



# Better Health Through Housing: A Collaboration Between Supportive Housing Providers and the Health Care Sector

Abbie See, MS

Better Health Through Housing Specialist

Brandi Calvert, MPH

Director, Housing Special Initiatives and Strategy

2018 Housing First Partner's Conference

April 10, 2018

200 WEST JACKSON BLVD. | SUITE 2100 | CHICAGO IL 60606 | TEL 312-922-2322 | [HOUSINGFORHEALTH.ORG](http://HOUSINGFORHEALTH.ORG)

# Objectives

- **Attendees will understand the impact of Housing First on the healthcare landscape**
- **Attendees will understand the benefits of collaboration between the health care sector and supportive housing.**
- **Attendees will understand how supportive housing impacts health care costs.**
- **Identify ways to improve coordination between the health care and housing sectors.**



# Housing First in Health Care

- **Foreign Concept**
- **Medical providers are prescriptive**
  - ***Treatment = Positive Health Outcomes***
- **Housing after Compliance**
  - ***Treatment to stabilize prior to housing***



# Client Story



# Case Study: UI Health Hospital Utilization for 83 days

- \$70K expense / \$20K payment
- 55 ER Visits
- 13 Inpatient Admissions:
  - 8 *Psych*
  - 5 *Internal Medicine*
- Procedures
  - 18 *ECG*
  - 22 *X-ray*



# Eligibility

## Who can participate?

- **Chronically Homeless (HUD)**
- **Disability Condition**
- **High healthcare costs**
- **Referred by Hospital or Managed Care Organization (MCO)**



# Client Support

## Practice Harm Reduction


- Healthcare choices
- Medication adherence
- Doctor Appointments

## Liaise between Client & Health Team

- Accompany to appointments
- Relationship with Care Coordinator



# Housing is Health Care!



**SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**  
HOUSING AND URBAN HEALTH CLINIC  
234 Eddy Street, S.F., CA 94102 Tel. (415) 353-5095

NAME	Don Berwizk	DATE	9/22/11
ADDRESS		ZIP	
		AGE	

Rx

1 supportive housing  
Unit

LABEL AS SUCH  
refill 0 1 2 3  
(PLEASE CIRCLE)  
as directed

J Bamberger

Joshua Bamberger

License No.

DEA #

M.D.





# **A Chicago Area Supportive Housing Collaborative**

- **Established in November 2014**
- **Partnering and negotiating with Medicaid MCOs and hospital systems**
- **Representing 30 Supportive Housing organizations**
- **Portfolio: 70% of units in Chicago / County**



# Initial Projects

## **University of Illinois at Chicago (UI Health)**

- 25 frequent visitors of the Emergency Department
- Housed in HUD funded units by BHH partner agencies

## **Chronic Homeless Project (CHP)**

- 15 people from Lake Shore Drive Encampments who receive medical care at local FQHC
- Housed in HUD funded units by BHH partner agencies



# Recently Started Projects

## **UI Health 2.0**

- Referring a second cohort of 25 patients

## **Swedish Covenant Hospital**

- Referring 10 frequent visitors from the Emergency Department
- Project Impact

## **IL Managed Care Organization (MCO)**

- Contract to house 50 of their highest cost members

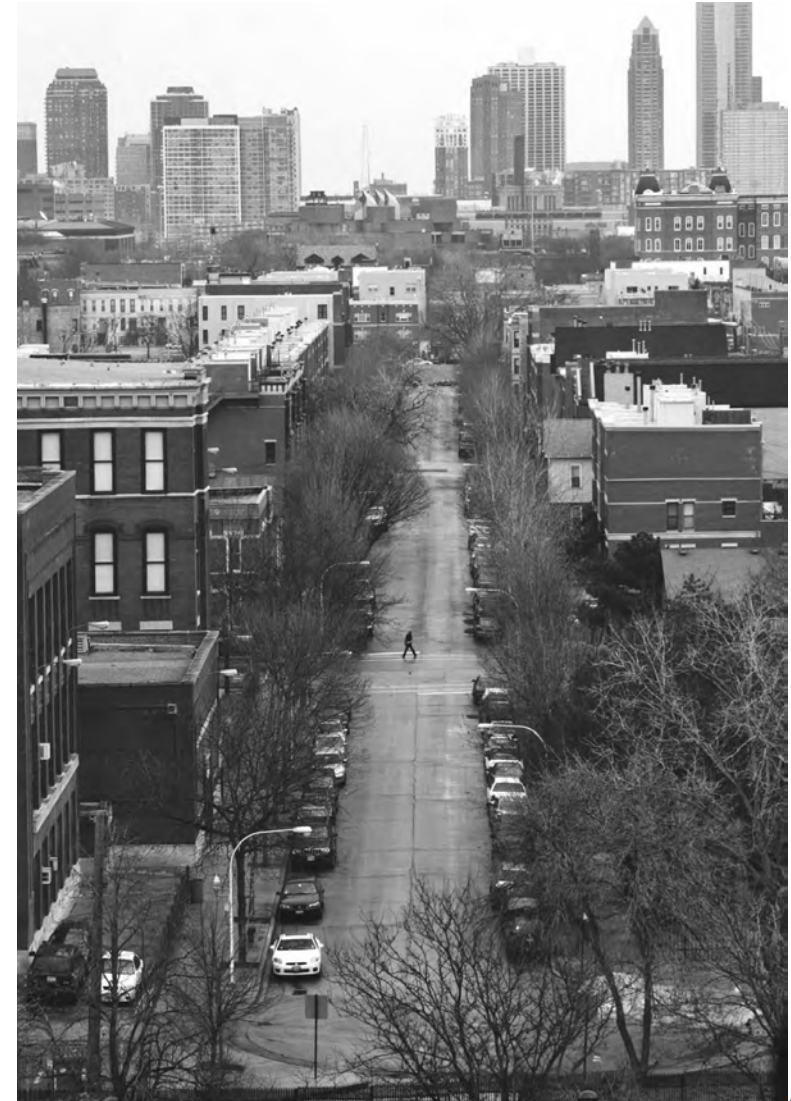


# Interpreting the Language: Housing vs. Health Care



# Project Design

- Supportive Housing Units
- Housing Case Managers
- Project Coordinator
- Eligibility criteria:
  - 1) *HUD Chronic Homelessness*
  - 2) *Disabling Condition*
  - 3) *Frequent User of Healthcare Services*

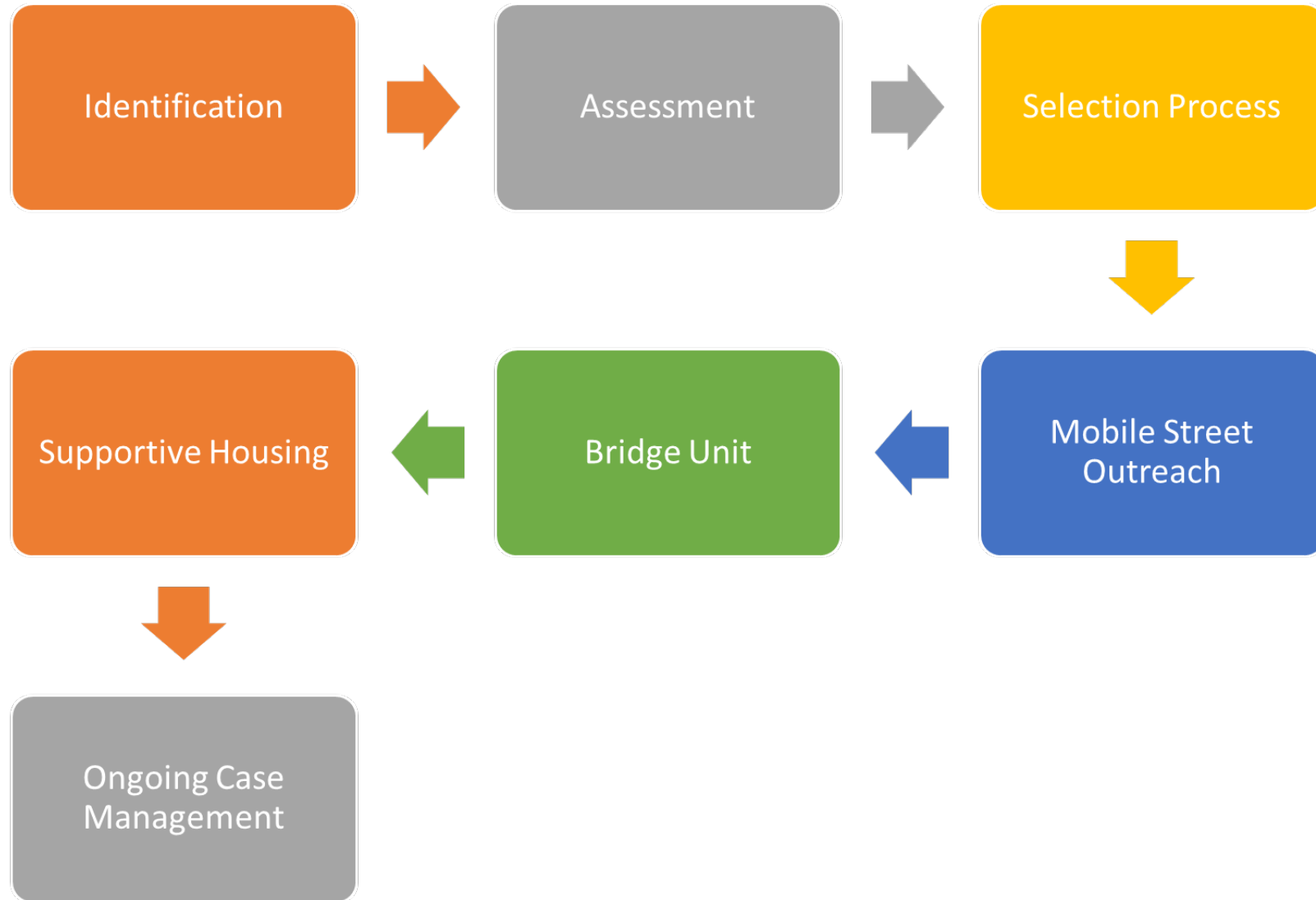


# Key Elements



- **Mobile Street Outreach Team**
- **Housing First & Harm Reduction**
- **Intensive Case Management**
- **System Integration Team (SIT) Meetings**
- **Health Coordination**

# Project Process and Flow



# Outreach

- **Location**
- **Determines eligibility**
- **Connects to Bridge unit (SROs)**





# Housing Case Managers

- **Diverse backgrounds in education & experience**
- **Offer Intensive 1:1**
- **Provide additional resources**



# System Integration Team (SIT)



- **Bi-weekly meetings**
- **Hospital clinical staff attendance**
- **Trouble shooting and brainstorming**
- **Trainings & Education**

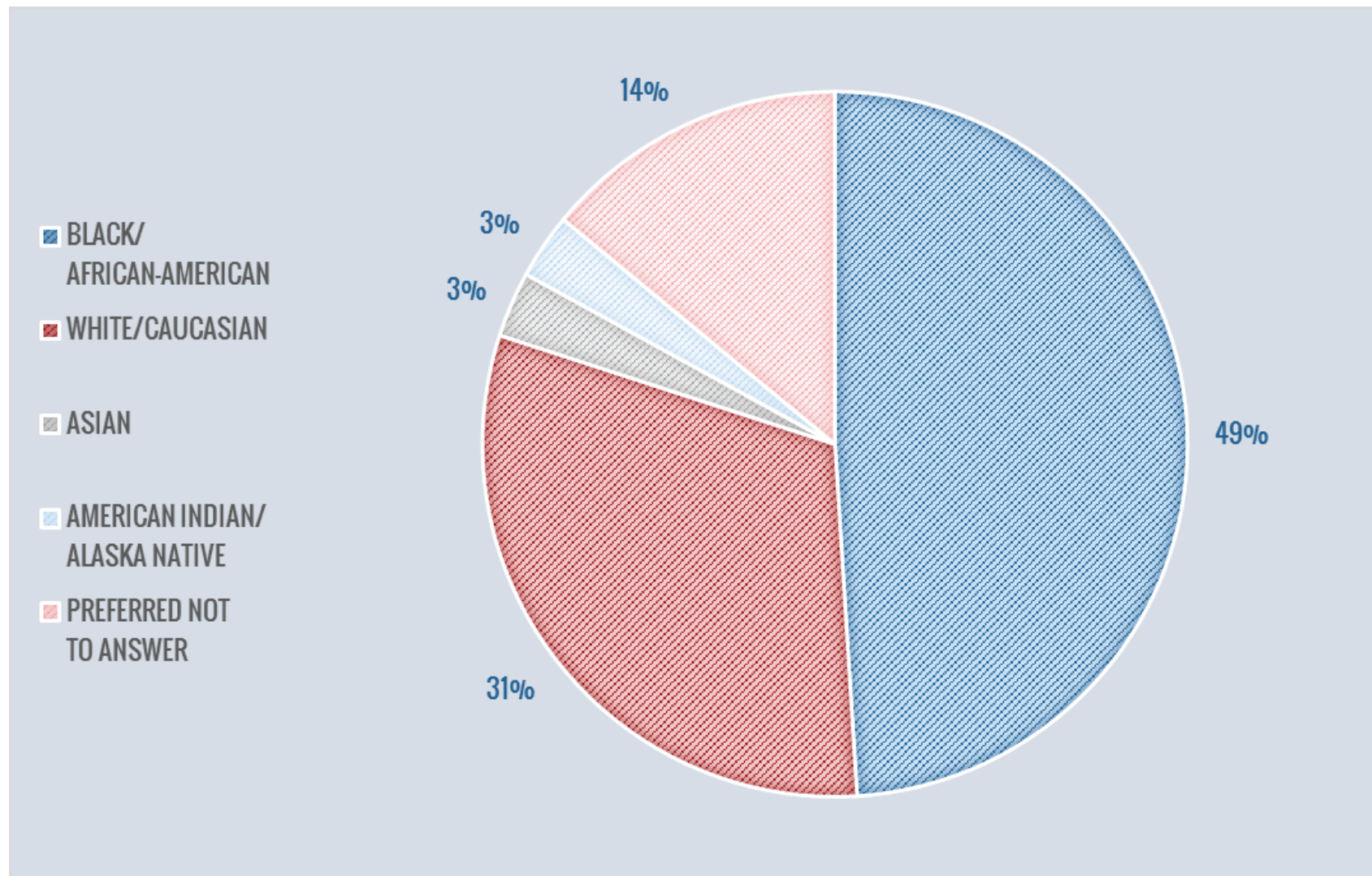


# Health Coordination

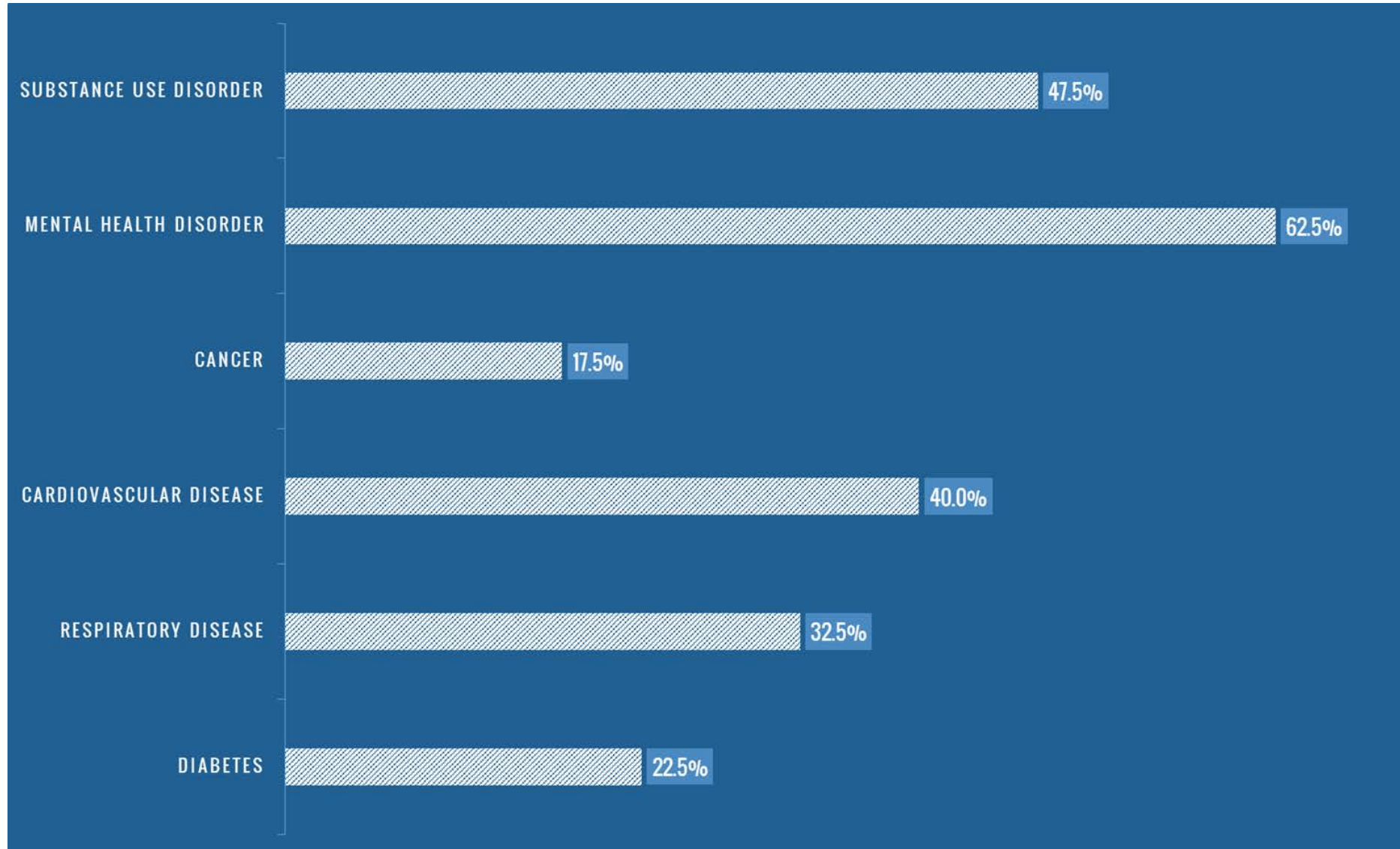
- **Work closely with MCO Care Coordinators**
- **Focus on medication and appointment adherence**
- **Communicate with hospital staff**



# Client Demographics



# Chronic Health Conditions



# Utilization Outcomes

**62%** Decrease in Emergency Room Visits

**60%** Decrease in Inpatient Days

**26%** Decrease in Hospital Costs



# Benefits for MCOs & Hospitals

- **Work closely with MCO Care Coordinators**
- **Focus on medication and appointment adherence**
- **Communicate with hospital staff**
- **Helps MCOs meet HEDIS and other quality measures**



# Benefits for Housing Providers

- **Flexibility in filling units**
- **Per Member Per Month (PMPM)**
- **Access to information typically not available to housing providers**





# Benefits for Program Participants

- **Housing needs are met**
- **Improved health literacy**
- **Extended support network**



# Successes

- **Coordination between multiple partners**
- **Housing stability**
- **Opportunities for replication**



# Challenges

- **UI Health Outcomes**
  - 21 Housed
    - 11 still housed – 50% retention rate
- **Chronic Homeless Project Outcomes**
  - 15 Housed
    - 13 still housed – 87% retention rate



# Lessons Learned

- **Acuity of participant illness**
- **Time to housing**
- **Transition into permanent housing**
- **LOCUS to screen potential referrals**



# Models Integrating Housing with Health Care

## Central City Concern

- Collaboration with 6 local health care organizations investing \$21.5 million in housing
- Set to create 382 new housing units and a health center in Portland
- Priority populations include people designated as medically fragile, in recovery from substance use and mental health disorders, families, and people needing support to participate in the workforce.





# Questions & Dialogue

