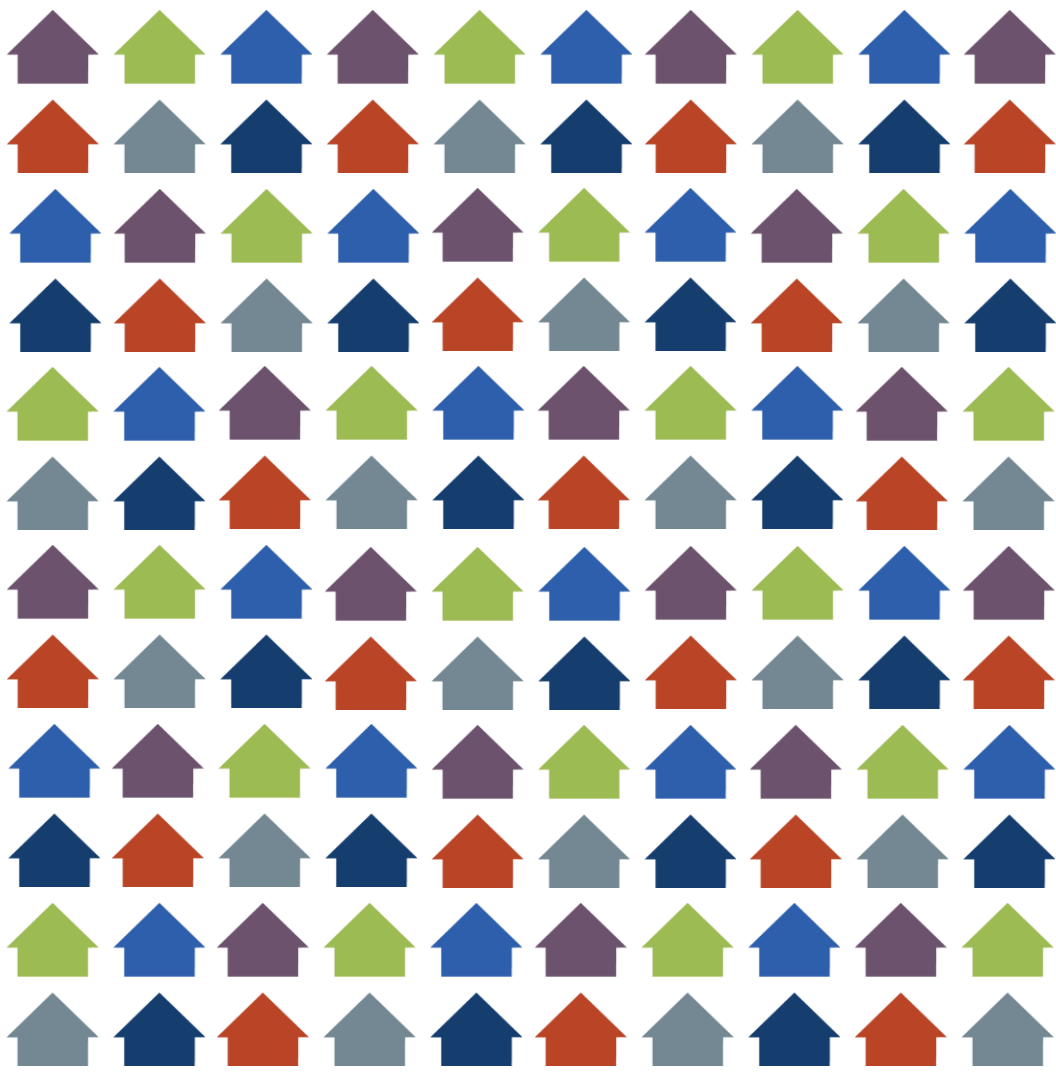


Where in Texas
are you coming
from?

Place a star on the
map up front to
share!





Change Starts at
Home:
Starting a Local
Homeless Coalition
(LHC) to Address
Community
Homelessness

Strategies For Change

thn.org

Welcome from today's speakers



Dr. Janeal White, CFLE

SETCH Coordinator
Professor at McNeese State University



Jen Beardsley

Local Homeless Coalition Coordinator
at Texas Homeless Network

What questions about Local
Homeless Coalitions do you
bring with you to this session?



Objectives

- Introduce Local Homeless Coalitions (LHCs) and Continuums of Care
- Gain an understanding of the important role LHCs play in a large Continuum of Care
- Discuss strategies LHCs can use to begin addressing homelessness locally



“[Unhoused persons] were called ‘revolvers’ in New York, because they could only stay a night or two in any one [police] station house; and there were said to be 30,000 in circulation there early in 1874. Private charitable organizations abounded, but their handouts were meager, haphazard and uncoordinated. All aspects were summed up by the case of a man who worked nine of them for what he could get - a total of \$8.00 a month.”

1877: Year of Violence, Robert Bruce



What is a Continuum of Care?



Continuum of Care (CoC)

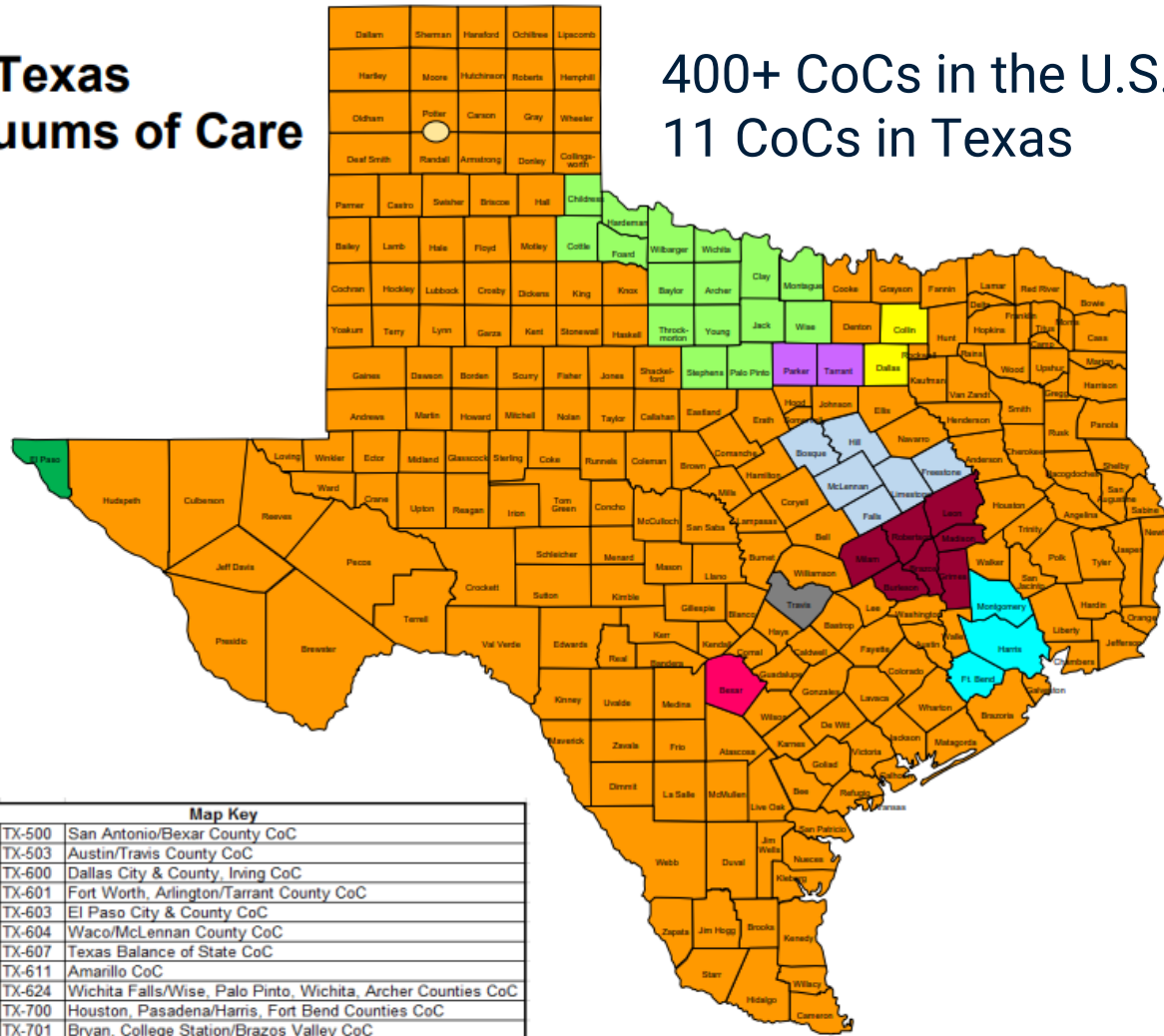
U.S. Department
of Housing &
Urban
Development
(HUD) Program



- A coalition with a lead agency that gets planning dollars to form a planning network among homeless services
- Covers a designated region recognized by HUD
- Collects & analyzes data on homelessness
- Plans and evaluates homeless services
- Being a member of a CoC provides access to federal funding known as the Continuum of Care Program Grant

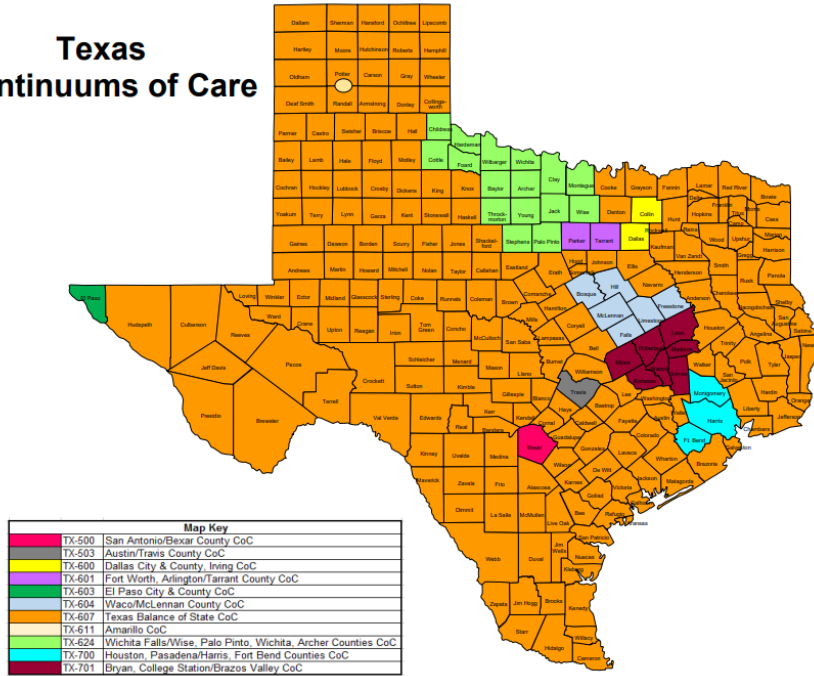
Texas Continuums of Care

400+ CoCs in the U.S.
11 CoCs in Texas



Map Key		
	TX-500	San Antonio/Bexar County CoC
	TX-503	Austin/Travis County CoC
	TX-600	Dallas City & County, Irving CoC
	TX-601	Fort Worth, Arlington/Tarrant County CoC
	TX-603	El Paso City & County CoC
	TX-604	Waco/McLennan County CoC
	TX-607	Texas Balance of State CoC
	TX-611	Amarillo CoC
	TX-624	Wichita Falls/Wise, Palo Pinto, Wichita, Archer Counties CoC
	TX-700	Houston, Pasadena/Harris, Fort Bend Counties CoC
	TX-701	Bryan, College Station/Brazos Valley CoC

Texas Continuums of Care



Smaller CoCs
usually have one
coalition

CoCs that cover smaller geographic
areas function as one coalition for
that area. The organizations that
organize and run these CoC coalitions
are the CoC lead agencies.



Largest CoC in Texas (by landmass)

215 TX counties (84.5% of TX counties, 87% of land mass)

13 million residents (44.5% of TX population)

2022 counts show **7,054 individuals** experience homelessness in the BoS and **27,229** in the entire state on any given night (26% of entire TX unhoused pop.)

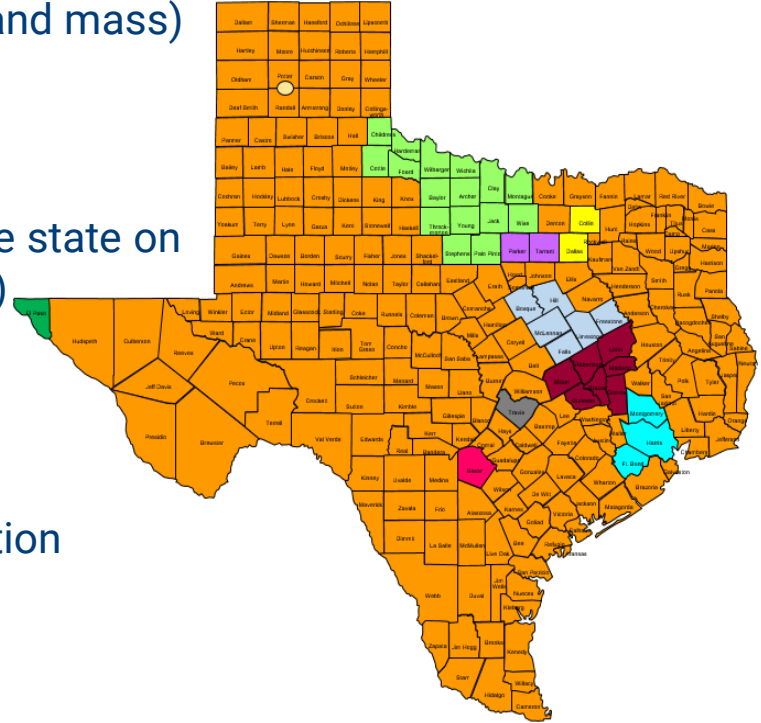
CHALLENGES

Large geography and varying demographics

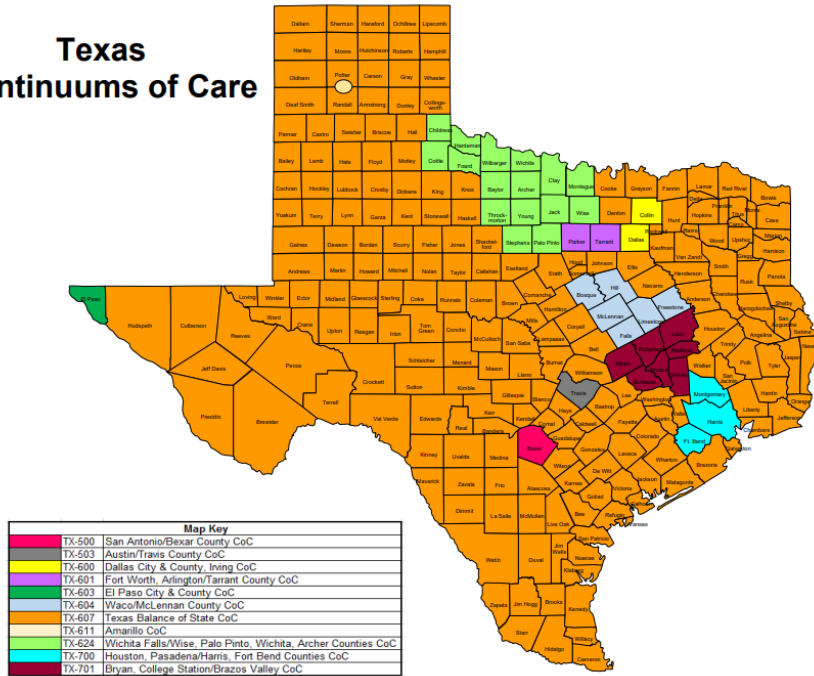
De-centralized service providers working in isolation

Differences in local resources/stakeholders

Shortage of affordable housing



Texas Continuums of Care



Large CoCs typically divide their geographies into smaller planning entities in order to meet the diverse needs of a large geography.

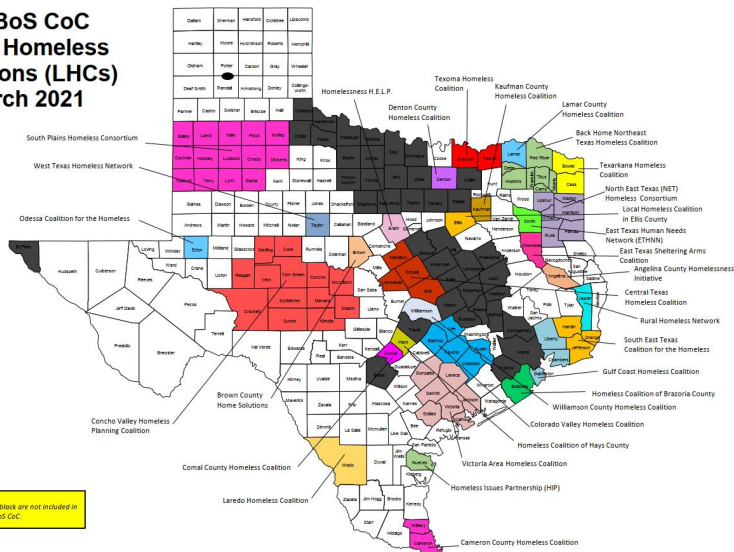
In the 215-county Balance of State Continuum of Care (everything in **orange**), these smaller planning bodies are called **Local** Homeless Coalitions (LHCs).



What are Local Homeless Coalitions?



**TX BoS CoC
Local Homeless
Coalitions (LHCs)
March 2021**



Local Homeless Coalitions

Groups addressing homelessness in a designated geography, such as a city, county, or cluster of counties within the TX Balance of State (BoS) CoC.





- 3 counties: Jefferson, Orange, Hardin
- Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission
- Early-2000s Formation...2019 Restructuring

Current

- 172 community partners
- Monthly hybrid meetings

Major Projects

- Point-In-Time Count
- Pocket Pals
- Homeless Ministry Alliance



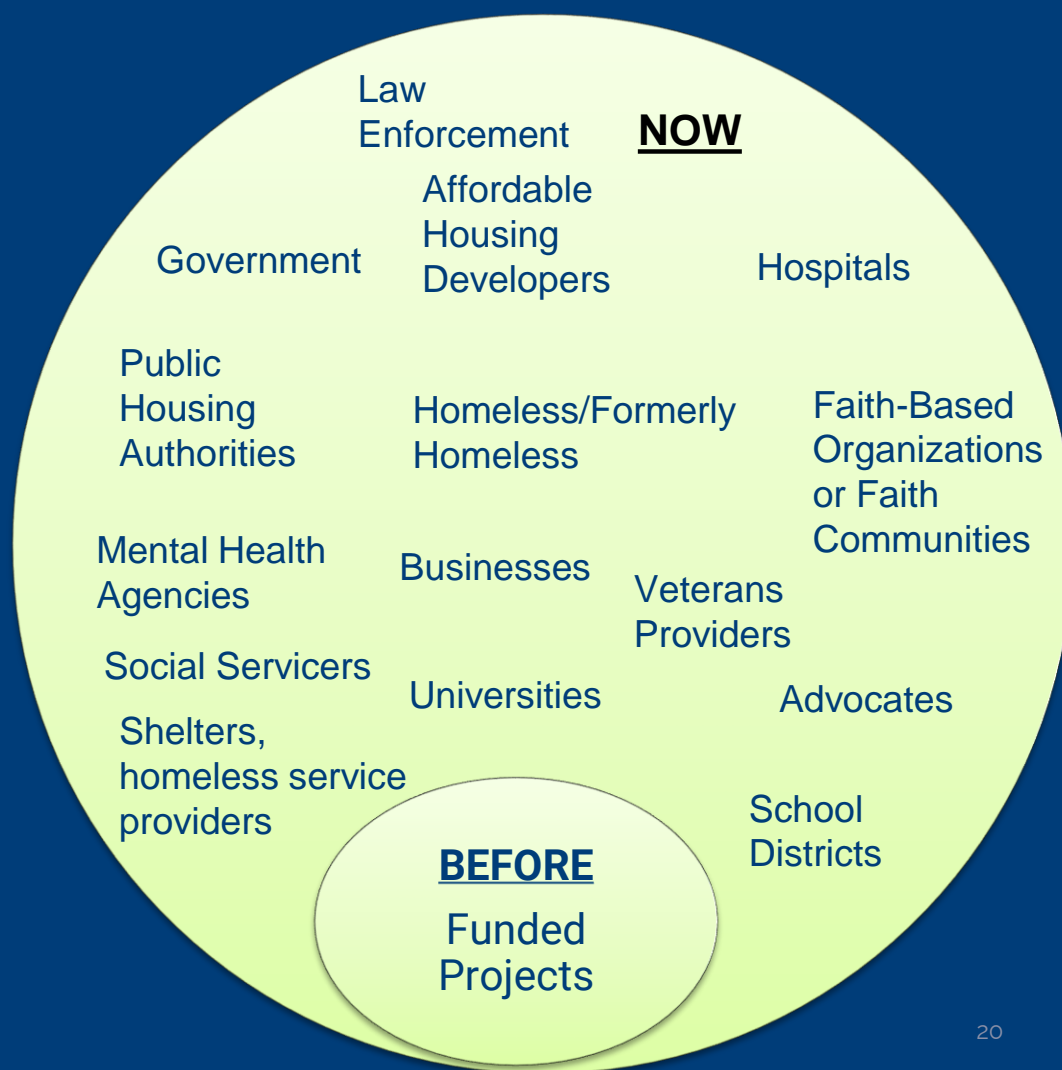
What are the benefits of Local Homeless Coalitions?



Benefits of Local Homeless Coalitions for Providers

- Create a shared awareness of existing resources among homeless services
- Create a better sense of what the unhoused community needs
- Improve communication and data and information sharing
- Expand networking opportunities
- Increase efficiency of service delivery through coordination and elimination of duplicate services

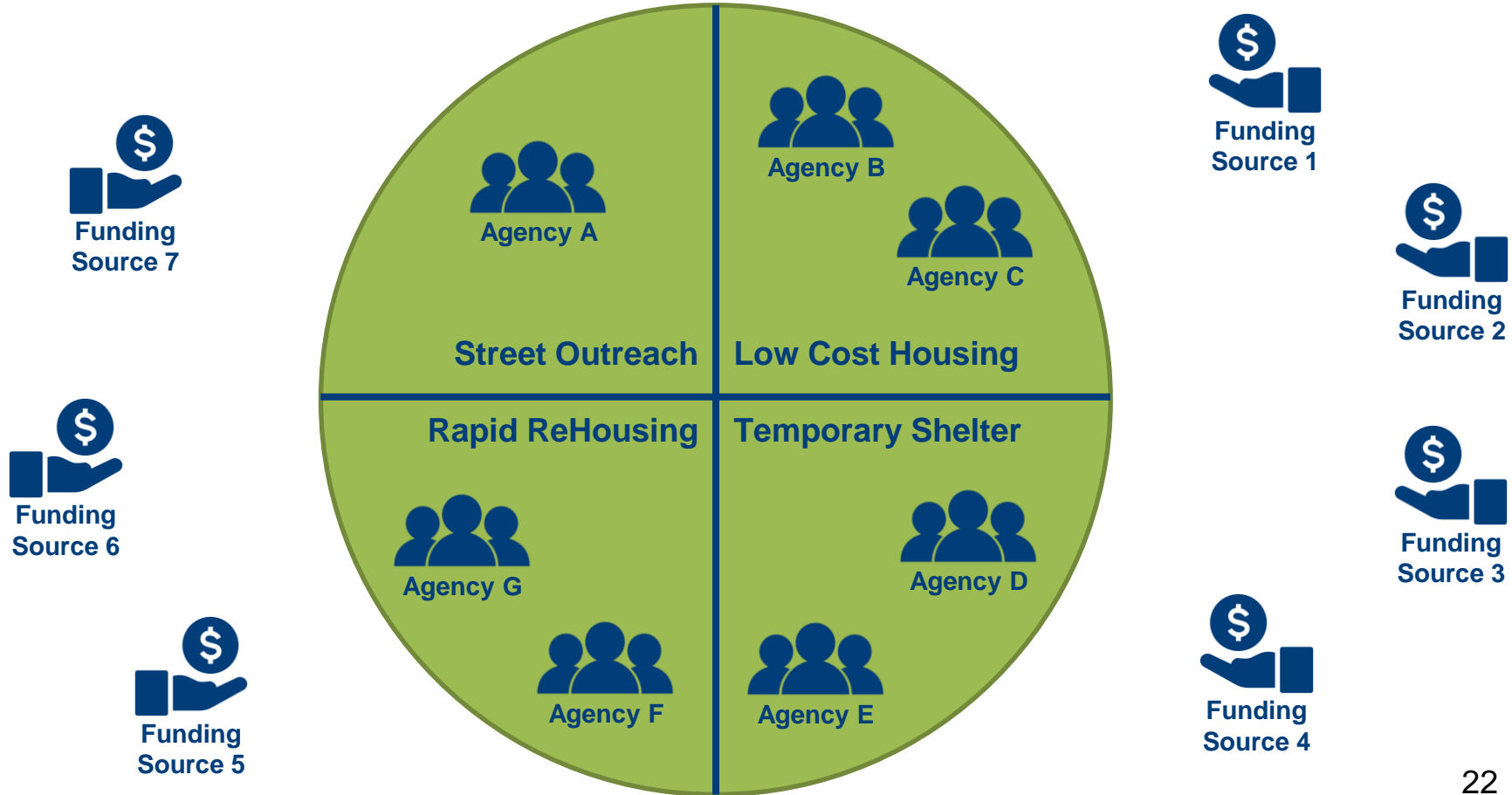




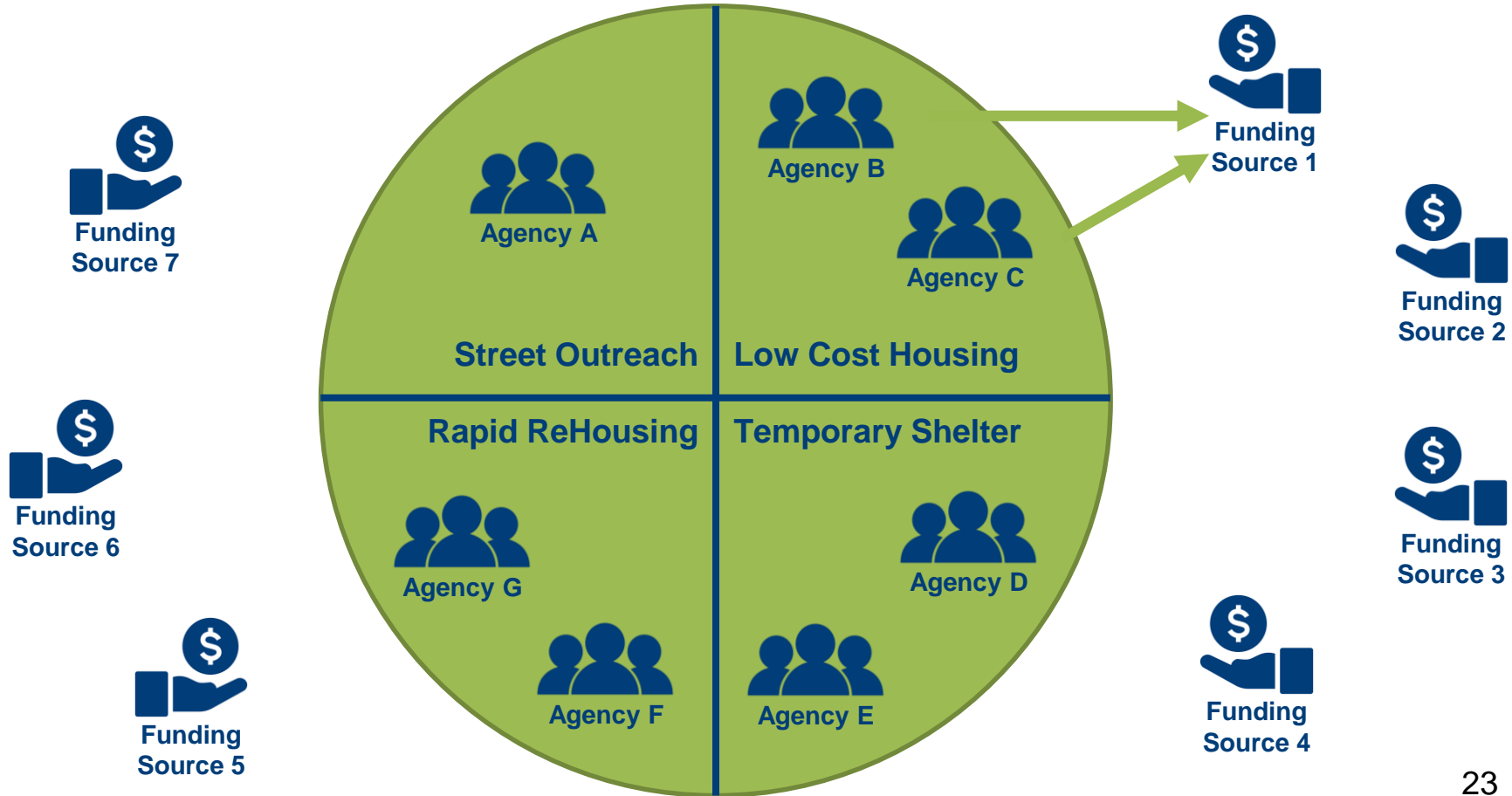
Coordinate funding applications to reduce local competition



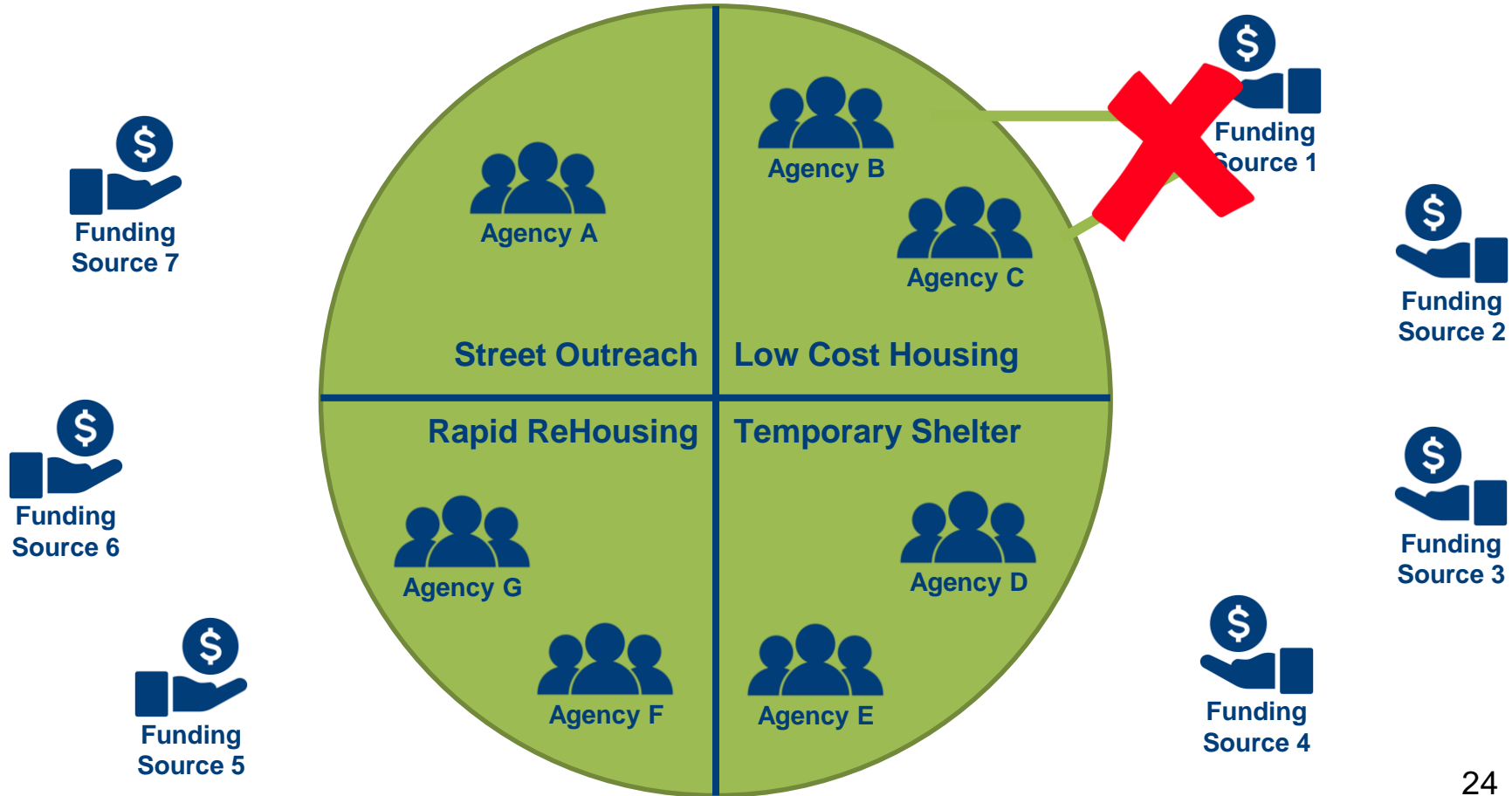
Coordinate funding applications to reduce local competition



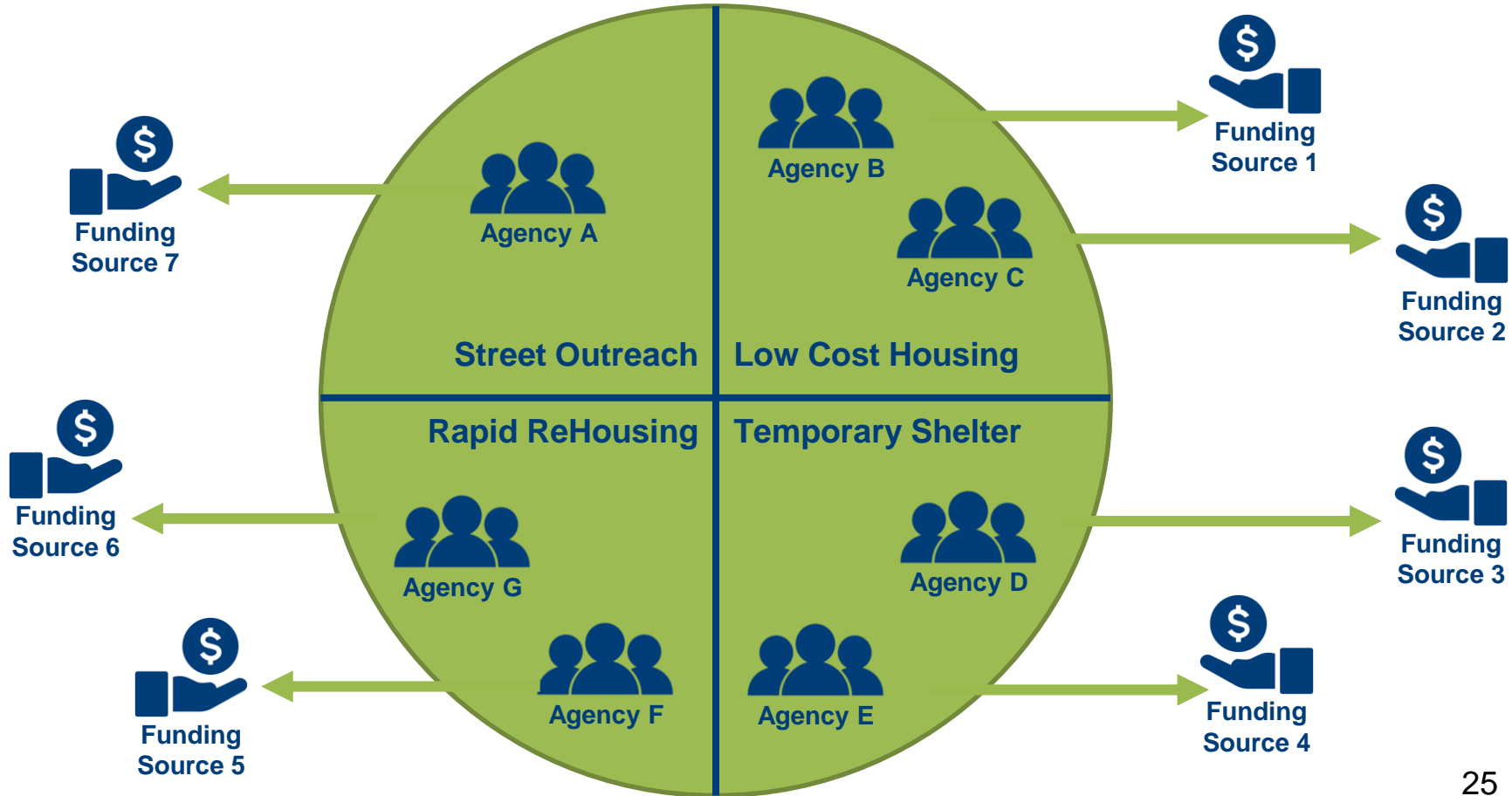
Coordinate funding applications to reduce local competition



Coordinate funding applications to reduce local competition



Coordinate funding applications to reduce local competition





Let's hear from Dr. Janeal White... What have been the benefits of having the Local Homeless Coalition, Southeast Texas Coalition for the Homeless, to service providers and the communities

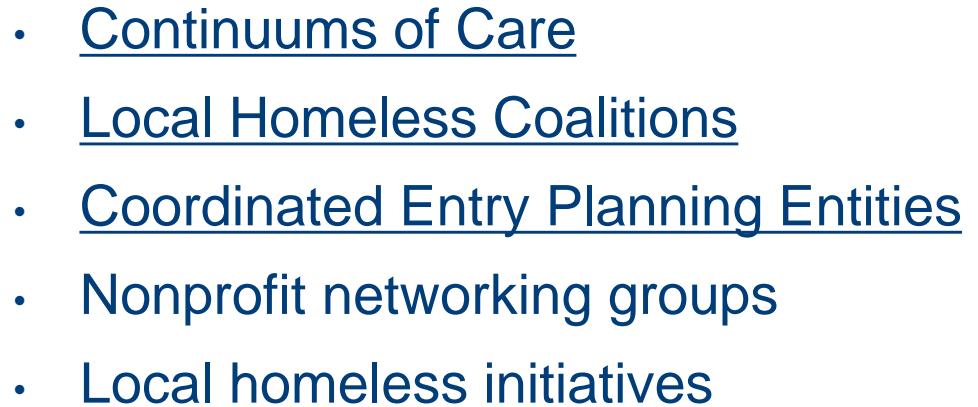
SETCH serves?



What strategies can
we use to get a local
group started?

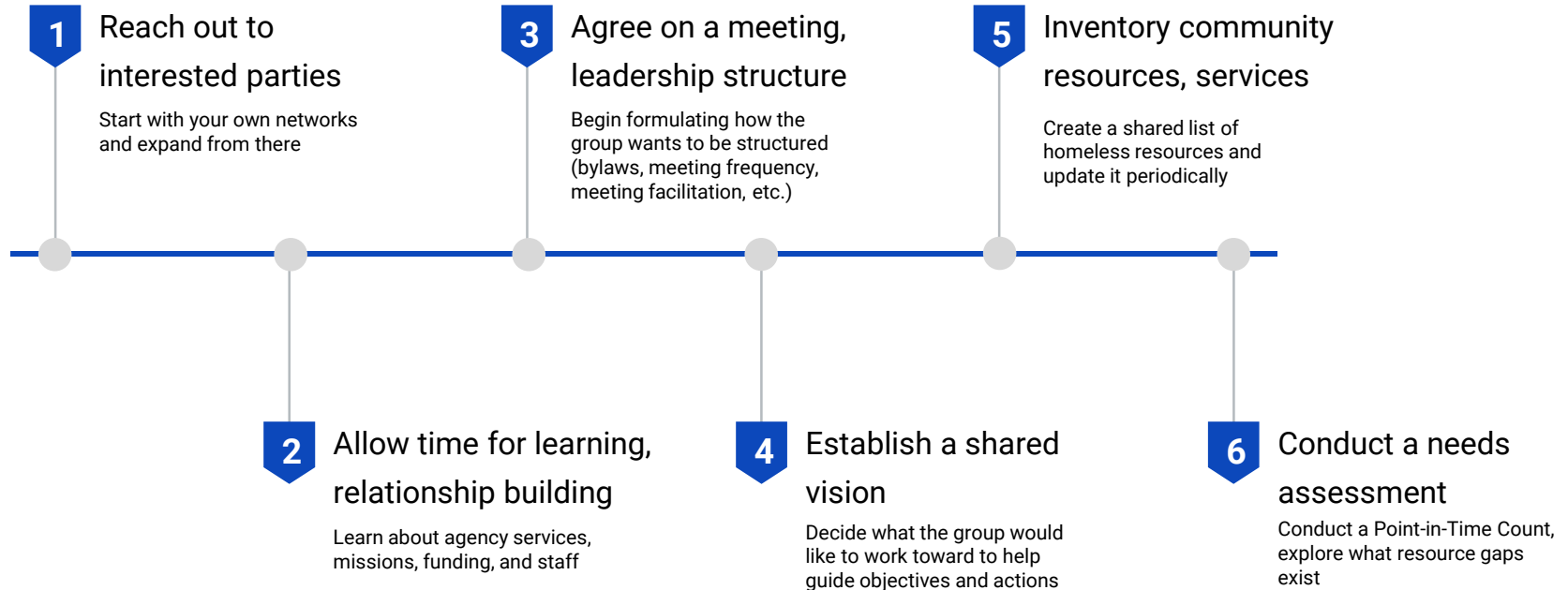


... research existing groups in your desired coverage area. Are you part of a Continuum of Care? Can you join an existing Local Homeless Coalition or group addressing poverty that may form a homelessness-focused committee?



Forming a Local Homeless Coalition

Forming a community-wide collaboration

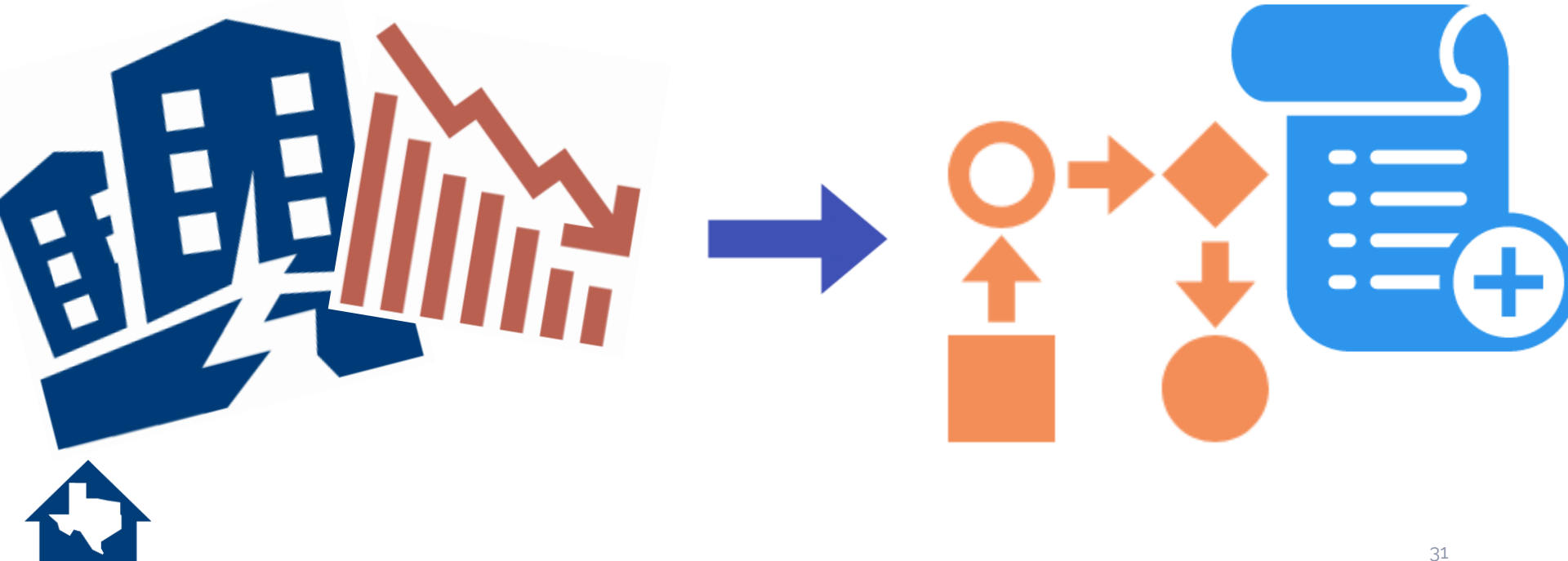


Forming a Local Homeless Coalition

Forming a community-wide collaboration



The big-picture goal is to move from having **reactionary responses** to homelessness to eventually developing a **strategic plan** developed with unhoused people.



Expand your time horizon

Early on, set the expectation that this work takes years and takes a lot of talking and relationship building.



Rural Homeless Network meeting



Rural Homeless Network tiny home



In the long term, **building relationships** is essential to sowing the seeds to address community homelessness.





Let's hear from Dr. Janeal White... What strategies has her Local Homeless Coalition, Southeast Texas Coalition for the Homeless, used to move forward?



Find Resources





Get Involved ▾

Who We Are ▾

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care ▾

Statewide Initiatives ▾

Resources ▾

Donate

Local Homeless

Local Homeless Coalitions are groups of organizations, individuals, and leaders interested in addressing homelessness in their local communities. Local homeless coalitions make plans to address homelessness and lead local initiatives. There are approximately 25 Local Homeless Coalitions across the state.

For more information check out the following:

- What Are Local Homeless Coalitions?
- Why Join a Local Homeless Coalition?
- Local Homeless Coalition Requirements

Use the map and contact list below to find the local homeless coalition closest to you. We recommend reaching out to the local homeless coalition's primary contact person to schedule. Don't see a local homeless coalition near you? Fill out the form below to get started.

About TX BoS CoC

Join Us

Continuum of Care Program

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program

Coordinated Entry

Data

Homeless Management Information System

News & Events

Membership

Local Homeless Coalitions

General Meetings

Public Comment

Consolidated Planning

▸ Request Information about Local Homeless Coalitions

Information Request

Name

First

Last

County

Organization

Email

Phone Number

–

–

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###

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Message



Let's Connect



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Jen Beardsley
LHC Coordinator
jen@thn.org
512-861-2154



Questions?

Thank you!

Strategies For Change