

# Housing First and CES in Los Angeles County



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# Outline

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- Intro to CES in LA
- Fundamental principles of CES and Two Case Studies
- Challenges/ Innovations of CES from the beginning to the present

# Introduction to PATH

- Statewide agency, founded 1984
- Mission: To end homelessness for individuals, families, and communities
- Address homelessness from all angles
- Help an average of 23 households move into permanent housing each week!



# Homelessness in LA County

## WHERE ARE PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS?

**74%**

(42,828)  
Unsheltered



**26%**

(14,966)  
Sheltered



### SERVICE PLANNING AREA RESULT

<b>SPA 1</b>	<b>4,559 (8%)</b>
<b>SPA 2</b>	<b>7,627 (13%)</b>
<b>SPA 3</b>	<b>4,127 (7%)</b>
<b>SPA 4</b>	<b>15,393 (27%)</b>
<b>SPA 5</b>	<b>5,511 (10%)</b>
<b>SPA 6</b>	<b>9,243 (16%)</b>
<b>SPA 7</b>	<b>5,189 (9%)</b>
<b>SPA 8</b>	<b>6,145 (11%)</b>



SPA # = size in relation to county total

(LA CoC Data Only)



**2,147**  
Cars



**1,862**  
Vans



**4,545**  
RVs / Campers



**2,342**  
Tents

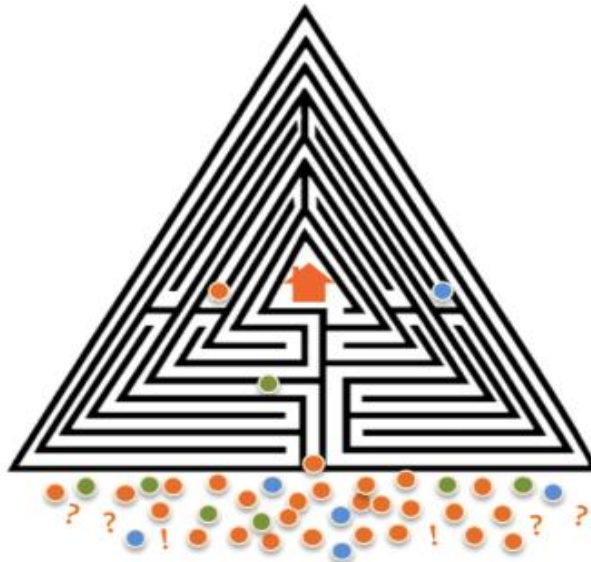


**3,516**  
Makeshift Shelters

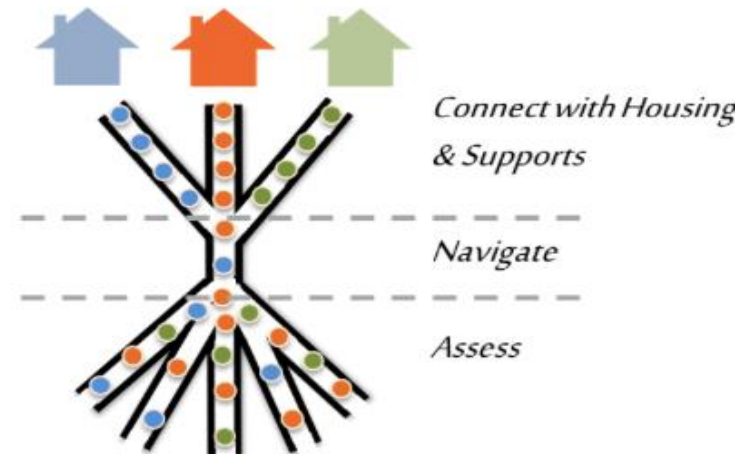
LA CoC = Excludes Long Beach, Glendale, and Pasadena

# Why CES?

Without CES



With CES



- No wrong door approach
- Coordination between homeless service providers, faith groups, cities, law enforcement

# Coordinated Entry System: A Regional Response to Homelessness

- All about permanent housing!
- Use single assessment countywide to determine vulnerability
- Match people to appropriate housing based on acuity and housing preferences
- Resources are countywide
- Family, TAY, Adult system in each SPA



# Community Engagement

- Homelessness is a community issue
- Mobilize communities to maximize impact
- Create customized solutions for each community – all are different
- Partnerships are critical to ending homelessness

## Case Study: Redondo Beach

- Partnership with police and churches
- Longstanding tension between feeding programs and police
- Collocated outreach staff at three feeding programs to provide housing assistance





# Know What to Expect

Engagement: Relationship  
Building Takes Time

Housing Navigation: It's a  
process!

Together, we can address  
barriers and help people Make  
it Home!



# Integrated Services

- Strategic Street Outreach
- Assertive Community Treatment
- System Navigation
- Employment Assistance
- Housing Location and Placement
- Housing Retention

# Case Study: Manchester Square



# CES: Early Challenges

Challenges	Innovations
All resources were prioritized for chronically homeless and Veterans so less vulnerable people decompensate until they qualify or die	Advocacy for Rapid Rehousing resources
Service providers competing and not working together; advocating for agency's clients and not most vulnerable clients	RFP's became collaborative/ regional instead of competitive; resources became more pooled
By name list in LA County doesn't work; over 50K people	Private foundation (United Way) funded regional data analysts to be able to drill down on active, and most vulnerable clients
LA County is so big—can't do CES countywide	Break the county into 8 regions, lead agencies in each area

## Getting the hang of it: Challenges 2

Challenges	Solutions
Jails and prisons left out of CES	In reach in jails and prisons; stop cycle of homelessness and incarceration
Vacancy to match timeline taking too long because HMIS is outdated	Housing navigation resource is being prioritized for most vulnerable; point of contact in HMIS
Need for additional subpopulations and lead agencies for each region	TAY, Families, Single Adults
For families, hotline was only way to access system	Families started case conferencing, attending single adult meetings
So many partners, cities, stakeholders wanting in on CES, so need more coordination	Regional Coordination is actually funded as a separate component

# Post H: Prepping for Scale (Challenges 3)

Challenges	Innovations
Agency capacity	United Way funds capacity; job fairs
We have funding but no housing	UWGLA Everyone In Campaign; community organizer in each region
People/ families experiencing domestic violence aren't in CES	Integrating the two systems and ensuring cross-agency collaboration
Prioritization: how to maximize limited PSH	Utilize RRH as housing first! Then upstream to PSH if needed
Developer's being frustrated with long lag time to fill units; largely due to clients being in CES long time and no one knowing where they are	Working with match ratios (draft): 2:1 for new lease up 1:1 for scattered site

# Thank You – Discussion/ Q & A

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