INTRODUCTION TO THE CLEVELAND/CUYAHOGA COC

Briefing for Advisory Committee Members

AGENDA

- What is a CoC, what are the responsibilities, and how does the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County CoC operate?

- What have been the performance outcomes of the CoC?

- How is the CoC structured and what are the responsibilities of Advisory Committee members?

WHAT IS A COC?

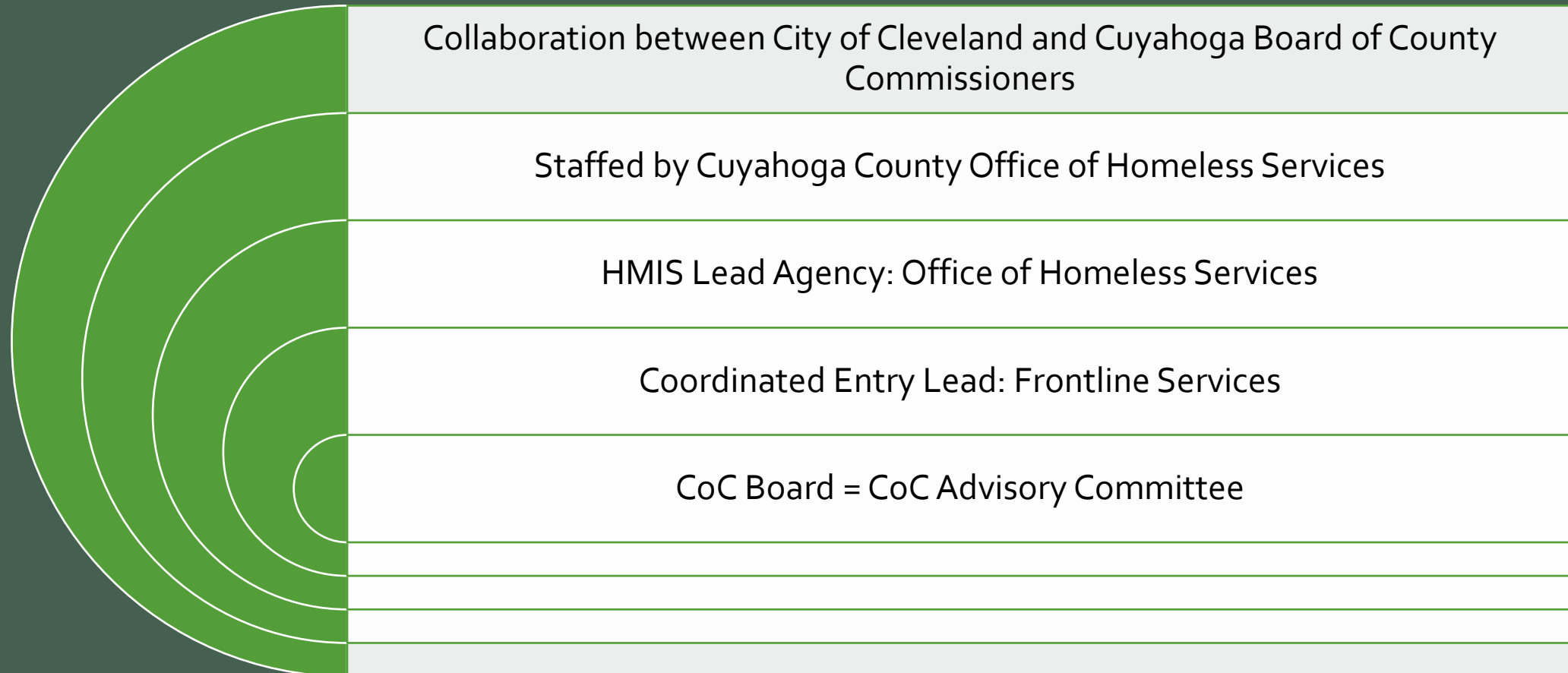## Key stakeholders in community focused on preventing and ending homelessness

- Agencies serving people experiencing homelessness
- Government and government agencies
- Schools, healthcare providers
- People experiencing homelessness
- Advocates

Usually not a formal legal entity

Approximately 400 in the United States

- 9 CoCs in Ohio: Cincinnati/Hamilton Cty; Toledo/Lucas Cty; Cleveland/Cuyahoga Cty; Columbus/Franklin Cty; Youngstown/Mahoning Cty; Dayton, Kettering/Montgomery Cty; Akron, Barbeton/Summit Cty; Ohio Balance of State; Canton, Massillon, Alliance/Stark Cty

WHAT IS THE CLEVELAND/CUYAHOGA COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE?

Collaboration between City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga Board of County Commissioners

Staffed by Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services

HMIS Lead Agency: Office of Homeless Services

Coordinated Entry Lead: Frontline Services

CoC Board = CoC Advisory Committee

WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF A COC
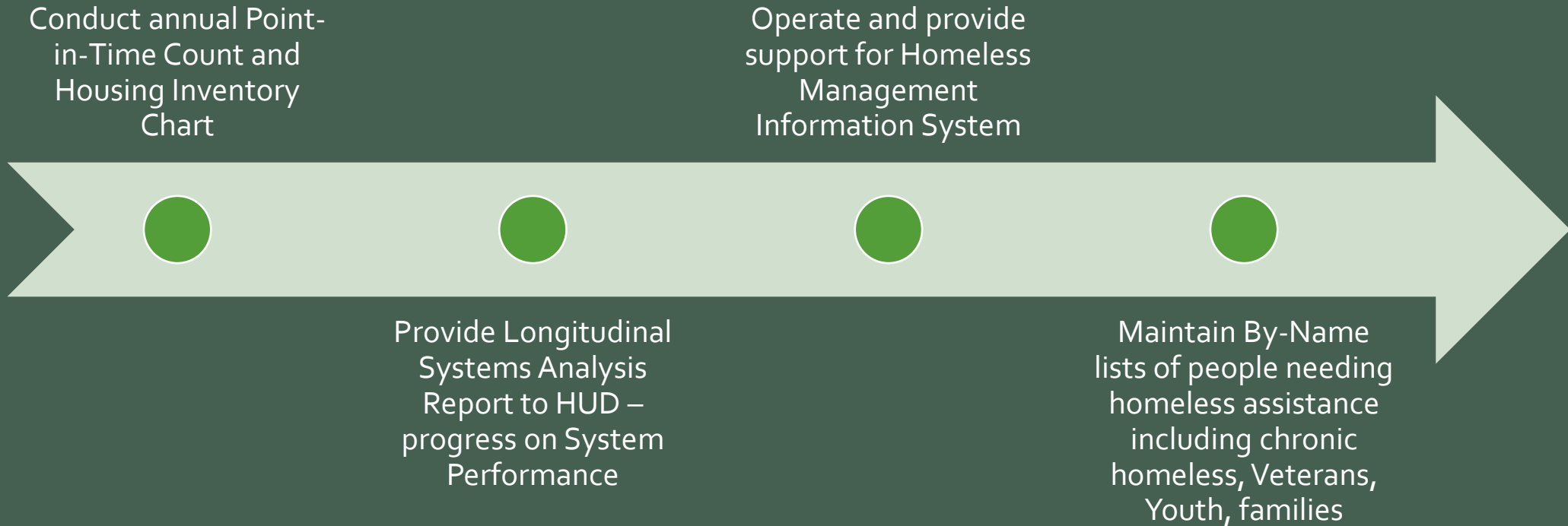
Planning and Data Collection

Establish policies and procedures for providing support to PEH

Monitor and seek to improve system performance

Administer key CoC functions

- HMIS
- Coordinated Access
- Manage HUD competition
- Monitor CoC funded projects and ensure compliance with HUD requirements

PLANNING AND DATA COLLECTION

Conduct annual Point-in-Time Count and Housing Inventory Chart

Provide Longitudinal Systems Analysis Report to HUD – progress on System Performance

Operate and provide support for Homeless Management Information System

Maintain By-Name lists of people needing homeless assistance including chronic homeless, Veterans, Youth, families

ESTABLISH POLICIES

Written standards for

- Housing First policies
- Emergency Shelter
- Rapid Rehousing
  - How much assistance
  - How much participants pay
  - How often assistance can be received
- Permanent Supportive Housing

SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

Key Measures

- Length of time people experience homelessness
- Extent to which people receive assistance, exit to permanent housing and subsequently return to homelessness
- Total numbers of homeless people and subpopulations
- Employment and income growth
- Number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time
- Number of people successfully placed in housing

ANNUAL HUD COMPETITION

HUD awards approximately $2.5B each year nationally.

- CoCs across the country compete with one another.

- Consolidated Application

  - CoC Application: Homeless count and other performance metrics, Engagement, Strategic Planning, Mainstream Benefits and Additional Policies.
  - Project Applications: Renewals and New Projects

All projects must apply annually

Priority Listing: Ranked list of all projects

HUD COMPETITION, PROJECT RANKING

> HUD requires that CoCs rank all projects receiving CoC funds in priority order

- Renewal projects
  - Reviewed based on performance in past year
  - Projects with inadequate performance may be required to 'reallocate'
  - Will be ranked in order in application with highest performing projects ranked first
- New Projects
  - Funded by reallocation – voluntary and involuntary
  - Bonus projects – new permanent housing, HMIS or coordinated entry
  - Domestic Violence Bonus

RENEWAL EVALUATION FACTORS

Adjusted annually

Most recently used factors:

- Occupancy of project
- Rates of earned (employment) income
- Rates of benefit (unearned) income
- Retaining or obtaining permanent housing
- Persons assisted who return to homelessness
- Consumer satisfaction

TIER 1 AND TIER 2 – THE COMPETITION

Each year HUD specifies how much of the CoC funding will be in Tier 1

Projects ranked in Tier 1 will be funded provided that there are no significant issues

- In most years, less than the full amount of funding needed for renewals is in Tier 1
  - 2021 was an exception where 100% of the funding for renewals was in Tier 1
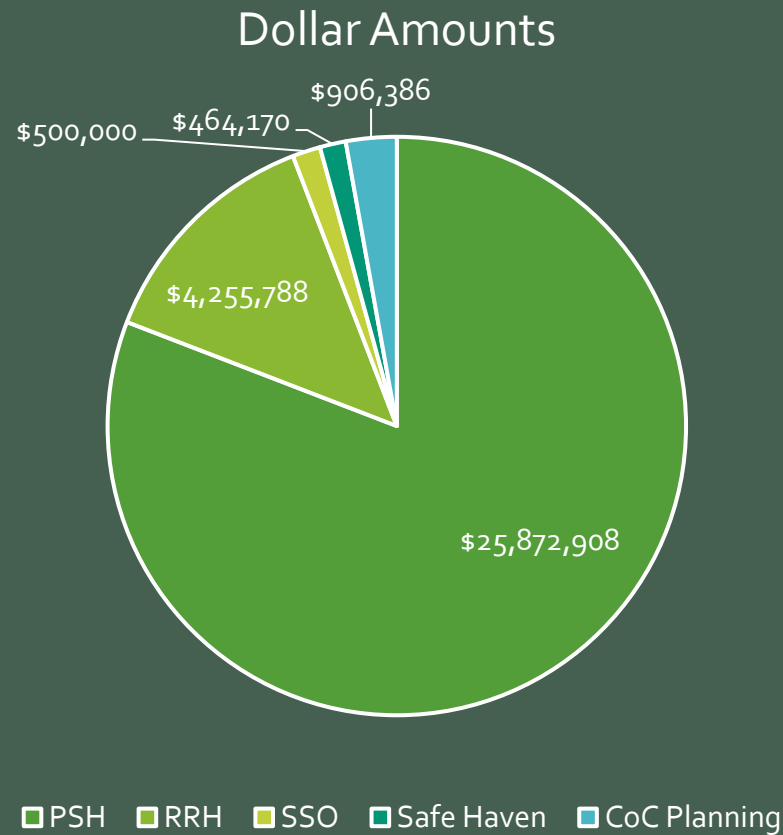
All projects in Tier 2 are scored by HUD

- Score is based on the score HUD gives to overall CoC application, how the project is ranked in Tier 2 and whether the project follows HUD policy priorities (Housing First)

CoCs with the highest scores will get the most Tier 2 projects funded
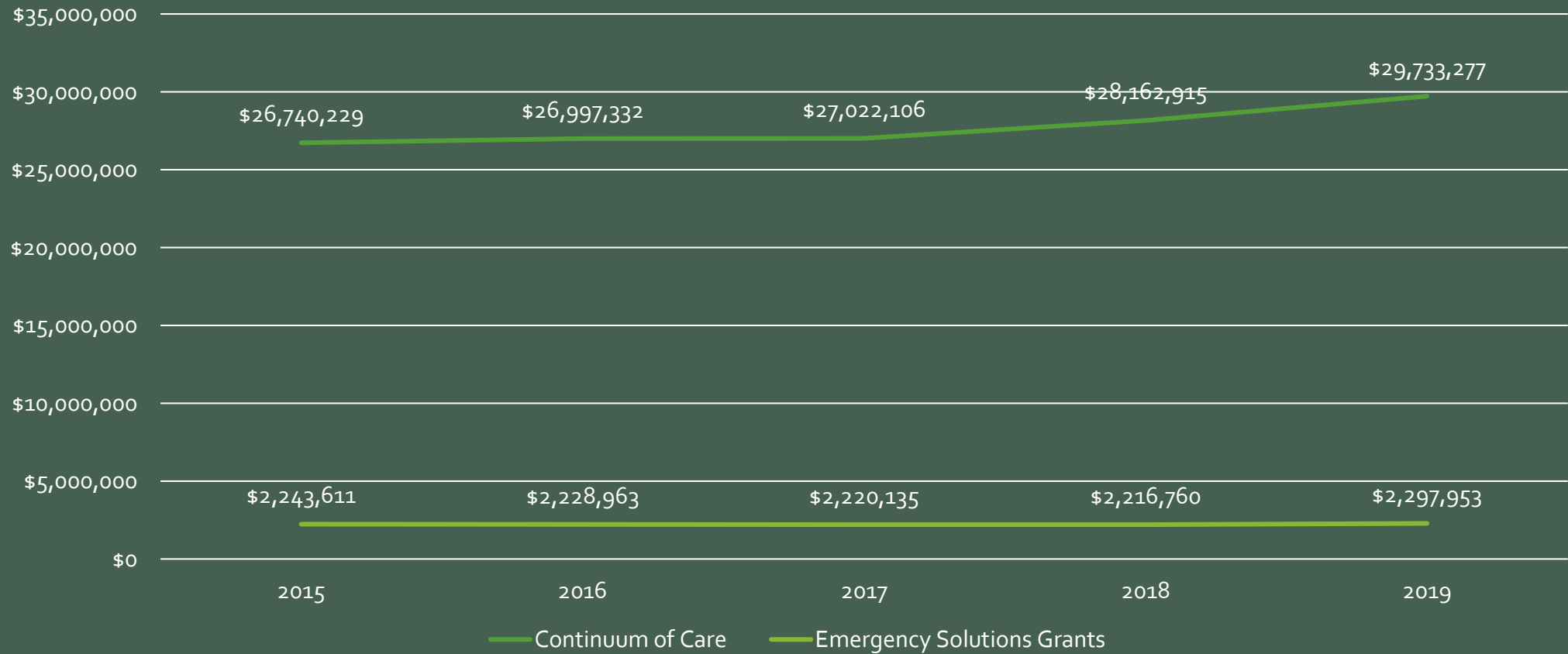
- Low scoring CoCs not likely to get any Tier 2 projects funded

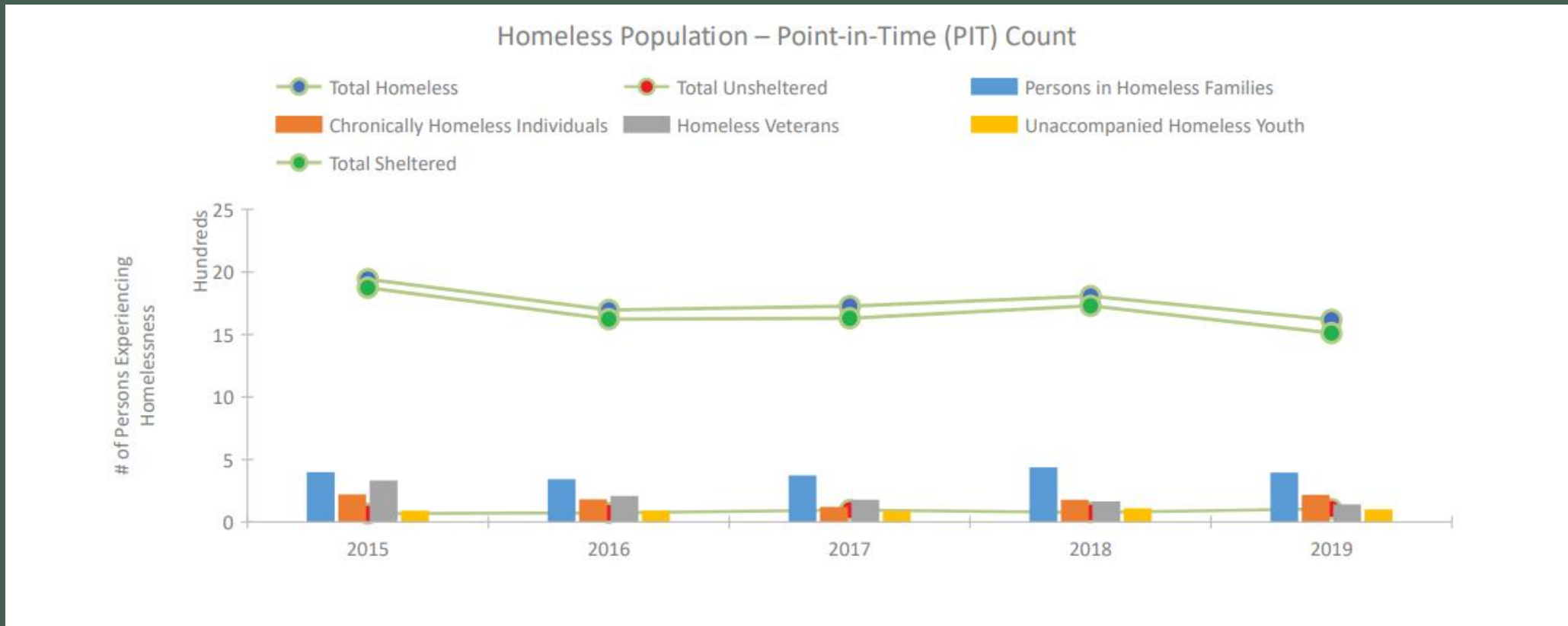Key issue for CoC – What projects to rank in Tier 2?
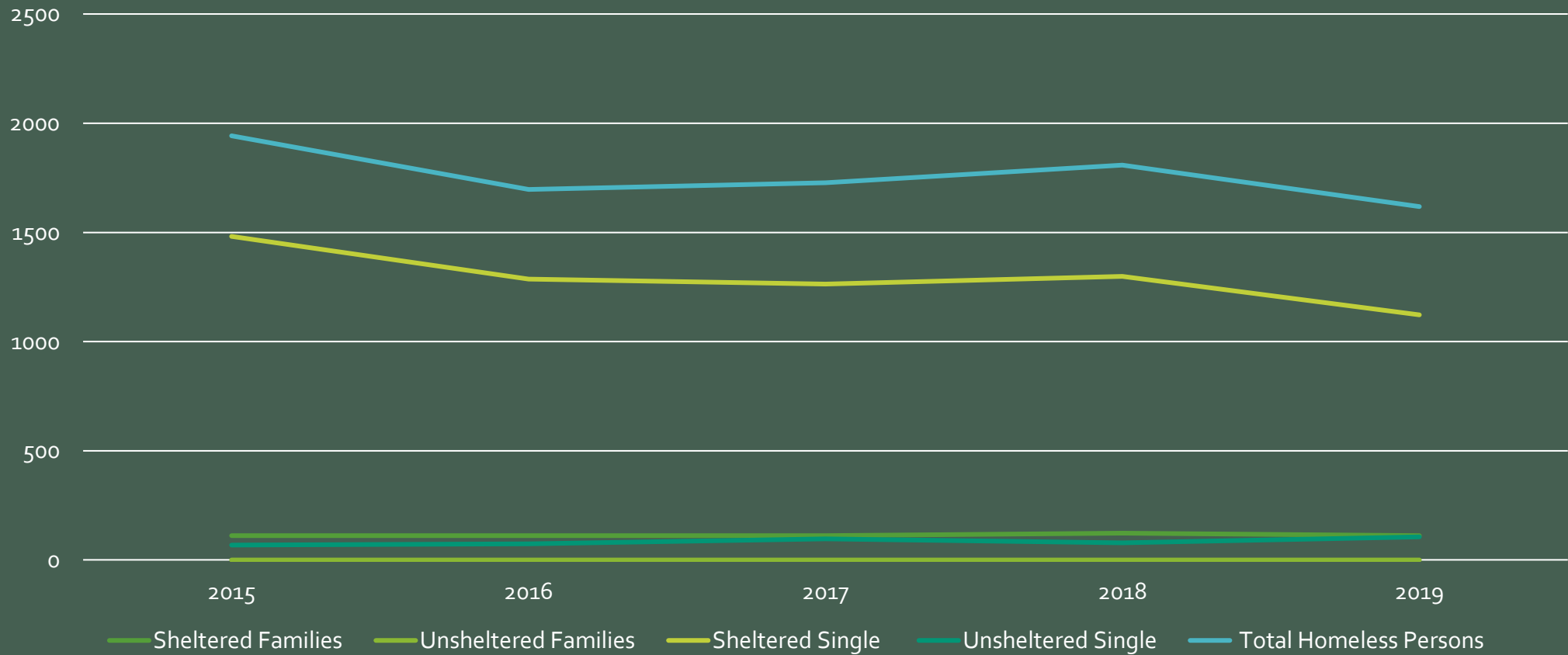
2020 AWARD TO OH-502 ($31,969,252)

Dollar Amounts

- $906,386
- $500,000
- $464,170
- $4,255,788
- $25,872,908

☐ PSH   ☐ RRH   ☐ SSO   ☐ Safe Haven   ☐ CoC Planning

TOTAL COC FUNDING OVER TIME

Line chart showing Continuum of Care and Emergency Solutions Grants funding from 2015 to 2019.

Year	Continuum of Care	Emergency Solutions Grants
2015	$26,740,229	$2,243,611
2016	$26,997,332	$2,228,963
2017	$27,022,106	$2,220,135
2018	$28,162,915	$2,216,760
2019	$29,733,277	$2,297,953

— Continuum of Care   — Emergency Solutions Grants

POINT IN TIME COUNT OH-502

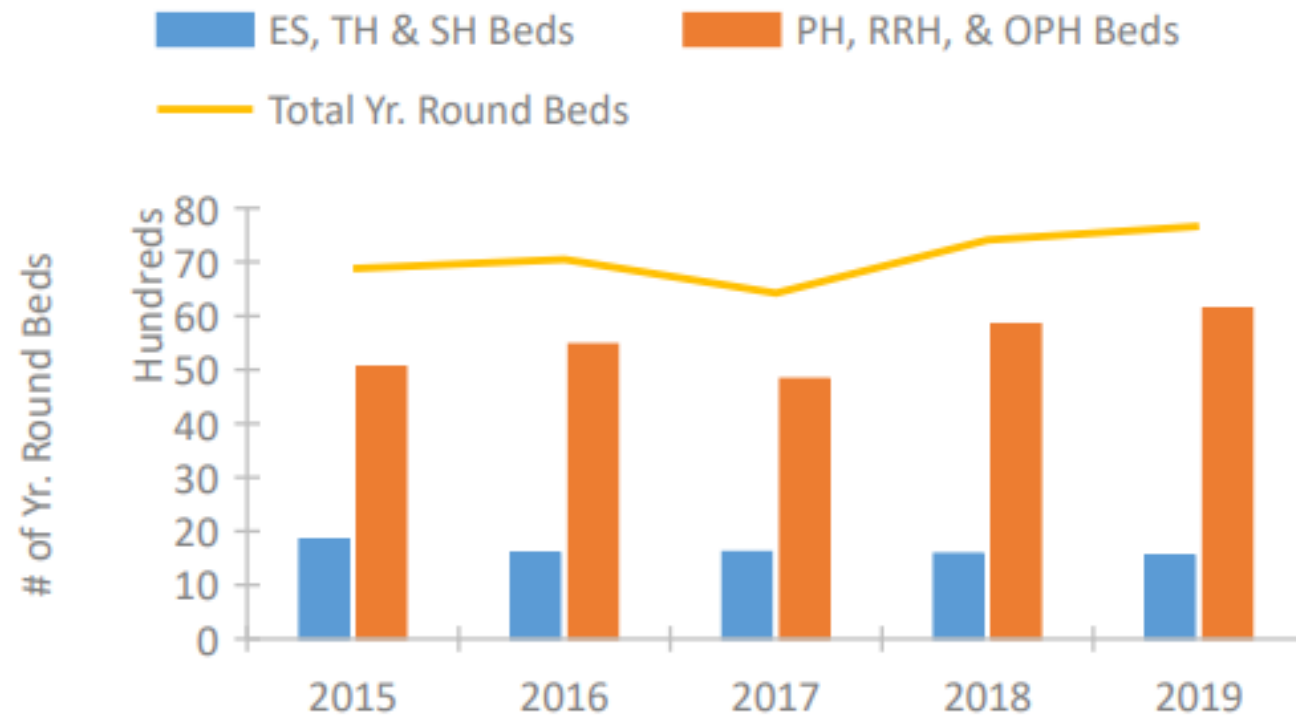Homeless Population – Point-in-Time (PIT) Count
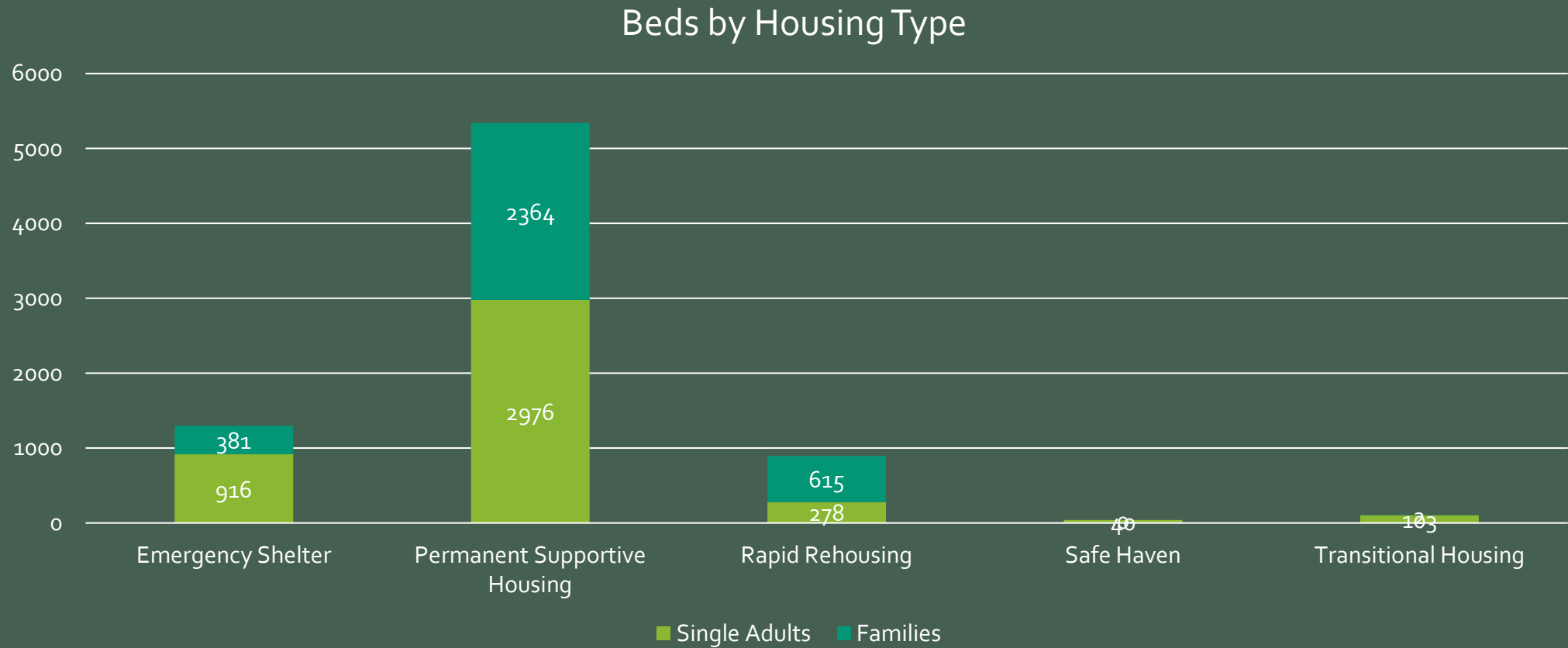
POINT IN TIME COUNT 2016-2019

16

HOUSING INVENTORY – OH-502

Housing Inventory Count by Program Type

COC HOUSING INVENTORY - 2020

Beds by Housing Type

	Single Adults	Families
Emergency Shelter	916	381
Permanent Supportive Housing	2976	2364
Rapid Rehousing	278	615
Safe Haven	40	
Transitional Housing	103	

Legend: ■ Single Adults ■ Families

CHANGE IN HOUSING INVENTORY OVER TIME

Chart showing change in housing inventory from 2015 to 2019.

Permanent Supportive Housing: 4358 (2015), 4662 (2016), 4004 (2017), 4723 (2018), 5270 (2019)

Emergency Shelter: 1204 (2015), 1050 (2016), 1362 (2017), 1417 (2018), 1408 (2019)

Rapid Rehousing: 684 (2015), 803 (2016), 816 (2017), 1116 (2018), 860 (2019)

Transitional Housing: 614 (2015), 514 (2016), 221 (2017), 113 (2018), 88 (2019)

Legend: Emergency Shelter · Safe Haven · Transitional Housing · Permanent Supportive Housing · Rapid Rehousing

RETURNS TO HOMELESSNESS – OH-502

EXITS TO PERMANENT HOUSING (OH-502)
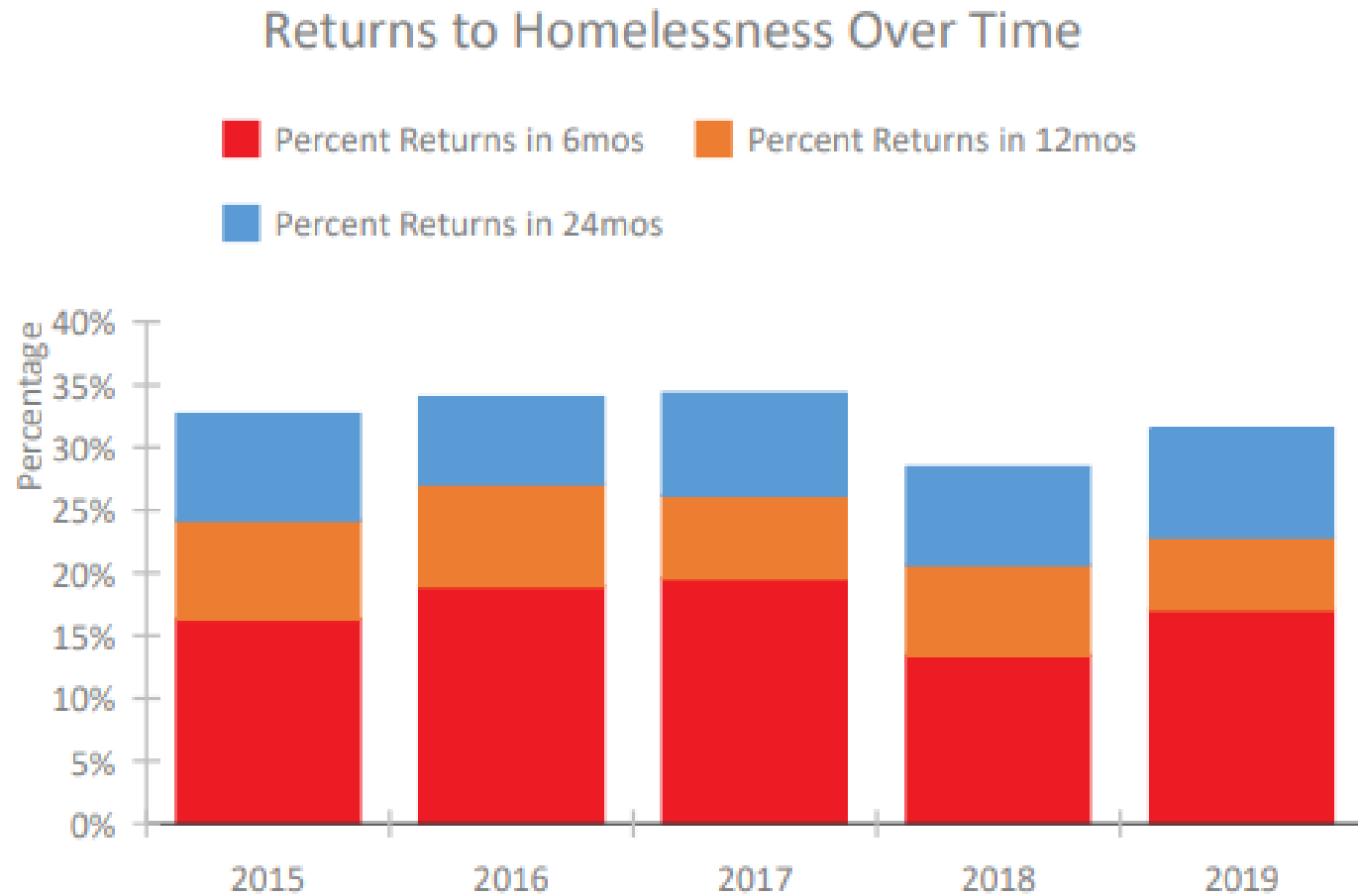
Exits to Permanent Housing by Program Type
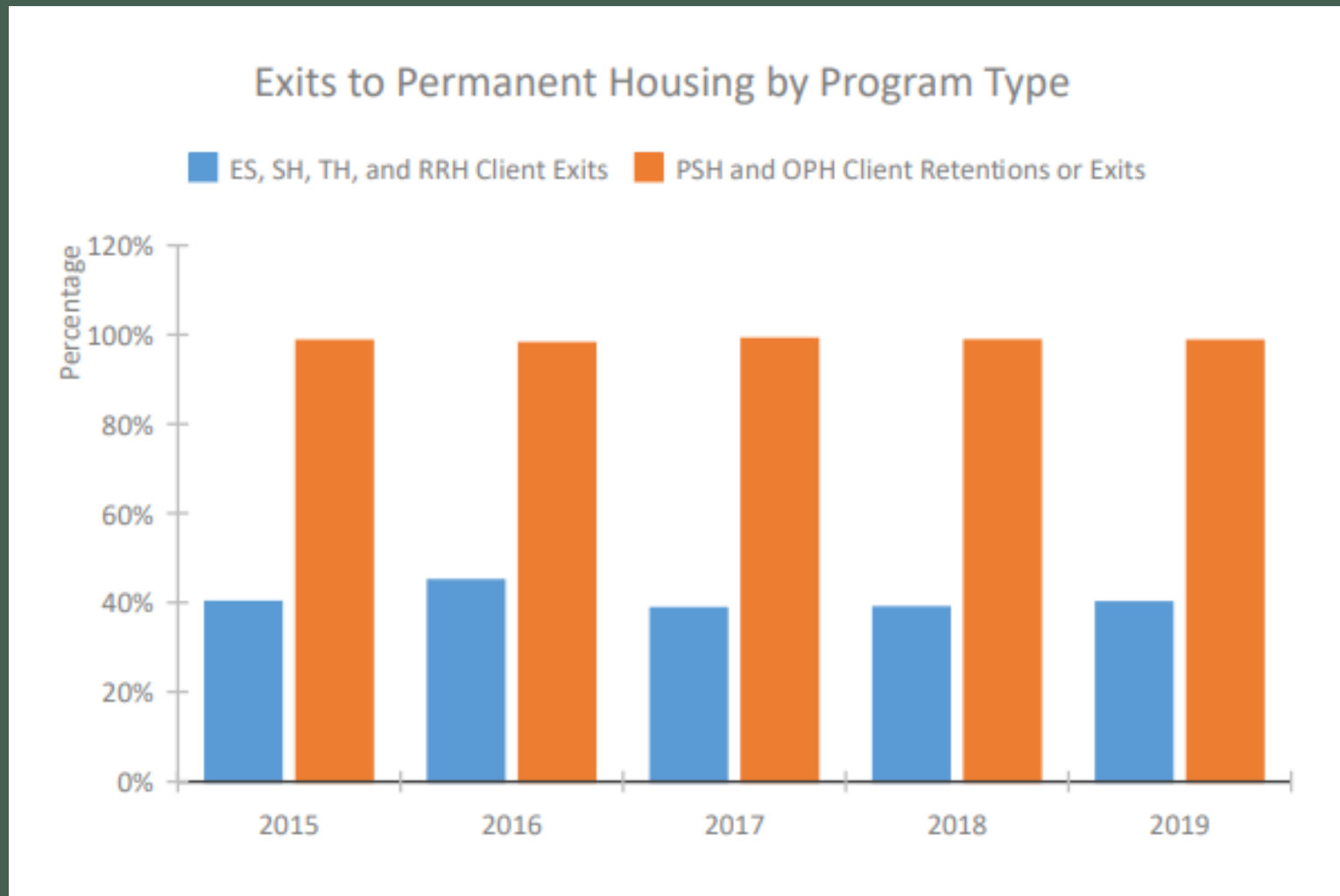
LENGTH OF TIME HOMELESS (OH-502)
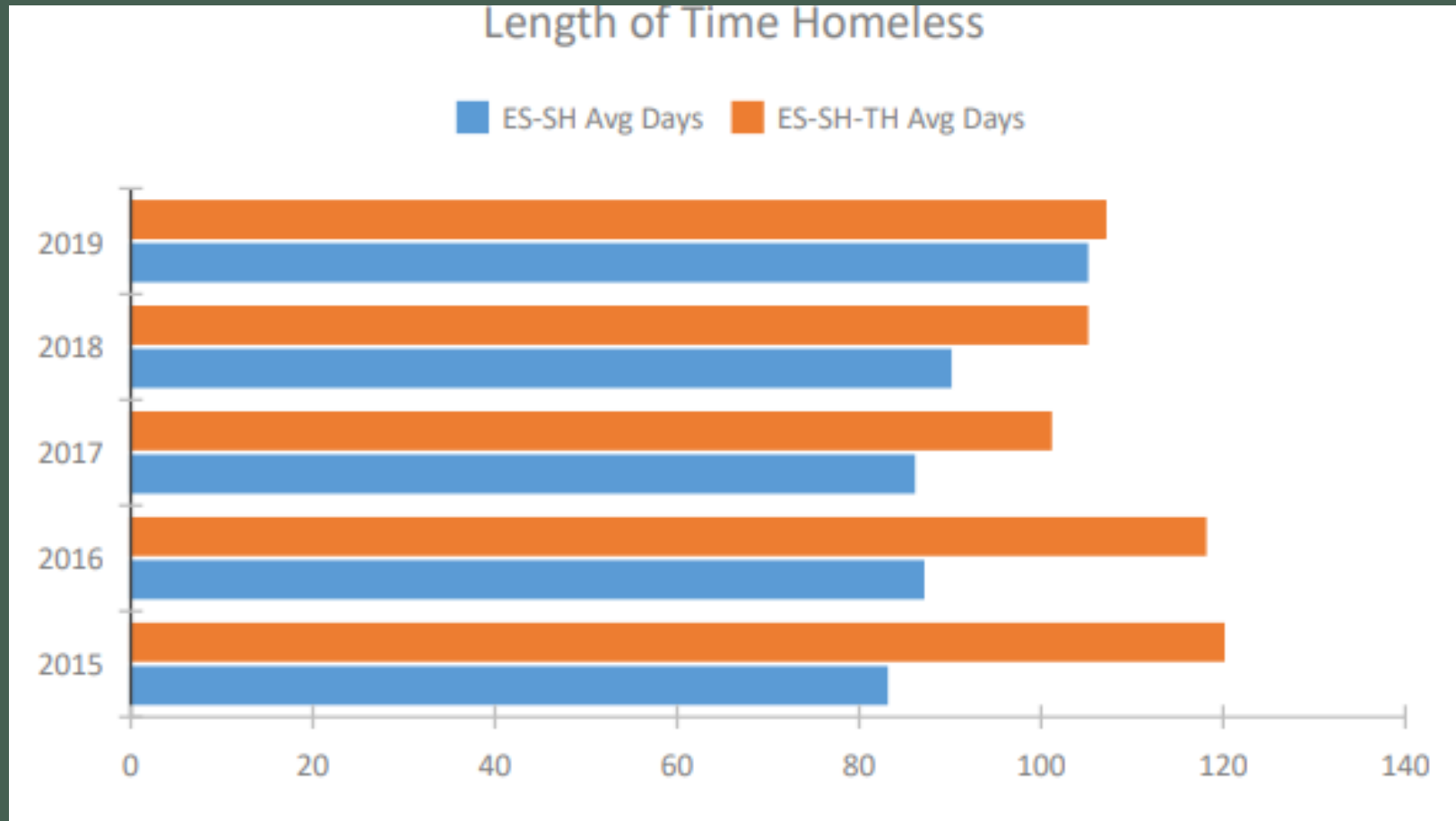
OH-502

Structure and Procedures of the Cleveland/Cuyahoga Continuum of Care

ADVISORY COMMITTEE – 25 STANDING; 5 AT-LARGE MEMBERS

- Cuyahoga County – 2

- City of Cleveland – 2

- Cuyahoga County Council – 1

- Cleveland City Council – 1

- CMHA – 1

- US VA – 1

- ADAHHS Board – 1

- Cleveland Metro School – 1

- Health Care Rep -1

- NE Coalition for Homeless -1

- County Re-entry Office – 1

- Workforce Development Board – 1

- People with lived experience – up to 4

- Youth Advisory Board – 1

- Homeless provider reps – 6

- At Large – 5 – people with skills/experience/influence to help CoC

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES OF ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Serve for 3-year terms – one-third of board subject to change each year

Members may designate one person from within their organization as a proxy

Governance Committee responsible for designated and appointed board positions

Failure to attend 3 consecutive meetings without a designated proxy may be grounds for removal

There are at least 6 meetings/year – 2 of which are membership meetings

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Two Co-Chairs of the CoC

Committees:

- **Executive** – co-chairs and one rep from Governance, NOFA Review, NOFA Strategy, and Program Policy Committees – act on matters between Advisory Board Meetings
- **Governance –** review governance charter and by-laws; selection process for Advisory Board, recommend co-chairs
- **NOFA Review** – approve annual process including renewal evaluation criteria, oversee competition, and recommend project approval and ranking
- **NOFA Strategy** - Review and approve ranking strategy and advise Board
- **Program Policy** – provide guidance on policies and procedures, Written Standards for ES, PSH, RRH and CA, review data and make data-driven decisions, submit recommended policies to Advisory Board
- **Youth Action Board** – youth with lived experience provide leadership on policies and practices to end youth homelessness

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Conflicts occur when board members, their immediate family members, and business associates has an interest (financial or otherwise) in any program or agency receiving CoC funds

A member with a conflict
- Shall refrain from voting or speaking on the matter
- Shall disclose the conflict to the CoC

All Advisory Board members must sign COI statement annually

OTHER ISSUES

Advisory Board and Committee meetings follow Robert's Rules of Order

HUD requires that the by-laws be reviewed and approved every 5 years

The OHS Advisory Board is not a formal organization, has no assets or liabilities, it cannot indemnify anyone and cannot take on debt or other obligations

HUD'S ROLE

HUD Central Office – Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS)

- Establishes annual competition for funds including requirements for CoC application, scoring, and allowable new and bonus projects
- Develops policies, regulations, notices
- Provides guidance to Field Offices and Contractors

HUD Field Offices

- Issues contracts and addresses terms and conditions
- Reviews/approves grant amendments
- Monitors grantees
- Provides guidance to grantees

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION