

# *CoC Membership Convening*

## September 12, 2023

Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention  
in partnership with the Indianapolis Continuum of Care





# WELCOME, GROUNDING, SETTING THE SPACE

# AGENDA

- **Why** are we here today?
- **Who's** here today?
- **What** are we uniting around?
  - CoC goal to reduce Black homelessness by 35% by 2025
- **How** are we advancing this work?
  - Key Tactics
- **Who** is engaging/ needs to be engaged
  - Implementation workgroups
  - People most impacted and closest to the problems
- **When/where** is this work happening?

# Shared Membership Agreements



## Member Organizations of the CoC agree to:

- ☐ Align with the vision of the CoC and the belief in housing as a human right.
- ☐ Center equity as a guiding force to dismantle racial, ethnic, and social disparities across the homeless response system.
- ☐ Apply a racial equity and social justice lens to policy, funding and program development and sharing decision-making power with people with lived experience, particularly Black people who are significantly overrepresented in the homelessness system.
- ☐ Advance the annual system goals, priorities, and activities set forth by the Blueprint Council
- ☐ Actively participate in workgroups to support collaboration, coordination, policies, and practices that result in more effective, equitable, and efficient housing and services.
- ☐ Participate in bi-annual or quarterly CoC convenings to support open and transparent communication around progress, challenges, and performance.
- ☐ Participate in nominating and electing seats to the Blueprint Council for service provider and lived experience representatives.
- ☐ Participate in utilizing the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and adhering to data quality standards (or comparable system with data sharing agreements)
- ☐ Serve as a champion of the collective work and the solutions.
- ☐ Actively engage in the exchange of ideas, information, and perspectives to foster trusting and mutually reinforcing relationships.
- ☐ Commit to continued learning, improvement, and growth through participation in training, webinars, and technical assistance opportunities to advance best practices toward achieving the CoC goal.
- ☐ Abide by the governing principles and practices set forth under the CoC Governance Charter

# 2023 CoC Membership



## 2023 Indianapolis Continuum of Care (CoC) Membership

On June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 the Blueprint Council announced an 18-month goal to reduce Black homelessness by 35% by January 2025. This goal effectively eliminates racial disparities in homelessness. Organizations and individuals were asked to sign on confirming their commitment to this goal and reaffirming their membership status within the Indianapolis Continuum of Care. The list below is inclusive of organizations that have signed on and individual Blueprint Council Members. (Note: A more detailed list of specific individuals for CoC membership is available and will be used to determine CoC convening invitations, voting eligibility, and workgroup engagement.)

*The following organizations and individual advocates have signed as CoC Member organizations:*

Adult & Child  
BWI  
CHIP  
Coburn Place  
Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD), City of Indianapolis  
Damien Center  
Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis  
Gennesaret Free Clinics  
Greater Indianapolis Multi-Faith Alliance (GIMA)  
Holy Family Shelter (Catholic Charities)  
Horizon House  
Homeless Initiative Program (HIP)  
HVAF  
Indianapolis Foundation  
Indianapolis Housing Agency  
Indy Crime Intervention Taskforce  
~~InteCare~~  
Lutheran Child & Family Services  
Marion County Public Health Department  
Mayor Joe Hogsett  
Partners in Housing  
Purpose of Life  
Salvation Army  
Sandra Eskenazi Mental Health Center  
Stopover Inc.  
Trinity Haven  
Veterans Administration  
Wheeler Mission

*The following Blueprint Council members have signed on as individuals:*

David Greene	Kay Wiles
Rusty Carr	Wahid Ahmed
Jeff Bennett	
Ray Lay	
Imani Sankofa	
Anthony Dumas	
Marcia Lewis	
Roxy Lawrence	



What are we  
uniting  
around:  
CoC Goal



**To Reduce Black  
Homelessness by 35% by  
January 2025.**

**To Reduce Black Homelessness by 35% for  
the following sub-populations:**

- 1) Chronically homeless**
- 2) Families**
- 3) Veterans**
- 4) Youth (18-24)**

# Theory of Change

Result Statement	Root Cause Analysis	Strategies
(What population-level condition are we trying to address?)	(Why does this condition exist?)	(What are we going to do to address the factors?)
	Barriers/drivers of population-level conditions	Programs, training, alignment, changes to policy/practices
We are working to eliminate racial disparities in the homeless response system (diversion to permanent housing)	Racism Discrimination Classism  VI SPDAT  <b>What else?</b>	Increase access to resources/homeless interventions (Hub)  Change the way we understand and assess vulnerability (CES)  Strengthen housing stability (Services)

# Theory of Change Statement

- If we understand where Black people show up in the homeless system, how they experience homelessness, how services are being accessed, and what barriers specifically impact Black people, we will be able to address the structural inequities in the homeless response system that are perpetuating inequities.
- If we can change the practices and tools that are disproportionately impacting Black people experiencing homelessness, we can eliminate racial disparities in the homeless response system.
- To achieve this, we must do the following:
  - We must engage those who are most impacted
  - We must dig into the data and ask the questions (with an open mind)
  - We must be willing to let go of the answers we think are right
- The long-term outcome is not affected by a single strategy but ALL the strategies working together.



How do we  
advance  
this theory

Tactics

Create an equitable  
Coordinated Entry  
process

Implement a post-  
Covid housing  
command center  
(i.e. HomeNow) that  
coordinates core  
housing functions  
and teams

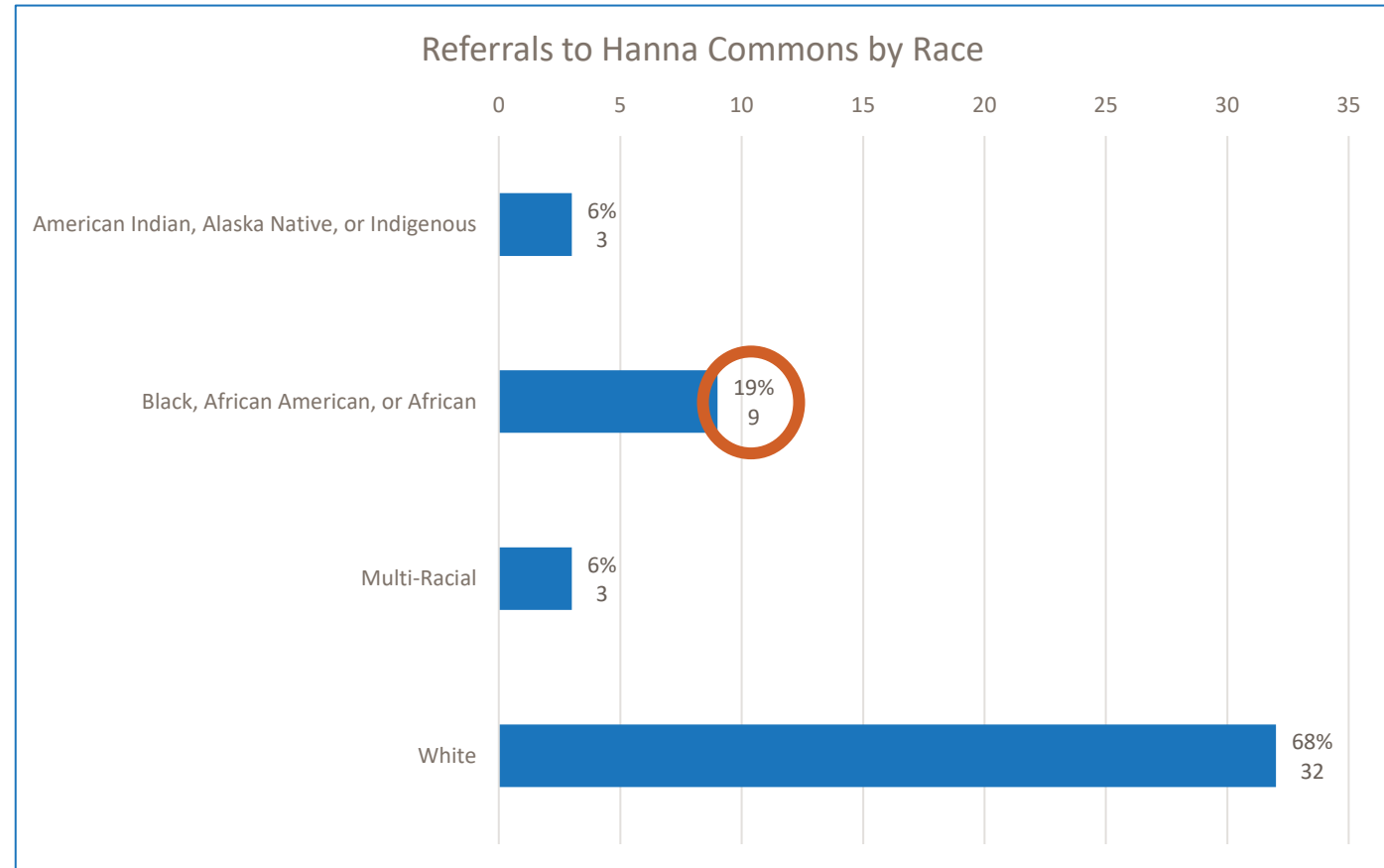
Strengthen  
supportive services,  
specifically housing  
case management.

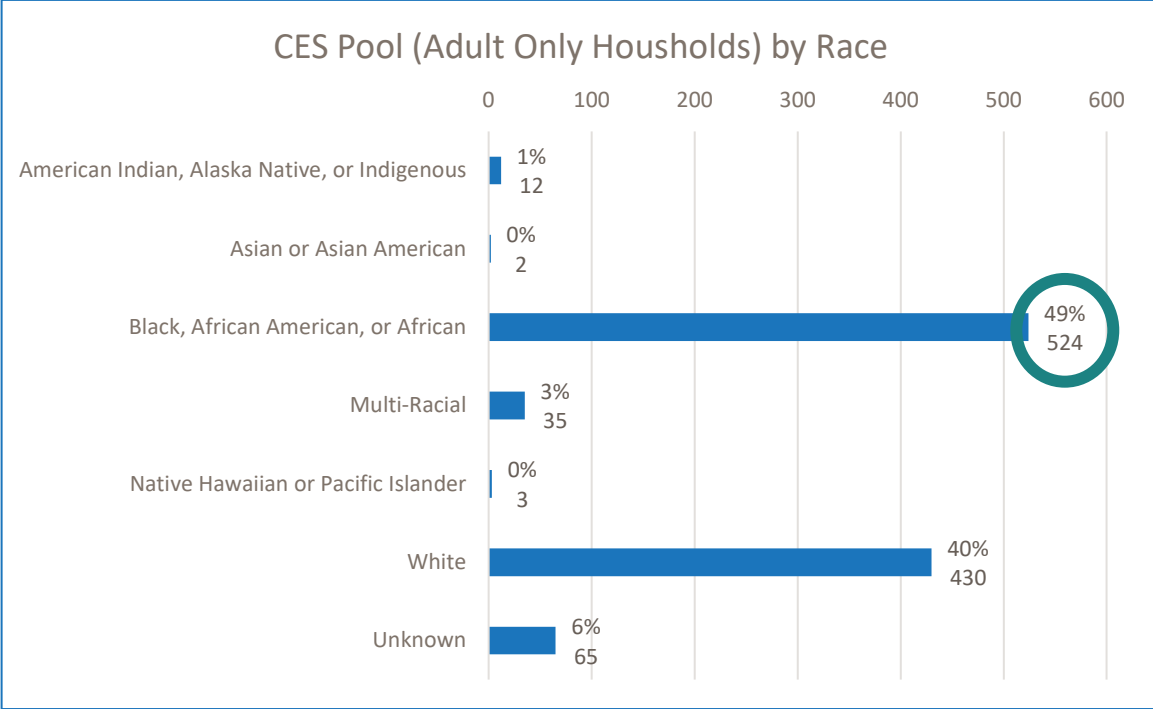
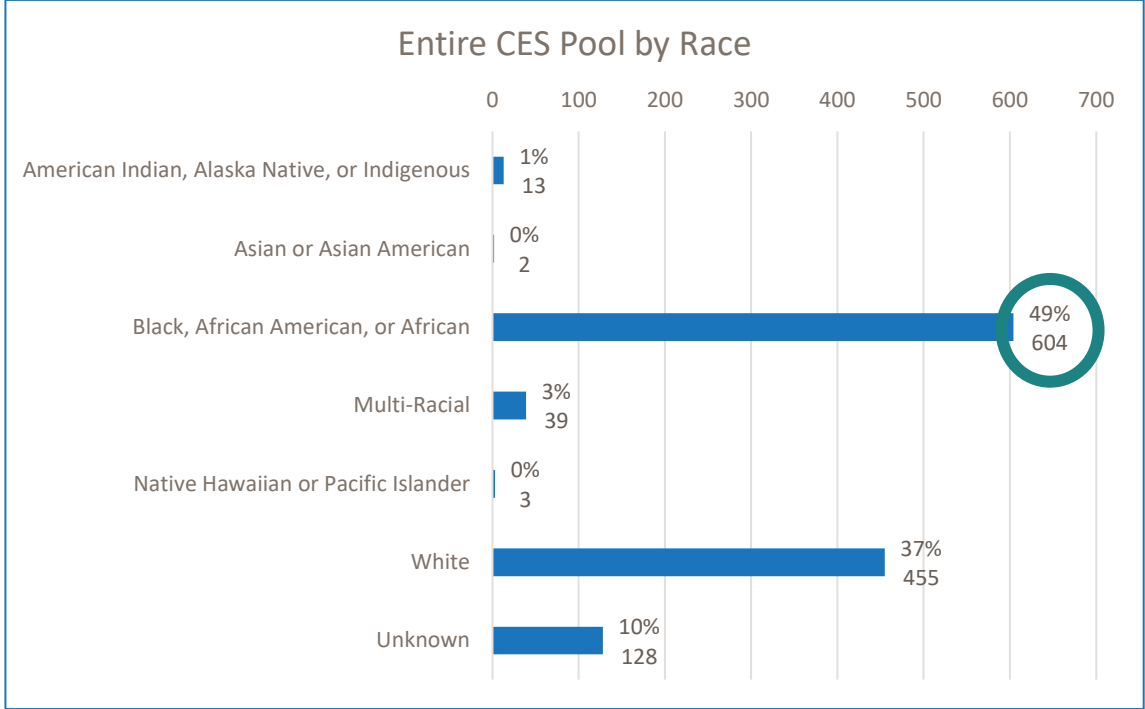


# A DATA JOURNEY

Using data to guide and inform

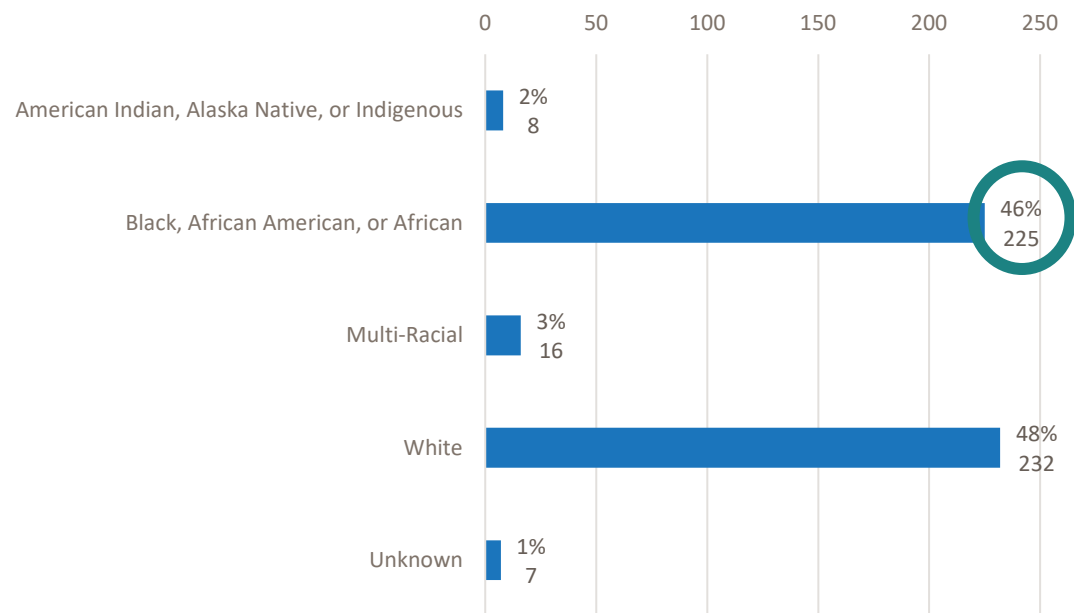
# Hanna Commons



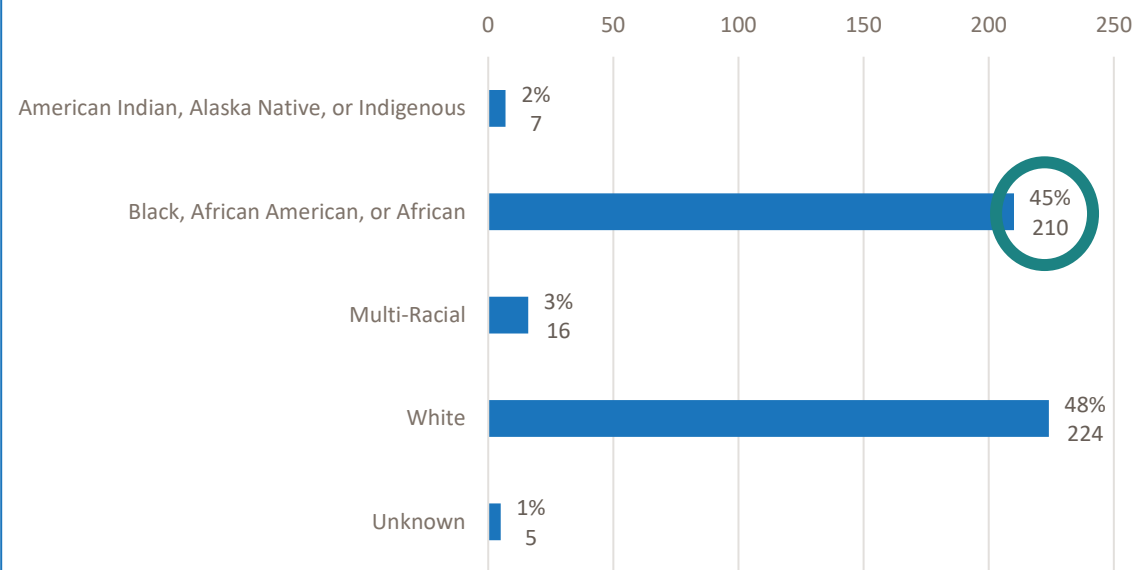


# CES Pool- By Race

CES Pool (Chronically Homeless) by Race

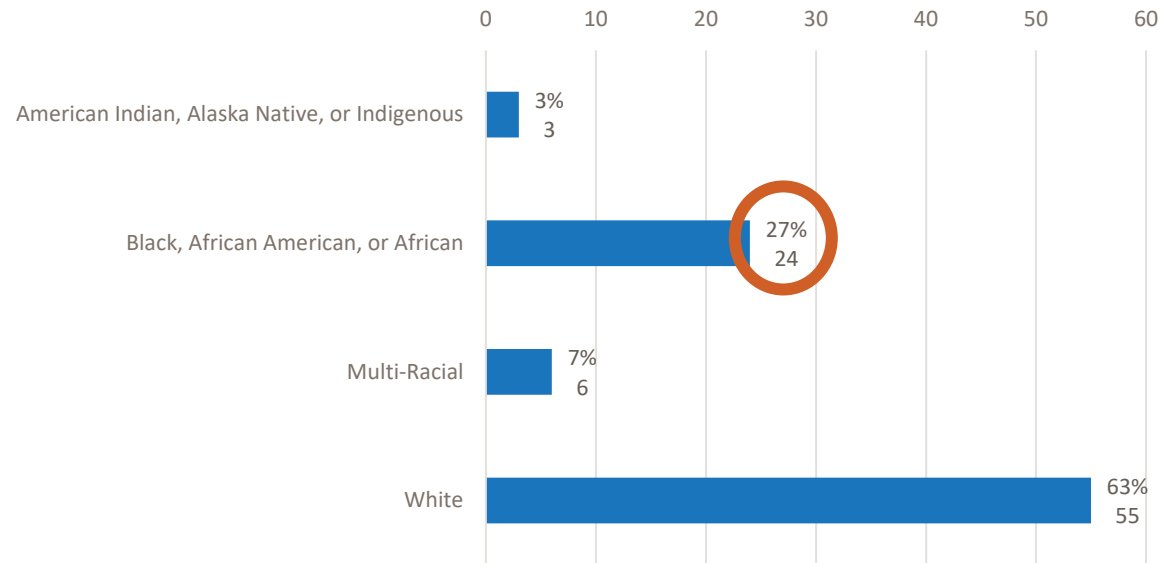


CES Pool (Chronically Homeless, Adult Only Households) by Race

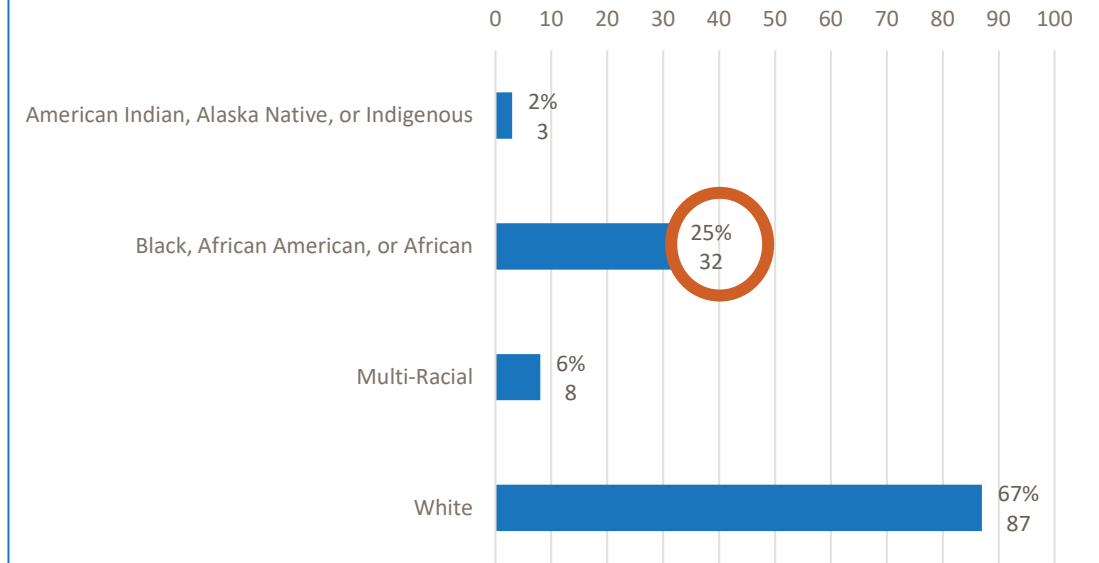


# CES Pool- By Race

CES Pool (Chronically Homeless, Adult Only Households, CH  
Doc Verified) by Race

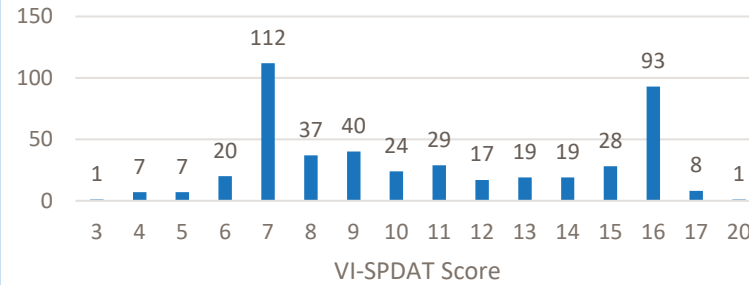


CES Pool (Chronically Homeless, Adult Only Households,  
VI-SPDAT 15+) by Race

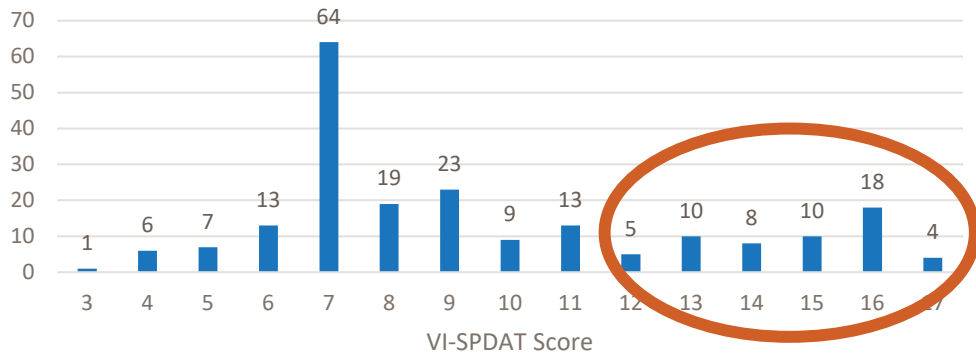


# CES Pool- By Race

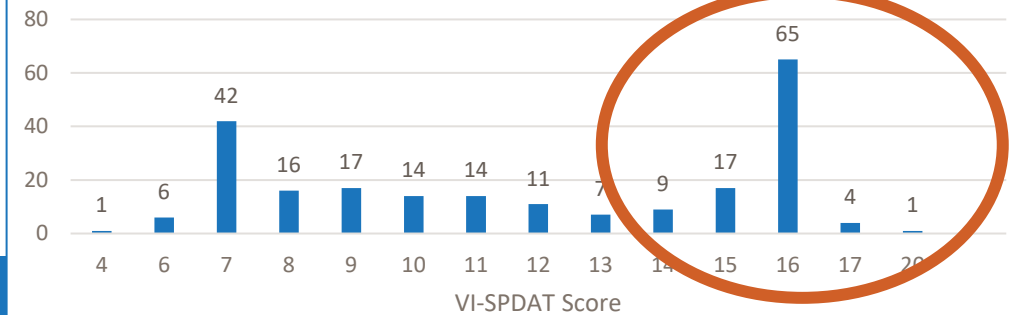
CES Pool, VI-SPDAT Distribution -  
Chronically Homeless, Adult Only  
Households (All Races)



CES Pool, VI-SPDAT Distribution - Chronically  
Homeless, Adult Only Households (Black  
Households)



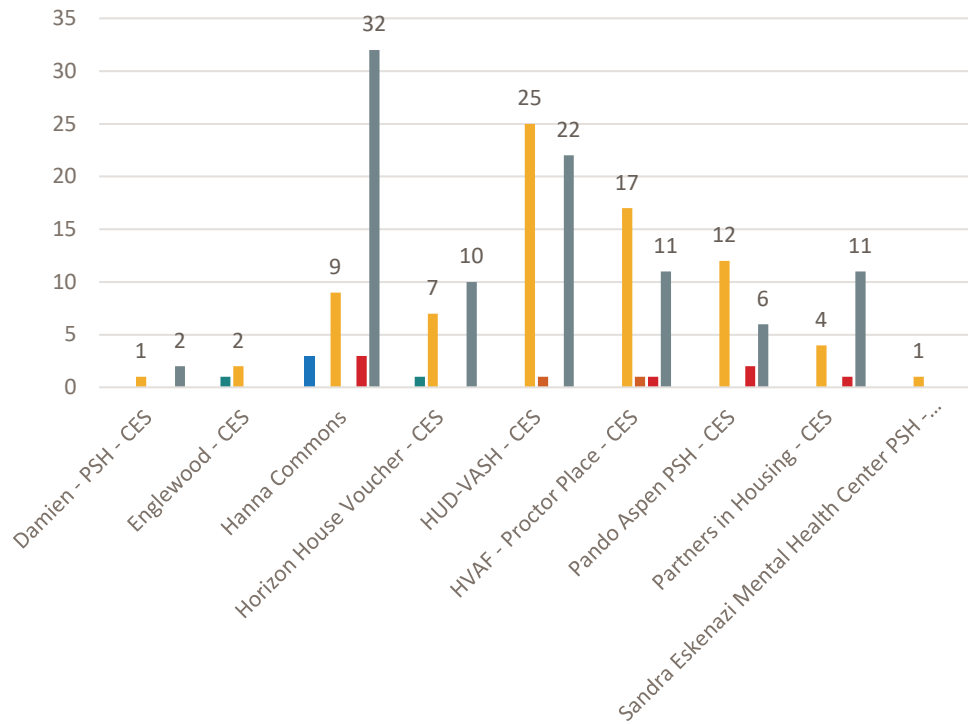
CES Pool, VI-SPDAT Distribution - Chronically  
Homeless, Adult Only Households (White  
Households)



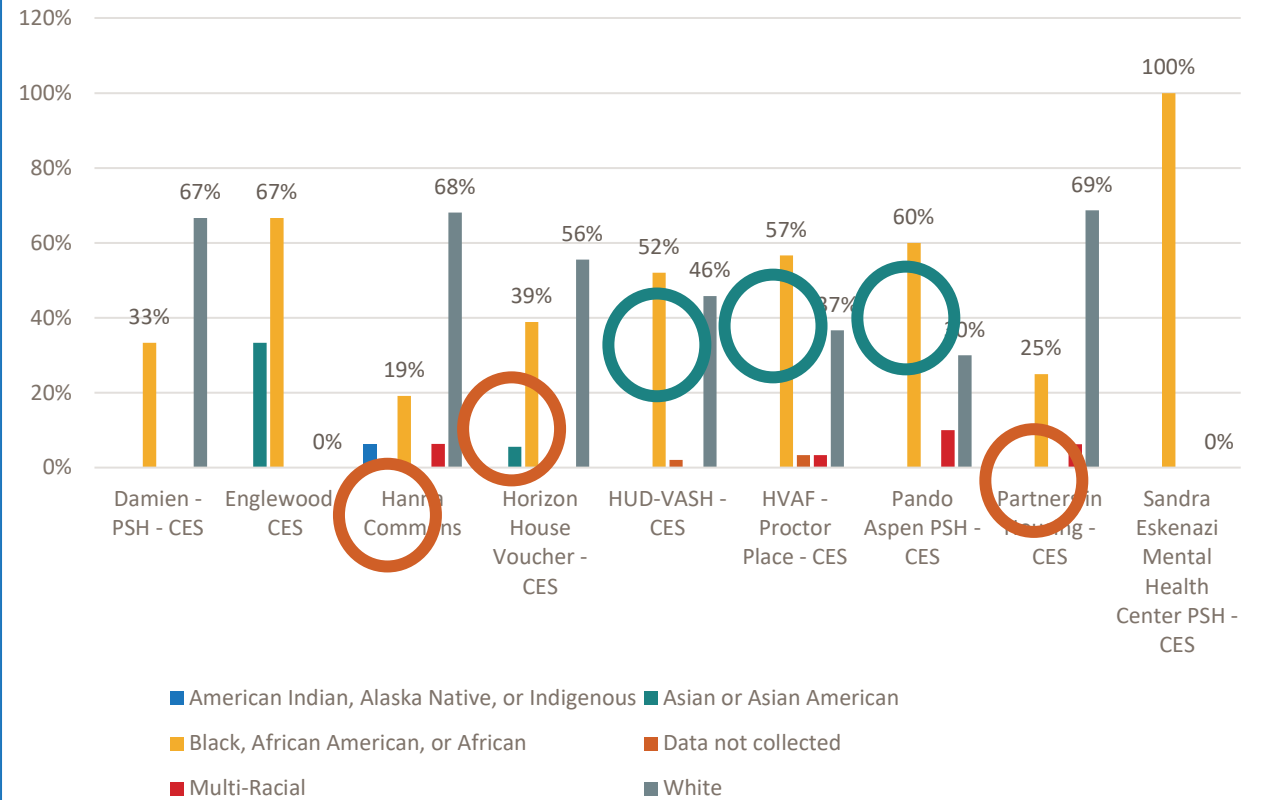
# CES Pool- Racial Demographics



PSH Referrals by Program and Race (#)



PSH Referrals by Program and Race (%)

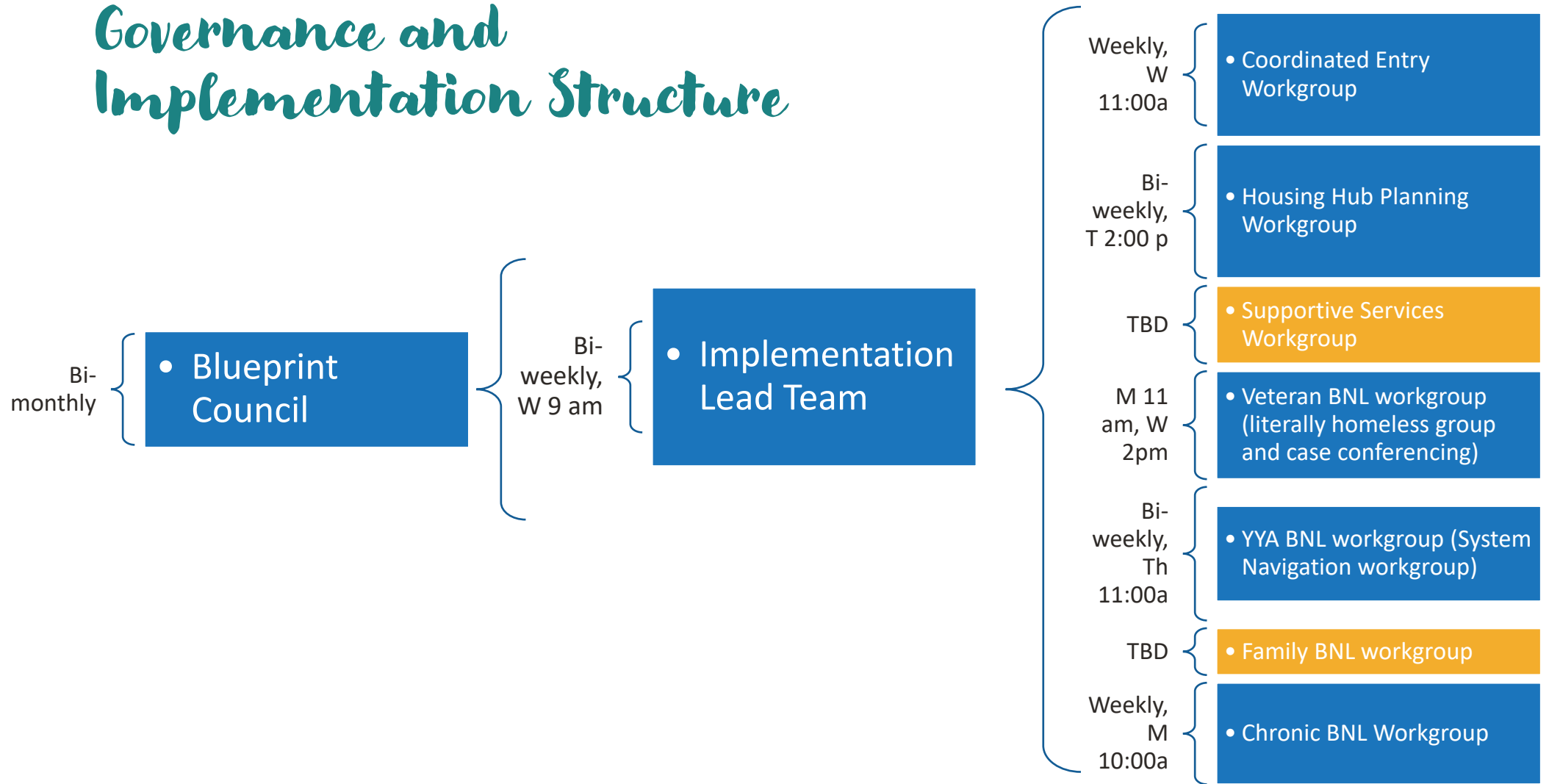


# PSH Referrals



# MOVING FROM GOAL TO IMPLEMENTATION

# Governance and Implementation Structure



**\*BNL = By Name List**

# Implementation Infrastructure

## Implementation Lead Team

### The Team

**Danielle Bagg Wireman**  
(Facilitator) (CHIP) –  
Housing Hub

**Sara Nowlin** (CHIP) – CES  
Refinement

**Niki Wattson**  
(HH)/**Lindsay Leonhard**  
(HIP) - Chronic

**Kelsey Stringham-**  
**Marquis** (Outreach) –  
Youth/Young Adults

**Gaps- Family Lead,**  
**Veteran Lead, Supportive**  
**Services Lead**

### The Work (Action Plan)

Oversight of full CoC Goal  
strategy

Directly reporting to BPC  
on progress, limitations,  
and action plans

### Metrics

Metrics from each  
workgroup (still being  
teased out)

### Challenges/Asks

**Need to fill gaps in tactical  
team leads**

2  
PLE

0%  
Black

# Reporting Progress

What are the four things that need to be communicated:

- (1) Where is the work happening and who is involved (list of working groups, agencies represented, racial demographics, lived experience engagement)
- (2) What are the activities happening to advance the tactic?
- (3) What metrics are being used to assess progress? What's the timeline? (What data is being looked at? How often? What's it informing?)
- (4) What have been the challenges? What is the ask to the BPC?

# HOUSING HUB MODEL

What is it? What's it solving for? Who's involved?

# Housing Hub



Planning  
Workgroup



By-Name  
List (BNL)  
Work



Blitzes



# Implementation Infrastructure

## Housing Hub Workgroup



### The Team

**Danielle Bagg Wireman** (Lead) (CHIP)  
**Antoinett Watford** (RDOOR)  
**Breya Birdsong** (RDOOR)  
**Brian Paul** (A&C)  
**Felix Okhifo** (HH)  
**Danny Park** (HVAF)  
**Jennifer Feutz** (HIP)  
**Kelsie Stringham-Marquis** (Outreach)  
**Lindsay Leonhard** (HIP)  
**Melissa Bell** (HIP)  
**Natalie Roberts** (DMD)  
**Nicholas Hunot** (RDOOR)  
**Niki Wattson** (HH)  
**Sara Nowlin** (CHIP)  
**Sharvonne Williams** (CHIP)  
**Tanisha Body** (RDOOR)  
**Tina Oatts** (Coburn)

### The Work (Action Plan)

BNL Deep Dive Session (completed 8/8)

Downtown Blitzes (4) scheduled August-Sept to target Wheeler and downtown individuals to ensure access to CES and assess overall needs (HH outreach, HIP outreach/Navigation, IMPD Flex, A&C Outreach)

**Workgroup to determine schedule, activities, and location for launch of hub in September meetings**

### Metrics

Wheeler Data – who has been in shelter more than 60 days (42 people total, 50% in CES)

BNL Data

### Challenges/Asks

4  
PLE

20%  
Black

## Housing Hub Planning – BNL Deep Dive Session

**25 participants**  
**10 organizations**



Current use of each BNL



Technical edits



Services and locations the  
housing hub should include



Things to figure out

7  
PLE

28%  
BIPOC





## Veterans

- Literally homeless workgroup (Mondays)
- Veteran Case Conferencing (Wednesdays)



## Youth/Young Adults

- System Navigation Workgroup (bi-weekly, Thursdays)



## Chronic Homelessness

- Chronic BNL Workgroups (Mondays)



## Families

- TBD

# By-Name List Workgroups

# Housing Hub Roadshow “Blitzes”

- 8/30 – Wheeler Men’s
- 9/6 – Wheeler Men’s
- 9/13 – Old City Hall
- 9/20 – Old City Hall
- 9/27 – Georgia Street
- 10/11 – Wheeler Women’s
- 10/18 – Garfield Park
- 10/25 – Wheeler Men’s (evening)

CES  
Assessments

Documentation  
Support

Rapid Exit  
Services

Veteran  
Services

Navigation  
Services

8/30 – Wheeler Men’s

9/6 – Wheeler Men’s

# Housing Hub Roadshow “Blitzes”

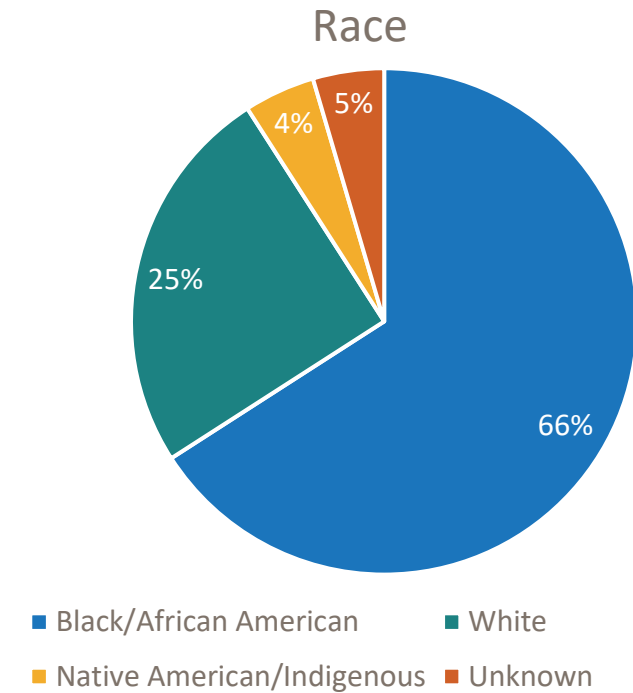
45 people seen

Immediately  
diverted 2  
individuals

12 people were  
55+

4 Veterans

15 individuals  
experiencing  
chronic  
homelessness



# Housing Hub Roadshow “Blitzes”

## Identified needs:

Address usage

Health Insurance

SNAP/Mainstream  
Benefits

Future locations  
with 20+ people

# COORDINATED ENTRY REFINEMENT

ASSESSMENT AND PRIORITIZATION

## Implementation Infrastructure

# Coordinated Entry Workgroup



## The Team

**Sara Nowlin** (Lead) (CHIP)  
**Lindsay Leonhard** (HIP)  
**Kelsie Stringham-Marquis** (Outreach)  
**Daniel Higgs** (PIH)  
**Stephany Bedolla** (HH)  
**Pastor David Green** (Purpose of Life)  
**Imani Sankofa** (BPC)  
**Ray Lay** (SMI Enterprises)  
**Marvin Wade** (Wheeler)  
**April Vail** (HVAF)  
**Patrick Monahan** (IUPUI)  
**Teresa Greenwood** (HH)  
**Erin Van Meter** (HVAF)  
**Michelle Shelburne** (HVAF)  
**Josiah Harrison-Benjamin** (Damien Center)  
**Adam Kirkoff** – HIP  
**Jennifer Mitchell** (Coburn)

## The Work (Action Plan)

Assessment Tool creation and launch – Kick off with TAC 8/23, tentative pilot of new tool by end of 2023

## Metrics

VI-SPDAT Analysis  
Racial Equity Dashboard  
Referral data analysis  
Exit data analysis

## Challenges/Asks

Continued BPC participation in workgroup

Need continued expansion and growth of housing resources within CES to meet the need (1200+ households are awaiting housing within CES at any given moment)

7  
PLE

29%  
BIPOC

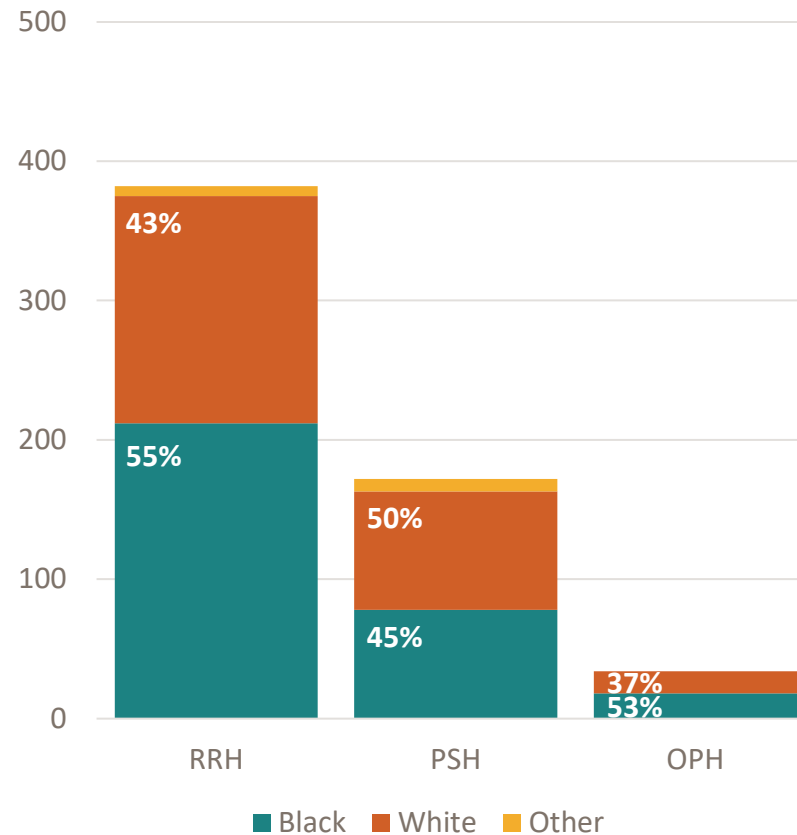
## INTERIM PRIORITIZATION SYSTEM CONTEXT

- The VI-SPDAT and its history – a tool that has produced racially inequitable results
- Locally, we have been working on developing a new tool
  - Joined by the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) in mid-August
- Blueprint Council decision: we should utilize an interim tool to advance racially equitable outcomes, particularly for PSH, while we are working on developing a more permanent one

# RACIAL BREAKDOWN OF PLACEMENT TYPE

PSH placements are more likely to go to White households, RRH more likely to go to Black households

Placements by program and race, 2022





<b>Tier #1</b>	<b>There is no hierarchy within a tier</b>		
1A	Age Risk - over 75	Pre-Existing Condition or No Medical Record Risk	Race & Ethnicity Disparate Impact Risk
<b>Tier #2</b>			
2A	Age Risk - over 75	Pre-Existing Condition or No Medical Record Risk	
2B	Age Risk - over 75	Race & Ethnicity Disparate Impact Risk	
<b>Tier #3</b>			
3A	Age Risk - between 65-74	Pre-Existing Condition or No Medical Record Risk	Race & Ethnicity Disparate Impact Risk
3B	Currently Pregnant Risk	Pre-Existing Condition or No Medical Record Risk	Race & Ethnicity Disparate Impact Risk
<b>Tier #4</b>			
4A	Pre-Existing Condition or No Medical Record Risk	Race & Ethnicity Disparate Impact Risk	
4B	Pre-Existing Condition or No Medical Record Risk	Age Risk - between 65-74	
4C	Pre-Existing Condition or No Medical Record Risk	Currently Pregnant Risk	
<b>Tier #5</b>			
5A	Age Risk - between 65-74	Race & Ethnicity Disparate Impact Risk	
5B	Currently Pregnant Risk	Race & Ethnicity Disparate Impact Risk	
<b>Tier #6</b>			
6A	Age Risk - over 75		
<b>Tier #7</b>			
7A	Age Risk - between 65-74		
7B	Currently Pregnant Risk		
7C	Pre-Existing Condition or No Medical Record Risk		
7D	Race & Ethnicity Disparate Impact Risk		
<b>Tier #8</b>			
	CEA Interim Prioritization		

# A Continuous Quality Improvement Journey

- This isn't the final prioritization schema. This is what we will use until we develop a new tool, so that while we're doing this, our community has more racially equitable housing placements, in line with **the Blueprint Council's goal to reduce Black homelessness by 35% by 2025.**
- This hasn't been implemented yet but will be soon. More details will be coming in case conferencing, along with updated training and a CoC-wide memo.

# SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

## Implementation Infrastructure

# Supportive Services Workgroup

## The Team

TBD

## The Work (Action Plan)

Identifying a case management lead and creating framework for launching a case management institute – conversations happening with CICF and CSH

## Metrics

TBD

## Challenges/Asks

TBD

-  
PLE

-%  
Black



What are you curious about as you embrace this goal?



Where are the places you're engaging in inquiry and analysis?



How are you aligning with this goal within your teams/ organizations?



How do we hold each other accountable and stay focused on our shared agenda?

*Discussion/  
Questions*

# Next Steps



Continuous Quality  
Improvement Training



Workgroup engagement



Identifying facilitative  
leads for open  
workgroups



Digging deeper into data  
to inform 3<sup>rd</sup> tactic-  
supportive services

**I DID THEN WHAT I KNEW HOW TO DO.  
NOW THAT I KNOW BETTER, I DO  
BETTER.**

- MAYA ANGELOU

# Resources



Check out our website – [www.indycoc.org](https://www.indycoc.org)

Visit us on social media: [f](#) [i](#)