.7 million	2,445	\$14.2k per person	\$10.4 million	312	<b>\$33.2k per person</b>	Top 13% of users: 30% of cost
<b>Substance abuse</b> <i>Includes Social Detox, Sobering Center, Medical Detox</i>	\$4.5 million	1,847	\$2.5k per person	\$1.5 million	319	<b>\$4.8k per person</b>	Top 17% of users: 33% of cost

**For total emergency health costs, the top 13% of homeless users make up 72% of total costs**






The Tipping Point strategy will build towards a five-year vision to **drive systems change**, with a clear impact target



**Create more housing:** Target chronically homeless and streamline housing access and creation

- Movement between housing levels of care
- Prioritization of most vulnerable for housing with buy-in for effective implementation



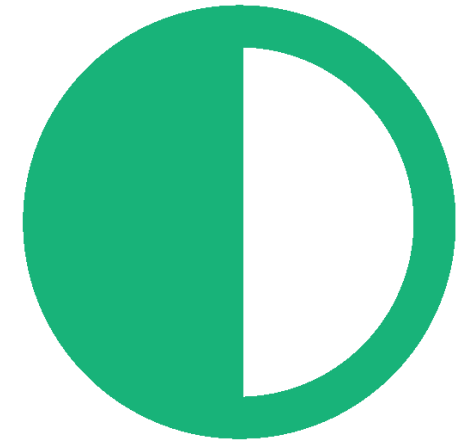
**Prevent homelessness:** Intervene at key moments of opportunity, times when the public sector interfaces with those most at risk of becoming chronically homeless

- Improved care transitions
- Know the at-risk population by need and provide services based on individual need



**Optimize public sector:** Maximize funding and coordinate, individualize approach to homelessness

- Leverage and maximize dollars
- Understand, through data, the impact of funding, interventions, and policy on homeless population



**50%**

REDUCTION OF 2017 CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS



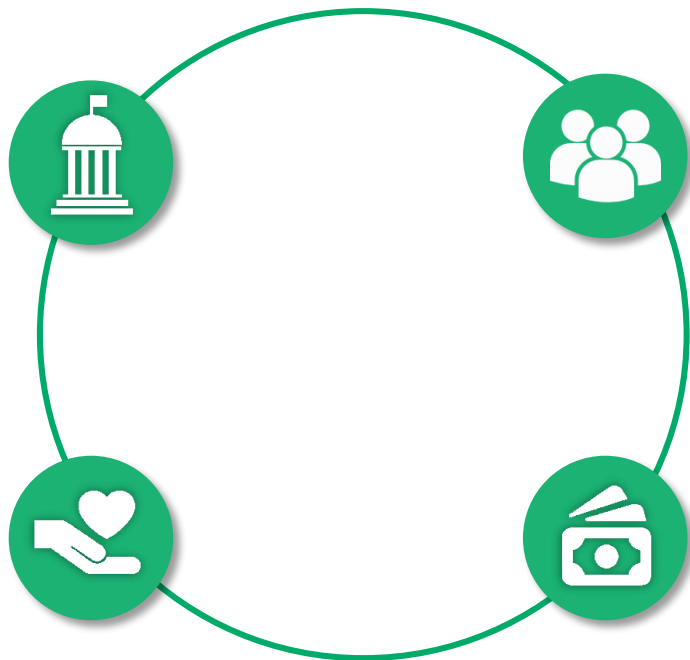
# With a focus on redefining funding relationships to create aligned investments and greater impacts

## Government

Maintain a safety net of services for the most underserved by promoting integration and coordination, and sustaining proven interventions

## People in need

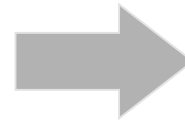
Share expertise based on first-hand knowledge of conditions, experience, and what works.



## Non-profits

Provide culturally competent services rooted in community needs in a coordinated partnership with the public sector

**Philanthropy + Private Sector**  
Raise flexible private dollars to drive innovation, risk-taking, and public-sector systems change



## Maximize State / Federal funding to expand homelessness services



**Medicaid** through Affordable Care Act, Whole Person Care



**Housing Vouchers** through Section 8 HUD program



**TAY Housing and Services** through Title IV-E

# Challenges



## Goal

Creating mutual accountability across multiple systems

## Objective

Increase affordable housing and provide support services as needed

## Barriers

Housing IS health but not viewed as a health outcome

Medicaid: Eligibility ≠ Enrollment ≠ Access ≠ Good Outcomes

Housing providers and health providers don't speak the same language

# Housing is Health: Funding Opportunities

## With Affordable Care Act the Majority of the Homeless are eligible for Medi-Cal



### Increase Medi-Cal Enrollment

- Solutions that look at community-based enrollment at shelters, jail, and outreach at encampments

### Support policy and practice changes

- Hold Managed Care Organizations accountable for housing as an outcome
- Help bring health plans to the table to fund support services
  - Example: VASH- vouchers provided by HUD, support services provided by VA, for non-vets, health providers could partner or sub-contract with housing providers



## Increase number of affordable housing units

- Fund housing subsidies
- Provide capital for affordable housing

Support public systems interacting with clients who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness focusing on improving transitions and discharge from systems, including:

- Child welfare
- Criminal justice
- Mental health



## Alignment, coordination and information sharing

### Information sharing

- Help support sharing between multiple systems serving people experiencing homelessness

### Participate in aligned and coordinated funding

- San Francisco Funders Table to End Chronic Homelessness