DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FORUM ON HOUSING OPTIONS FOR FREQUENT USERS OF JAIL AND SHELTER

Co-Sponsors:

Urban Institute ~ Interagency Council on Homelessness
Corporation for Supportive Housing
With the generous support of the William S. Abell Foundation
**Data Timeline**

**Jail Use**—Department of Corrections (DOC) data on all people with one or more jail episodes between October 1st, 2004 and March 31st, 2008 but who were not in jail on March 31st, 2008 (i.e., all episodes for each person are completed).

**Shelter Use**—Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data for people using the public emergency shelter system between October 1st, 2005 and September 30th, 2007.

**Fire and Emergency Medical Services (FEMS)** data for all calls during an 8 month period from January 1st through August 31st, 2008 for which an Electronic Patient Care Report was filled out and contained a full name.
Overlap (cont....)
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2 or more stays in jail
(N = 14,006)

D.C. Jails (2005-2008)

Homeless (2006-2007)
Overlap (cont....)

- 2 or more stays in jail
  (N = 14,006)

- 2 or more stays in shelter
  (N = 6,486)

- D.C. Jails
  (2005-2008)

- Homeless
  (2006-2007)
Overlap (cont. . .)

- 2 or more stays in jail (N = 14,006)
- 2 or more stays in shelter (N = 6,486)
- 2 or more stays in shelter and 2 or more stays in jail (N = 646)
Overlap (cont....)

DMH eligible (N = 3,815)

2 or more stays in jail (N = 14,006)

2 or more stays in shelter (N = 6,486)

D.C. Jails (2005-2008)

Homeless (2006-2007)

2 or more stays in shelter and 2 or more stays in jail (N = 646)
Overlap (cont....)

- DMH eligible (N = 3,815)
- 2 or more stays in jail (N = 14,006)
- 2 or more stays in shelter (N = 6,486)
- 2 or more stays in shelter and 2 or more stays in jail, but not DMH eligible N = 440
- 2 or more stays in shelter, 2 or more stays in jail, and DMH eligible N = 206
Mental Illness and Substance Abuse

Figure 1: Proportion with an Axis I Diagnosis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subgroup</th>
<th>Percent of Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jails – no overlap</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOC, HMIS</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOC, HMIS, FEMS</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mental Illness and Substance Abuse

Figure 1: Proportion with an Axis I Diagnosis

- Jails – no overlap: 22%
- DOC, HMIS: 44%
- DOC, HMIS, FEMS: 54%

Figure 2: Proportion with SPMI

- Jails – no overlap: 10%
- DOC, HMIS: 25%
- DOC, HMIS, FEMS: 35%
Number of Stays in Jail and Shelter

Figure 1: Mean Number of Stays in Jail and Shelter, by subgroup

- **Jails – no overlap**: 1.7 Stays in Jail, 1.5 Stays in Shelter
- **Shelters - no overlap**: 2.7 Stays in Jail, 2.0 Stays in Shelter
- **Jails, Shelters**: 3.2 Stays in Jail, 2.3 Stays in Shelter
- **Jails, Shelters, FEMS**: 4.2 Stays in Jail, 3.1 Stays in Shelter

[Graph showing the number of stays in different subgroups.]
Cost Estimates

Figure 1: Mean Number of Days in Jail and Shelter per year, by subgroup

- Days in Jail
- Days in Shelter

Subgroup:
- Jail - no overlap
- Shelters - no overlap
- Jails, Shelters
- Jails, Shelters, FEMS
- 2+2+DMH
- 50 highest community releases
Cost Estimates

Figure 1: Mean Number of Days in Jail and Shelter per year, by subgroup

Figure 2: Average Total Cost Per Person, Per Year
Cost Estimates

An identifiable group that uses a disproportionate amount of District resources
FEMS Usage

Figure 1: Frequency of FEMS Calls by Individuals

- 22,323 people called 1 time
- 4,158 people called 2 times
- 1,059 people called 3 times
- 480 people called 4 times
- 193 people called 5 times
- 114 people called 6 times
- 43 people called 7 times
- 50 people called 8 times
- 36 people called 9 times
- 100 people called 10 or more times
Recap: Who are we focusing on?

DOC/BOP

FEMS/Hospitals/Detox/
Mental Health Services

Shelters
Permanent Supportive Housing Availability

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- Only **17%** of program beds will not accept sex offenders and **15%** will not accept clients with a history of violence against or abuse of children or adults.
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- There is a need for a concerted effort.
Slowing the Revolving Door

- Cost savings
Slowing the Revolving Door

- Cost savings
- Public safety
Slowing the Revolving Door

- Cost savings
- Public safety
- Public health
Questions/Comments