

Lane County Behavioral Health Deflection Program

Presenters

Chris Parosa – Lane County District Attorney

Clint Riley – Deflection Coordinator



Road to Deflection

Homework

- Marion County Symposium
- Seattle Conference
- Deflection Technical Assistance Regional Event - Bend

Workgroups and Subcommittees

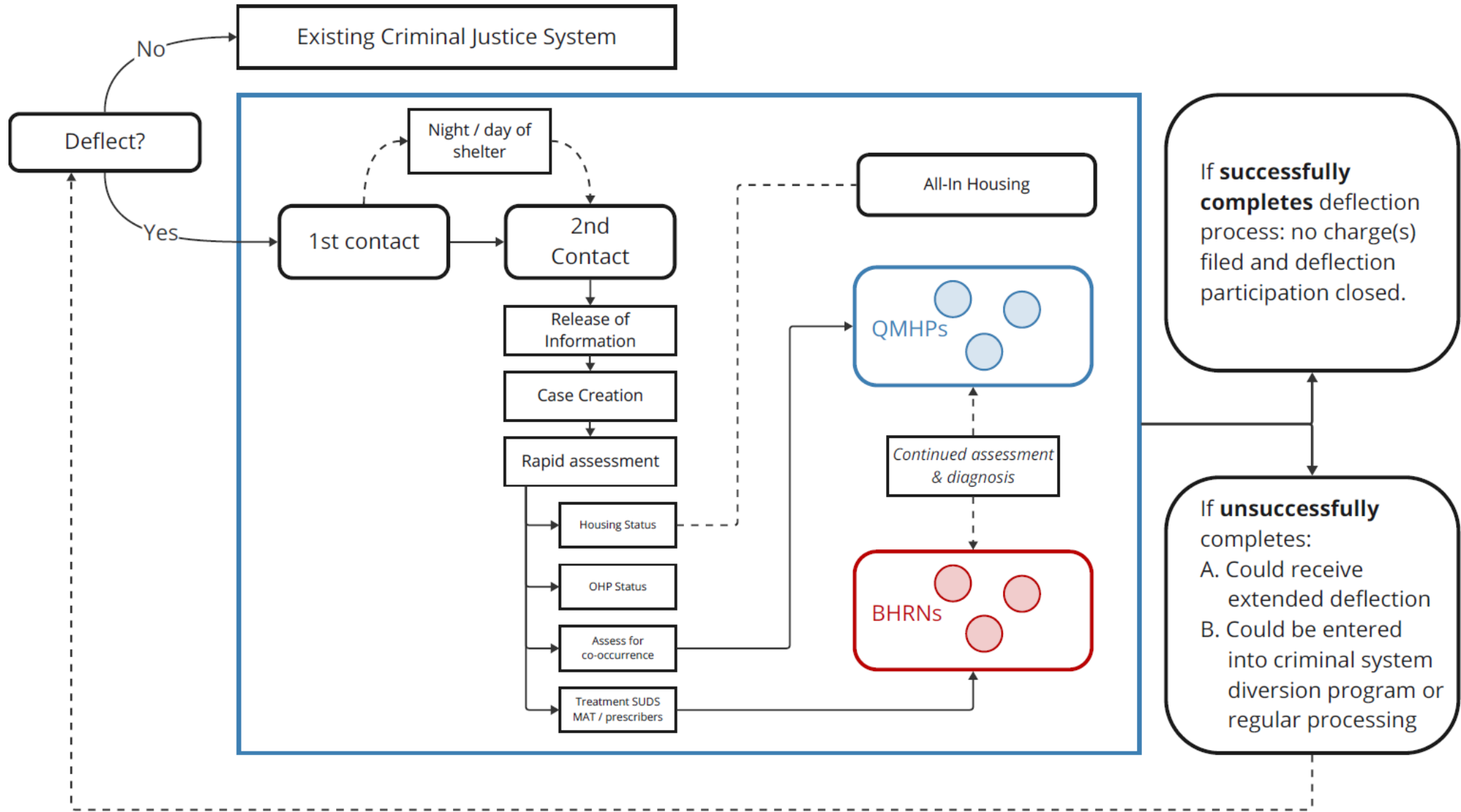
- Combined law enforcement, DA, County Staff, Treatment Providers, Navigator Services, Housing Advocates, BIPOC community members, Mental Health Professionals and courts
- Heavily leaned on Lane County's history of collaboration

Goals

- Address and reduce substance abuse in Lane County
- Provide law enforcement a tool to address low-level, quality of life crimes
- Rely on existing services in Lane County
- Let the experts do their thing – no DA micromanagement

Lane County LEAD Deflection Criteria

- Chargeable low-level offense: unlawful possession of controlled substance, criminal trespass 2, disorderly conduct 2, interfering with a police officer, theft 3 and criminal mischief 3 (with victim consent)
- Resident of Lane County & agrees to voluntary participation
- Not been convicted of domestic violence or sexual assault charges
- May not be a current police informant
- May not have any major active investigations/cases pending
- May not have a severe mental illness
- May not be a danger to the navigator



Program Operation

Program
launched
October 18, 2024

- Sept. 1-Oct. 17: Deflection eligible individuals got DA diversions

Deflection Team:
Meets weekly

- Deflection Coordinator
- Navigation Services – Ideal Options
- District Attorney's Office
- Data management analyst

“Success”

Substantial compliance and effort is success

- Abstinence is not required
- Assessment and participation in treatment are required
- 30 days of abscond results in termination

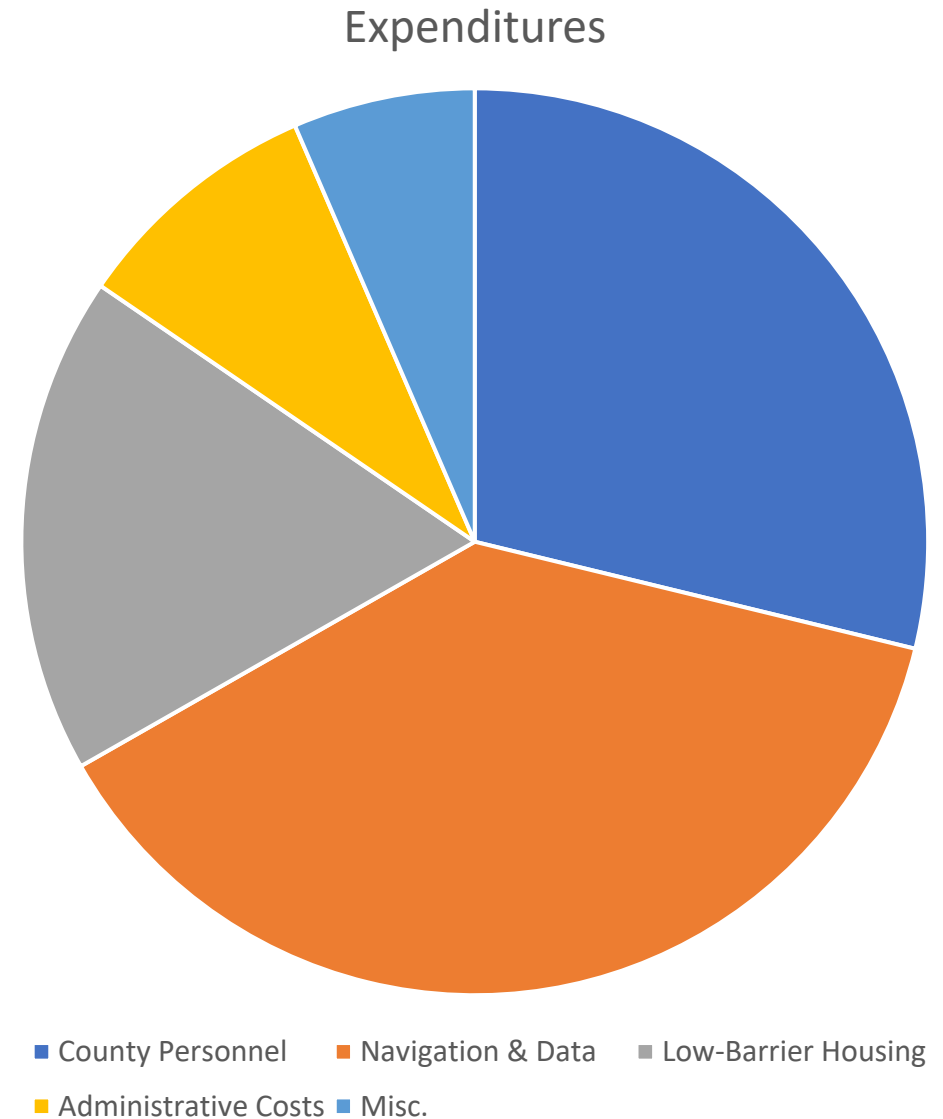
Rely on the navigators to determine effort

- Navigators all have lived experience
- Work very hard to break down any barriers that exist for the participant

If unsuccessful, charges are filed

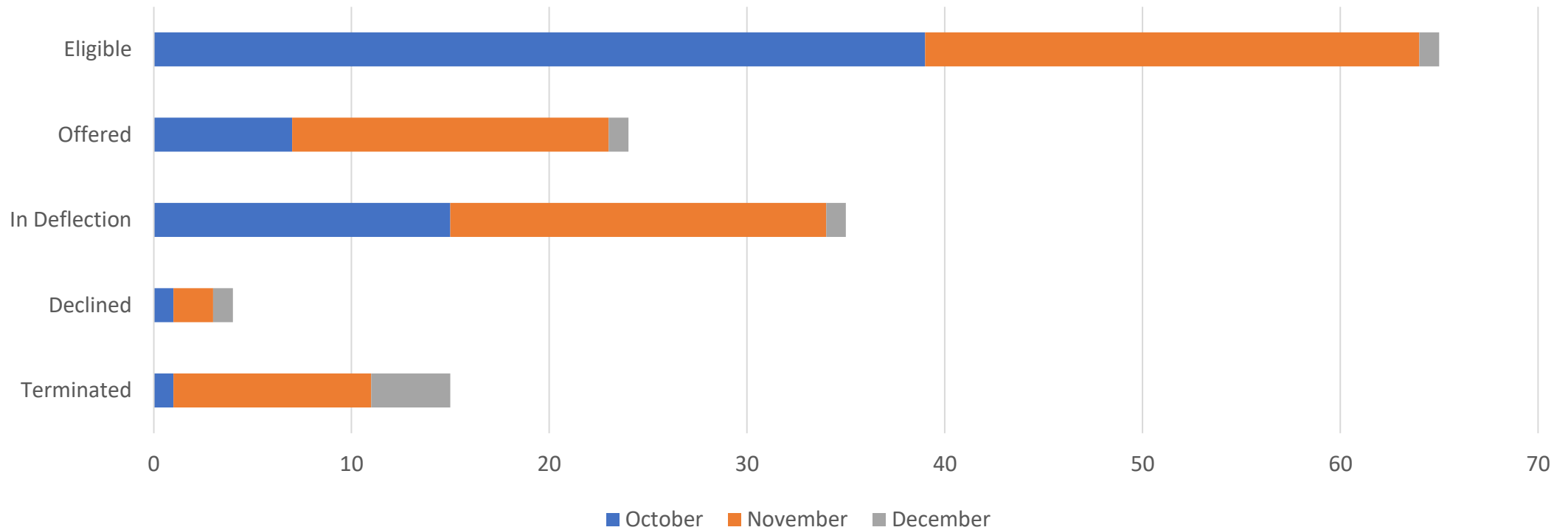
Program Budget

- Amount awarded: \$2.12 million
 - First Tranche - \$949,977 (May 2024)
 - Second Tranche –
 - \$585,270 (Oct. 2024)
 - \$585,270 (Mar 2025)
- Over 65% of funding going to support and direct services



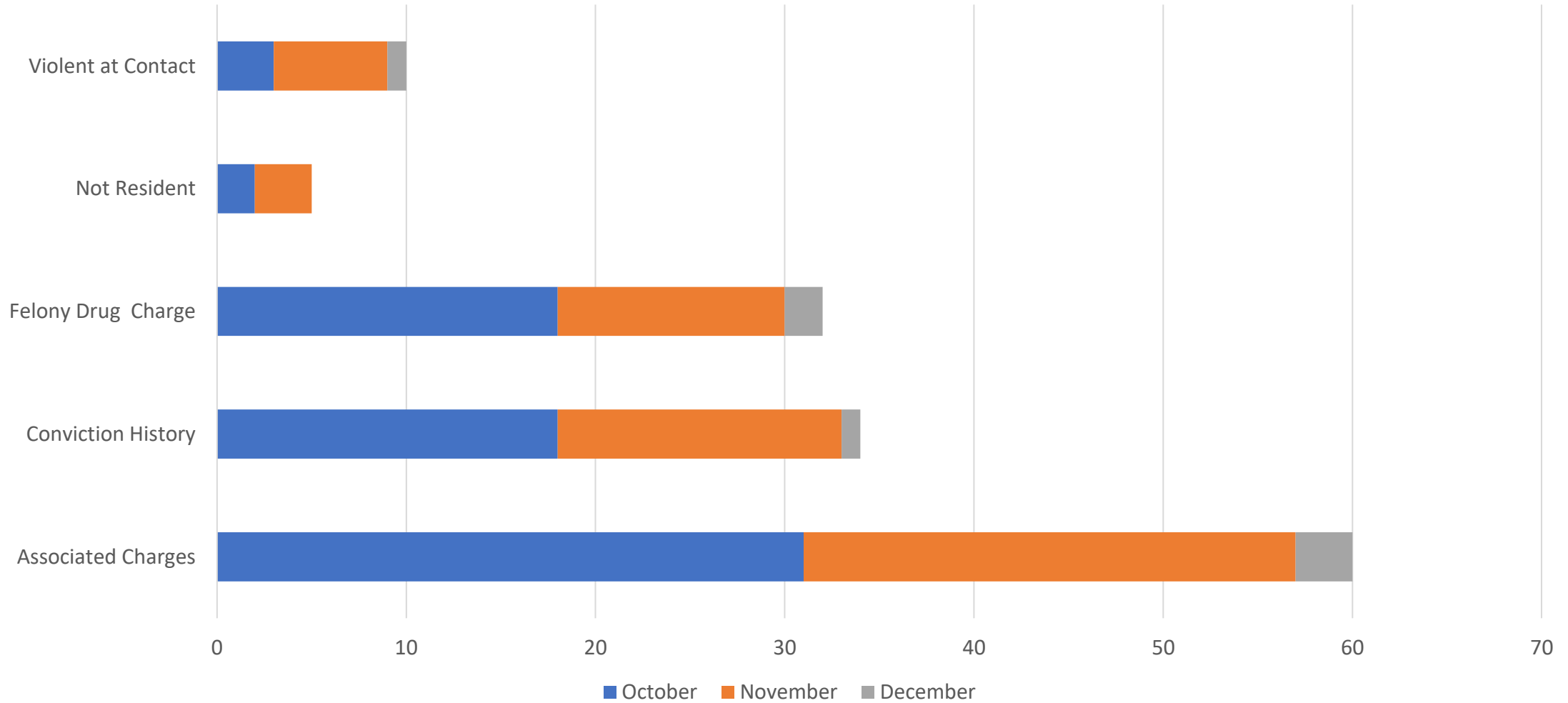
Preliminary Data

Since Oct. 18



***Variance between offers and deflection reflect noncriminal police referrals

Ineligibility Breakdown



Key Challenges and Lessons

Funding is critical

- Without \$2.12 million, appropriate navigation, temporary housing, consumable materials and supplies necessary would not be possible.
- If state funding dries up, our program will end.
- You get what you pay for – encourage Counties to provide more robust programs by offering more money.

Community support and consensus is required

- All community partners must buy-in to create a program that works.
- Counties know their local communities, partners and resources – mandating requirements is futile.

This is an experiment

- 23 different programs will give us a better idea of what works!