

RAPID REHOUSING

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My experience with Rapid Rehousing

- Family Critical Time Intervention
 - 1999
 - Test FCTI
 - Relieve pressure on a growing shelter system
 - Challenge “housing readiness” criteria
 - Randomized control trial: Rapid rehousing with FCTI
 - Identify “high need” families
 - Experimental group: move to housing ASAP with FCTI services
 - Rent subsidies: County, ESG and Section 8
 - Control group:
 - Services as usual
 - ½ way through also got housing subsidy but no services
 - Results
 - FCTI families did better on some outcomes
 - **BUT OVERALL PEOPLE WHO WORKED IN THE SYSTEM WERE SURPRISED THAT FAMILIES WITH AND WITHOUT FCTI DID AS WELL AS THEY DID**

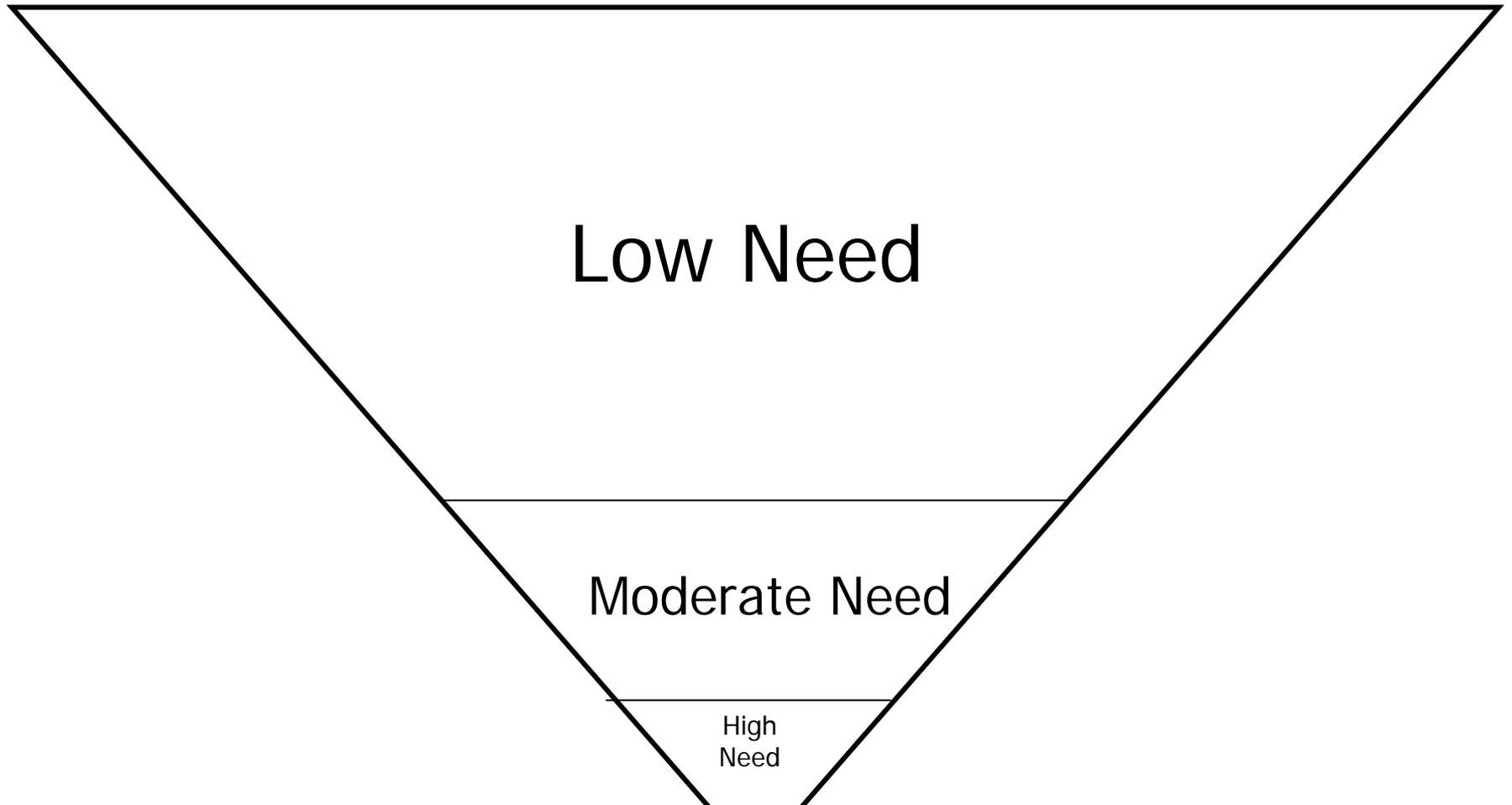
Using Rapid Rehousing as a Tool...

- Rapid rehousing is just one tool in your toolbox
 - ▣ It works well for most homeless people
 - ▣ But not for everyone....
 - SSVF Example
- Your other tools include:
 - ▣ CTI/Family CTI
 - ▣ Progressive engagement
 - ▣ Permanent Supportive Housing

Let's assume....

- That Rapid Rehousing works for those who traditionally do not return to shelter, and those who are “Low Need”

Targeting Resources: Homeless Families



Who is Low and High Need?

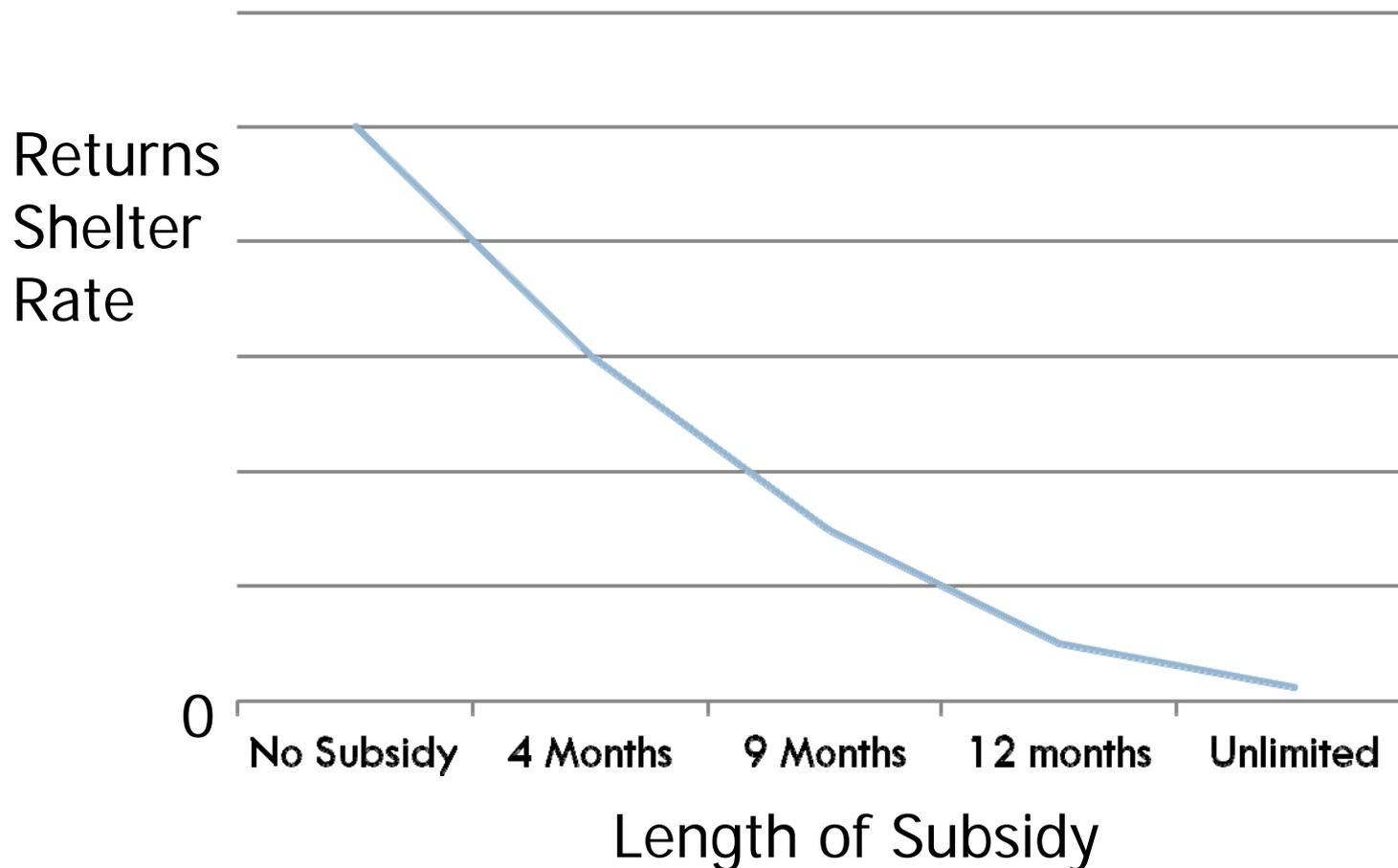
- Can we predict who needs “more?”
 - ▣ There are many assessment tools. All defining high, moderate, low needs
 - ▣ Assessment tools often vary by community
 - ▣ Few, if any are based on research
 - ▣ Few, if any are rigorously tested
 - ▣ Many are used as “*self-fulfilling prophecies*”
 - People are assigned to a level of need and provided with that level of services
- It is likely that local variation is necessary

Rapid Rehousing:

- No, it may not be the solution for everyone
 - ▣ If the subsidy timeframe is very short, then some will not make it
 - ▣ As you shorten the timeframe, more will do less well ...
 - But even without a subsidy, even in NYC with high rents, people move out of shelter....

Can a short term subsidy increase housing stability?

Maybe the success rate looks something like this:



What are the alternatives?

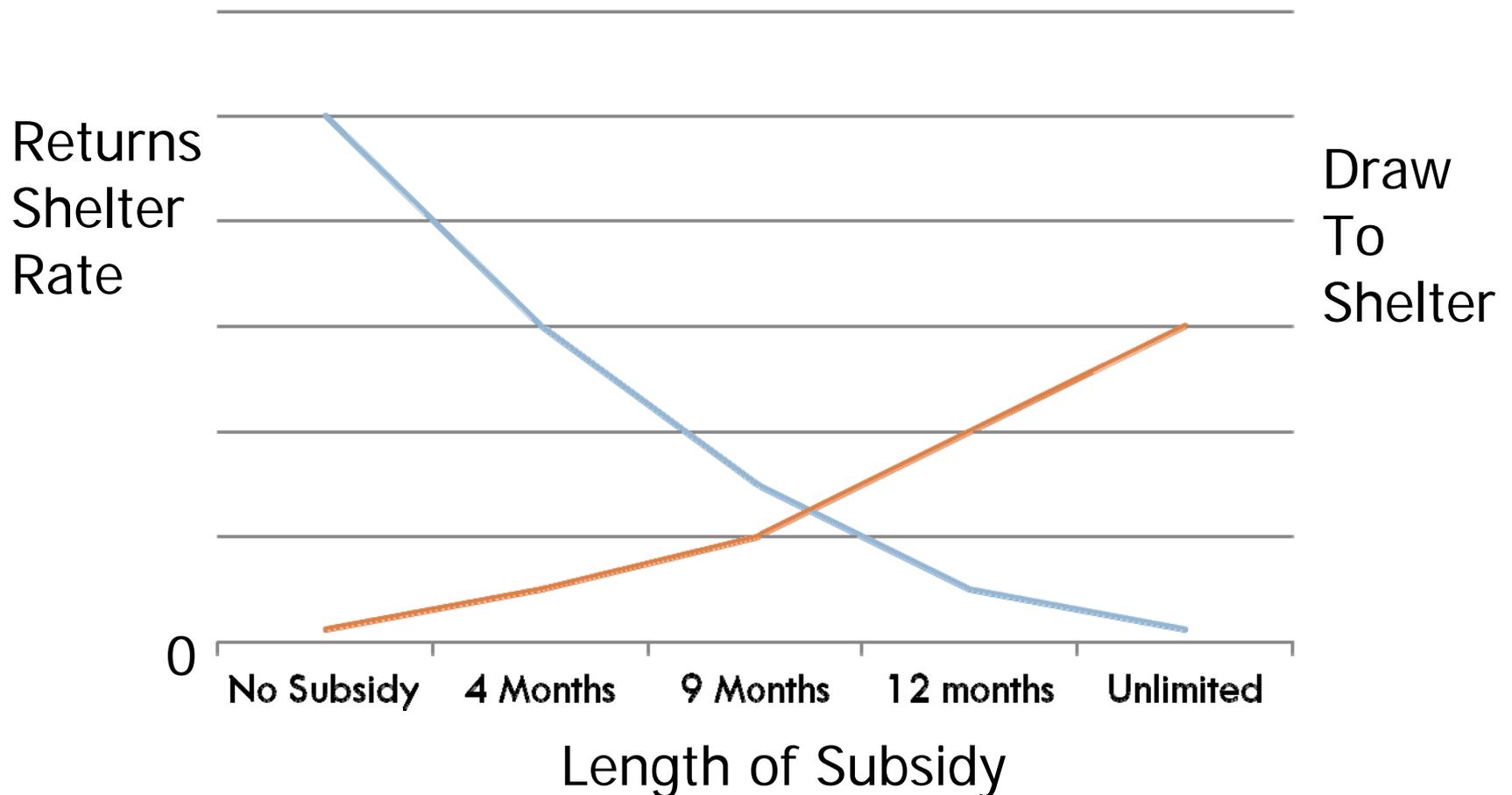
- Wait for them to have ...
 - ▣ enough \$ to move out
 - ▣ someone to move in with
- Make housing available when they are “ready”
 - ▣ But how do we decide when they are “ready”?
 - ▣ Who is ready, when?
 - ▣ Based on what evidence?
 - ▣ **Is “shelter” ever better than being in your own home?**
- Provide more supportive services in shelter
 - ▣ For how long?
 - ▣ Is receiving services in shelter “better” than in the community?

Take the case of NY City....

- As we've made shelter nicer and nicer, we've had less access to housing subsidies
- If PERMANENT subsidies are not forthcoming, maybe we should try something else (Shorter than Advantage?)
- Example: If someone is working when they enter shelter, wouldn't it be better to subsidize their rent for 3 or 4 months than, to have them in shelter?
 - ▣ But there are concerns about the "draw" to shelter

Can a short term subsidy increase housing stability?

Maybe the impact looks like this:



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□ For more information contact me:

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Visit the CTI website:

www.criticaltime.org