

# Expanding Housing Opportunities for People with Histories of Incarceration

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# Link Between Incarceration & Homelessness

## **Homelessness & Recidivism:**

- 16-17% of prisoners report homeless when arrested (probably higher)
- About 1/3-1/2 of parolees in LA & SF were homeless in 2008
- 7 times more likely to reoffend if homeless than if housed

# State Programs for Homeless Parolees

## Examples of Existing State Programs

**Funding to provide supportive housing for mentally ill parolees experiencing homelessness.**

- **Has been used to fund—**
  - **Parole officer petty cash for motel stays,**
  - **Group home placements for up to 6 months,**
  - **Day center services, and**
  - **Now, mental health treatment for people with serious mental illness (serving over 300 parolees, three of whom have been homeless)**

### **\$25 Million to Site Transitional Housing**

- **Transitional housing requires conditional use permit**

# Senate Bill 1013 (Beall)

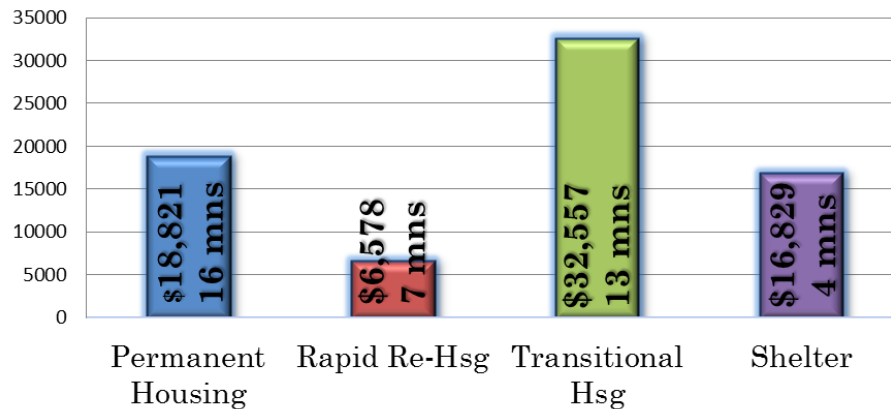


No homeless parolees  
8% for housing  
Housing: transitional  
housing, sober living

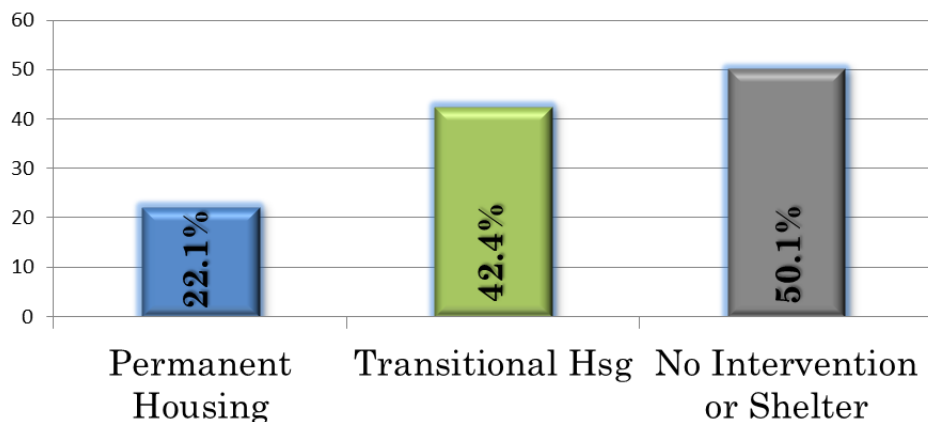
Homeless parolees  
Interim housing  
Permanent housing +  
services

# Studies on Effectiveness of Housing Interventions

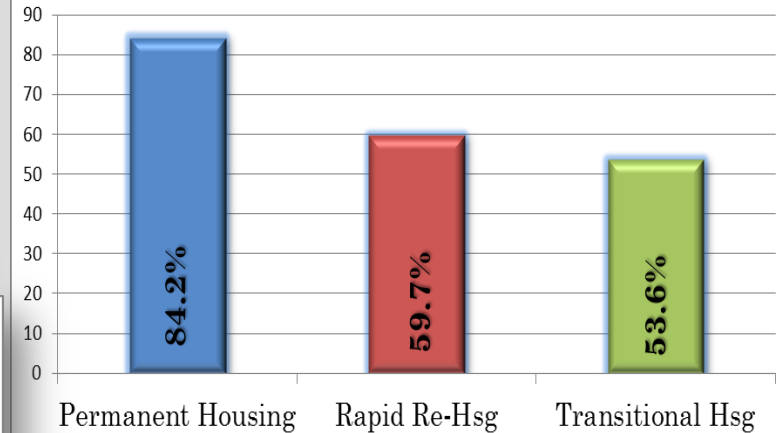
**Costs of Housing Type Per Stay  
(18 month study)**



**Percentage of People Returning to Homelessness**



**Percentage of People Using Intervention Offered**



*Data Source: HUD Family Options Study*

# Barriers for Parolees to Access Housing

## Definition of Homelessness



**HUD: 90-Day  
Restriction**

**Tax Credits:  
Not  
Restricted**

## Screening



**One Strike  
Laws: Housing  
Authorities**

**Housing  
Provider  
Background  
Checks**

## Conditions of Parole



**Conflict  
with Harm  
Reduction,  
Housing  
First**

# Opportunity at State Level: SB 1380 (Mitchell)

## SB 1380 (Mitchell) Makes California a “Housing First State”



**Anyone is ready for housing. Housing should be “low-barrier,” allowing people who are homeless and have been incarcerated, or who may be using drugs or alcohol to access housing.**

**Housing is necessary for recovery from physical, mental health, substance use conditions. Homeless people must be linked to housed first, before services effectively improve health.**

**Services must be face-to-face, offered where the person lives, and designed to help maintain housing stability, prevent eviction, address behaviors that could lead to eviction.**

**Tenant participation in services is voluntary: Housing is not contingent on compliance, or discontinued when client uses drugs/alcohol.**

# Housing First is an Evidence-Based Model

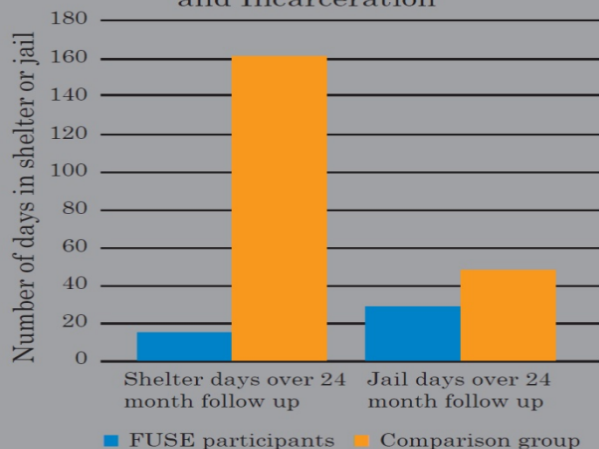
Housing First programs allow people to exit homelessness faster than transitional models.

Tenants using Housing First programs access services more often, have a greater sense of choice and autonomy, significantly reduce health and corrections costs, and are far less costly to public systems than tenants of other programs.

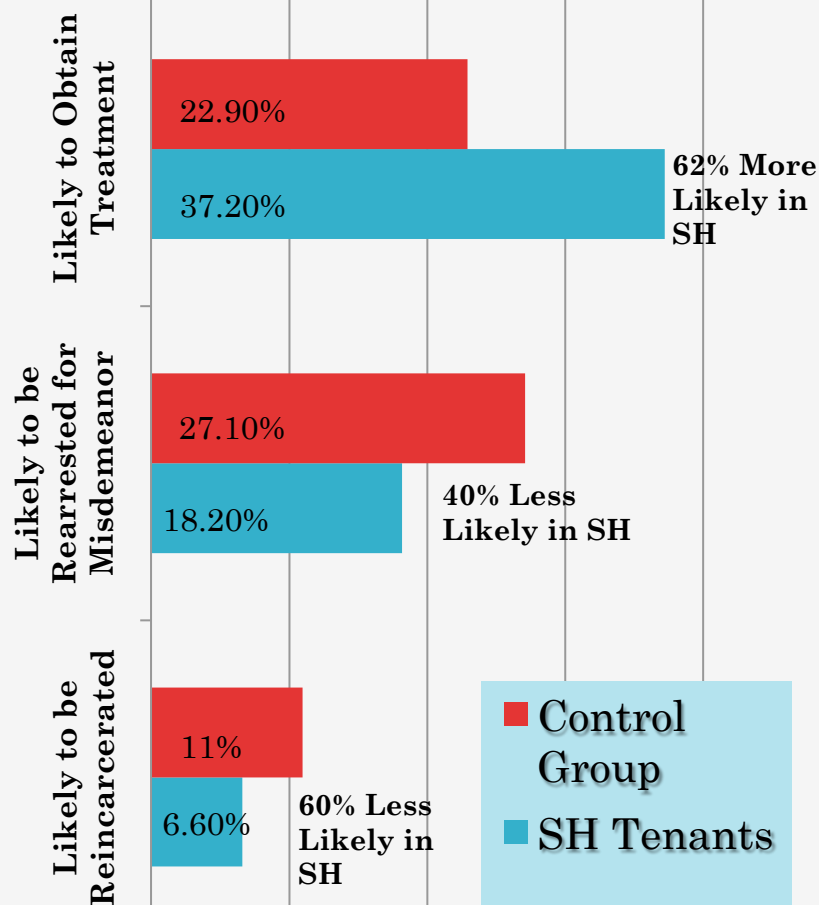
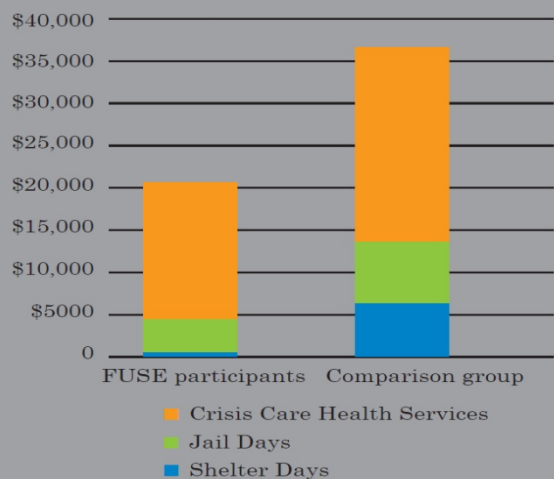
Tenants using Housing First programs stay housed longer, avoid “doubling up” or living in overcrowded housing, and remain housed more stably and longer than other programs.

# Evaluations of Supportive Housing for People Exiting Jails/Prisons

Intervention Effects for Shelter Use and Incarceration

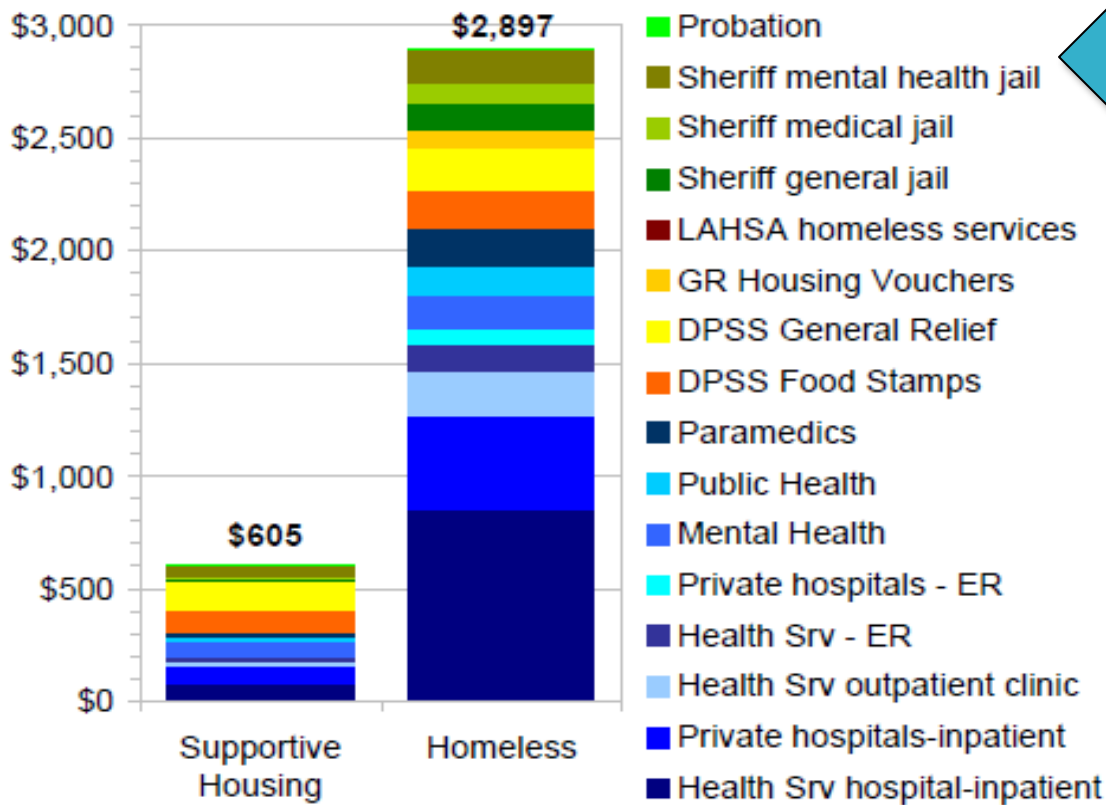


Cost of Jail, Shelter, Crisis Care Services



# State Opportunities Available to Counties

Average Monthly Public Costs for Persons in Supportive Housing and Comparable Homeless Persons



Homeless People Incur High Health Costs in Jails

- Counties Have Resources:
- AB 109: Prison Realignment
  - AB 678: Community Corrections Performance Incentive Funds
  - 1115 Medicaid Waiver: Whole Person Care Pilots

# LA County Office of Diversion & Reentry Housing Program

- Within LA County Department of Health Services, uses Housing for Health program model.
- Funds supportive housing for homeless people who have mental health or substance use disorders, and are incarcerated for felony cases.
- Provides rental assistance through County's Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool & case management services in housing through County's Intensive Case Management Services.



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