Homelessness Strategies

Affordable Housing Advisory Council

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Speakers

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- **Lauren Leventhal**
  - Vice-Chair, Continuum of Care Committee
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- **Tom Barnett**
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2008 – 2018: Ten Year Plan

Overview of the strategies, successes, and challenges in the execution of the "Blueprint for Success" and "Implementation Plan" to prevent and end homelessness.

Strategies from 10-Year Plan

1. Prevent homelessness due to economic crisis and/or disability.

2. Preserve and increase the supply of affordable housing to prevent or remedy homelessness.

3. Deliver appropriate support services to obtain and maintain stable housing.

4. Create a management system for plan implementation with the collaboration of the public and private sectors that ensures adequate financial resources and accountability.

10-Year Plan Retrospective

- **Successes**
  - 46 percent reduction in homelessness.
  - More effective, efficient homeless services.

- **Challenges**
  - Demand for temporary shelter and permanent housing programs consistently exceed capacity.
  - Racial disparities in homelessness.
  - Community understanding about causes of homelessness.

2019 – 2022: Current Era

Overview of latest trends in annual Point-in-Time count results, lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic, evidenced based best practices, and Countywide Strategic Plan homelessness metrics.
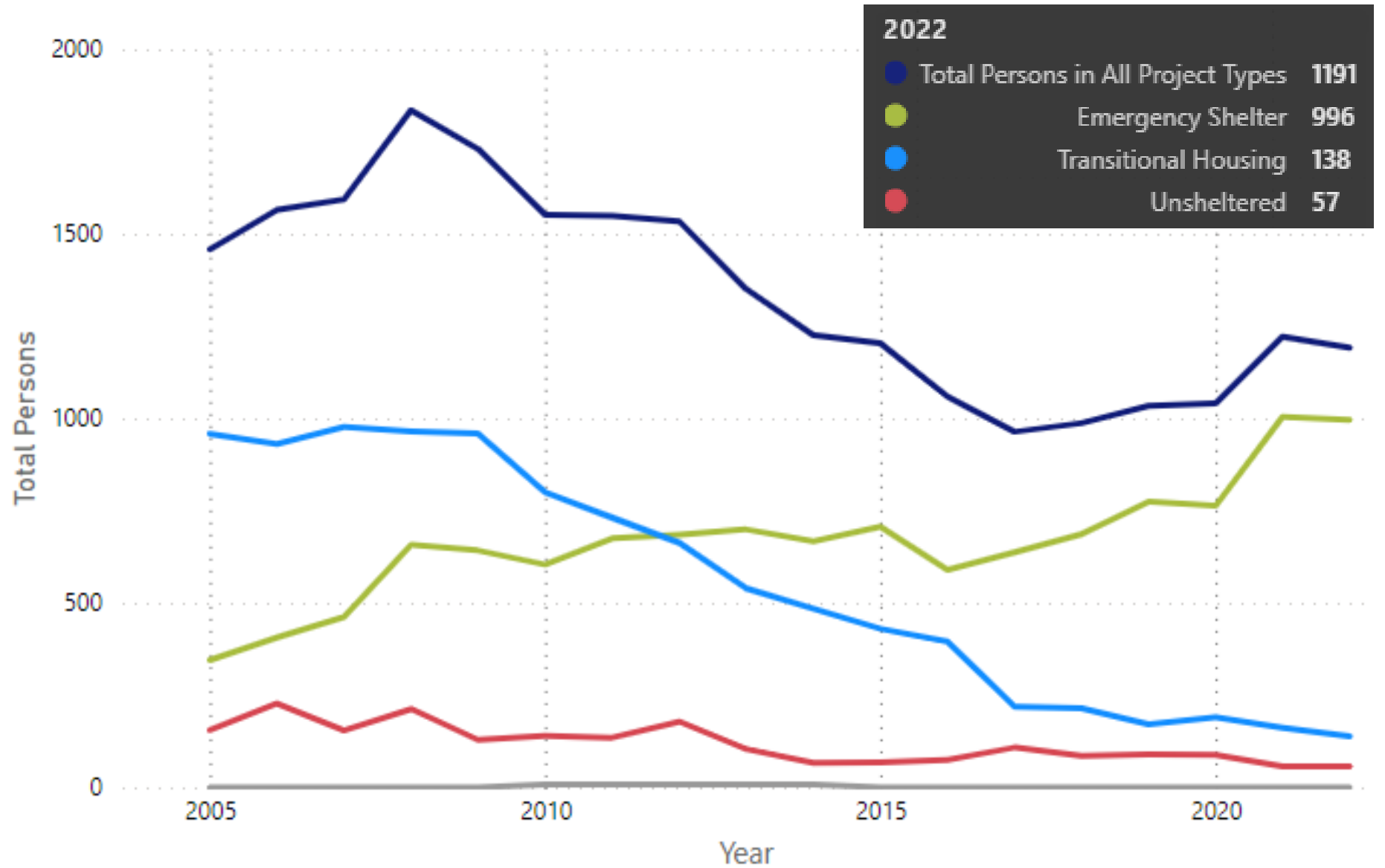
OPEH Merger with HCD

- One department, a continuum of housing needs

- **Early Benefits**
    - Retooling Bridging Affordability
    - Broader staff expertise to support the development of new permanent supportive housing
    - Emergency Housing Vouchers

Lessons from COVID-19 Pandemic

- QPID shelters were response to a <u>health crisis</u>, not homelessness.

- **Successes**
  - Rapid isolation and quarantine.
  - Protect individuals at high risk of serious illness.
  - Decompress shelters to mitigate spread of virus.
  - Over 700 people housed from the hotels.

- **Challenges**
  - Increases in temporary shelter increases homelessness.
  - Insufficient affordable, permanent housing for guests.

Point-in-Time Count Trends

Evidenced-Based Best Practices

- Housing First

- Built for Zero

- Permanent housing with support services:

  - Permanent supportive housing

  - Rapid rehousing

Countywide Strategic Plan

- **Housing & Neighborhood Livability** – strategies includes:

  - **Strive to End Homelessness**

    - HNL 14. Expand the availability of <u>permanent supportive housing</u> units and services for people experiencing homelessness, including both individuals and families.

    - HNL 15. Provide incentives so that nonprofit and for-profit housing developers and landlords will <u>set aside units</u> for people experiencing homelessness.

Questions?

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