

A background image of a smiling man with dark skin and a beard, wearing a blue shirt. He is holding a set of keys in his right hand, which is raised towards the camera. The keys are silver and have a circular ring. The background is a warm, out-of-focus indoor setting.

Justice Reinvestment in Supportive Housing in Ohio Returning Home Ohio Community Transition Program

Housing challenges for the reentry population

- **Access shelters soon after release from prison**
- **Lack of resources upon release**
- **Disconnected from social supports**
- **Exclusions due to law or policy**

A win-win: Supportive Housing and Justice Departments



Supportive Housing can offer options for hard-to-place; cost-effectiveness; part of comprehensive strategy to reduce overcrowding/avoid growth in incarcerated population; potential for leverage from other sources/systems

BASICS

CSH OHIO REENTRY PROGRAMS

Increasing successful reentry

Many people who are released from jails and prisons cycle between homelessness and incarceration for months or years at great public expense and with tragic human outcomes.

CSH's Returning Home Initiative is designed to:

- ☐ improve the lives of tenants
- ☐ make more efficient use of public resources
- ☐ align and coordinate public and private resources and policies to create supportive housing
- ☐ generate cost offsets in crisis systems like jails and shelters
- ☐ reduce recidivism and the use of costly emergency services



**"THIS HOUSE SAVED
ME FROM PRISON"**



Ohio's Reentry Programs

- Utilizes a supportive housing model
- Scattered site housing with private landlords
- Includes a housing first philosophy
- Incorporates evidenced based practices

Returning Home Ohio Basics and Eligibility

Target Population are those that have a serious and persistent mental illness or are HIV+ and are being released homeless. All other housing options have been considered.

- ☐ Referrals come directly from staff at Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction but can come from community providers
- ☐ Individuals are referred about 30-60 days from release
- ☐ Eligibility continues for 120 days post release
- ☐ In 12 counties throughout Ohio, urban and rural



Returning Home Ohio Mission Statement

Returning Home Ohio provides opportunities for successful community reintegration of individuals leaving, or diverting from, state prison through safe, stable, supportive housing with the goal of reducing recidivism and homelessness. We strive to reach these goals through individualized services, collaborative community partnerships, persistence and steadfast commitment.



Community Transitions Program (CTP) began in 2017

**Modeled after and based on
the success of Returning
Home Ohio**

***different target population
and funding source***

- **Funded by Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services (OHMAS)**
- **Eligibility is individuals leaving state prison at risk of homelessness with a SUD diagnosis *and* who have been involved in a recovery service while incarcerated – also includes 120 days post release**
- **In 60 counties throughout Ohio**
- **Includes two types of housing:**
 - **PSH – Permanent Supportive Housing**
 - **RRH – Rapid Re-Housing**

Darrell's story





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IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS



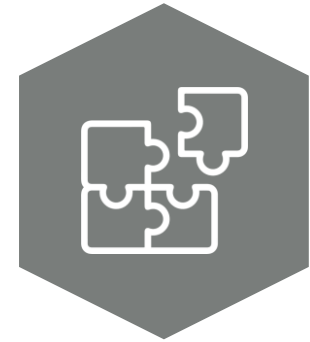
**Collaboration,
Consistency and
Coordination**



**Ongoing training,
education and
communication
between all parties**



**Having the right
partners at the
table and making
sure everyone is
speaking the same
language**



**Data collection and
metrics**

csh.org



CSH's Role (Third Party Admin): Key Components

Specialist / Standardization

- ☐ Training, orientation and technical assistance to grantees
- ☐ Enhance and expand program across state when funding is available
- ☐ Manage subawards throughout state
- ☐ Monitor finances: budgets and expenses

Quality Improvement / Monitoring

- ☐ Measure outcomes and occupancy
- ☐ Annual evaluations
- ☐ On-site monitoring
- ☐ Data collection and analysis
- ☐ Client visits and surveys

Communication / Outreach

- ☐ Grantee meetings and trainings
- ☐ Prison staff outreach and training
- ☐ Manage referrals
- ☐ Quarterly reporting to state

COST

Each grantee develops their own budget depending on unit capacity



**State department
provides CSH the
funds and CSH
completes awards
to grantees**



**Unit cost range is
between \$17,000-
\$20,000
Increased significantly
post COVID**

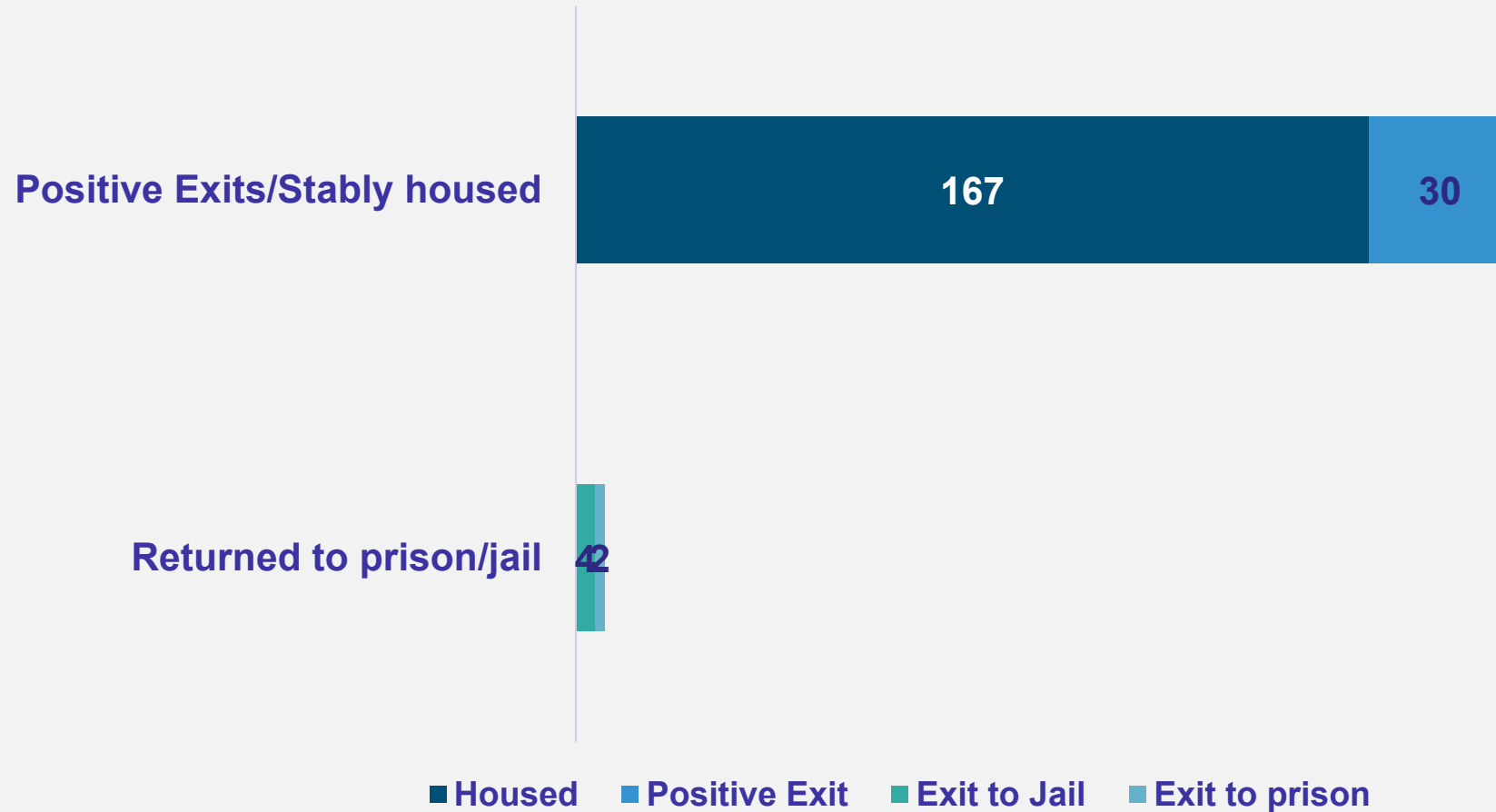


**Funding must be
flexible and include
tenant assistance**

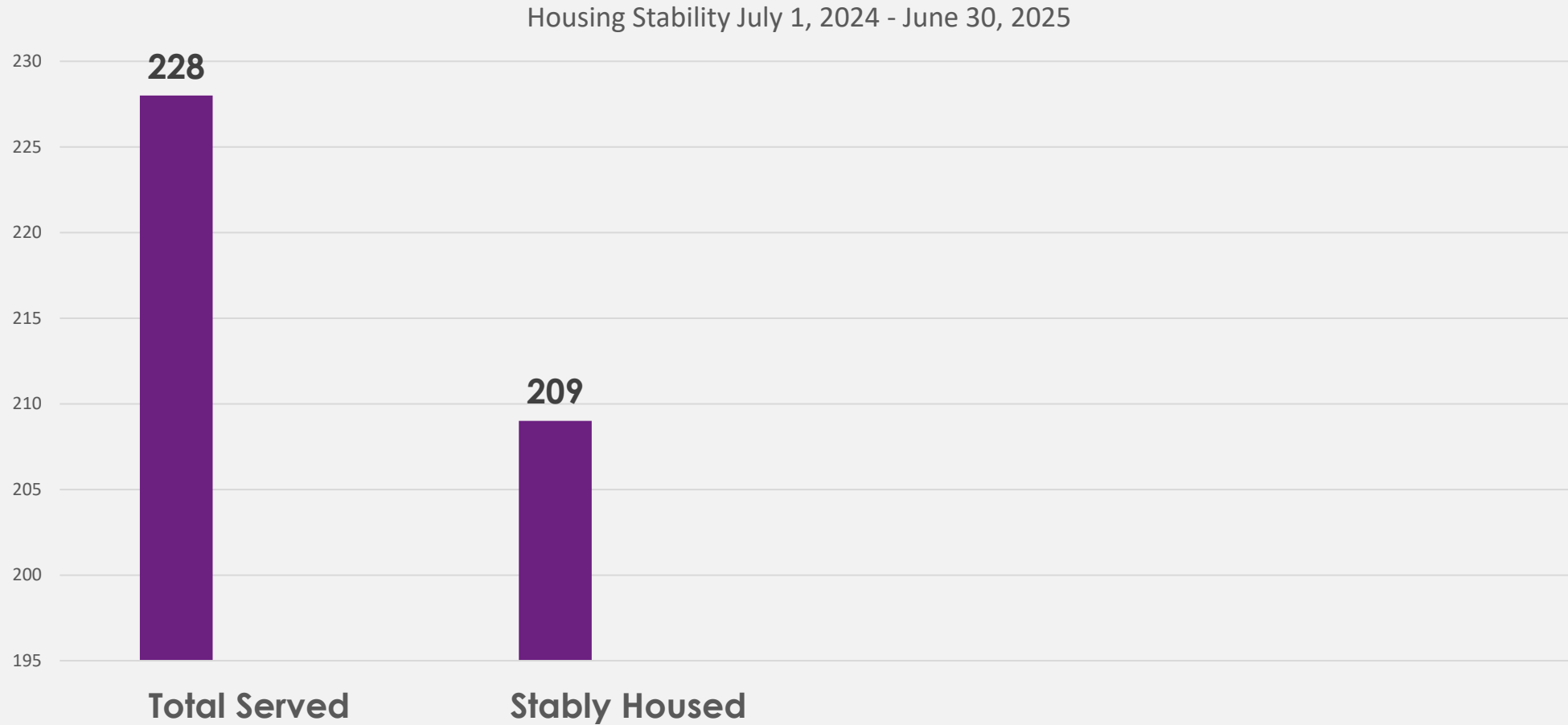
ACCOMPLISHMENTS CSH OHIO REENTRY PROGRAMS

July 2024- June 2025

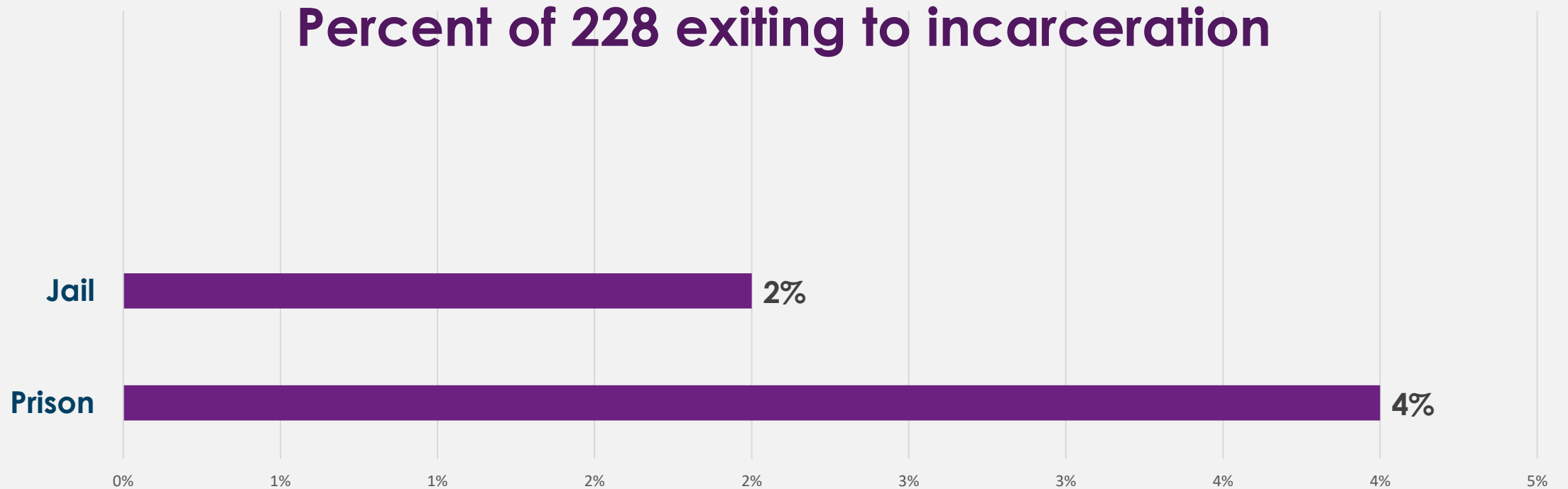
CTP Recidivism July 2024-June 2025



RHO Housing Stability July 2024-June 2025



RHO Recidivism July 2024-June 2025



Recruiting Landlords



EVALUATION

Urban Institute (2007-2012)

- Comparison and treatment groups
- 60% less likely to recidivate to prison
- 40% less likely to be rearrested
- Almost 300% more services

University of Notre Dame Lab for Economic Opportunities (2023-2027)

- Randomized control trial
- Control and treatment groups
- Will measure recidivism, services, homelessness, health





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Nevada RHO Feasibility Study – Purpose, Approach, and Lessons for Replication

What We're Trying to Do

Assess whether Nevada—specifically Washoe County—can **replicate a Returning Home Ohio (RHO) model** to reduce recidivism and improve reentry through supportive housing.



Nevada RHO Feasibility Study – Purpose, Approach, and Lessons for Replication

Why This Matters

- ❑ Washoe County has **among the highest recidivism rates** in Nevada (39.12% for parolees).
- ❑ Incarceration costs are rising **\$33,349 per person/year** as of FY24.
- ❑ Housing instability drives re-incarceration.
- ❑ There's **no coordinated housing intervention** for high-risk releases, especially those with disabilities.



Nevada RHO Feasibility Study – Purpose, Approach, and Lessons for Replication

What States Must Examine to Replicate RHO

- ❑ Current reentry statutes and restrictions (housing bans, parole conditions, eligibility rules)
- ❑ Funding pathways (Medicaid ILOS, HOME-ARP, justice reinvestment funds).
- ❑ Availability of supportive housing stock + service capacity
 - Data on:
 - Time to recidivism
 - Housing status and release
 - Health and behavioral health needs
- ❑ Existing cross-system partnerships (corrections, housing, behavioral



Three-Tiered Strategy



People with Lived Experience

- Facilitate **regional listening sessions** with formerly incarcerated individuals
- Explore themes:
 - First 30 days out
 - What does stability look like
 - How housing—or lack of it—shaped outcomes
- Integrate qualitative insights into feasibility design



Providers & System Partners

- Two-part **learning series** on recidivism and reentry housing
- Sessions focus on barriers, service gaps, and RHO as a systems solution
- Activate feedback loops via provider **listening labs**

State Leadership & Policy Makers

- Launch **RHO Learning Collaborative** for agency and legislative leaders
- Deliver **briefings with district-level data** to identify champions
- Hold **interagency roundtables** to align corrections, housing, Medicaid



Engagement by Design – Nevada’s Multi-Tiered Stakeholder Strategy

Purpose of Engagement:

To build political will, provider readiness, and community ownership for piloting an RHO model in Nevada—anchored in lived experience and cross-sector coordination.

Challenges to Implementing Reentry Housing in Nevada

Severe Housing Shortage:

- Nevada faces one of the highest affordable housing deficits in the nation, with limited supportive housing units tailored for justice-involved individuals — especially in rural and frontier counties.

Fragmented Service Systems:

- Corrections, behavioral health, housing, and workforce systems operate independently with minimal formal coordination, resulting in service gaps during reentry.

Rigid & Siloed Funding Streams:

- Existing funding is often program-specific (e.g., corrections, housing, health care) and cannot be easily blended or braided to support integrated reentry housing models.

Challenges to Implementing Reentry Housing in Nevada

Landlord Reluctance & Stigma:

- Persistent discrimination against individuals with criminal records, compounded by concerns about behavioral health needs, limits private market participation.

Policy & Legal Gaps:

- No statewide reentry housing policy, incentive structure, or legal protections for justice-involved tenants.

Workforce Capacity Limits:

- Insufficient availability of trained supportive housing and reentry case managers to meet projected demand.

Data & Outcome Tracking Deficits:

- Limited data sharing across systems and lack of statewide metrics to track housing stability, recidivism reduction, and health outcomes.



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Returning Home Inquires

Returning Home Email: returninghome@csh.org

Returning Home Mini-Documentary:
www.csh.org/returninghomefilm/



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Questions?

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