

FOSTERING COLLABORATION BETWEEN JUSTICE AND HOUSING SYSTEM PARTNERS

September 2022



Urban Institute

Supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Presentation Background

MacArthur
Foundation



Agenda

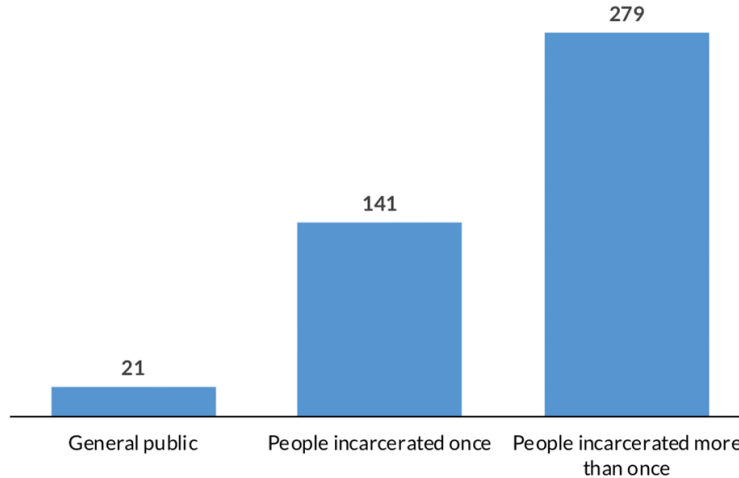
- Connections between housing instability and jail use
- Role of housing and justice sector collaboration
- Brainstorm activity

HOUSING INSTABILITY – JAIL CYCLE

PROBLEM: HOUSING INSTABILITY CAN BOTH
LEAD TO AND RESULT FROM CONTACT WITH
THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM.

People with a history of incarceration are **13 times more likely** to experience homelessness than the general public

Number of people experiencing homelessness per 10,000 people in 2008

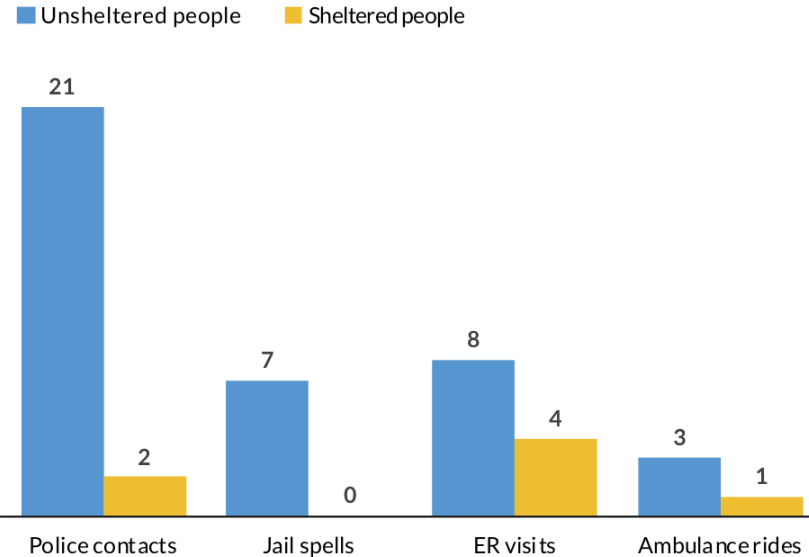


Source: Lucius Couloute, "Nowhere to go: Homelessness among formerly incarcerated people", Prison Policy Initiative, August 2018

Urban Institute: [Five Charts That Explain the Homelessness-Jail Cycle—and How to Break It](#)

People experiencing unsheltered homelessness are **more likely** to interact with the justice system

Average number of interactions in previous six months



Source: Janey Rountree, Nathan Hess, and Austin Lyke, "Health Conditions among Unsheltered Adults in the US," California Policy Lab, October 6, 2019
Urban Institute: [Five Charts That Explain the Homelessness-Jail Cycle—and How to Break It](#)

**Justice
involvement
creates barriers to
stable housing**



Finding
housing

Qualifying for
housing



Affording
housing

**Housing instability
leads to higher
likelihood of justice
system involvement**

Increased interactions
with police

Multiple unmet and
underlying needs may
be exacerbated
through housing
instability

FOCUS ON COLLABORATION

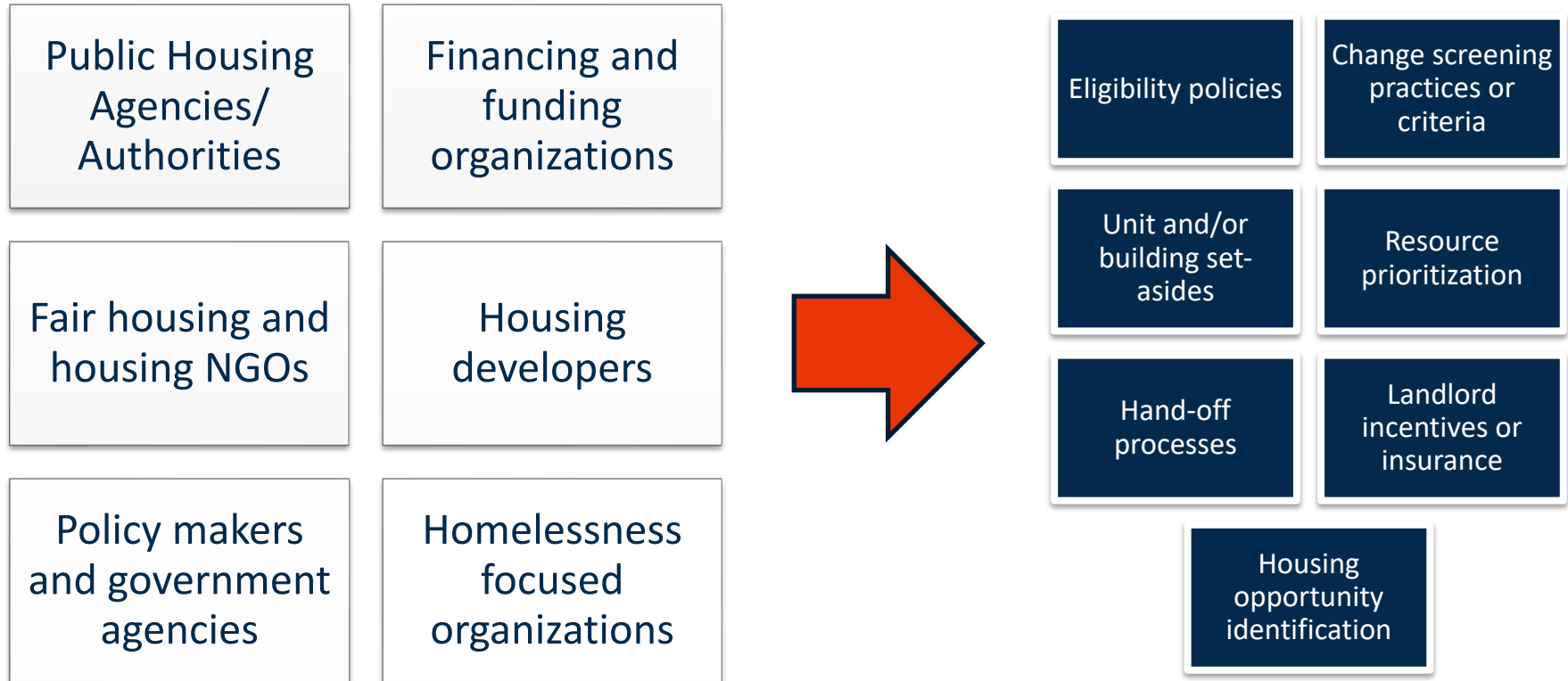
Importance of building collaboration

Housing and the criminal justice sectors have **a shared interest** in keeping people stably housed and out of jail

These sectors have historically **been siloed**, lacking shared communication, data, terminology, funding, and accountability

Lack of engagement can reinforce a **de-prioritization of justice-involved** individuals for existing housing, **limit innovation**, and **reduce development of new housing** options for justice-involved people

Actors and Solutions That Can Enhance Collaboration



Strong local partnerships produce results

Source: [Vera Institute](#)

Coming Home NYC: Family Reentry Pilot Program

- Partners: NYC Housing Authority + NYC and NY state corrections agencies + NYC Department of Homeless services + Vera + Corporation for Supportive Housing
- Purpose: reunites formerly incarcerated people with their families in public housing to create supports
- Focus: access to public housing with families; reentry services

Strong local partnerships produce pathways

Source: [CSH](#)

Home for Good Ohio

- [Partners](#): Corporation for supportive housing + Ohio Department of Corrections + Ohio Housing Finance Agency
- [Purpose](#): Link people with disabilities and/or history of homelessness to supportive housing and referrals
- [Focus](#): Rental assistance subsidy; housing supports

Strong local partnerships produce innovation

Source: [Impact Justice](#)

Homecoming Project

- Partners: Enterprise Community Partners + Impact Justice
- Purpose: Provide housing in a tight housing market for people exiting incarceration to bridge housing and social gaps
- Focus: Use share economy to subsidize homeowners to rent a room; provide screening and matching services

Strong local partnerships produce policies

Source: [Illinois.gov](https://www.illinois.gov)

Illinois: Public Housing Access Bill

- Partners: legislature + Restoring Rights and Opportunities Coalition
- Purpose: Remove barriers to public housing for those with criminal history
- Focus: Limits “look back”; removes ineligibility for public housing

BREAKOUT ACTIVITY

Instructions

- Split into breakout groups
- 10 min individual reflection on existing collaboration and housing solutions
- 10 min discussing opportunities for expansion
- 5 min documenting an action you can take to improve or create local collaboration.

Discussion Questions

Reflect on current collaboration

What current collaborations or touch points exist between housing stakeholders and the justice system?

Where do these collaborations happen?
What issues are they focused on?

Do you know if the housing solutions on the worksheet exist in your jurisdiction?

Areas of opportunity for deeper collaboration:

What are the gaps in current practice?

What actors or agencies are not at the table, but should be?

What policies, programs, or decisions need to be made to encourage more collaboration?

Which actors or agencies would need to?



SafetyAndJusticeChallenge.org