




Working  
for all Alaskans

Advocacy & Education

## OUR MISSION *is to* **END** HOMELESSNESS IN ALASKA

The Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness (AKCH2) is a statewide organization working to develop strategies to increase the availability of affordable housing and eliminate homelessness in our great state.




LISTEN



EDUCATE




ADVOCATE



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## Who We Are

The Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness (AKCH2) is a statewide organization working to develop strategies to increase the availability of affordable housing and eliminate homelessness in our great state.



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## Key Partnerships

- Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
- Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
- Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
- Institute for Community Alliances
- Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
- HUD Field Office
- Governor's Council on Homeless
- Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
- KTOO/360 North



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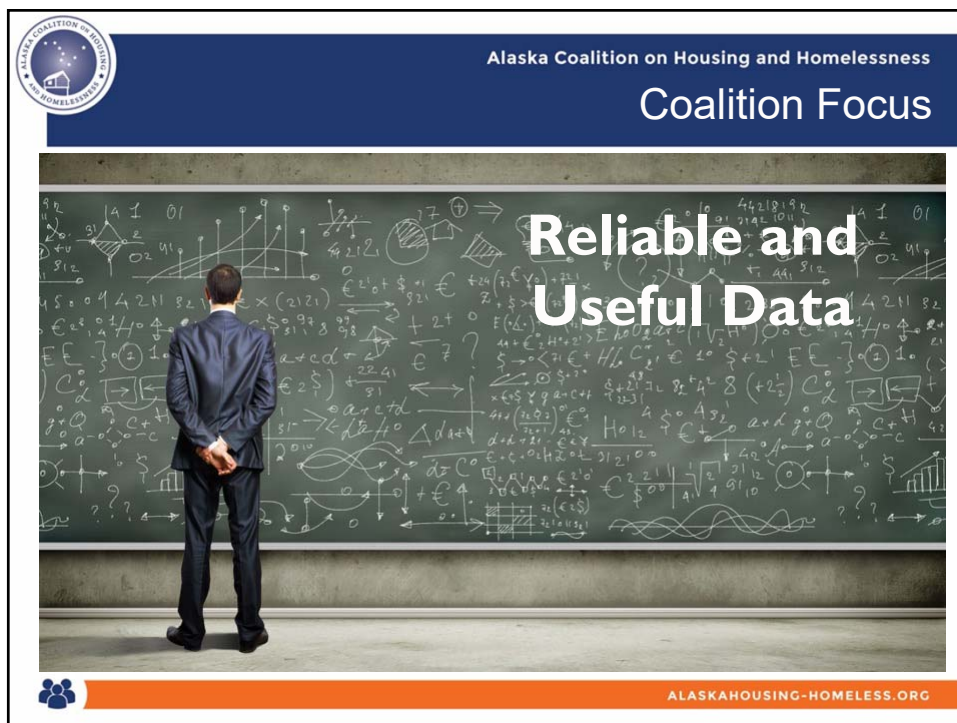
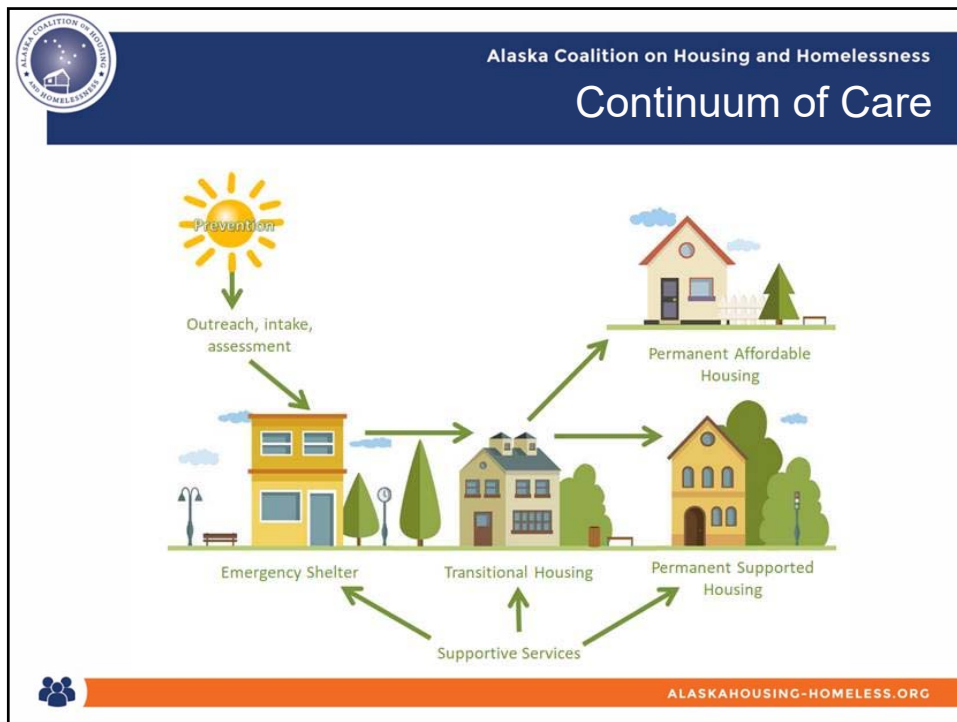
## Coalition Focus


### 2012

The Coalition added language to its bylaws to carry out the day to day management of the Balance of State Continuum of Care.



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## HMIS Database

- AKCH2 & ACEH Jointly responsible for governance of Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Institute for Community Alliances (ICA) is the HMIS Lead Organization for Alaska
  - Responsible for day-to-day management of the system
  - Really, really awesome people



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## Universal Data Elements (UDEs)

HMIS Universal Data Elements are elements required to be collected by all projects using the software as an HMIS. By 10.01.2017 \*, the UDEs include:

• Name	• Social Security Number
• Date of Birth	• Race
• Ethnicity	• Gender
• Veteran Status	• Disabling Condition
• Project Start Date	• Project Exit Date
• Destination	• Relationship to Head of Household
• Client Location	• Housing Move-In Date
• Living Situation	




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## Great Alaskan Data Renaissance

- Previous HMIS Issues
  - Limited Number of Users
  - Data Quality
  - Data Completeness
  - Reporting Limitations



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## Great Alaskan Data Renaissance

Since June 2015

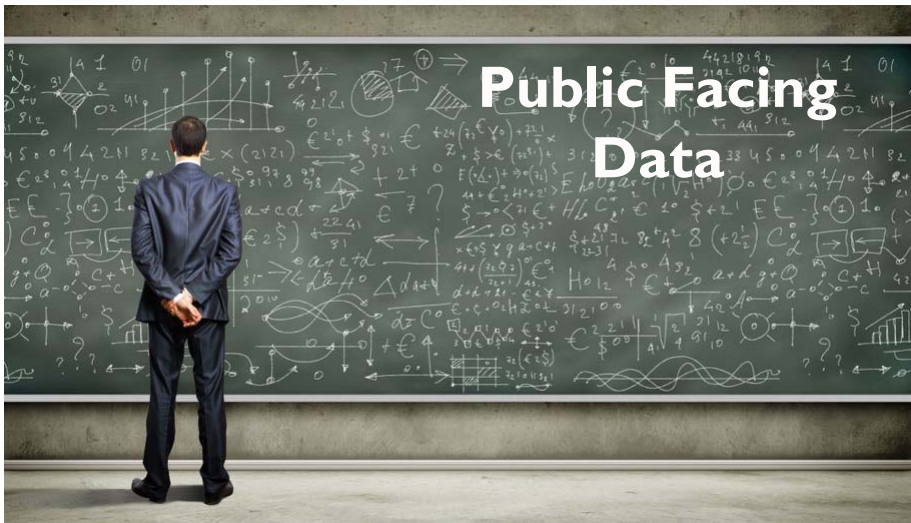
- More than Doubled the Amount of User Licenses
- Hundreds of User Trainings
- Data Completeness Standard Grade F → A

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## Coalition Focus



**Public Facing Data**

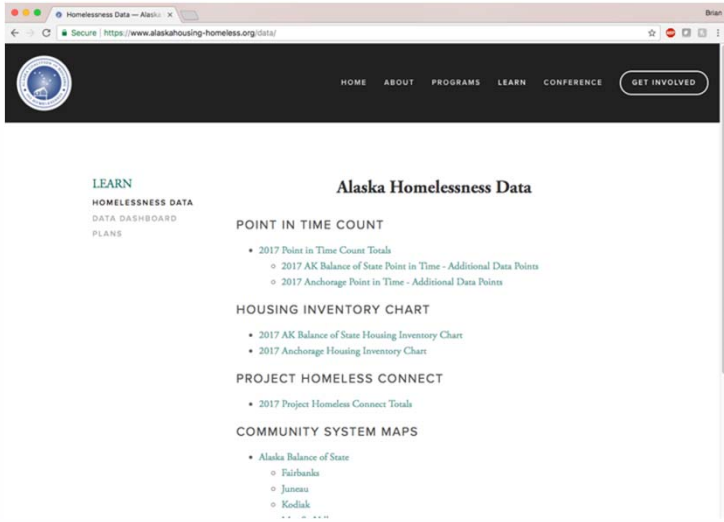


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## Resources



Alaska Homelessness Data

LEARN

HOMELESSNESS DATA

DATA DASHBOARD

PLANS

POINT IN TIME COUNT

- 2017 Point in Time Count Totals
  - 2017 AK Balance of State Point in Time - Additional Data Points
  - 2017 Anchorage Point in Time - Additional Data Points

HOUSING INVENTORY CHART


- 2017 AK Balance of State Housing Inventory Chart
- 2017 Anchorage Housing Inventory Chart

PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

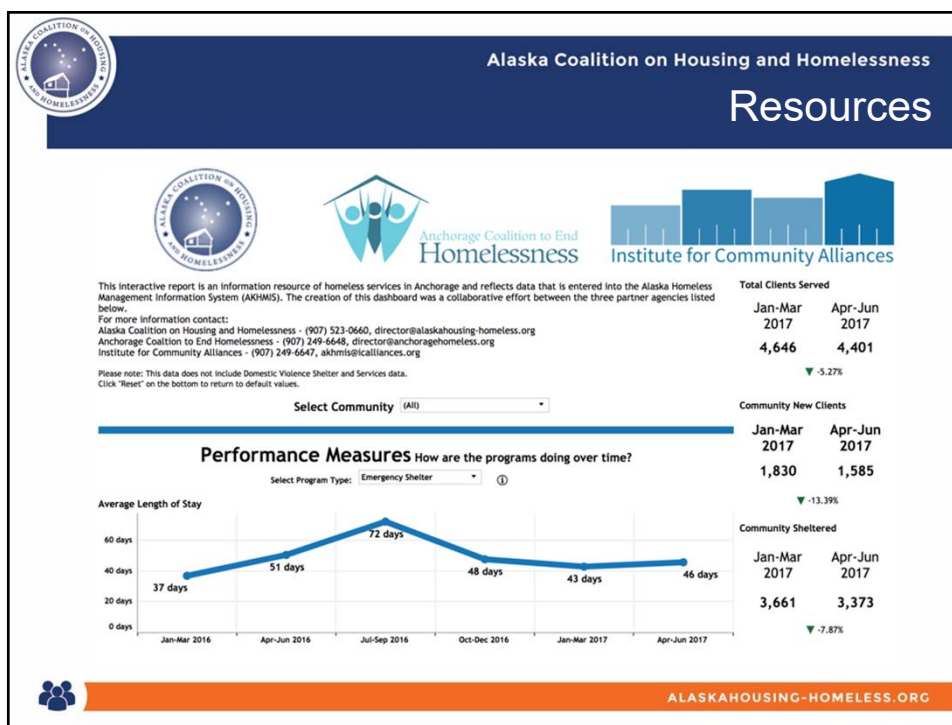
- 2017 Project Homeless Connect Totals

COMMUNITY SYSTEM MAPS

- Alaska Balance of State
  - Fairbanks
  - Juneau
  - Kodiak



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# Every Person Counts. Count Every Person.

Point in Time Count  
January 23, 2018

Project Homeless Connect  
January 24, 2018


Think About:  
Youth Count, Strategic  
Partnerships, Coordinated Entry,  
How to Utilize Data


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## Housing First



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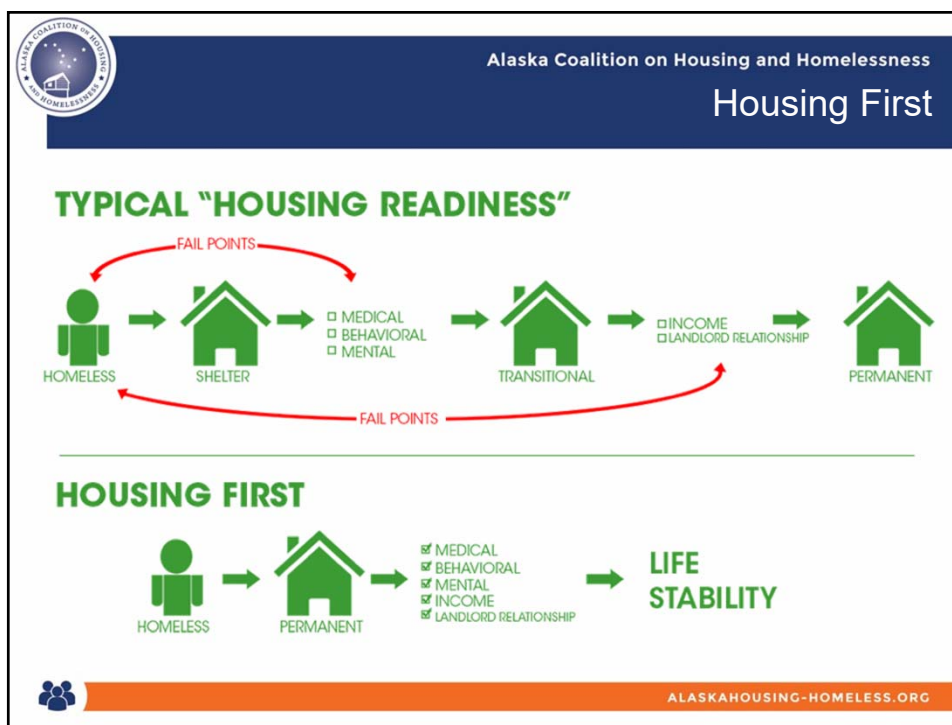
## Housing First

### Core Philosophies

- Homelessness should be rare, brief, and non-reoccurring
- Housing is an essential component of healthcare
- Barriers to accessing safe housing should be eliminated
  - Sobriety requirements
  - Participation in services
  - Income status



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## Housing First Models

- Permanent Supportive Housing
  - It's Permanent!
  - Tenants typically have leases
  - Services are sometimes co-located, but not required
  - Congregate vs. Scattered Site
  - Targets Individuals who are highly vulnerable
- Rapid Rehousing
  - Temporary assistance
  - Supports to stabilize housing crisis
  - Targets individuals who are less vulnerable




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## Housing First Research

- Significant evidence that Housing First Works:
  - Reduces homelessness (Palepu, 2013; Tsemberis, 2000, Gulcur, 2003)
  - Reduces hospital utilization among individuals with persistent mental illness & problems with substance abuse & addiction (Cochrane-Stergiopoulos, 2015; Fitzpatrick-Lewis, 2011; Montgomery, 2013; Nelson, 2007)
  - Improves housing stability for people with mental disorders (Stergiopoulos, 2015; Palepu, 2013; Tsemberis, 2000)
  - Advances mental health and well-being (Nelson, 2007; Tsemberis, 2012)




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## Housing First Research

- Significant evidence that Housing First Works:
  - Increases treatment for substance abuse and addiction (Nelson, 2007; Tsemberis, 2000)
  - Decreases utilization of psychiatric hospitals for formerly homeless individuals with mental illness (Gulcur, 2003)
  - Program participants report significantly higher quality of life than non-participants (Patterson, 2013)
  - Substance use declines among program participants (Kirst, 2015)




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## Housing First Research

- Economic Benefits:
  - Decreases cost to shelters (Stergiopoulos, 2015; Ly, 2015)
  - Decreases costs to emergency departments (Ly, 2015)
  - RRH linked with cost reductions associated with hospitalizations and treatment for individuals with persistent mental illness & substance abuse problems (Srebnik, 2013; Urban-Cunningham, 2009)
  - Housing First programs generally cost less than programs that require sobriety or treatment prior to providing housing (Gulcur, 2003)



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## Housing First

- Multiple funding streams are prioritizing Housing First models, particularly HUD
- Also prioritizing applicants that allocate beds specifically for individuals who are chronically homeless
  - Individuals who are currently residing in a place not meant for human habitation or emergency shelter
  - Continuously homeless for 12 months or have had 4 instances of homelessness over last 3 years totaling 12 months
  - Diagnosed SUD, SMI, Developmental Disability, Physical Disability, or TBI



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## Karluk Manor (Anchorage)



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## TCC Housing First (Fairbanks)





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## Permanent Supportive Housing in AK

- UAA Permanent Supportive Housing Evaluation (AHFC/AMHTA Funded)
  - Released May 2017
- Clients from Karluk Manor & TCC Housing First
- Compared client health outcomes before/after moving into PSH (2012-2014)
  - Contrasted with control group
- Average participant
  - 50 years old, male, high school diploma or GED
  - Born in Alaska
  - Multiple chronic conditions + long-term struggles with alcohol




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## Permanent Supportive Housing in AK

- Key Findings:
  - Significant decline in alcohol consumption after moving into PSH
  - After one year, tenants reported:
    - Higher levels of engagement within the community
    - Fewer symptoms of depression
    - Lower levels of pain
  - Increased case management had positive influence on tenant participation in services and non-alcohol related recreation




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## Permanent Supportive Housing in AK

- Key Findings:
  - Tenants had decreases in all emergency service utilization compared to the year before move-in
    - Utilization rate remained at lower rate in second year of tenancy
  - Jail nights decreased, but not significantly
    - Primarily due to previous arrests




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**Forget Me Not Manor (Juneau)**





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**Big Changes Underway**



**Coordinated Entry**


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Coordinated Entry

- Access
- Assessment
  - Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool 2.0 (VI-SPDAT 2.0)
    - Physical/Mental/Behavioral Health Risks
    - Service Utilization
    - Barriers to Housing
- Prioritization
  - Communitywide
- Referral
  - Objective



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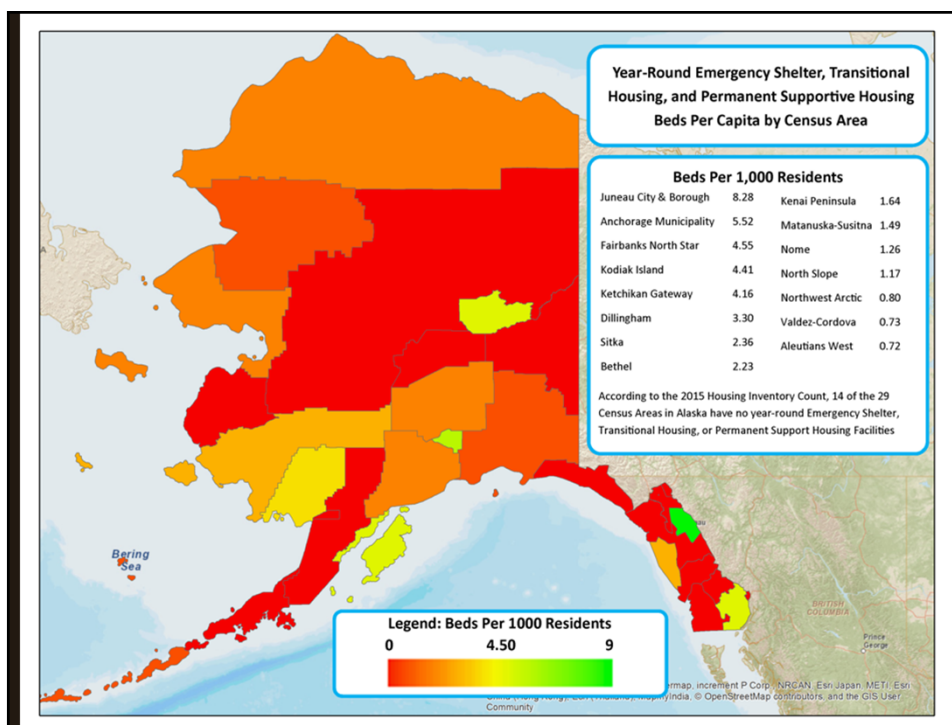


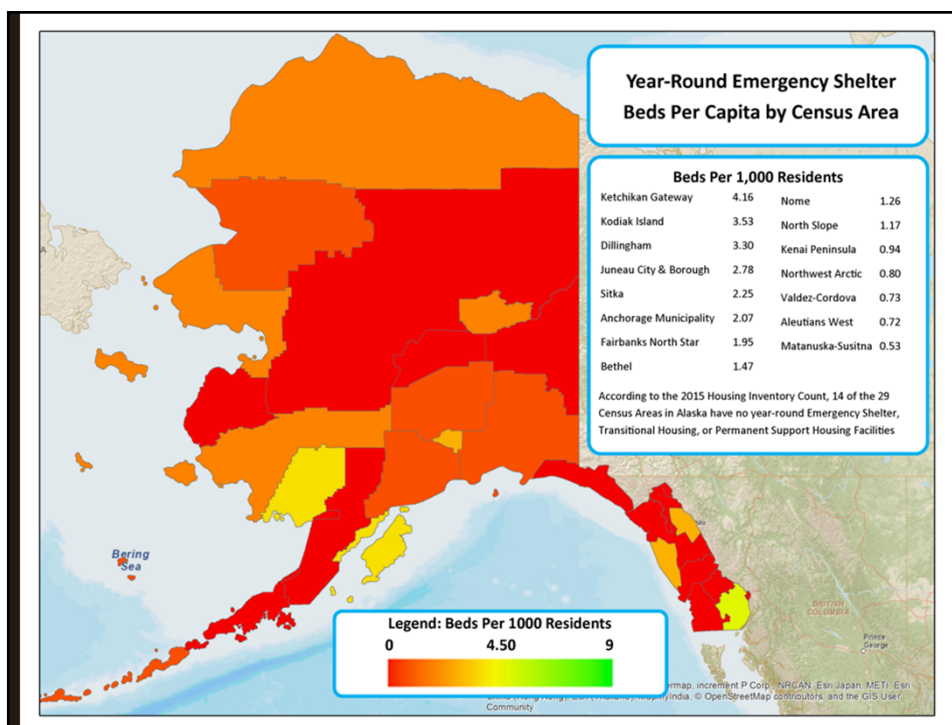
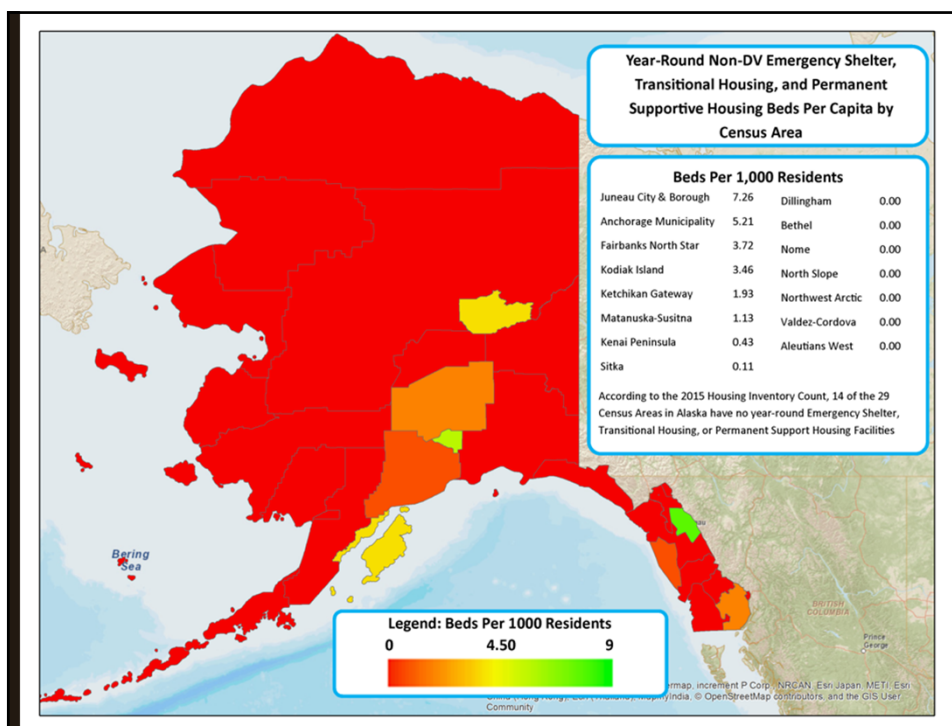
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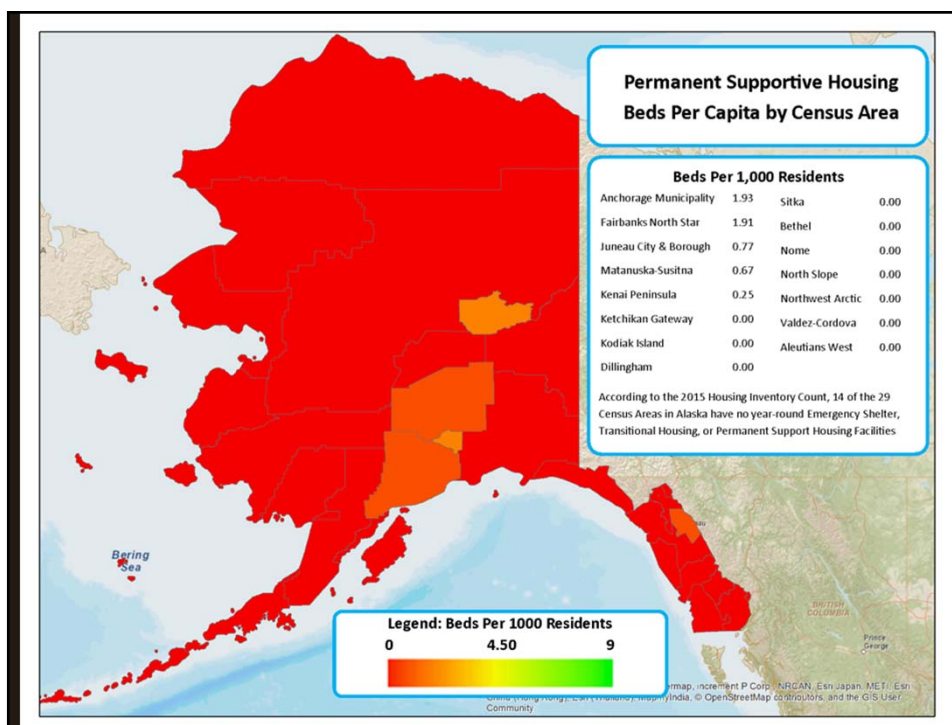
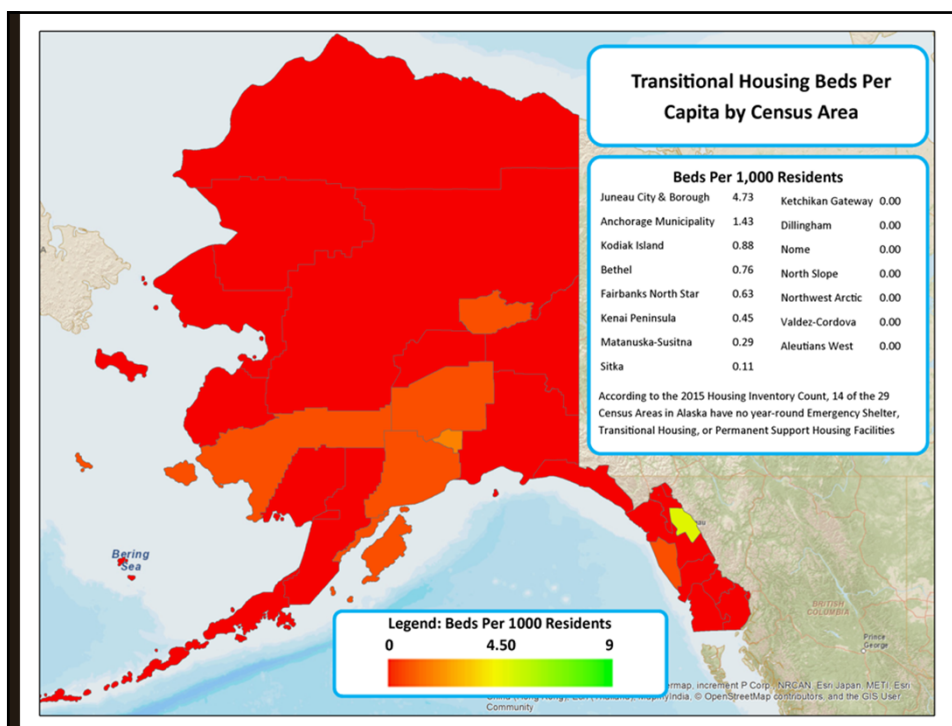
# The Path Forward

## Increase Capacity of Continuum of Care

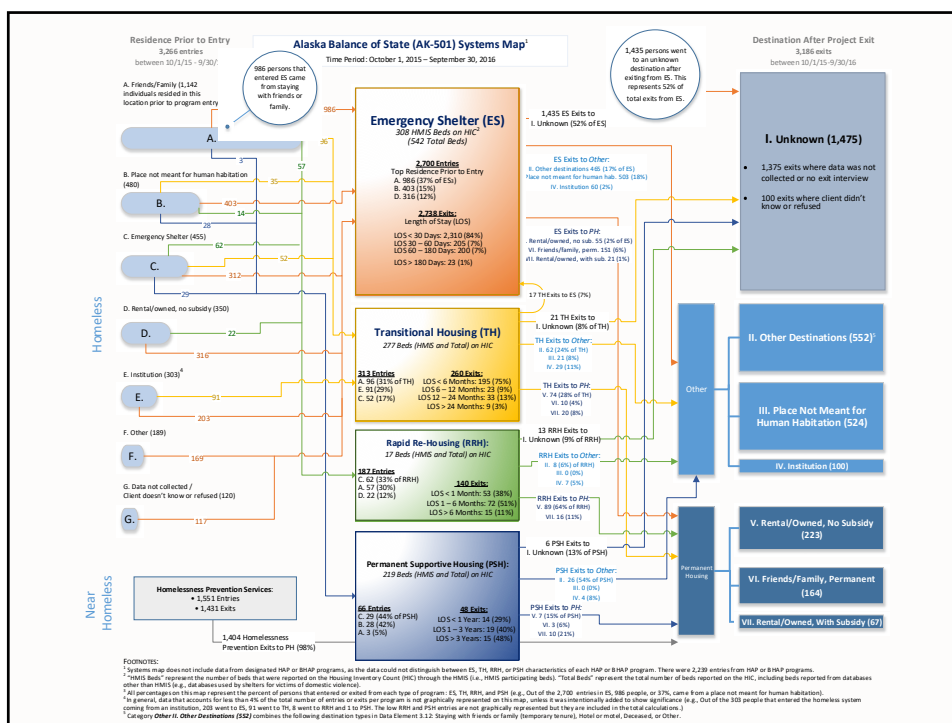
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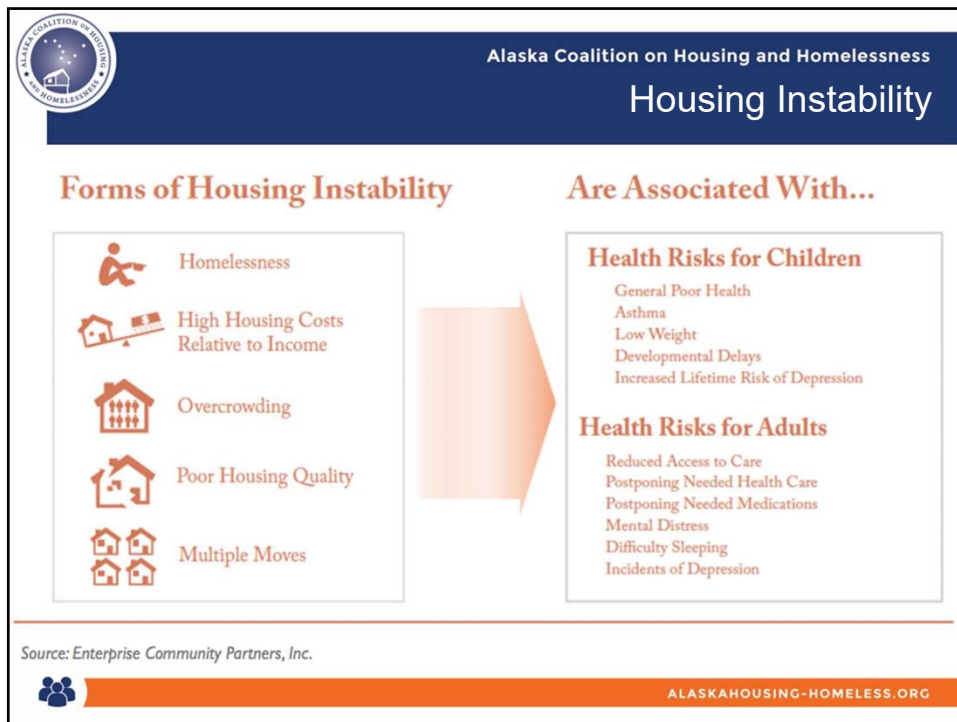




## Rural Housing Issues

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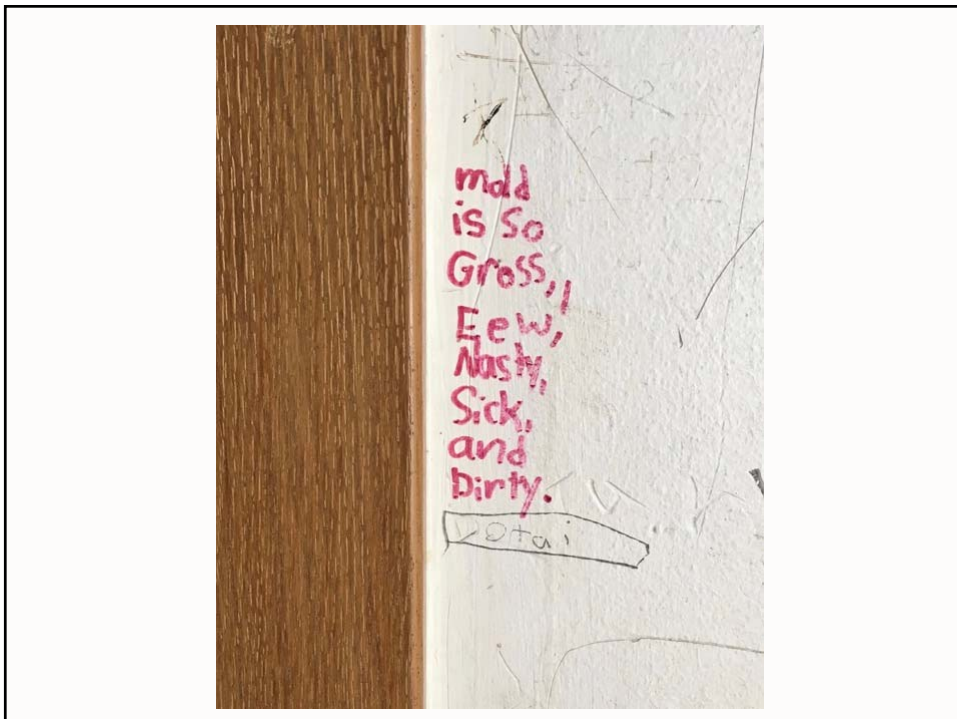


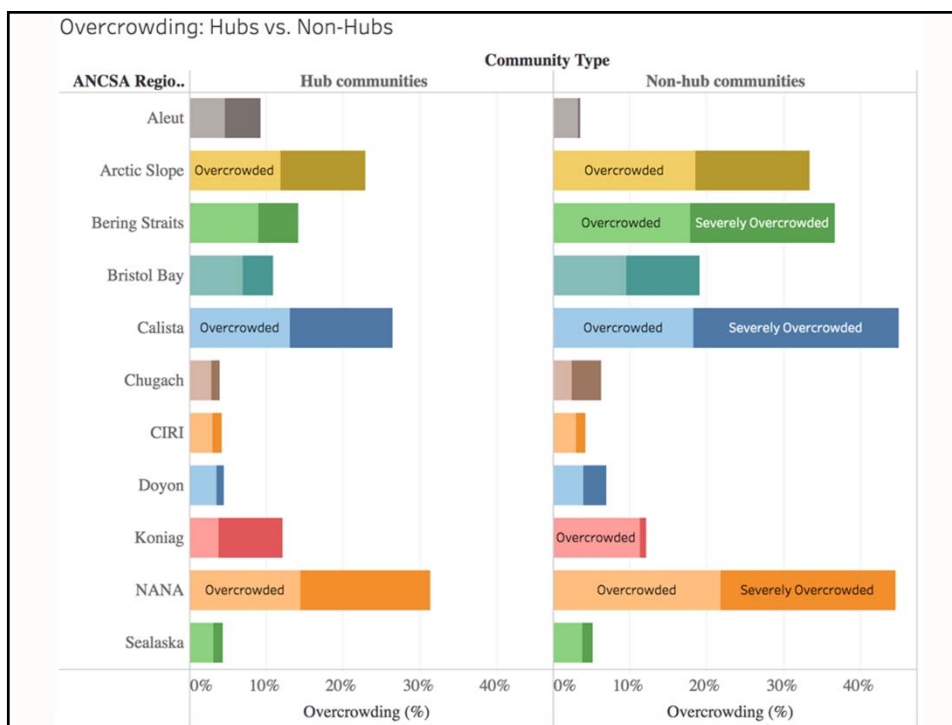
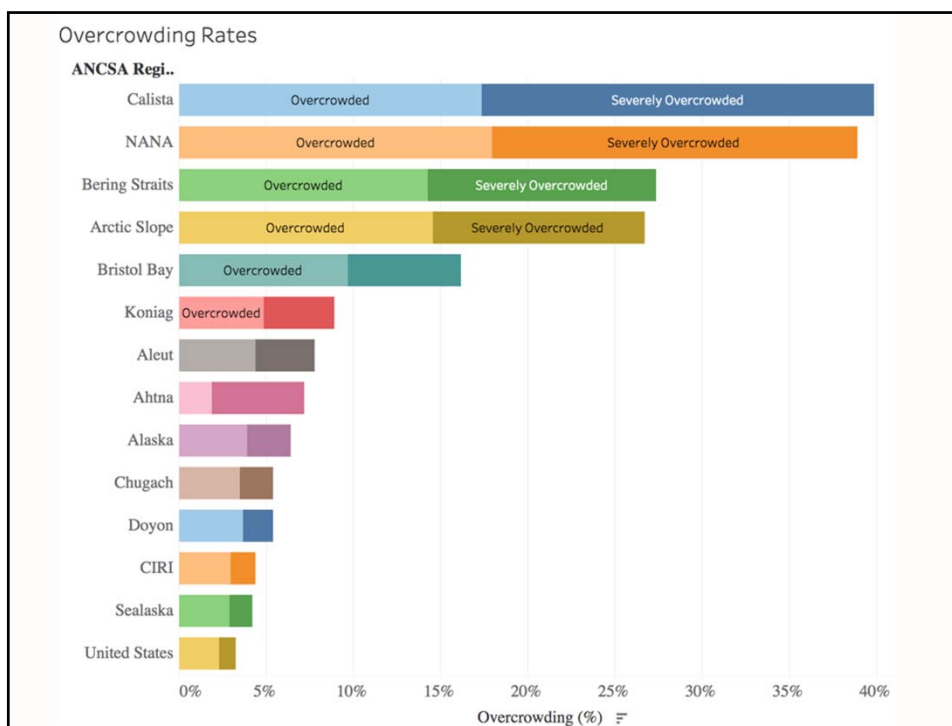

















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# Opportunities






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- Inter-Agency Policy Coordination
  - Funders Collaborative
  - Guidebook for Communities
  - Legislative Committee on Housing
  - I I I 5 Waivers
  - Medicaid Innovative Accelerator Program



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