



Los Angeles County HOMELESS INITIATIVE

Community Input Meeting: Strategy Reassessment



OVERVIEW

1. Reassessing the Homeless Initiative Strategies:
Why and How?

2. Homeless Initiative Strategies (2016)

3. A New Framework: All Hands On Deck

4. Community Input



REASSESSING THE HOMELESS INITIATIVE STRATEGIES

We need your input to update Los Angeles County's strategic response to the evolving homeless crisis.

The Board of Supervisors asked us to report back with recommendations on how to:

1 Improve or modify existing strategies

2 Distribute resources in a racially sensitive way

3 Increase cities' participation to augment investment



REASSESSMENT PROCESS



Homeless Initiative staff and consultants reviewed a broad range of input provided in recent years, including performance evaluations, community listening session reports, policy summit reports, findings from the Coordinated Entry System (CES) refinement process, and more.



We developed draft recommendations, which we will present today. We are seeking your input.



Based on your input, we will revise the recommendations and submit them to the Board.



HOMELESS INITIATIVE STRATEGIES

After a collaborative policy design process that began in 2015, the Board approved **51 Homeless Initiative strategies** in 2016.

Six Categories of Strategies

1. Prevent Homelessness
2. Subsidize Housing
3. Increase Income
4. Provide Case Management and Services
5. Create a Coordinated System
6. Increase Affordable/Homeless Housing

Partnerships with Cities

- Funding for development and implementation of city homelessness plans
- Funding for Councils of Governments (COGs) to facilitate regional coordination and innovation
- Convenings to spur collaboration



1/4 CENT
SALES TAX

\$355M
ANNUALLY

10 YEARS
(2017-2027)



KEY OUTCOMES

July 2017 – June 2021



92,948

Placed in interim (temporary) housing

➤ **60%** due to Measure-funded strategies



71,605

Exited homelessness
and moved into permanent housing

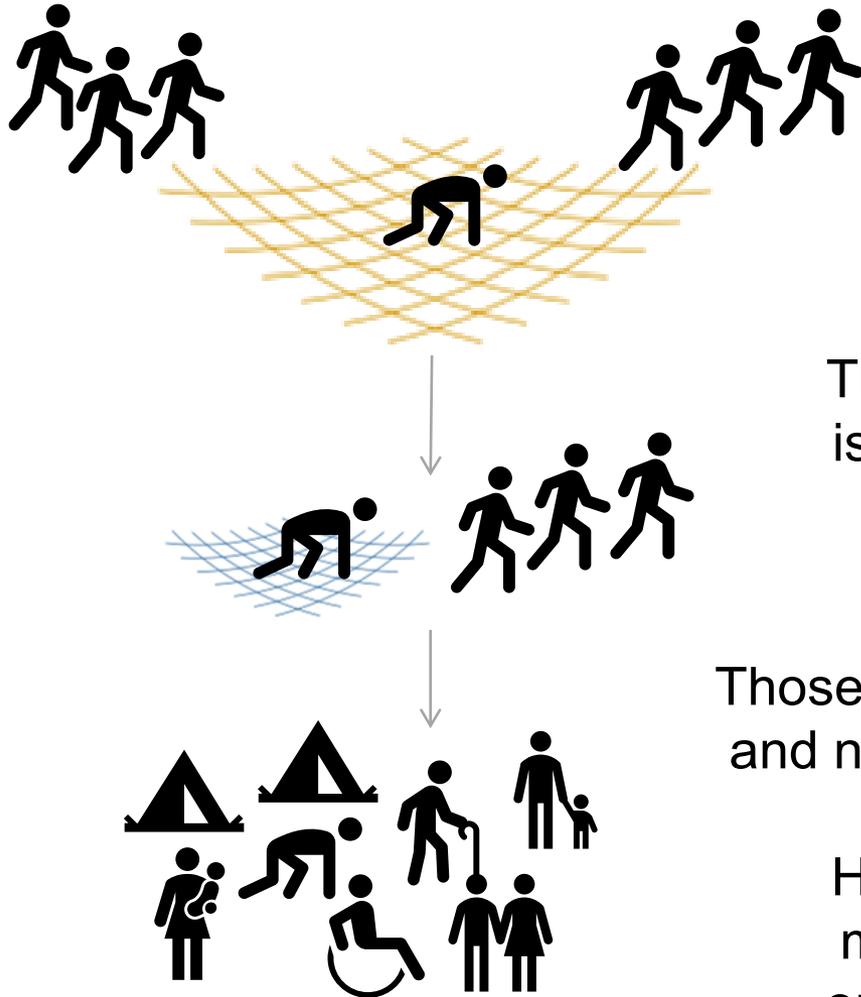
➤ **42%** due to Measure-funded strategies.



66,000+ People are still experiencing homelessness countywide based on the most recent Homeless Count (January 2020)



INSIGHTS GAINED



Mainstream Government Systems provide the first and largest safety net, serving all vulnerable and low income LA County residents.

The **Homelessness Response System** is a *system of last resort* and attempts to divert or rehouse people out of homelessness.

Those who remain are **persistently homeless** and need an intensive rehousing intervention.

However, due to lack of **system flow**, many are stuck in interim housing or on the streets for an extended period.



PERSISTENT HOMELESSNESS

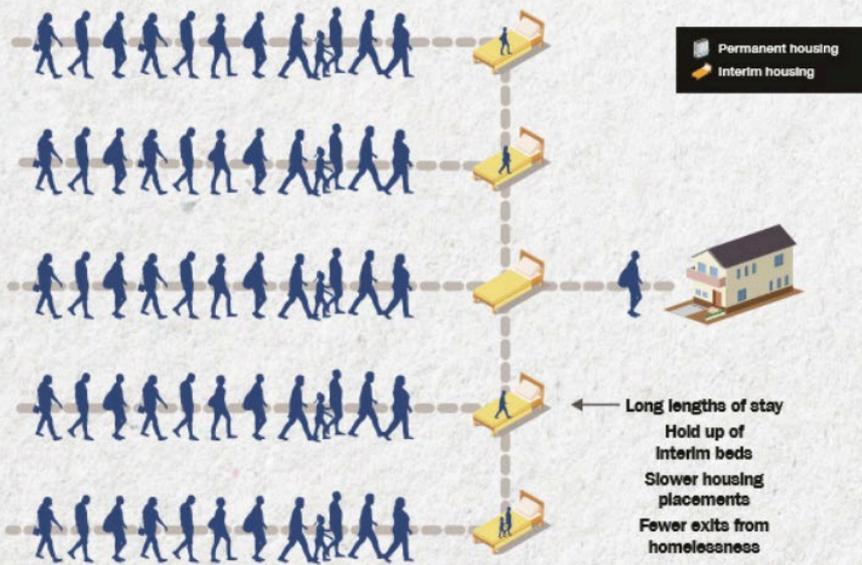
System trends reported in the 4th Annual Homeless Initiative Evaluation

- Most newly homeless people are assisted effectively, but some fall into persistent homelessness, struggling to have their needs met.
- **Persistently homeless** individuals are those who received homeless services for 6 or more months in the previous 12 months.
- The number of persistently homeless people **more than doubled** between 2017 and 2019, going from 16,000 to **35,500**.

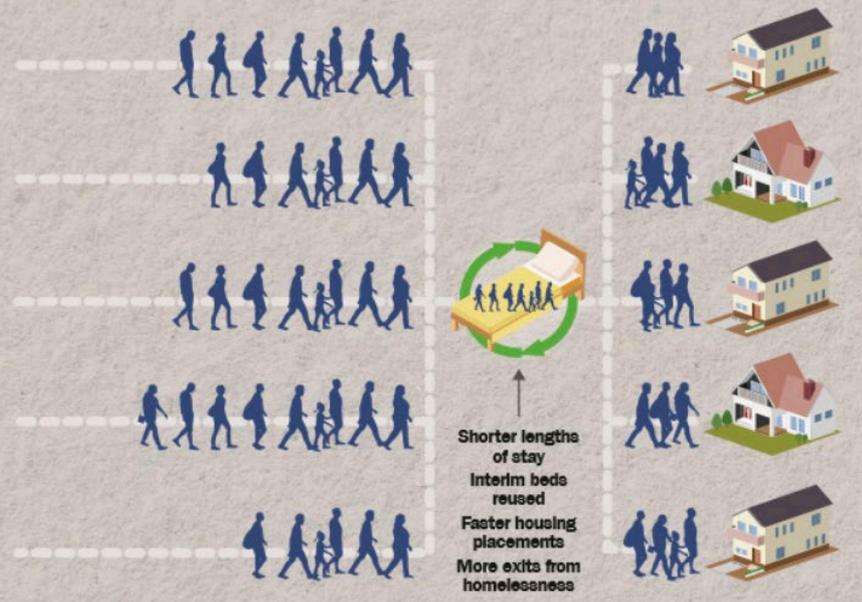


THE EXIT GAP

Unbalanced



Balanced



- Our system has an **exit gap** – a gap between the number of people who need permanent housing and those who receive it.
- The supply of **interim housing** rose **57%** over the last three years to 25,000 beds.
- But we need more exits to **permanent housing.**
- A balanced system has 5 housing exits for every 1 shelter bed.
- Ours has only about 1 exit for every 1 shelter bed.



NEW QUESTIONS WE MUST ANSWER



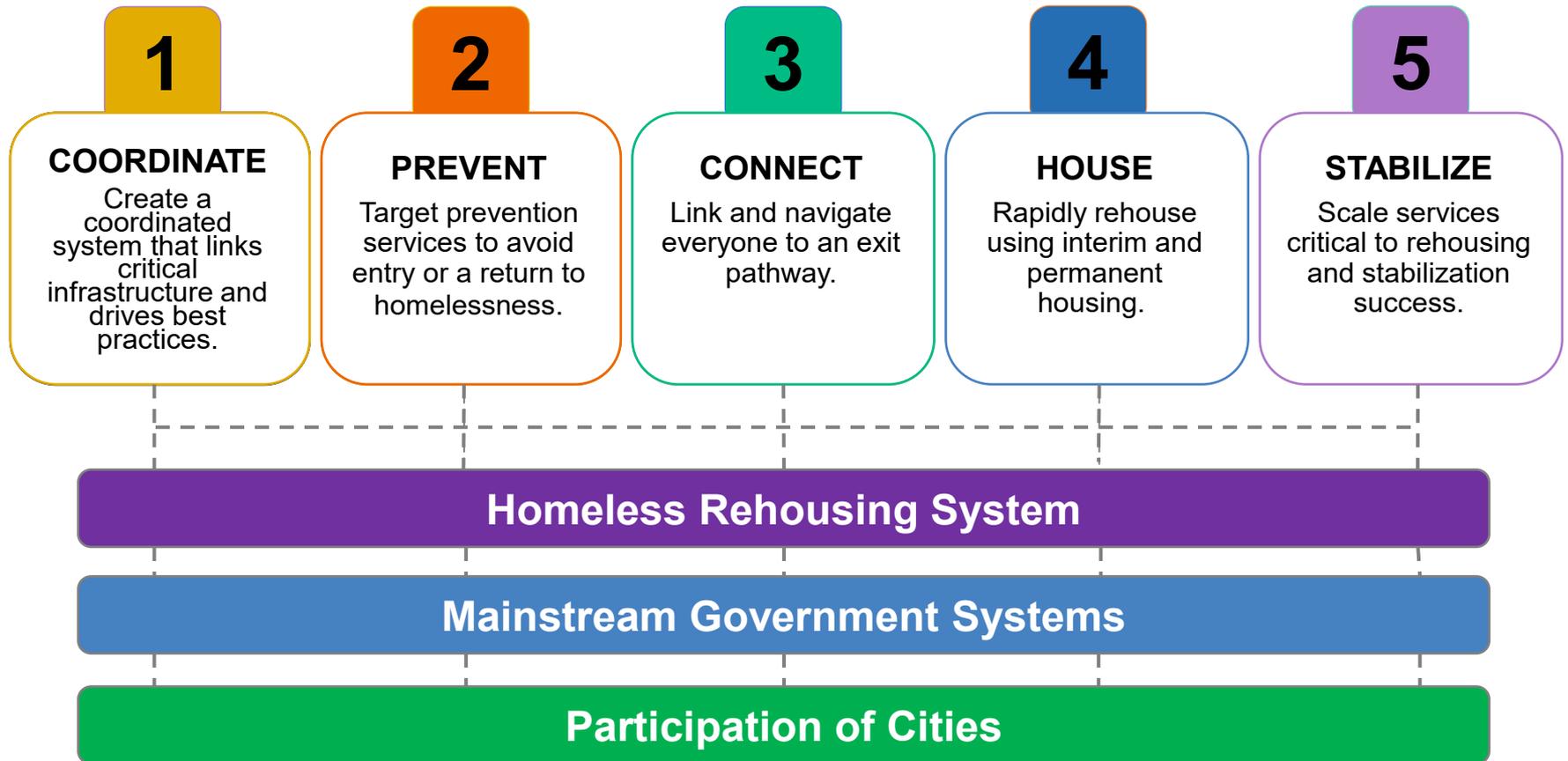
If we want to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness in LA County, the new Homeless Initiative framework and strategies must answer two questions:

1. **How do we ensure those at-risk of or newly homeless have their needs met?**
2. **How can we increase permanent housing exits and comprehensively meet the needs of persistently homeless people to end their homelessness?**



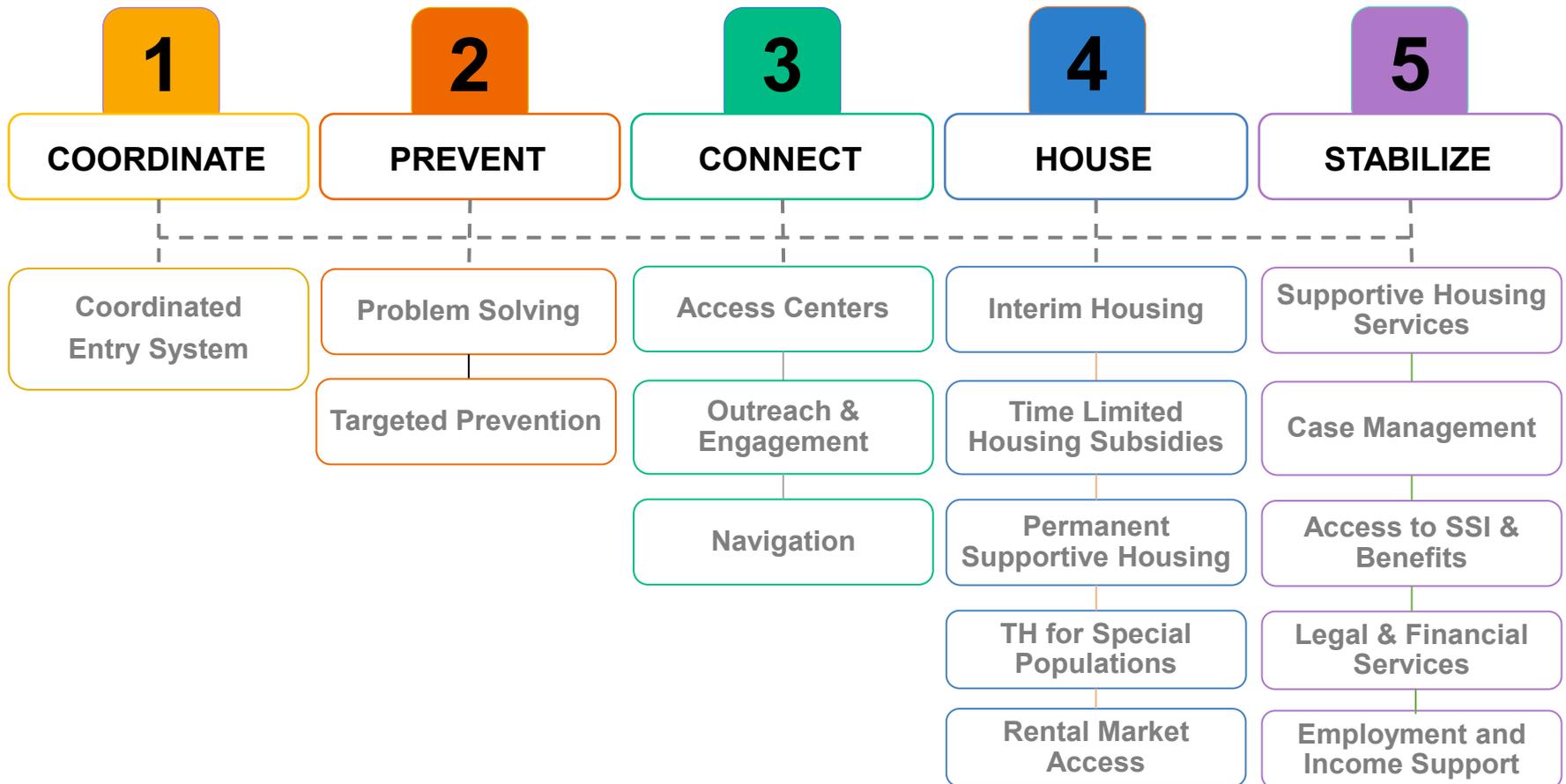
A NEW HOMELESS INITIATIVE FRAMEWORK

All Hands On Deck Approach



HOMELESS REHOUSING SYSTEM

16 Strategies to Increase Exits



ROLE OF MAINSTREAM SYSTEMS

in Preventing and Resolving Homelessness



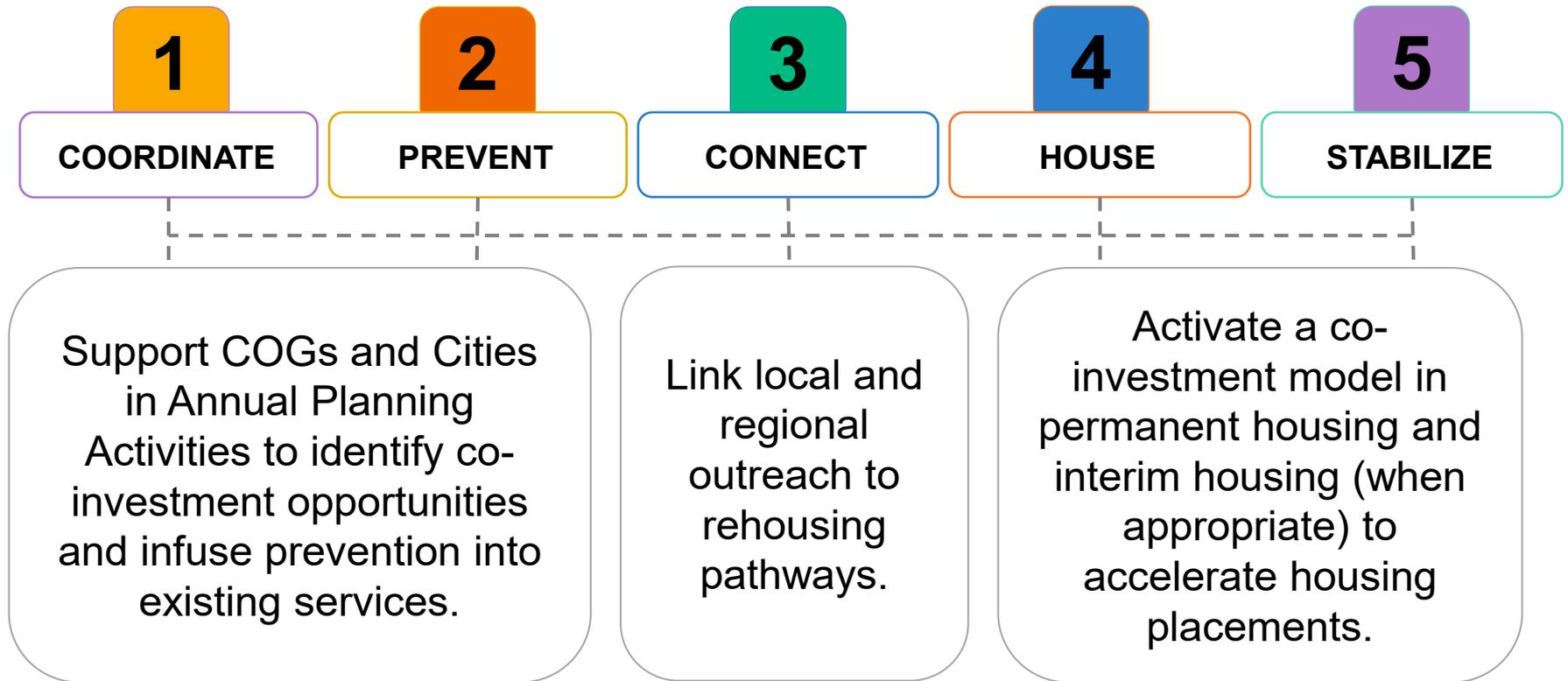
Activate the complete portfolio of Mainstream Government Systems to prevent and stabilize households at-risk of homelessness and rehouse households experiencing homelessness.

Identify, stabilize, and account for the outcomes of all households experiencing housing instability or homelessness that engage in a Mainstream Government Service.



PARTICIPATION OF CITIES

A Focus on Shared Investment



SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES

to Effectively Administer and Evaluate



Regional
planning and
implementation
coordination



Enhanced data
sharing and
tracking



Inclusion of individuals
with lived expertise
at all levels of system
decision-making



Training and
capacity building



Quality
improvement and
standardization of
practice



Advocacy in
policymaking
and funding



Research and
evaluation



Activities to
advance equity



STRATEGIES MUST BE BUILT ON PRACTICES TO ADVANCE RACIAL EQUITY

In 2020, the Board of Supervisors adopted a sweeping initiative that boldly articulates an anti-racist agenda that will guide, govern and increase the County's ongoing commitment to fighting racism in all its dimensions, especially racism that systemically affects Black residents.

- The Homeless Initiative and the County's Antiracist, Diversity and Inclusion Office (ARDI), as well as LAHSA, are working to operationalize the 67 recommendations produced by LAHSA's Ad Hoc Committee Report on Black People Experiencing Homelessness.
- The Homeless Initiative and ARDI are developing a Racial Equity Plan that aims to close racial disparity gaps through advocacy, strategic coordination, targeted policies and resource allocation.



OLD FRAMEWORK VS. NEW FRAMEWORK

- 6 categories intended to activate a regional plan
 - 51 strategies - a mix of homeless system infrastructure, mainstream system programs, and supporting activities
 - Insufficient clarity on the role of mainstream systems and opportunities for cities to accelerate impact in their jurisdictions
- 5 linked categories reflecting the regional rehousing system plan
 - Strategy sets for each system partner: Homeless System, Mainstream System, Cities
 - 16 strategies to sustain the homeless rehousing system
 - Developing strategies to activate mainstream systems and fully utilize their programming to prevent and address homelessness
 - Developing strategies to support shared investment in housing and regional coordination and accelerate impact in local jurisdictions with housing
 - Strategic effort to advance racial equity





Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative COMMUNITY INPUT MEETINGS



Make Your Voice Heard

