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HOMELESSNESS STUDY



Key Findings & Recommendations



Acknowledgements



Homelessness Study Objectives



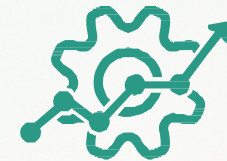
Analyze Root Causes

We analyzed data to understand the root cause of homelessness, contributing factors on the peninsula, and needs of the unhoused population



Assess Services

We reviewed programs available to the homeless population to identify gaps in existing services



Optimize Resources

We provided recommendations to maximize impact of scarce resources available for reducing the number of individuals who are experiencing homelessness

Mixed Methods

Our Approach

Qualitative Methods

- Interviews
- Participant observation
- Transcription & analysis

System Modelings

Literature Review

Quantitative Methods

- Data collection
- Descriptive analysis
- Forecasting
- Geospatial visualization

Community Engagement

- 2 public forums
- 4 focus groups
- 1 PWLE debrief
- Community survey



High rental and home value inflation since 2019



Newport News and Hampton experienced highest proportional increases in rent and home values – increases highest in most affordable zip codes (23666, 23602, 23608)

Root Cause *Housing Security*

Limited multi family housing zones – largest proportion in **Newport News**



1 out of 5 unhoused individuals have Severe Mental Illness or Chronic Substance Abuse



Homelessness is Increasing

15%

Projected increase

Forecasts from Hotline data indicate "Literally Homeless" callers will increase by 15.75% year over year for the next three years.

**Throughout the
course of a year**

2,000 +

**experience homelessness
on the peninsula, with
Newport News and
Hampton sharing the
greatest burden**

**Increasing
Rates**

**First-time homeless
Higher incomes
Higher acuity
Longer durations
Racial disparity**

Recommendations

1

Make structural changes that drive collective impact

System Transformation Plan

2

Fortify commitment to a regional homeless response system

Commit all housing resources to the Coordinated Entry System

3

Expand access to housing for households with most barriers

Delay emergency shelter investments until RRH and PSH system goals are met

4

Invest in a regional financial strategy

Regional funding alignment under shared vision

5

Eliminate barriers to services and promote a client-centered culture, system-wide

Develop written standards and policy/procedures

6

Develop an unsheltered response strategy to address homelessness holistically and to reduce punitive responses

Create regional outreach strategy

7

Pursue long-term housing solutions

Alter zoning codes – reduce single-family zones and increase missing middle/high density zones



Questions?