

**Atlanta Continuum of Care
Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2023
Zoom Meeting**

❖ **Welcome and Introductions, Cathryn Vassell**

❖ **Lead Agency Updates**

○ **Strategic Planning – Cathryn Vassell**

- The new strategic planning process has begun. The previous plan expired in 2022.
- Key objectives include: reinforcing continuous action planning with the community, engaging stakeholders and the community to listen and collect input, and identifying a funding plan and the capacity required to accomplish the plan.
- 2021 convenings covered chronic and youth population, and fall 2022 planning sessions were held for youth, and veterans. Chris Womack, the CEO of Georgia Power, is chairing the new strategic planning committee. The kickoff meeting will be held on February 23, 2023, with more meetings being held in the months following. Community input will be gathered in spring of 2023 and a dedicated funding stream will be identified in the months following those community meetings. More detailed information to follow related to opportunities for getting involved.
- The strategic planning committee will include representatives from the public sector, corporate sector, providers, and the philanthropy sector.
- The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) has released the [Federal Strategic Plan, “All In”](#) and we hope to al

○ **LIFT 2.0 Updates – Melissa Austin**

- LIFT 2.0 community meetings are held each Wednesday from 9:30 – 10:00. Community members can register for them [here](#) and view the previous meeting recordings and presentations on the [Partners for HOME website](#).
- Five outreach teams have been contracted (Aniz, Gateway, Intown, HOPE Atlanta, and Step Up) and have been assigned specific areas within the city.
- Partners for HOME has created a compassionate closure plan for encampments as well as a protocol for reporting encampments. Both documents can be found on the [Partners for HOME website](#).
- Five encampments have been closed since August of 2022, and three more closures are scheduled for the coming weeks. Most of the individuals who have left encampments have gone to the non-congregate shelter being operated at the hotel.
- In fall of 2022, there was a fire on The Hill encampment before the encampment was due to close. In the weeks following the fire, the outreach teams went back out to complete the closure. The focus initially was to build rapport with individuals, and this has helped with the housing process. Several people are now document ready or are already in housing.
- There are currently 102 individuals in 99 rooms at the hotel being operated by the Gateway Center. There are 9 rooms available at the moment. Services are being offered to clients at the hotel.
- 131 units have been acquired by Open Doors. 84 applications have been received. 47 households have been moved in. Units are spread out across the metro Atlanta area.
- Mr. Whittle provided a first-hand account of getting housed through LIFT 2.0.
- PCCI is the contracted provider for rental assistance. They have approved and delivered 359 checks to vendors for rent, utility payments, renter’s insurance, security deposits, move-in costs, etc.

- More capacity will need to be built for LIFT 2.0 case managers. Partners for HOME has created a LIFT 2.0 Outreach to Rapid Rehousing Scorecard to help identify when additional capacity is needed. The scorecard includes 12 categories including enrollments, case notes, data quality, documents, and permanent exits.
- Next steps include adding capacity for an additional 60 case managers, closing the three remaining encampments, and extending diversion.

❖ **Veterans Next Steps – Annie Hyrila**

- Partners for HOME held a strategic planning session for veterans in the fall of 2022.
- Next steps include the Atlanta CoC and VA working together to ensure data quality for by-name list, accessing gaps in individuals not in coordinated entry, creating a plan for CE assessments from VA data, and establishing weekly case conferences to identify barriers and solutions. Please see slides for details.

❖ **System Vitals – Jasmine Rockwell Heard**

- There were 220 permanent supporting housing placements and 320 rapid rehousing placements in 2022.
- Retention rates for permanent supportive housing are high (97% at 6 months, 96% at 12 months, and 98% at 24 months).
- Please see slides for additional details.

❖ **Development Update – Summer Duperon**

- Partners for HOME has a new advancement department which will oversee fundraising and awards management process for the CoC. The goal is to create a more efficient process for awards management and improve provider relations as it relates to subgrant awards and contracts. Partners for HOME will be adding a Contract Specialist position to the advancement department.
- There are two funding opportunities available. Both RFPs can be found on the [Partners for HOME website](#).
- Several training sessions will be offered in the coming months. Please see the slides for details.

❖ **Atlanta Point-in-Time Count Update – Abby Bracewell**

- The 2023 Atlanta Point-in-Time Night Count will be held on Monday, January 23 with day site counts occurring at various locations across the city in the week following the night count. If you are interested in volunteering, you can sign up for the night count [here](#) and the day site counts [here](#). Please reach out to [Abby Bracewell](#) with any questions..
- The Youth Action Board will be hosting a youth event during the week following the Point-in-Time Count. Youth resources will be available, and the YAB will be conducting a youth survey and recruiting new members.
- Grady and Partners for HOME are piloting a Grady Point-in-Time Count to determine the number of people experiencing homelessness who are accessing the healthcare system. Please reach out to [Brianna Flowers](#) with any questions.

❖ **Agency Round Robin**

- [PADV's Teen Summit](#) is occurring on February 25th.
- HUD is offering a training on rapid rehousing. [Register here](#).
- Atlanta Housing is conducting a public hearing for their 2024 MTW Plan on Thursday, March 2, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The hearing will be held in-person at 230 John Wesley Dobbs Ave Ne, Atlanta GA, 30303 and via Zoom. Atlanta Housing's 2024 MTW Plan is available for public review from February 5 through March 7, 2023. Please visit <https://www.atlantahousing.org/about-us/plans-reports/>.

Clearer Path

Strategic Planning Next Steps



Key Objectives to Accomplish



Reinforce continuous action planning with community



Engage with targeted stakeholders



Engage community to listen and collect input



Identify funding plan and capacity required to accomplish the plan.



Strategic Planning Process

Phase 1 – Action Planning

- 2021 convenings on chronics and youth
- Fall 2022 planning sessions for youth and families

Phase 2 – Committee and Targeted Stakeholders

- February 23, 2023 - Formally kick off strategic planning process
- February – March 2023 - Convene targeted stakeholder sessions in four key areas: policy, housing, service coordination and encampments/unsheltered

Phase 3 – Broad Community Input

- February – March 2023 - Engage neighborhood groups, community members, providers and business community to listen, gather input and provide education

Phase 4 – Funding Plan

- TBD – Committee provides preliminary approval of strategies to launch creation of funding plan
- TBD - ACP/McKinsey to prep financial analysis and funding plan



Proposed Committee Slate

~30-person committee that will convene 3-4x over 4 months to review work and approve final plan.

Public Sector Stakeholders

Provider Stakeholders

Corporate Sector Stakeholders

Philanthropic Stakeholders

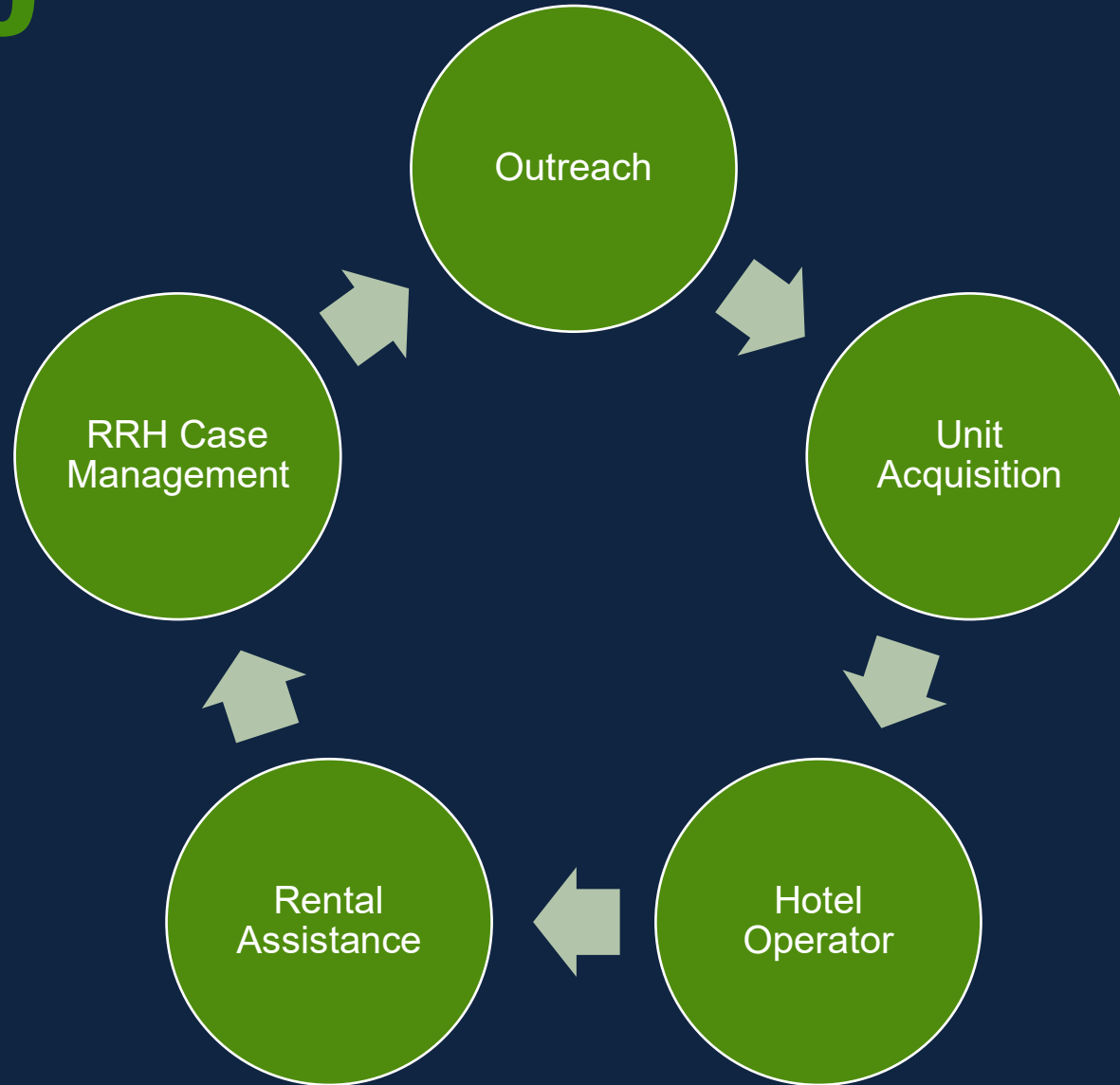


LIFT 2.0

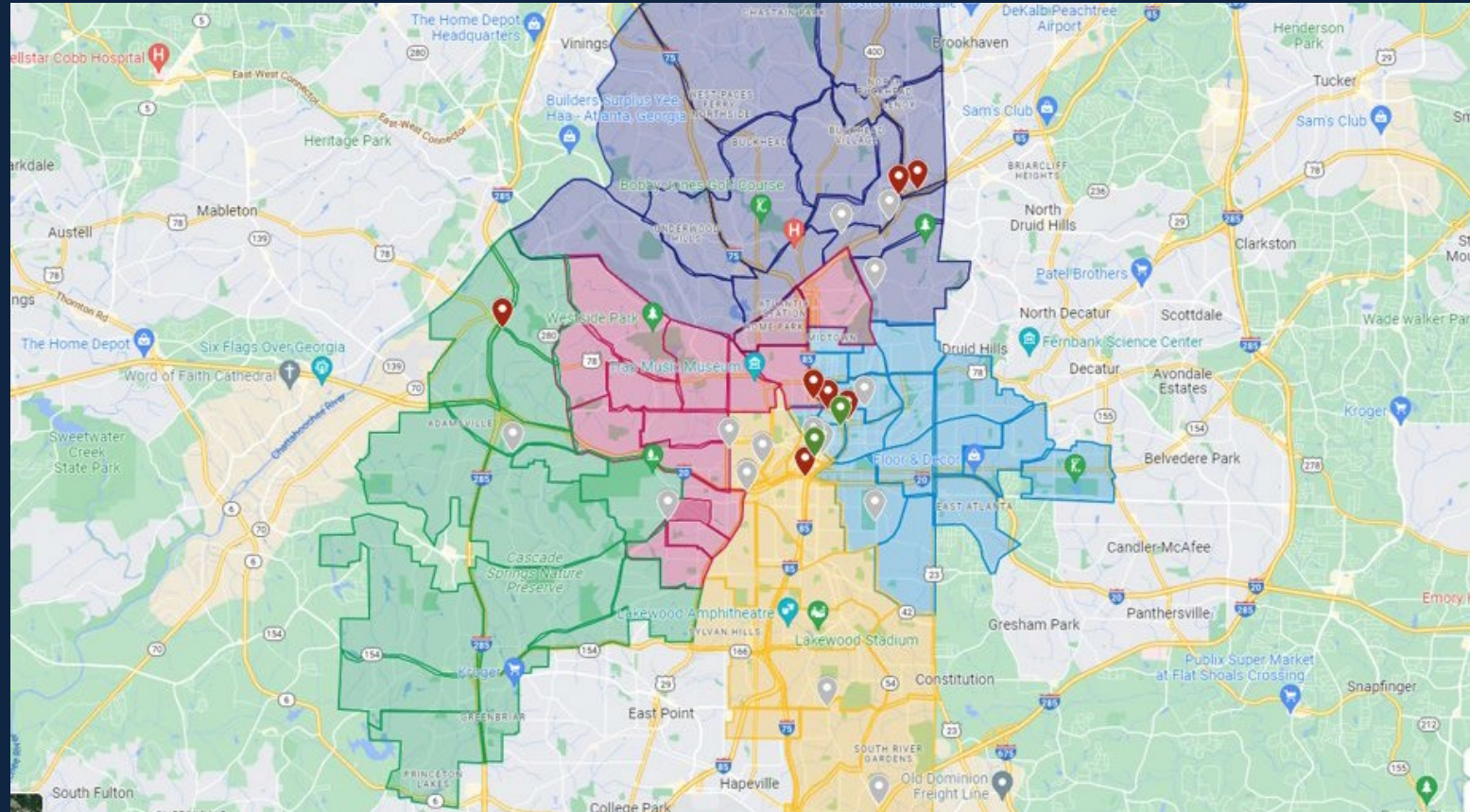
Partners for HOME's plan to stably house
1,500 households



LIFT 2.0



LIFT 2.0: Outreach to RRH





CLOSING ENCAMPMENTS IN THE CITY OF ATLANTA

Partners for HOME believes every resident in the City of Atlanta deserves a safe and stable home. Our Encampment Closure Plan guides community stakeholders on processes and timelines related to compassionately closing encampments.

WHY DO ENCAMPMENTS EXIST?

People reside in encampments when there is a lack of shelter available to meet their needs or they have made a choice to reside in an encampment over available shelter.

WHAT DOES COMPASSIONATE CLOSING MEAN?

Encampment closings can be a traumatic experience for individuals who live within them. In addition to ongoing requests to relocate, closings can cause residents to lose personal belongings such as identification documents and medication, as well as reduce their trust in receiving assistance from outreach team members.

Partners for HOME has adopted a compassionate encampment closing plan to maintain a resident's dignity and trust, while providing clear steps to address concerns from the community.

Encampment Closure Plan

Phase 1: Identification (Days 1-15)

Convene relevant stakeholders to identify and prioritize closure.

Phase 2: Assessment (Days 15-30)

Assess encampment and engage residents about resources.

Phase 3: Resources (Days 30-60)

Coordinate resident needs with available resources.

Phase 4: Notification (Days 60-75)

Residents notified by outreach, City and volunteers about closure.

Phase 5: Transportation (Days 75-90)

Transportation offered to resources identified by outreach.

Phase 6: Cleaning (Days 90-100)

Public departments clean former encampments and mitigate returns.

Phase 6: Monitoring (Days 100+)

Police monitor former encampment sites and redirect attempts to resettle.

PARTNERS FOR
HOME

www.partnersforhome.org



partnersforhome.org



REPORTING ENCAMPMENTS IN THE CITY OF ATLANTA

Partners for HOME believes every resident in the City of Atlanta deserves a safe and stable home. Our Encampment Reporting Plan guides community stakeholders on processes related to reporting encampments.

WHAT ARE ENCAMPMENTS?

In the City of Atlanta, a homeless encampment is defined as:

- A site with 3+ structures and/or 7+ individuals. Structures can include a cardboard box, tent, makeshift shelter, sleeping bag, etc. that someone resides in that they might refer to as home base.
- Not in a place designated for recreational camping or outdoor sleeping.
- Present for 1+ week.

WHY DO ENCAMPMENTS EXIST?

People reside in encampments when there is a lack of shelter available to meet their needs or they have made a choice to reside in an encampment over available shelter.

To report a person experiencing homelessness, call 311.
To report an encampment [email Partners for HOME](mailto:Partners for HOME).

Encampment Reporting Plan

Information Needed

When reporting an encampment, make sure to share the approximate number of persons in encampment, types of structures present, and location of encampment, including cross streets.

Reporting Usage

Encampment reports are used to direct outreach workers to areas of engagement and provide services if desired by encampment residents.

Outreach

Outreach teams will assess the area and work with residents who choose to navigate the process to permanent housing. Participation is not mandatory.

Closure

Reporting an encampment may not result in immediate decommissioning of the encampment or movement into housing. Encampments that are decommissioned follow an [Encampment Closure Plan](#) developed for the City of Atlanta.



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Encampment decommissioning planning

Encampment	Anticipated	Actual
Central Ave. @ MLK Jr. Dr.	20	48
75/85 SB @ John Wesley Dobbs	5	15*
Pryor St. @ I-20 and surrounding	30	138*
75/85 SB @ Courtland (Folk Art Park)	2	30*
The Hill	30	42
Morosgo Dr. behind The Dump	20	5
TBA	10	~15-20
TBA	10	~10
TBA	20	~20

*Number updated to reflect individuals encountered during second and third clearing of Pryor St. on 12/8 & 12/15 and cleaning at Dobbs & Courtland on 12/15



Encampment decommissioning numbers by solution

	Central	Dobbs*	Pryor*	Folk Art Park*	The Hill
Hotel	29	12	41	16	35
Shelter	5	2	15	3	0
Declined Services	3	1	30	6	3
Diverted to a housing solution	5	0	40	2	0
Not present on day of closure	6	0	12	3	9
Total	48	15	138	30	47



*Number updated to reflect individuals encountered during second and third clearing of Pryor St. on 12/8 & 12/15 and cleaning at Dobbs & Courtland on 12/15





LIFT 2.0: HOTEL OPERATOR



102

Individuals in
99 hotel rooms

9

Hotel rooms available

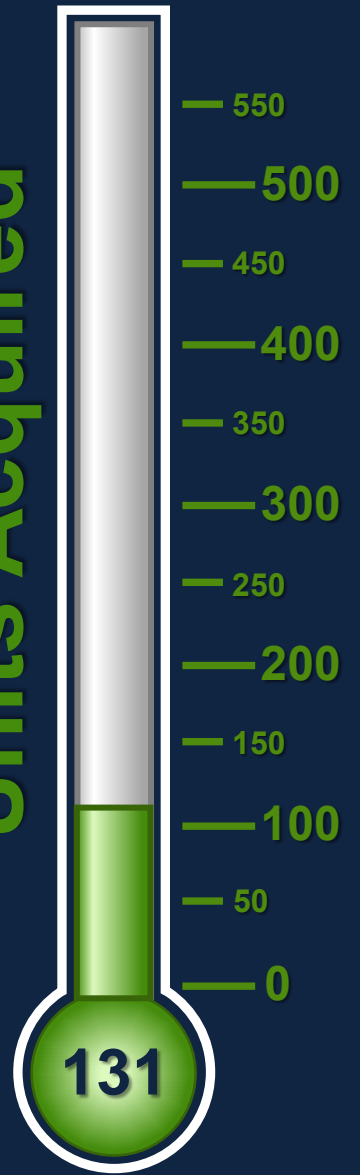
102

Hotel enrollments



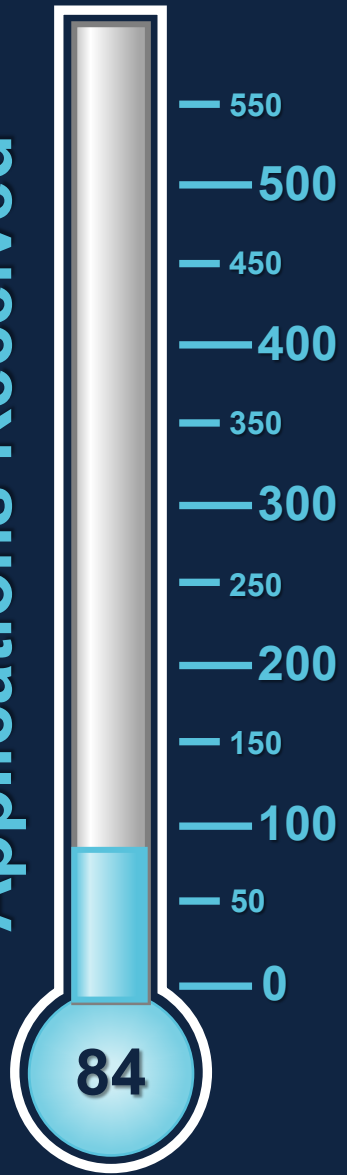
600!

Units Acquired



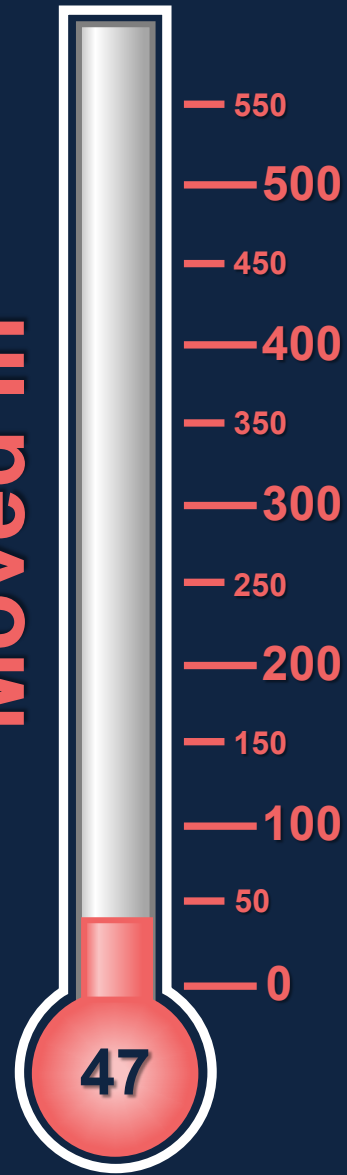
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Applications Received*



600!

Moved In



*Excluding rejected applications



Unit application progress to date

STAGE	COUNT
Move Ins	47
Application Approved-Move Pending	25
Application Submitted-Approval Pending	12
Denied-Open Doors to Advocate	21
Available (ready for application)	47
Units Acquired-Due Diligence not Completed	123
Total Units Acquired (move in + application pending+ move in pending + unit available for application)	131

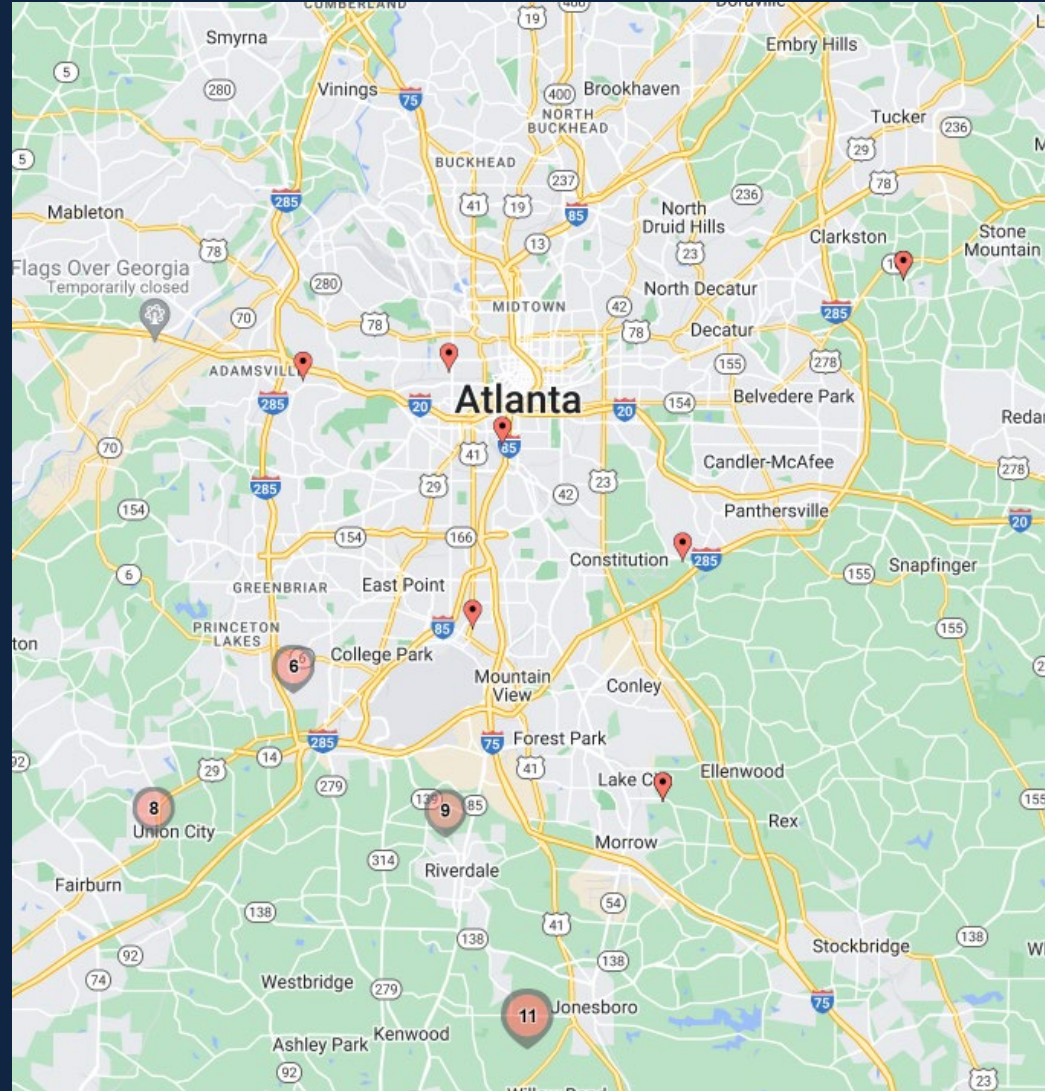


Denied Applications

CATEGORY	COUNT
Total Clients Denied	19
Total Applications Denied	21
Applications Denied – Criminal History	19
Applications Denied – Debt	2
How Many Denied Clients Reapplied?	12 (63%)
How Many Denied Clients Were Approved at Other Units?	9 (47%) (3 pending)



LIFT 2.0: RRH



LIFT 2.0



LIFT 2.0: RENTAL ASSISTANCE



Project Community Connections, INC.

Move In

- **Security Deposits, Rent, Move in, Insurance, Utilities**
- **Bi-weekly check-run schedule to accommodate move-ins**
- **359 checks**

Training and Admin Support

- **AVID training**
- **Support and troubleshooting for CM teams**

Tenant Balances

- **Ongoing ledger monitoring and reconciliation**
- **Liaison with properties about payment discrepancies and balances**

Coordination

- **Work with Open Doors and Case management providers to ensure timely payments for housing stability**



LIFT 2.0 Outreach to RRH Scorecard

Key Categories:

- Enrollments
- Case notes & Services
- Data Quality
- Documents
- Permanent Exits
- Report Timeliness & Meeting Attendance

Scorecard Preview

LIFT 2.0 OUTREACH TO RRH SCORECARD				PARTNERS FOR HOME
Organization:				
Q1: August - October 2022				
Category	Max Points	Q1 Points	Scoring Guidelines	Notes on Missed Categories
Move-in date entered in HMIS	3		If all housed clients on the SmartSheet have a move-in date in HMIS, award 3 points.	
Document readiness within 60 days of program enrollment	2		Outreach & Navigation Performance Metric: 75% of households enrolled in outreach and navigation will become completely "document ready" (ID, SSC, and BC, all uploaded to HMIS) within 60 days of program enrollment. Award 2 points if all clients that have been enrolled in LIFT 2.0 for 60 or more days are document ready. This includes time spent in the outreach & navigation and rapid rehousing	
Attendance at Leads meetings	1		Award one point if the provider had at least one representative attend every Leads meeting.	
Leased-up households exit to PH (Goal 80%)	3		Rapid Rehousing Performance Metric: 80% of leased-up households will exit to permanent housing. Award 3 points if the goal is met at 80% or above.	
Financial Report Timeliness	1		Award one point if all financial reports submitted have been submitted by the 15th of each month in SmartVault.	
TOTAL	27	0		
Percentage	0%			
Scoring System - Based on points earned				
*Q1 or first reporting quarter for new providers the scoring range will be 70% or above	50% - 69%	Less than 50%		
All other quarters: 80% or above	50% - 79%	Less than 50%		



Next Steps



Adding capacity for an additional 60

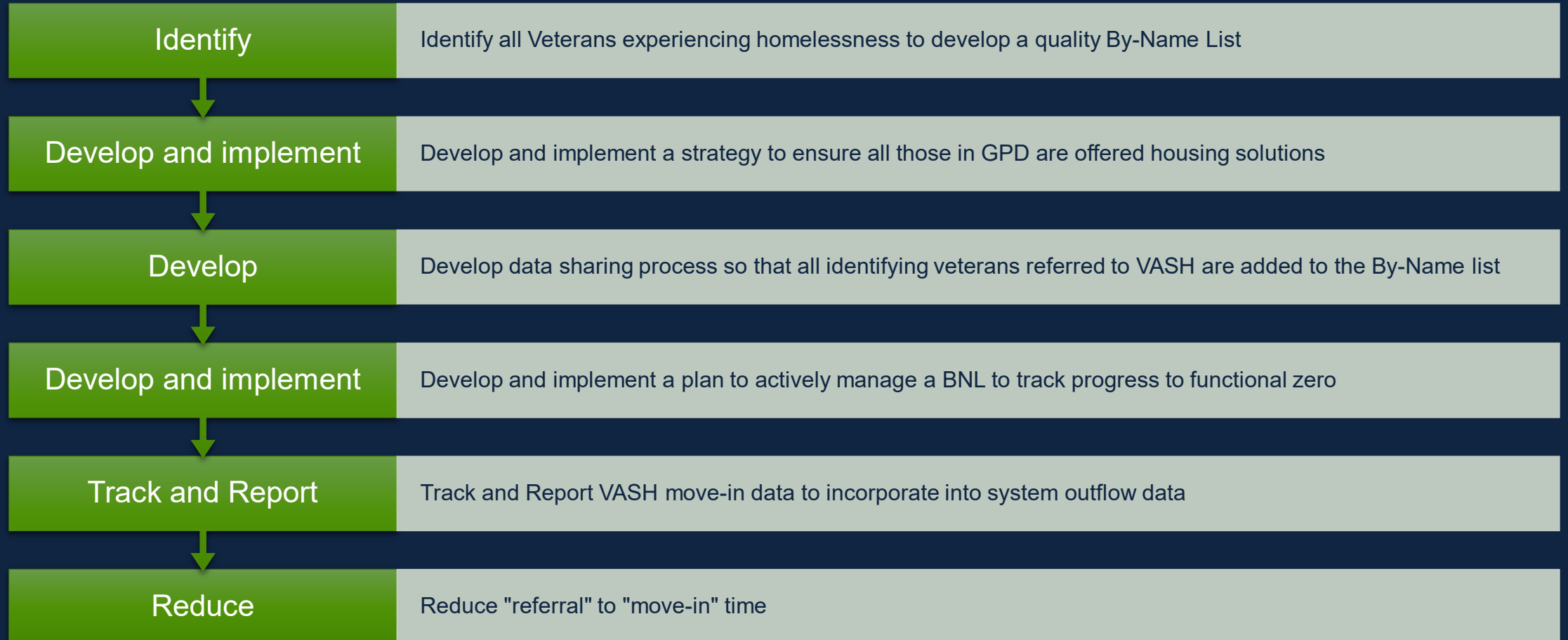


3 encampment closures remaining



Extend diversion

Veteran Strategic Planning Updates



Veteran Strategic Planning Updates

➤ Next Steps

ATL CoC and VA working to implement HOMES upload to ensure data quality for by-name list

Assessing gaps in individuals not in CE and coordinating a plan for CE assessments from VA provided data

Established weekly case conference to identify barriers and identify solutions



System Performance Vital Signs



Housing placements



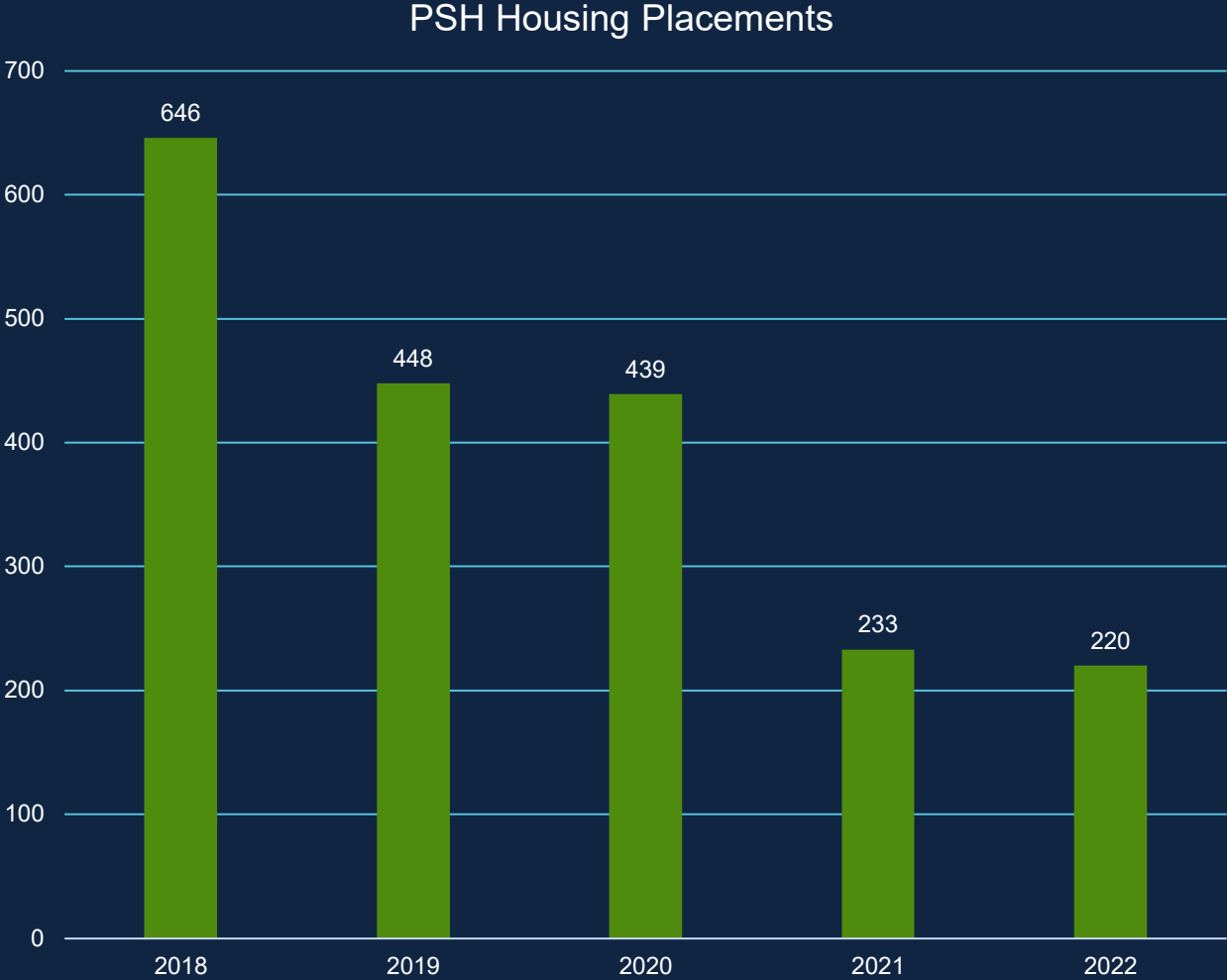
Housing retention



Returns to homelessness

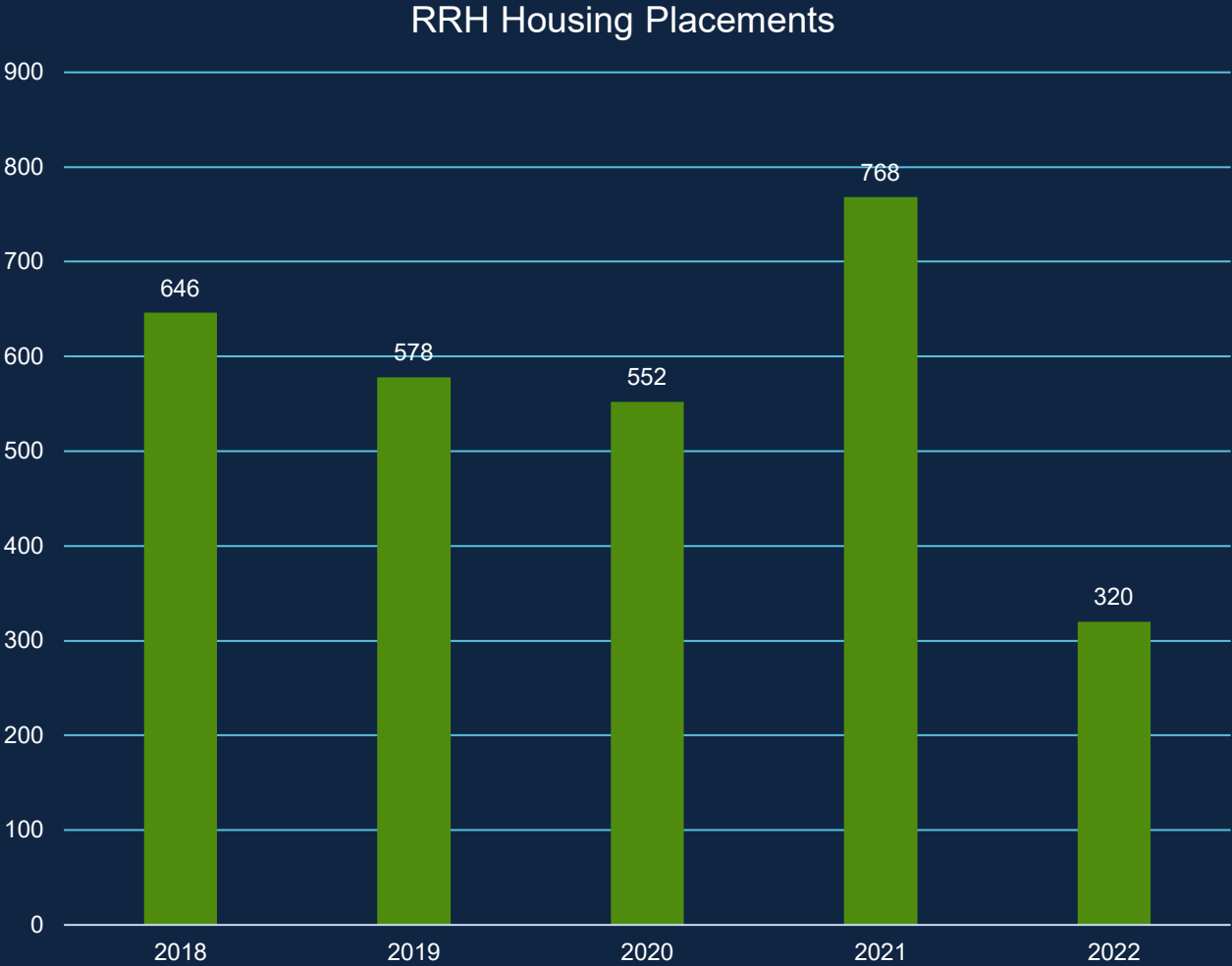


PSH Housing Placements



Source data: HMIS

RRH Housing Placements

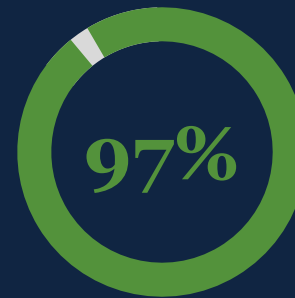


Source data: HMIS

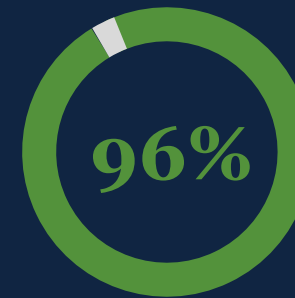
PSH Retention and Returns Q4 (Oct – Dec 2022)

% of individuals that Met the Milestone that either Retained PSH (Stayers) or Exited to a Permanent Housing Solution in Q4

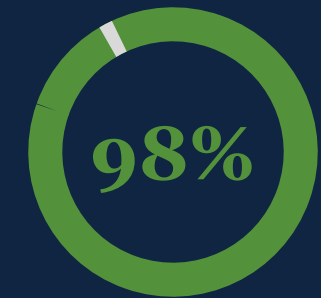
06 months



12 months



24 months

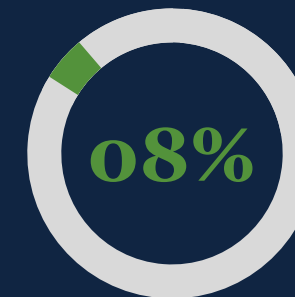


% of Individuals that Exited PSH & Returned to Homelessness: 2 Year lookback during Q4

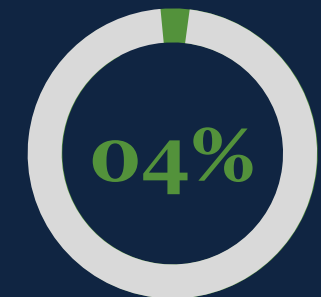
< than 6 months



6-12 months



13-24 months

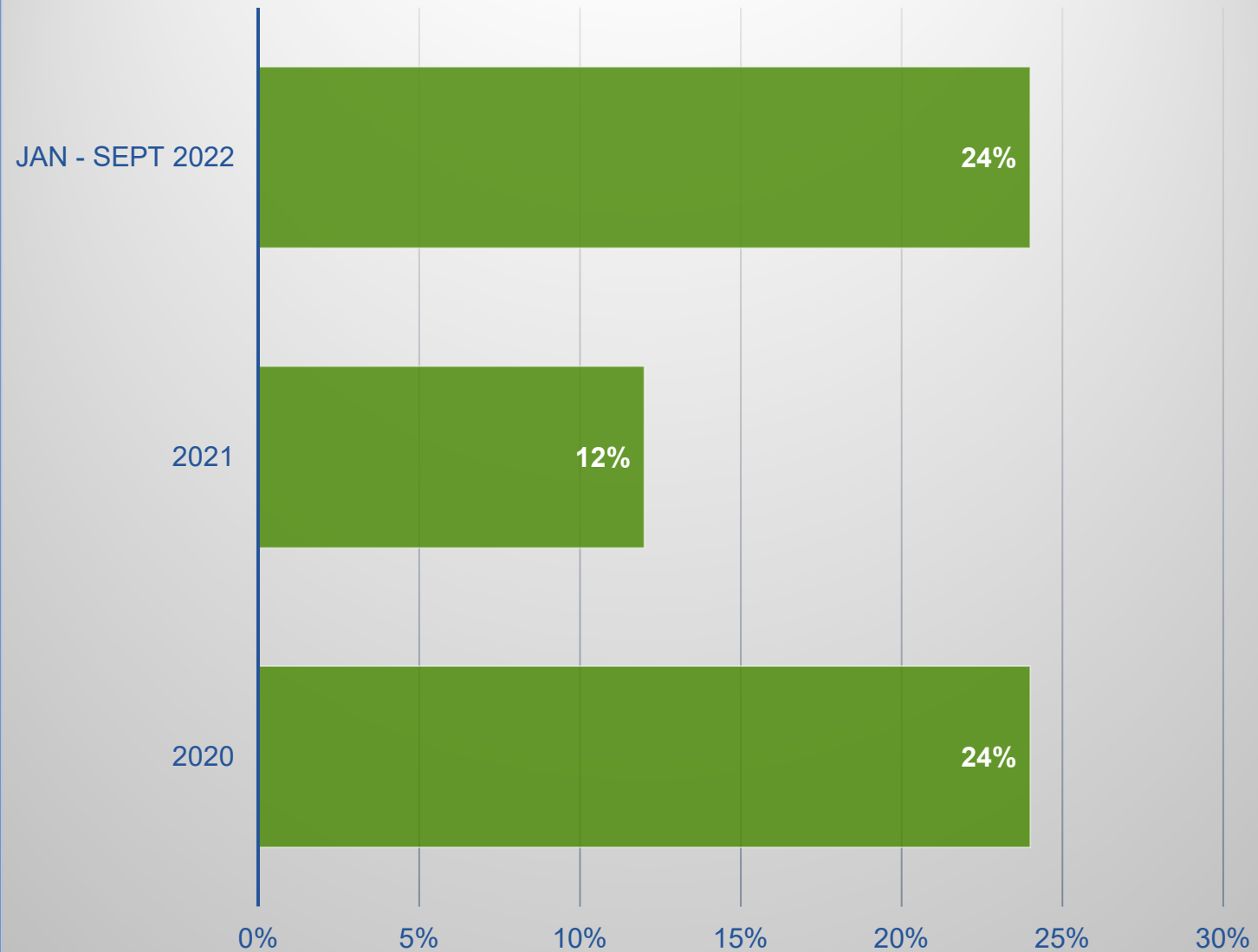


PSH Returns to Homelessness

The total number of persons who exited to a permanent housing destination two years prior and returned to homelessness

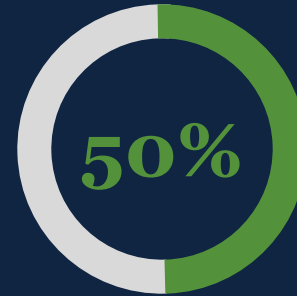
- 2020 – 452 exits, 108 (24%) returns
- 2021 – 294 exits, 36 (12%) returns
- 2022 – 209 exits, 50 (24%) returns

PSH Returns to Homelessness by Year



RRH Retention and Returns Q4 (Oct – Dec 2022)

Exits to Permanent
Housing 50%

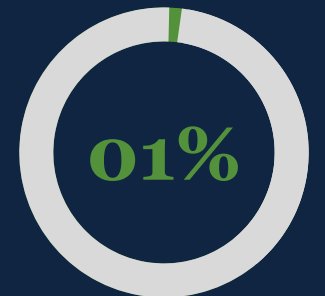
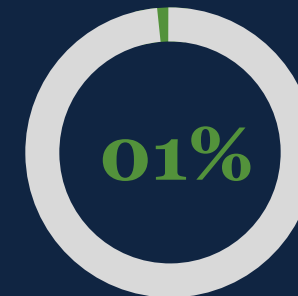
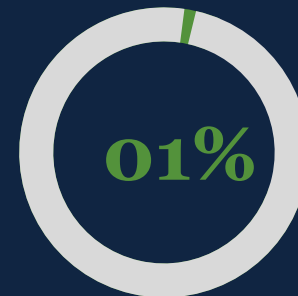


06 months

12 months

24 months

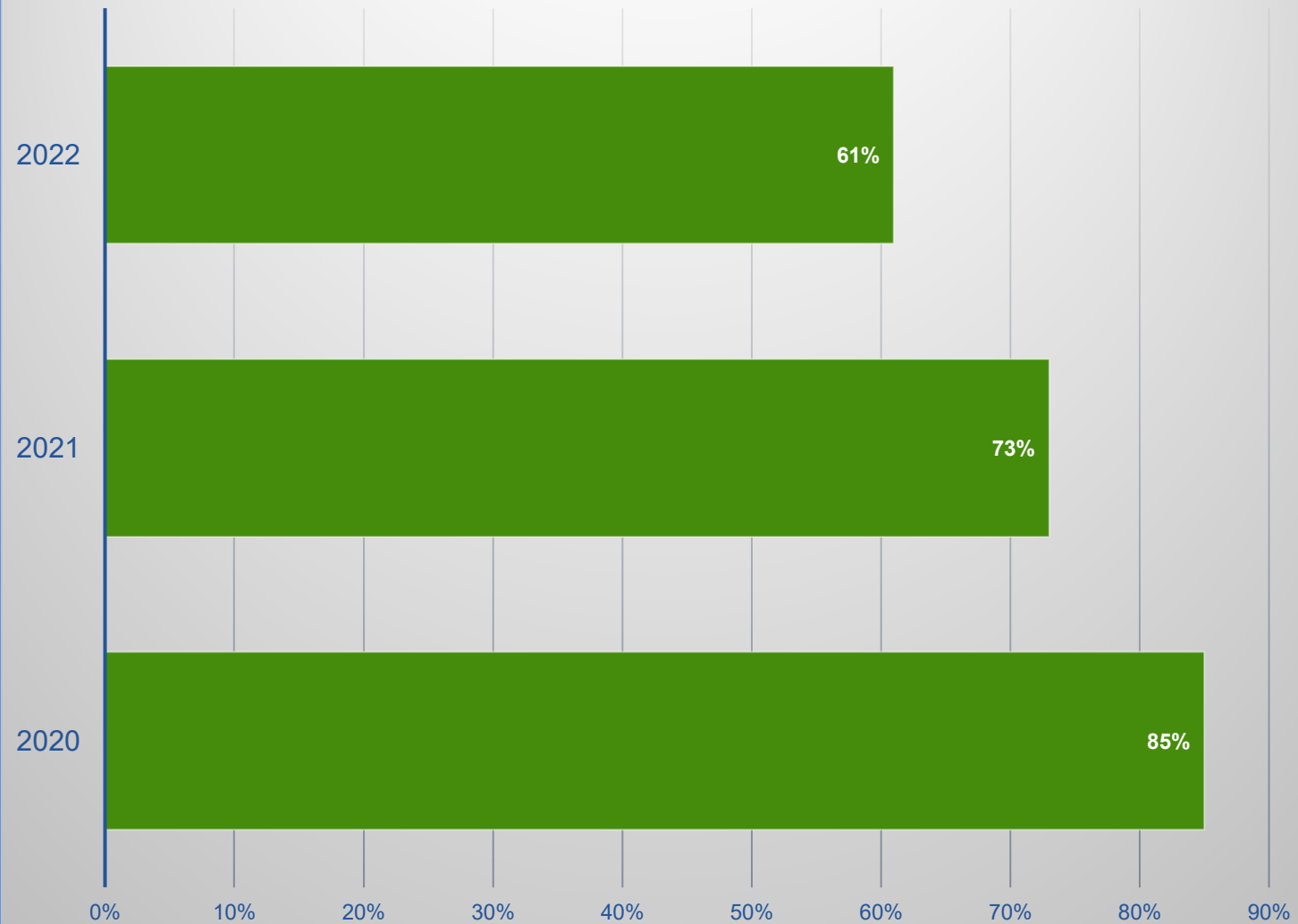
% of Individuals that
Returned to
Homelessness: 2 Year
lookback during Q4



RRH Exits to Permanent Housing

- The total number of persons who exited to a permanent housing destination
 - 2020 – 1179 total exits, 1000 (85%) permanent exits
 - 2021 – 2055 total exits, 1492 (73%) permanent exits
 - 2022 – 1284 total exits, 779 (61%) permanent exits

RRH Exits to Permanent Housing by Year



Advancement Department

- Oversee both fundraising and awards management processes for the CoC
- Vision/Resolution is to create a more efficient process for awards management and improve provider relations as it relates to subgrant awards and contracts
- Adding Contract Specialist to PfH advancement efforts to manage the awards management process for the CoC
- Email sduperon@partnersforhome.org with any questions



Open Funding Opportunities

- Rapid Rehousing for Special Populations (Domestic Violence)
 - \$422,306 total grant funds
 - Contract end date is 9/30/2023
 - Serve 16 households within the City of Atlanta
 - **Due January 20, 2023 by 5 p.m.**
 - Anticipated contract issued by February 1, 2023
 - Apply through [Panel RFP](#)
- Permanent Supportive Housing for SPMI
 - \$436,344 total grant funds
 - Contract end date is 11/30/2023
 - Serve 60 households within the City of Atlanta
 - Paired with Georgia Housing Vouchers provided by the DBHDD
 - DBHDD approved providers are eligible
 - **Due January 20, 2023 by 5 p.m.**
 - Anticipated contract issued by February 1, 2023
 - Apply through [Panel RFP](#)



2023 Mandatory HUD NOFO Trainings

- Family Separation - TBD
- Trauma Informed training when working with DV populations - TBD
- Implementing Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity (Equal Access Final Rule) - March 2 from 10 a.m. to noon
- Implementing Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs in Accordance with an Individual's Gender Identity (Gender Identity Final Rule) - March 2 from 10 a.m. to noon
- Updates to HUD application (policies) - TBD



Youth Action Board Update

2023 Fire PIT Event

- Date: January 26, 2023
- Time: 11:00a – 2:00p
- Location: CHRIS 180's The Spot parking lot

The YAB will be collaborating with Hope Thru Soap to host this event. We will be asking that providers who will be attending come prepared to set up a resource booth to interact with the community and provide any available on site services

○ Purpose

- Administer PIT survey and Youth Supplemental Survey
- Connect YYA directly to community resources all in one location
- Provide a sense of community and an enjoyable experience for YLE
- Provide a meal, shower and basic hygiene kit to any attendee (not just YYA)
- Allow YYA the opportunity to provide feedback on the quality of services they receive



Youth Action Board Update

Recruitment

Current YAB members	Goal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="206 768 614 905">• November 2022: 3<li data-bbox="206 933 529 1071">• January 2023: 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="782 768 1131 905">• March 2023: 10

We're planning to host monthly recruiting events until we reach 10 members. The Fire PIT will be our next opportunity to recruit members and we project to receive 2-4 new member applications at that time. Our aim is to recruit a diverse group of youth to represent the diverse range of perspectives served by the Atlanta rehousing system.

