

Addressing The Homeless Concerns In Topeka/Shawnee County



Question?

**Is chronic homelessness solvable in
Topeka/Shawnee County?**



DO WE WANT?

Do we want to end chronic homelessness?

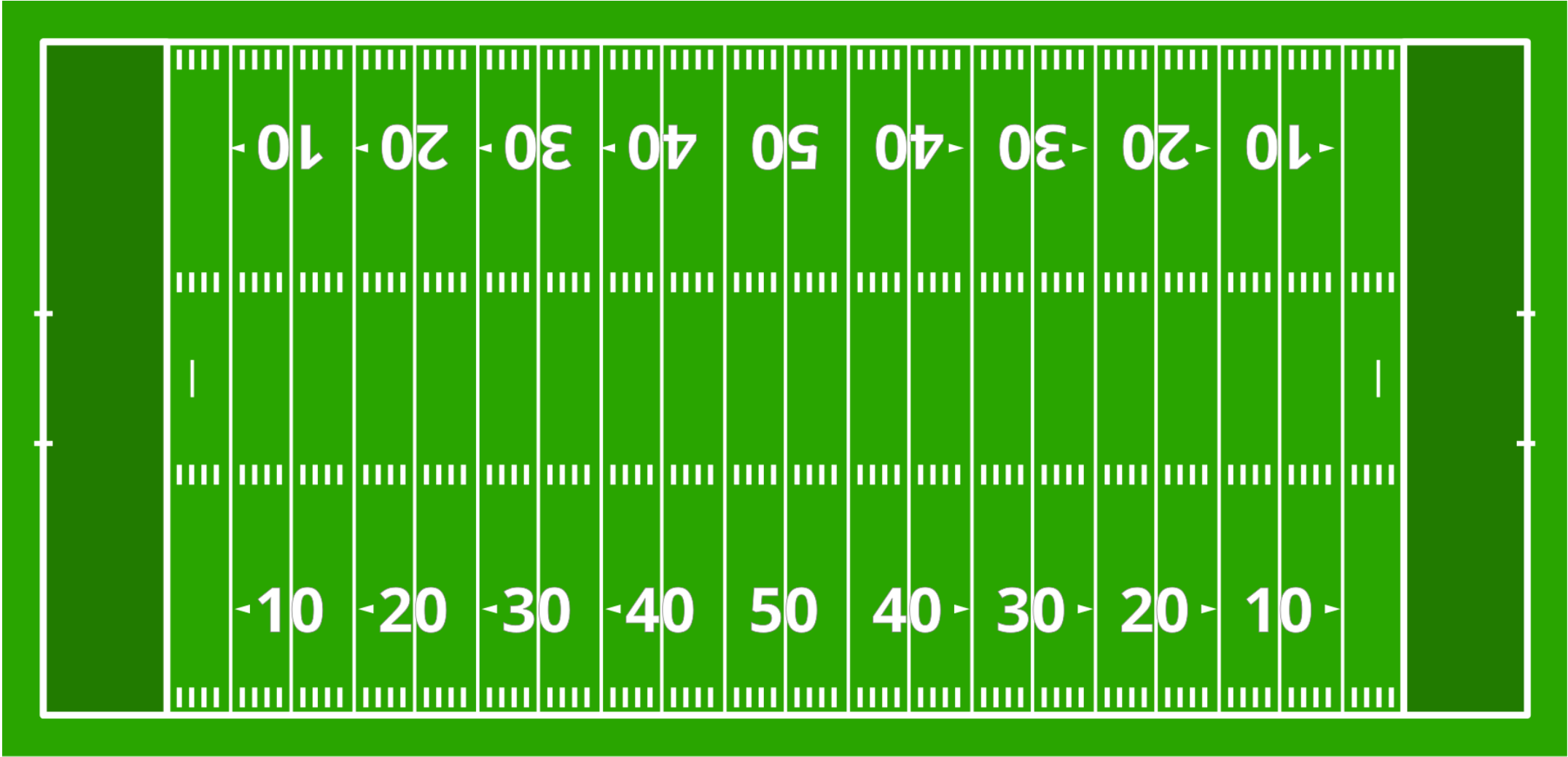
DO WE BELIEVE?

Do we believe we can end chronic homelessness?

ARE WE WILLING?

Are we willing to end chronic homelessness?





Summer Point in Time Count

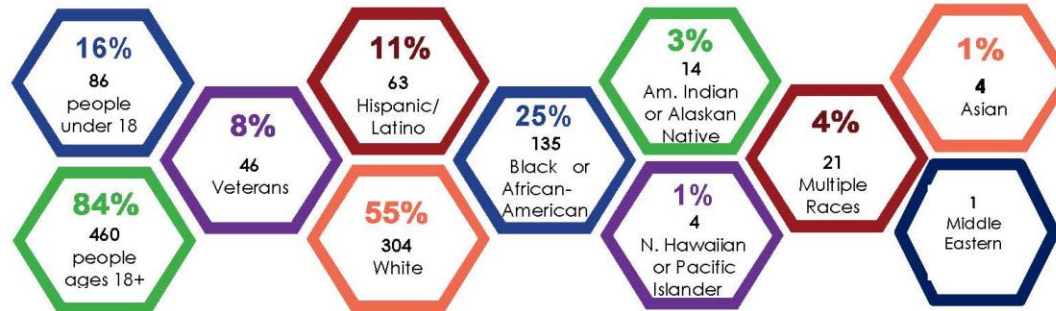
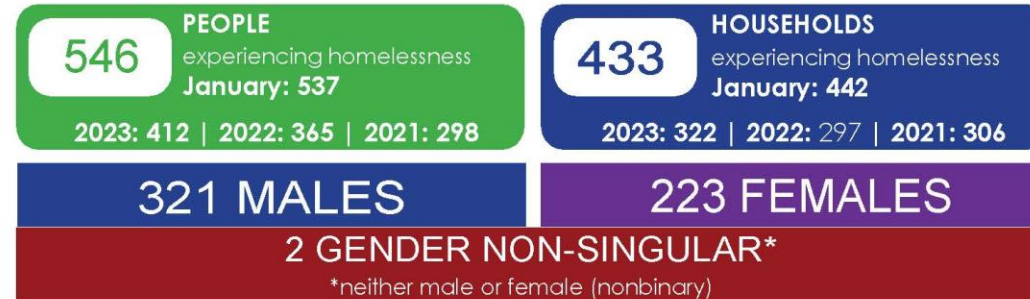
Topeka/Shawnee County Homeless Task Force
July 2024



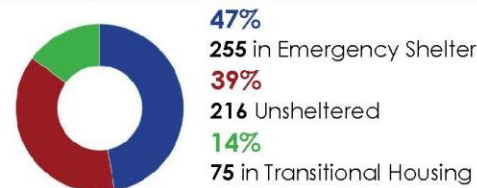
TOPEKA/SHAWNEE COUNTY
HOMELESS
TASK FORCE

The Summer Point in Time Homeless Count was conducted on July 17, 2024. This one-day event produces a snapshot of the individuals in our community experiencing homelessness as defined by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This data supports federal funding for the Continuum of Care Initiative.

demographics



nighttime locations



volunteers

- 42** Community Volunteers
- 4** Topeka Police Officers
- 1** SNCO Deputy Sheriff
- 5** Planning Committee

contact:

City of Topeka Division of Housing Services
620 SE Madison St., 1st Floor - Unit 8, Topeka, KS 66607
785-368-3711

SNCO DOC: Homeless Population

Comparing 1/1/2024 & 7/1/2024



Homeless counts are based on an address listed as either Homeless or the Topeka Rescue Mission (600 N Kansas Ave Topeka, KS)

Homeless Inmates

SNCO DOC saw a 5 inmate increase in the count of Homeless Inmates from 1/1/2024 to 7/1/2024

	1/1/2024	7/1/2024
Males:	108	107
Females:	13	19
Total:	121	126



SMI vs NON-SMI

Breakdown of Homeless Inmates

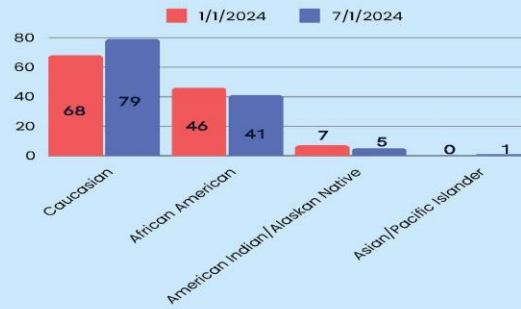


56 of the 121 Inmates listed as Homeless are considered SMI (Serious Mental Illness)



73 of the 126 Inmates listed as Homeless are considered SMI (Serious Mental Illness)

Homeless Inmates by Race



SNCO DOC saw an increase in both Caucasian and Asian/Pacific Islander Inmates, while a decrease in African American and American Indian/Alaskan Native was also present for Homeless Inmates from 1/1/2024 to 7/1/2024.

Homeless Inmates by Age

SNCO DOC saw a increase in 36-45 year olds, while seeing a decrease in every other age group from 1/1/2024 to 7/1/2024.



The Cost

Chronic Homeless Crisis

IMPACT

***Humanitarian Suffering**

***Moral/Ethical/Spiritual**

***Community Conscience**

***Community Health**

***Safety**

***Financial**

The Cost

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Avg. Annual Cost

General Population

\$36k per Individual x 571 =

\$20.5 MILLION

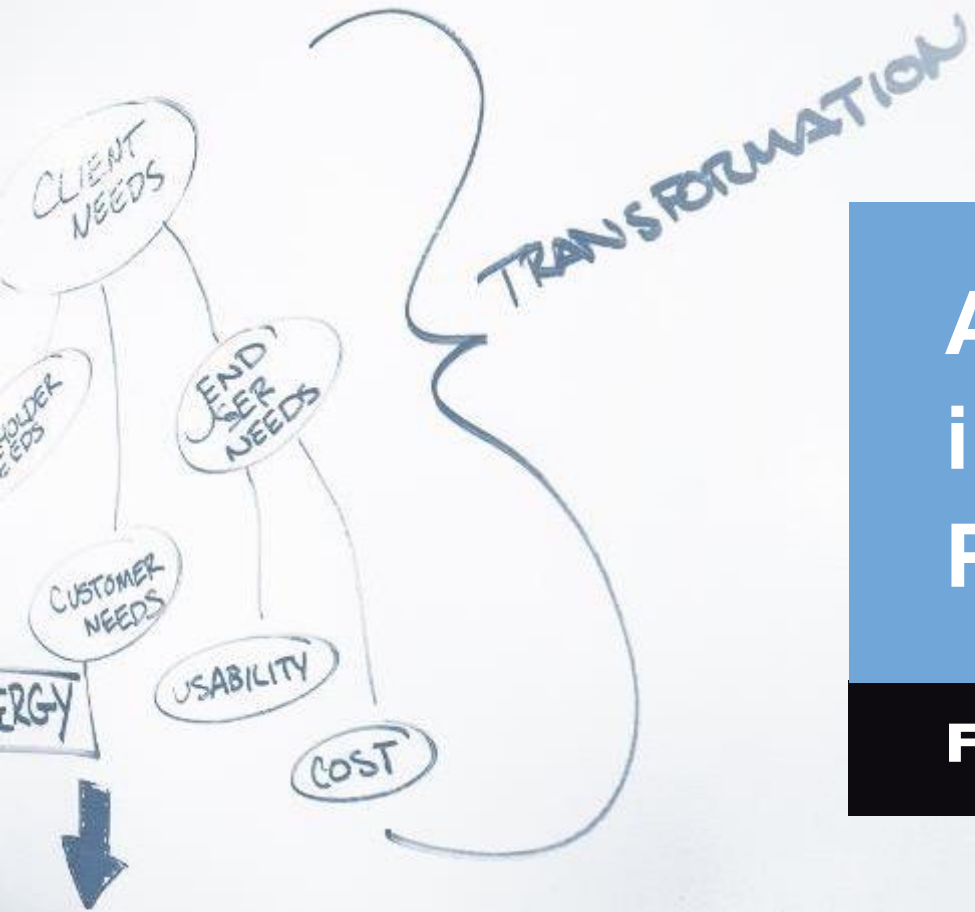
Avg. Annual Cost

60+ Population

\$175K per Individual x 101 =

\$17.6 MILLION

TOTAL = \$38.1 MILLION



Addressing Homelessness in Topeka Using the Path to Innovation Approach

Final Report | May 24, 2024

BY

Brianna Sylver



Two asks of the Governing Body:

1

Support for the concepts of the:

- One Stop Homeless Resource Center
- Low Barrier Shelter
- Permanent Tiny Homes

2

Official chartering of a multi-sector community coalition, like the All Hands on Deck initiative being suggested by Compassion Strategies in the community.

**Built
For
Zero.**

**COMMUNITY
SOLUTIONS**

Built For Zero

A movement to measurably and equitably end
homelessness

NEXT?
WHO?
HOW?





Compassion Strategies

All Hands On Deck
Campaign To End
Chronic
Homelessness
Topeka/Shawnee Co.
2030



Compassion Strategies Approach

- **Building a bridge by working together, through multi-focused approaches, to bring dignity and hope to the unsheltered homeless.**

Compassion Strategies

Primary Activities



**Mobile Access Partnership
(MAP)**



**AHOD-Campaign To End Chronic
Homelessness**

Mobile Access Partnership-MAP Established 5/21 Est. 1750 unique individuals served



MAP Primary Partners



Compassion Strategies

Primary Activities



**Mobile Access Partnership
(MAP)**



**AHOD-Campaign To End Chronic
Homelessness**

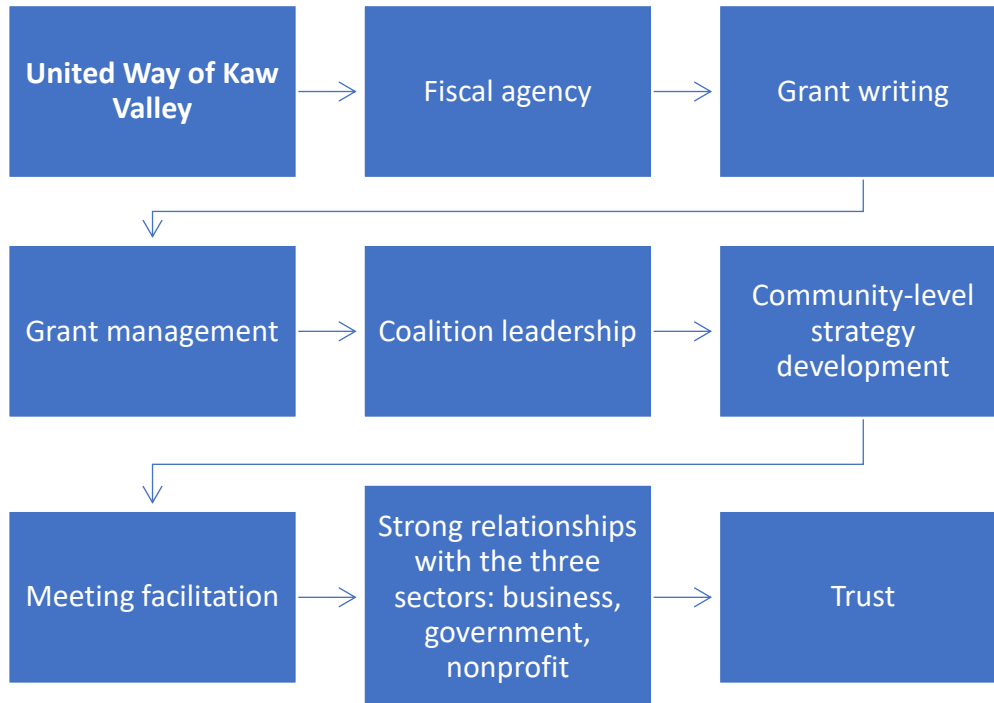
WHO, HOW, BACKBONE?

Backbone organizations serve as coordinating bodies that bring together a diversity of stakeholders and lead a synchronized effort to achieve a common goal.

COMPASSION STRATEGIES-ALL HANDS ON DECK
MULTI SECTOR COALITION

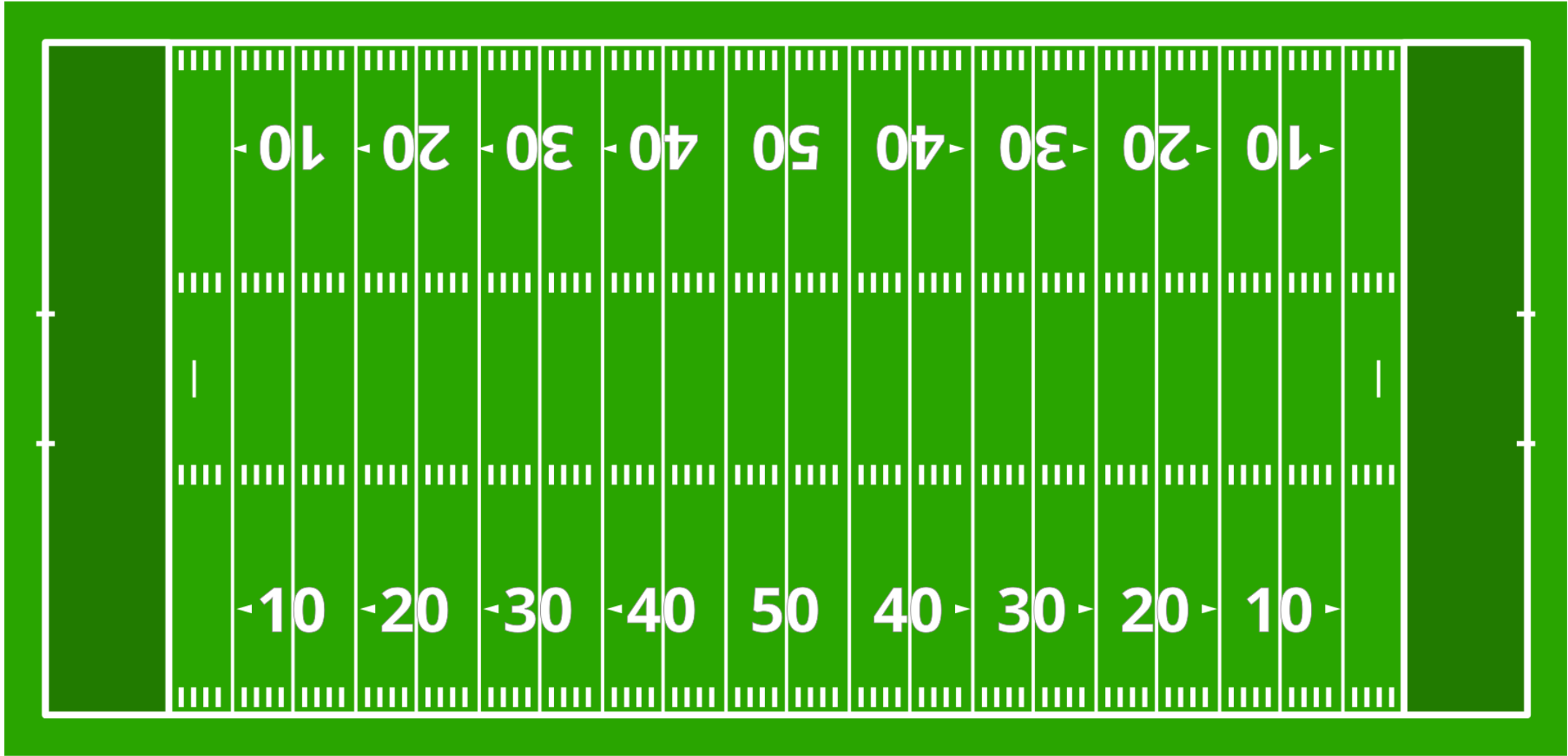


United Way of Kaw Valley



Compassion Strategies
All Hands On Deck

**Working together
to end chronic
homelessness in
Topeka/Shawnee
County by 2030**





Compassion Strategies All Hands On Deck Campaign To End Chronic Homelessness Topeka/Shawnee County Evaluation Tool

Homeless Engagement

	Strategy	Goals
Implementation Score (0-5) _____	Data Mapping and ongoing analysis of trends and policy impacting people experiencing homelessness	Investment in a strategic approach to identifying the number, geographic location, condition and contribution factors, trends and policy leading to chronic homelessness.
_____	Homeless Outreach Program Expansion	Strengthen and expand identification of the needs of those who are experiencing homelessness and are unsheltered. Provide needed items, support and services.
_____	Coordinated Mobile Access Partnership – MAP	Through taking services into communities, engage those experiencing homelessness and are unsheltered by building trust through relationship development and providing for immediate needs.
_____	One Stop Shop Homeless Rescue Center	Development of a coordinated system and process by which homeless assistance is allocated as effectively as possible and is easily accessible to all homeless persons.

Increasing Stability

Revised: 1/5/2024

Housing Action Considerations

Implementation Score (0-5)

- **Temporary low barrier emergency shelter** – beds and support services for those experiencing homelessness who may not be in a current state of sobriety.
- **Transitional Housing Village** – Temporary housing with supportive services for those experiencing chronic homelessness who are not yet ready or don't desire congregate shelter or community housing options.
- **Education and Equipping Center** – congregate shelter providing support, education, and equipping for those ready to move forward.
- **Community-based Transitional Housing with Programming** – provides the opportunity to transition from a temporary community setting to permanent community housing accompanied with supportive programming.
- **Permanent Community-based Rehousing** – financial assistance accompanied by case management for up to 12 months decreasing the likelihood of reentering homelessness.
- **Permanent Tiny Home Community**- a proven effective long term solution for formerly chronic homeless individuals needing support systems and community.
- **Additional Permanent Low-Income Housing**- the need for expanding safe, affordable housing options.

STRATEGY

To develop a multi-sector (All Hands On Deck) community coalition strategic framework to proactively address and end chronic homelessness in Topeka & Shawnee County Kansas by 2030.

AHOD Multi Sector Coalition System

- 1.Campaign Chair & Coaching Team**
- 2.Strategic Development Team**
- 3.Sector Team Quarterbacks**
- 4.Sector Team Leadership**
- 5.Community Sectors**
- 6.Community Feedback**



Campaign to End Chronic Homelessness Topeka/Shawnee County Sector Team Coalition as of 8/19/24

Campaign Chair		Coaches	
Brett Martin UW	Campaign Chair	Barry Feaker- Compassion Strategies	Campaign Strategy/Project Development Consultant
TBD	Campaign Vice Chair	Carrie Higgins- City of Topeka	Sector Team Coach
		Kourtney Barr- TRM	Sector Team Coach



Campaign to End Chronic Homelessness Topeka/Shawnee County Sector Team Coalition as of 6/20/24

Strategic Development Team

Brett Martin- UW	Chris Gnagi- LT. COL Retired 190 th Air
Barry Feaker- CS	Jennifer Schmidt- KU Law
La Manda Broyles- TRM	Misty Bosch-Hastings- City of Lawrence Homeless Solutions
Carrie Higgins- COT	Trey George- THA
Chris Palmer- Cornerstone	Greg Schwerdt- Schwerdt Design Group
TBD- Behavioral Health	Brad Wheeler- 1 st UMC
Mary Thomas- CRC	SJ Hazim- Community Advocate
Topeka JUMP- TBD	Kourtney Barr- TRM
Miriam Krehbiel - TRM	Pat Michaelis- Midwest Housing Equity Group



Campaign to End Chronic Homelessness Topeka/Shawnee County Sector Team Coalition as of 8/19/24

Coach- Kourtney Barr Sector Team Quarterbacks

Behavioral Health	Corrections	Education/ Universities	Faith	First Responders/ Law Enforcement	Health & Veterans	Human Trafficking	Lived Experienced Neighbors	Animal Health
L-QB:	L-QB: Brian Cole	L-QB:	L-QB: Coach Craig Schurig (WU Football)	L-QB: Sgt. Matt Rose		L-QB: Angie Boles		L-QB: Dr. Allison Crow(SDC)
A-QB:	A-QB:	A-QB:	A-QB: Coach Chad Parks (FCA)			A-QB: Terri Hund		



Campaign to End Chronic Homelessness Topeka/Shawnee County Sector Team Coalition as of 8/19/24

Coach Carrie Higgins Sector Team Quarterbacks

Business	Investors	Government	Housing/ Landlords	Judicial	Neighborhoods	Nonprofit/ Social Services	Seniors
L-QB:	L-QB:	L-QB:	L-QB: Janice Watkins (Habitat)	L-QB: Mike Kagay (DA SNCO)	L-QB:	L-QB: Jessica Lenherr (UW)	L-QB: Michael Eichten
A-QB:	A-QB:	A-QB:	A-QB: Steve Vogel (Landlord)	A-QB: Penny Moylan (Dist. Judge SNCO)	A-QB:	A-QB:	A-QB:

AHOD MULTI SECTOR COMMUNICATION SYSTEM



*Same, Different,
Competition, or What?*

**Built
For
Zero.**
COMMUNITY
SOLUTIONS



Compassion Strategies
All Hands On Deck

Built for Zero

A movement and a methodology to achieve functional zero

- By-name data driven approach
- Assemble a community-wide team
- Centering racial equity
- Targeted, data-driven housing investments

All Hands on Deck

Campaign to end chronic homelessness

- Improve local data systems to implement a by-name approach
- Create a multi-sector coalition
- Core values of inclusion
- Strategic, data-driven and diverse housing supports investments

Two asks of the Governing Body:

1

Support for the concepts of the:

- One Stop Homeless Resource Center
- Low Barrier Shelter
- Permanent Tiny Homes

2

Official chartering of a multi-sector community coalition, like the All Hands on Deck initiative being suggested by Compassion Strategies in the community.

Considerations Underway

- **One Stop Homeless Resource Center**
- **Low Barrier Shelter**
- **Permanent Housing (Tiny Home) Village**

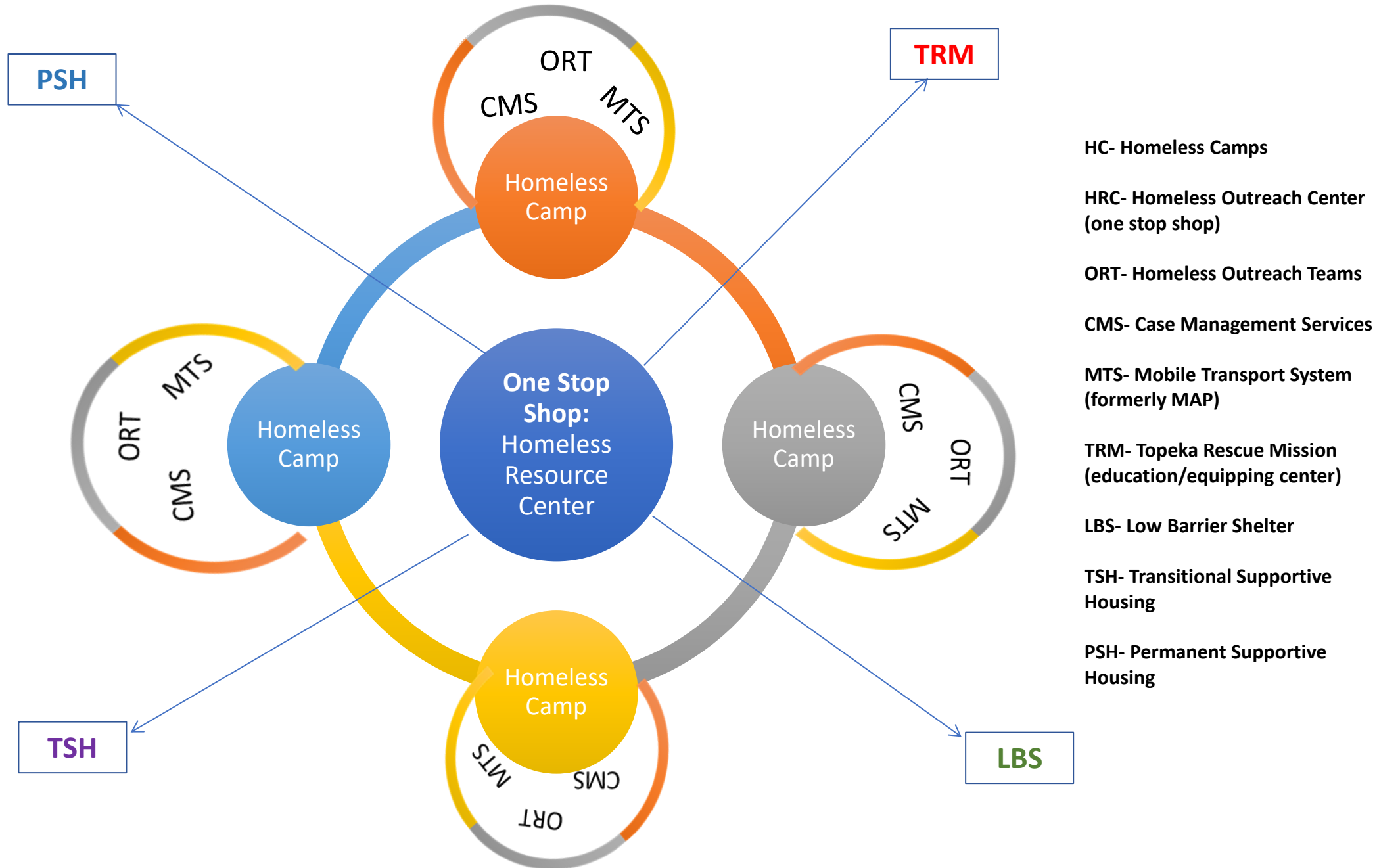
DEEP DIVE INTO THE...

One Stop Homeless Resource Center





HRC System Structure





“Low Barrier” Congregate Emergency Housing

“Low Barrier”
Non-
Congregate
Transitional
Housing Village





Eden Village



Eden Village

Ending Chronic Homelessness Topeka/Shawnee County 2030?





DO WE WANT?

Do we want to end chronic homelessness?

DO WE BELIEVE?

Do we believe we can end chronic homelessness?

ARE WE WILLING?

Are we willing to end chronic homelessness?



AHOD SYSTEM TEMPLATE



CAMPAIGN SYSTEM
DEVELOPMENT



TEAM SELECTION



COMMUNICATION
PLATFORM
DEVELOPMENT



CAMPAIGN LAUNCH



PROJECT SELECTION



PROJECT
MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM



PROJECT LAUNCH



PROJECT
COMPLETION

*Campaign To End
Chronic
Homelessness
Topeka/Shawnee
County-2030*



So, what is the ask?

- **Collaboration**

- **Shared Goals:** Establish a mutual objective between the city/county and AHOD to address chronic homelessness, ensuring efforts are aligned toward long-term solutions

- **Communication**

- **Open Dialogue:** Foster regular and transparent communication between city/county officials and AHOD to ensure alignment on priorities, progress, and challenges.
- **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Work together to launch public education initiatives that highlight chronic homelessness issues, destigmatize those affected, and promote the programs available for support.

- **Connection**

- **Resource Sharing:** Pooling resources such as funding, expertise, and facilities to increase the capacity of services provided.



Compassion Strategies

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2030