



Department of
Homeless Services



Housing Chronic Street Homeless Clients

June 7, 2012



Overview

- DHS Overview
- Revamped Outreach Strategy
- Housing Resources
- Current Housing Allocation Process
- Progress To Date
- Looking Forward



DHS Overview

- Prevention
- Families
- Policy
- Adults
 - Street Homelessness Solutions
 - Outreach
 - Drop-ins
 - Respite Beds
 - Safe Havens/Stabilization Beds



Revamped Outreach Strategy

Initiative	Before	Now	Impact
Increase Provider Accountability	Patchwork of 16 teams with overlapping responsibility and no clear objectives	One accountable provider per borough Measurable targets and financial incentives	Efficient use of resources Placements incentivized through contract structure
Target Chronic Street Homeless	No focus on chronically homeless. Teams responsible for contact with clients, rather than housing placement	Focus attention and resources on placing most chronic and vulnerable clients	Street Homeless census down 26% since 2005
Expand Available Resources	Only Shelter and Drop-in Centers	Two low threshold, no barrier housing options: Safe Havens Stabilization Beds	Over 3150 chronically homeless individuals placed since September 2007



Housing Resources

****Housing is the key to solving street homelessness**

- **Safe Haven**
 - 450 beds across the city
 - Clients are referred directly from the street
 - Low threshold/ “housing first” option
 - Enhanced on-site social services
 - Rising length of stay
- **Stabilization Beds**
 - Roughly 350-400 beds citywide
 - Low-threshold transitional “Housing First” option
 - Clients live more independently visiting with a case manager weekly
- **Permanent Housing**
 - Congregate and scatter site permanent supportive
 - VASH
 - Family reunification



Current Housing Allocation

- NYNY 1 and 2 re-rentals (majority go to shelter)
- NYNY3 rent-ups (priority population set by SRO)
 - Schemerhorn, Brook, Lee, Hegeman
 - MOC housing programs
- Separate opportunities for Street vs. Shelter
 - 3 interviews for 1 slot
- Prioritization within street allocation



Summary of NYC's Progress

- Placed over 3150 chronically street homeless since Sept. 2007
- Developed Safe Haven and Stabilization Bed resources to target chronic street homeless
- 26 percent decline in unsheltered individuals since 2005
- 1133 fewer New Yorkers living on the streets since January 2005



Why?

- Permanent housing retention rate over 90%
- Clients are stabilizing with more time in transitional housing
- On-going support from outreach aftercare services
- Be a part of the solution in solving street homelessness by witnessing drastic transformations



Department of
Homeless Services



Sam Dodge

DHS, Street Homelessness Solutions

NYC Dept. of Homeless Services

(212) 361-0577

sdodge@dhs.nyc.gov