



Child Welfare and Supportive Housing

**Supportive Housing Network of New York
Annual Conference 2011
June 9, 2011**

Overlap Between Homelessness and Child Welfare Involvement

- Eighteen percent (18%) of children who become newly homeless become involved in the child welfare system (Culhane and Park)
- 24-26% of children of homeless parents are in foster care
- One California study found 48.7% of children in foster care had homeless or unstably housed parents (Zlotnick, et. al., 1998)

How many children affected by homelessness and foster care?

Prevalence of foster care among homeless children =
24%

Number of homeless children in shelters = 344,495

Number of homeless and doubled-up children =
794,600

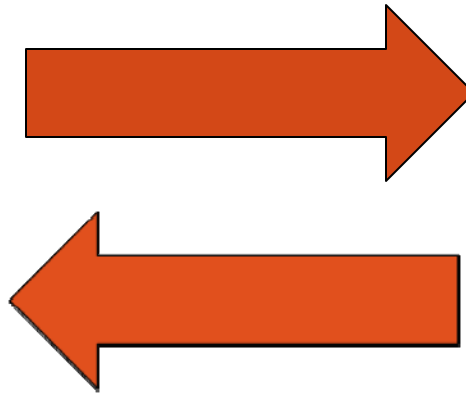
**Between 82,679 and 190,704 homeless children are
at risk of removal to foster care nationally**

History of Foster Care Among Homeless Adults

- 40% of homeless adults have spent time in foster care as children (NAEH, 2010)
- Young people aging out of foster care often have low educational attainment, little or no work history and many return to unstable homes
- Histories of abuse and neglect make adults more prone to psychosocial problems that impeded their ability to maintain housing (Buehler et. al., 2000)

What Causes What?

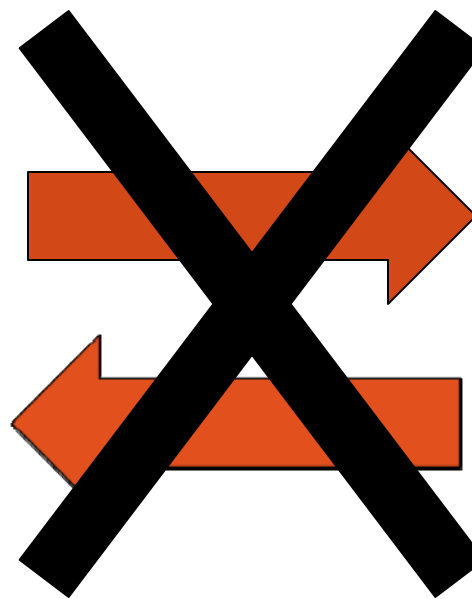
*Family
Homelessness*



*Child Welfare
Involvement*

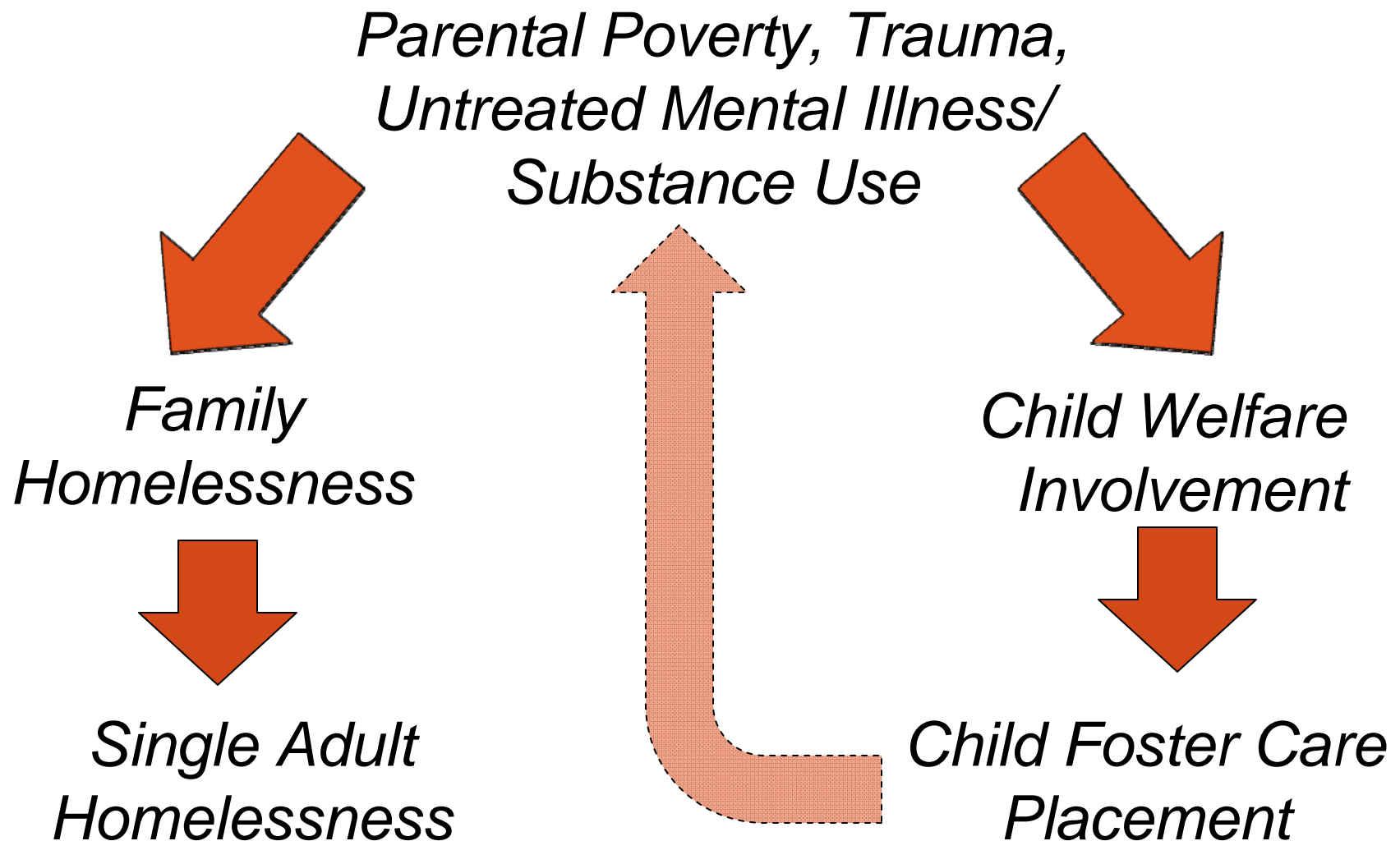
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Relationship is More Complex



Supportive Housing has the Potential to Break this Cycle

