Balance of State Continuum of Care Statewide Meeting

March 30. 2015, Roberts Chapel, State Offices South
at Tift College, Forsyth, GA

March 31, 2015, Webinar (Same Agenda Repeated)

Georgia Department of
Community Affairs

March 30-31, 2015

Presented by DCA as Collaborative Applicant

Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions

- Homelessness in the Balance of State CoC

- HEARTH, CoC Regulations, & HUD Priorities

- Balance of State Continuum Governance

- Balance of State Continuum Competition

- Membership Input

Homelessness in the Balance of State Continuum of Care

Georgia Department of
Community Affairs

March 2015 | Katie Arce – Data Coordinator

2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) Update

THANK YOU!!!

All Georgia Balance of State AHAR shells accepted by HUD as useable.
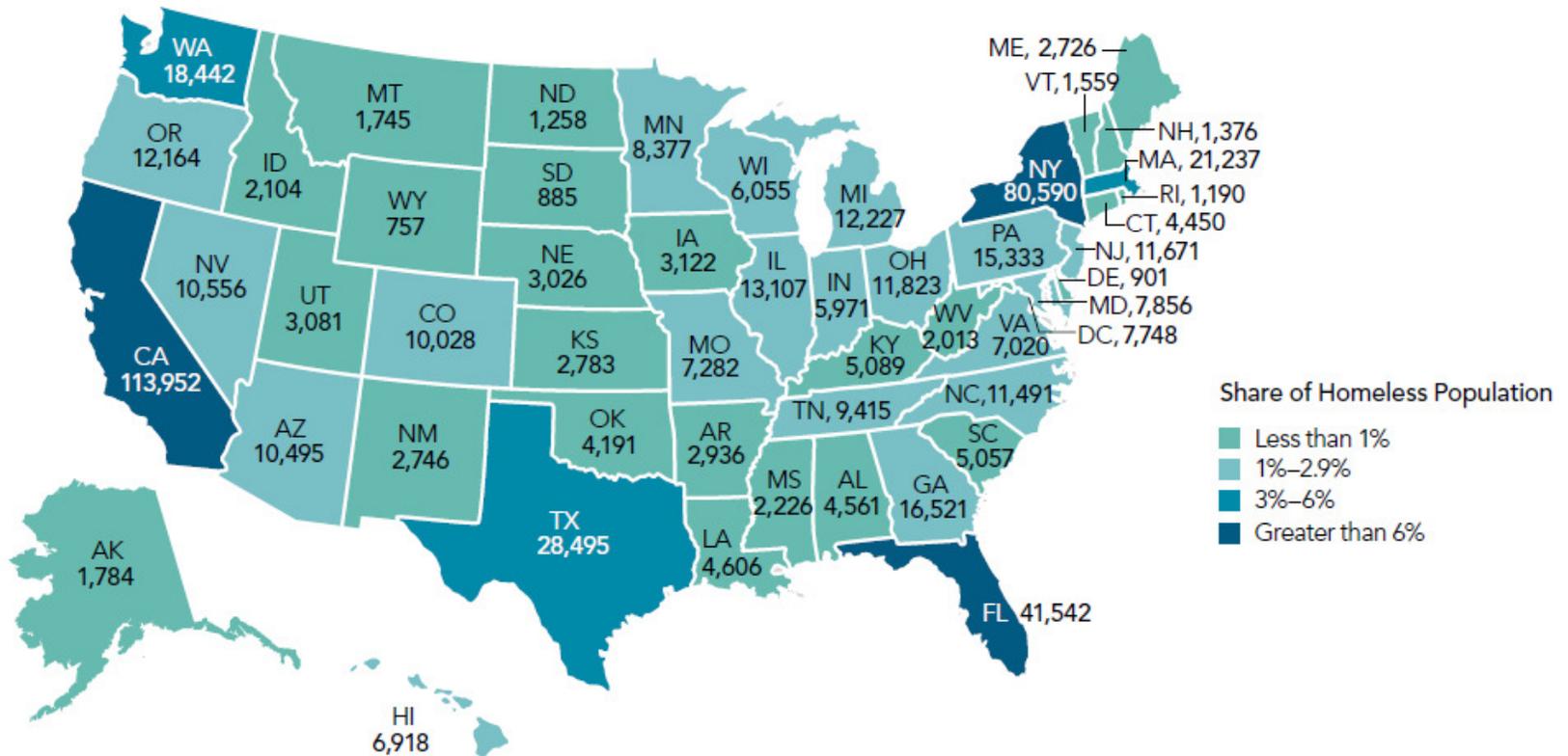
2015 Point in Time Homeless Count Update

- 69 Counties

- 23 Count coordinators
  - April Mahone, City of Albany
  - Charlotte Christian, City of Thomasville
  - Daisy Jones, City of Hinesville
  - Derrick Jordan, Salvation Army Brunswick
  - Diane Rogers, Concerted Services
  - Frances Phillips, Faith Community Services
  - Jennifer Shearin, Dalton-Whitfield Community Development Corporation
  - Jessica David, Emmaus Shelter
  - Jessica Mitcham, Good Neighbor Homeless Shelter
  - Joan Stoddard, United Way for the CSRA
  - Jodie Goodman, Carrollton Housing Authority
  - Kelly Strozier, City of Valdosta
  - Kerrie Davis, Southwest Georgia Regional Commission
  - Kim Loesing, MUST Ministries
  - Lydna Barrs, CSRA Economic Opportunity Authority
  - Marjorie Lacy, Haven House
  - Marlena Dixon, Patsy Thomas Community Mental Health Center of Middle Georgia
  - Ronnie Mathis, South Georgia Partnership to End Homelessness
  - Shauntae Tyson, City of Brunswick
  - Shawn Howell, Ninth District Opportunity
  - Suzy Bus, Gwinnett Coalition
  - Targie Folds, Green County BOE
  - Vanessa Flucas , City of Valdosta

Homelessness In the US

EXHIBIT 1.5: **Estimates of Homeless People**
By State, 2014

Share of Homeless Population
- Less than 1%
- 1%–2.9%
- 3%–6%
- Greater than 6%

WA 18,442
MT 1,745
ND 1,258
MN 8,377
OR 12,164
ID 2,104
SD 885
WI 6,055
MI 12,227
ME, 2,726
VT, 1,559
NH, 1,376
NY 80,590
MA, 21,237
RI, 1,190
CT, 4,450
NV 10,556
WY 757
NE 3,026
IA 3,122
IL 13,107
IN 5,971
OH 11,823
PA 15,333
NJ, 11,671
DE, 901
MD, 7,856
DC, 7,748
UT 3,081
CO 10,028
KS 2,783
MO 7,282
KY 5,089
WV 2,013
VA 7,020
CA 113,952
AZ 10,495
NM 2,746
OK 4,191
AR 2,936
TN, 9,415
NC, 11,491
SC 5,057
MS 2,226
AL 4,561
GA 16,521
TX 28,495
LA 4,606
FL 41,542
AK 1,784
HI 6,918

Homelessness in the US

- 578,424 people were homeless on a given night
  - 31% were unsheltered homeless
  - 63% of the homeless were individuals
  - 12% were chronically homeless
  - 9% were veterans
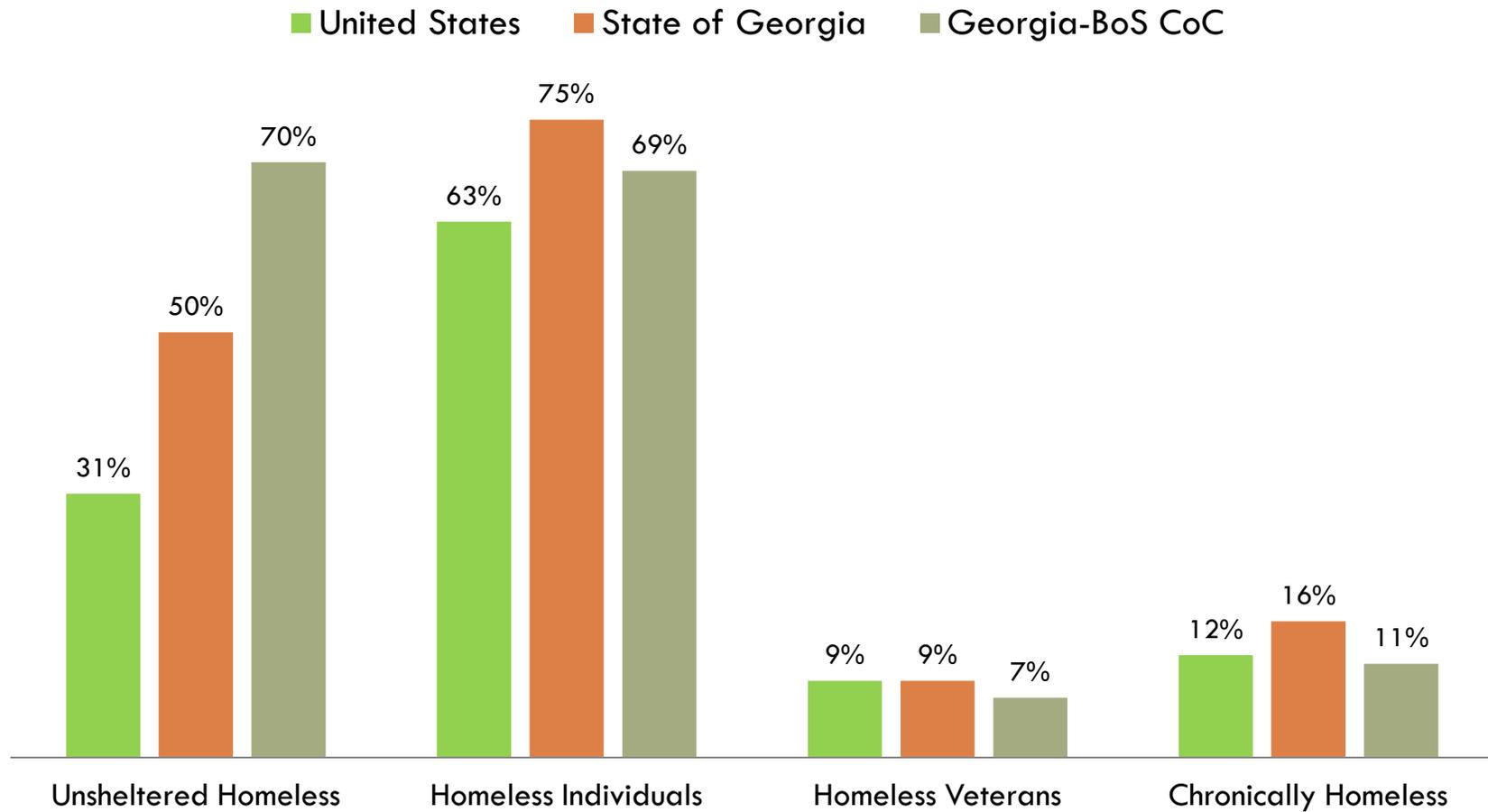
Homelessness in Georgia

- 16,521 people were homeless on a given night
  - 50% were unsheltered homeless
  - 75% of the homeless were individuals
  - 16% were chronically homeless
  - 9% were veterans

Homelessness in the GA-BoS

- 7,577 people were homeless on a given night
  - 70% were unsheltered homeless
  - 69% of the homeless were individuals
  - 11% were chronically homeless
  - 7% were veterans

Homeless Population Comparisons

How do we compare to other Balance of State Continuums?

- Almost 72% of the homeless in the Texas BoS CoC are individuals. We follow close behind at 69%.

- The Georgia BoS has the highest rate of unsheltered homeless individuals at 87%.

- The Georgia BoS has the 2nd highest rate of unsheltered homeless veterans at 78%.
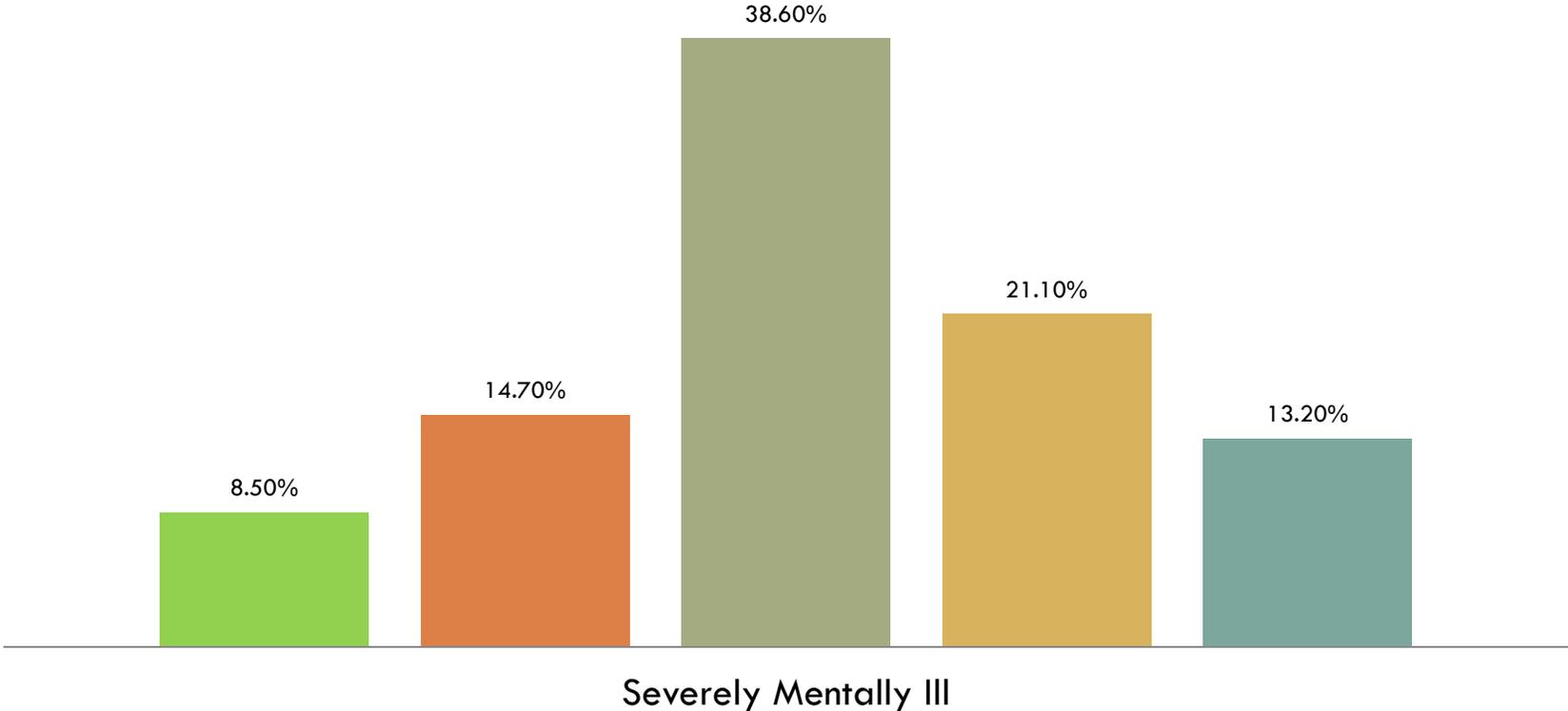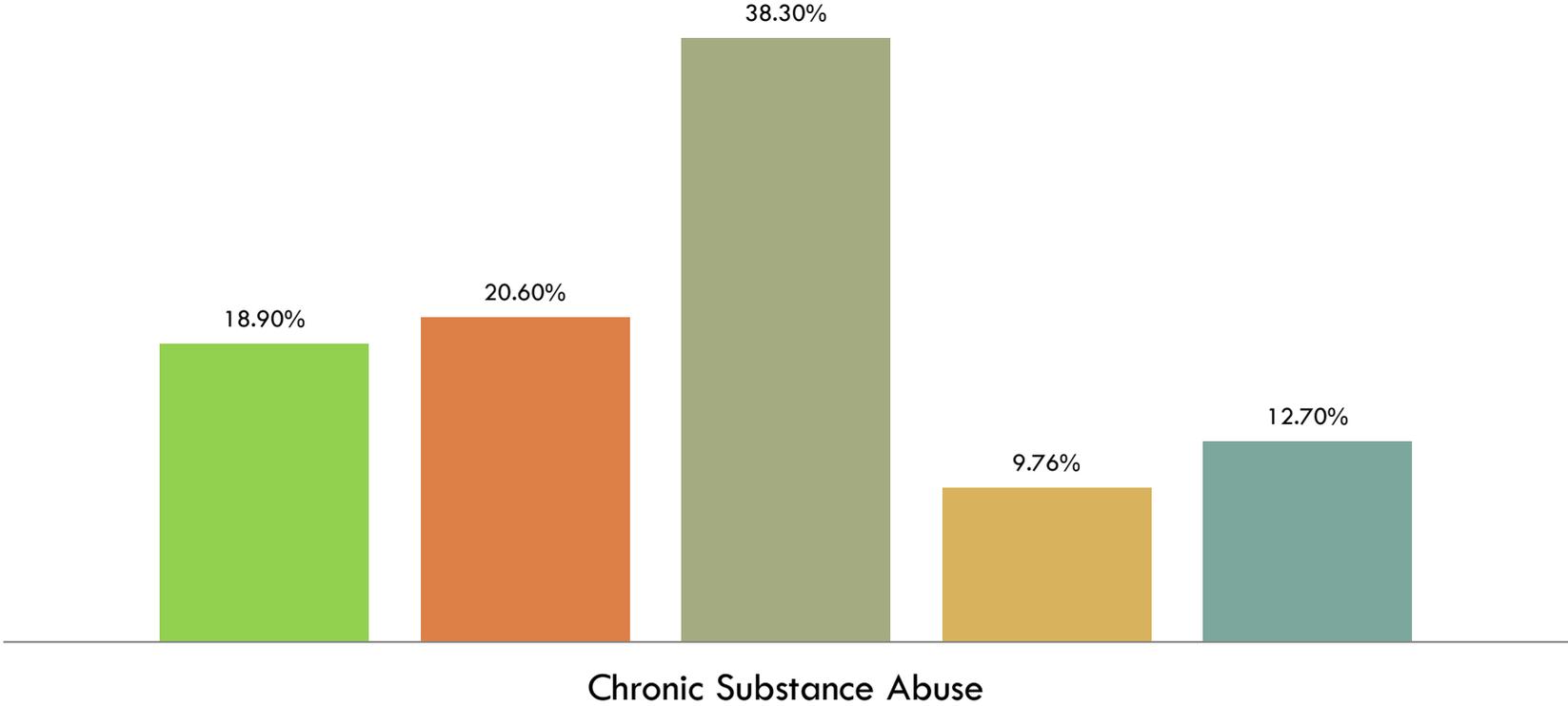
Percent of Homeless Population who are Veterans
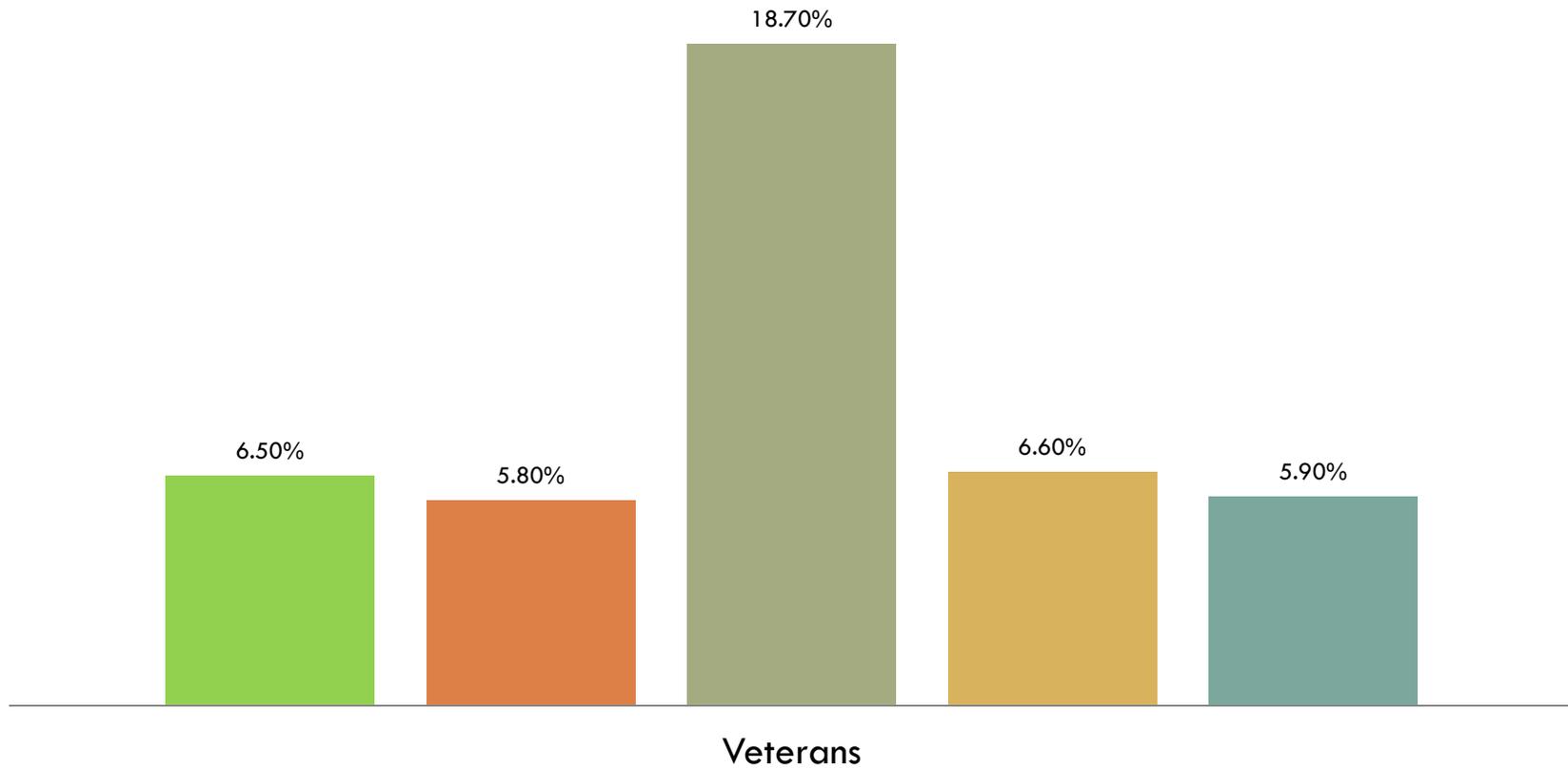
Percent of Homeless Population with Severe Mental Illness

- ■ Georgia BoS
- ■ North Carolina BoS
- ■ Texas BoS
- ■ Washington BoS
- ■ Ohio BoS

38.60%
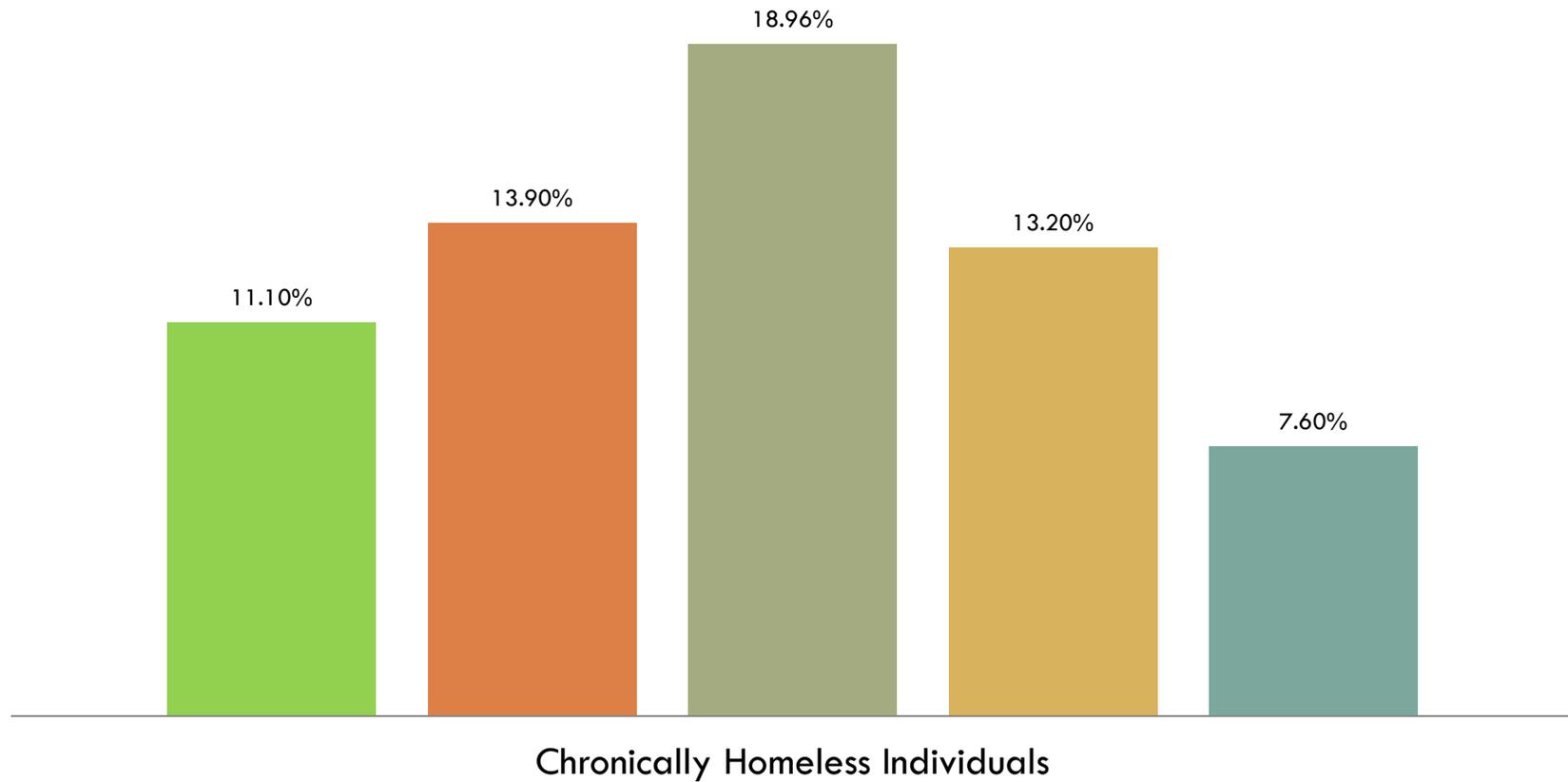
21.10%

14.70%

13.20%

8.50%

Severely Mentally Ill

Percent of Homeless Population with Chronic Substance Abuse Issues

■ Georgia BoS ■ North Carolina BoS ■ Texas BoS ■ Washington BoS ■ Ohio BoS

Chronic Substance Abuse

Percent of Homeless Population who are Chronically Homeless Individuals

Balance of State Continuum Governance

Georgia® Department of Community Affairs

March 2015

Don Watt – Director

CoC Governance Charter

The CoC is required to develop and follow a governance charter that details the functions of:

- ❑ the CoC board
- ❑ the CoC's committee structure and roles
- ❑ HMIS Lead
- ❑ staff roles
- ❑ the process for amending the charter

Governance charter must include:

- ❑ Policies and policies to carry out CoC responsibilities
- ❑ Code of conduct
- ❑ Recusal process for board, board chair(s), etc.

Governance charter must be:

- ❑ Reviewed and updated annually
- ❑ Developed in consultation with the Collaborative Applicant and HMIS lead

BoS Continuum of Care Progress:

- Fall 2013, two meetings to establish the initial CoC membership and receive input for founding Governance Charter.

- January 28, 2014, initial Governance Charter ratified by a majority of Continuum membership.

- Board appointments from state agencies and approval by the Membership and Rules Committee AND Election of the 5 "at large" Board members.

- Board Meeting January 21, 2015
  - Board approved membership of the Interim Rules and Membership and the Interim Standards, Rating and Project Selection Committees.
  - Revised Governance Charter adopted.

- Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct in development

Balance of State Continuum of Care Board of Directors

- The Board will consist of 17 members, who will either be appointed by state agency heads, or elected by the Continuum membership.

- Continuum membership will elect 5 "at large" board members.

- Appointments must be relevant to the Continuum, either providing direct or indirect funding or some form of services to the homeless, and shall be established as follows:

Homeless/Formerly Homeless   Gwinnett County (ESG Coordination)

Clayton County (ESG Coordination)   State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless (2)

State agency responsible for:
- ESG Coordination and special needs housing (2)
- Combating family violence
- Public and private workforce system
- Correction system for adult offenders
- Services for behavioral health, substance abuse, and developmental disabilities
- Local school systems

BoS CoC Board Members

Board Member	Agency
Carmen Chubb, Chair	Department of Community Affairs
Shannon L. Candler, Vice Chair	Gwinnett County (ESG coordination)
Patrick McNally	Department of Community Affairs
Bill McGahan	State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless
Brian Williamson	State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless
Monica Saxby Parker	GA Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
Mike Kraft	GA Department of Corrections
Eric McGhee	GA Department of Education

BoS CoC Board Members

Board Member	Agency
Ann Shirra	GA Department of Labor
Sule Carpenter	Clayton County (ESG coordination)
Jennifer Shearin	Dalton-Whitfield County CDC
John R. Moeller	At-Large BoS Region 1
Lejla Slowinski	At-Large BoS Region 2
Sister Elizabeth Greim	At-Large BoS Region 3
David E. Blackwell	At-Large BoS Region 4
Randy Welty	At-Large BoS Region 5
Vacant	State agency designated by General Assembly to combat family violence

Balance of State Continuum of Care Standing Committees

- The Continuum will have 4 standing committees:
  - Membership and Rules Committee
  - Standards, Rating and Project Selection Committee
  - Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Committee
  - Assessment, Placement and Services Committee

Membership and Rules Committee Responsibilities

- This committee will work with greater autonomy than the other committees, providing a system of checks and balances for the Continuum as a whole. This is the only committee to make decisions, as well as recommendations to the Continuum Board.

- These include:
  - Development and implementation of the Continuum "Conflict of Interest and Recusal Policy", as well as the oversight of members adhering to the Code of Conduct.
  - Investigation of complaints against the Continuum, a report to the Board of the actions taken, along with recommendations for mitigation.
  - Appointment of a homeless or formerly homeless person.
  - Update of the Governance Charter annually (in consultation with the Collaborative Applicant and HMIS lead) for approval by the Continuum Board.

Membership and Rules Committee Responsibilities continued.

These include:

- ❑ The right to recommend appointments to the Continuum Board.

- ❑ Determination of the term length of all Board members (staggered length, 3-5 years).

- ❑ Termination of Board members for reasonable cause. This includes, but is not limited to, the presence of a conflict of interest that cannot be mitigated or if attendance at meetings does not meet standards established by the Membership and Rules Committee.

- ❑ Chair of the Membership and Rules Committee shall serve as the Ethics Officer of the Board but may or may not be a member of the Board.

- ❑ Development and implementation of process for the nomination and election of "at large" Board members from each of the five (5) DCA super-regions.

Membership and Rules Committee

John Marria, PhD, DBA
Housing Authority of the City of Cairo; South GA PHA

Evan Mills, MSW, Committee Chair
Advantage Behavioral Health Services; Northeast GA

Stuart Mullis
Valdosta-Lowndes Habitat for Humanity/South GA Partnership to End
    Homelessness; S GA

Cynthia Patterson
Governor's Office of Transition, Support and Reentry; Central GA

Don Watt
Department of Community Affairs; Special Needs Housing Statewide

Standards, Rating and Project Selection Committee Responsibilities

- Development and recommendation of written standards for all phases of BoS CoC and Emergency Solutions Grants programs for Board approval.

- These written standards will be developed in consultation with:
  - the Collaborative Applicant
  - the Continuum's three (3) ESG entitlement jurisdictions [Gwinnett County, Clayton County, and the State of Georgia (Georgia Housing and Finance Authority)]
  - stakeholders throughout the Continuum, including the recipients and sub recipients.
- In line with priorities established by HUD, these written standards shall prioritize assistance and placement for persons and families who are chronically homeless, persons with disabilities, and persons with the highest number of barriers to placement and stable housing.

Standards, Rating and Project Selection Committee Responsibilities (Continued)

- Written standards will be established for all prevention, outreach, shelter, rapid rehousing, transitional, supportive service, and permanent supportive housing programs that serve homeless or near homeless persons in the Continuum.

- Among other requirements, these standards will include criteria for ESG and CoC programs, including:
  - policies and procedures for evaluating household eligibility
  - policies and procedures for determining appropriate transitional, permanent supportive (including rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing), or other housing placement
  - rental payment standards for the Continuum's rapid re-housing programs

- Other committee responsibilities include:
  - Point-in-Time Count methodology
  - NOFA competition rating and selection policy and process (sub-committees appointed for CoC application review)
  - Gaps analysis

Standards, Rating & Project Selection Committee

Rachel Castillo

MUST Ministries, Inc.; Nonprofit Homeless Service Provider; North, GA

Evan Mills, MSW

Advantage Behavioral Health Services; Mental Health Service Provider

Phillippa Moss

City of Gainesville; Local Government; Housing & Neighborhood Development

Lakeisha Cramer

Family Promise of Gwinnett County, Inc.; Nonprofit Homeless Service Provider; Gwinnett

Appointment pending, South Georgia Representative

Standing Committees in Development

Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Committee:

- ☐ To be determined

Assessment, Placement and Services Committee:

- ☐ To be determined

Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Committee

- BoS Recommendations and oversight for HMIS Lead
- Review, revise and recommend privacy, security and data quality plan for the HMIS
- Assure HUD compliance by HMIS Lead
- Monitor HMIS participation
- Interact with HMIS user groups

Assessment, Placement and Services Committee

- Lead in the development of a Coordinated Assessment System
- Develop written standards for CoC and ESG program admissions
- Identify system issues/needs/barriers to housing and services
- Coordination of service programs, system of care, homeless liaisons
- Facilitate and maximize access to mainstream services
- Work with providers on affirmatively furthering fair housing and prevention of involuntary separation of homeless families
- Joint with state interagency council

Collaborative Applicant (DCA) Responsibilities

- To provide oversight for the Continuum in order to meet HUD's rule for Continua of Care and to assure that requirements are met for the annual HUD Continuum of Care funding competition.

- Maintain Continuum membership lists, conduct membership recruitment campaigns targeted to stakeholders publish agendas for membership meetings, and assist the Board in conducting meetings of full membership not less than twice annually.

- Consult with both ESG Entitlements and HUD Consolidated Planning jurisdictions.

- Implement and coordinate the biennial unsheltered point in time count and the annual shelter survey.

Collaborative Applicant (DCA) Responsibilities (continued)

- ☐ DCA will provide staff for the Continuum's planning and implementation of:
  - ☐ HUD and United States Interagency Council on Homelessness's plan, "Opening Doors", to end homelessness.
  - ☐ Coordinated assessment system that assesses the eligibility and needs of each household seeking homeless assistance and provides services to homeless households that best fit their individual circumstances in regaining independence within the community in the shortest possible time.
  - ☐ Housing and service system within its geographic area that meets the needs of homeless households, that encompass outreach, shelter, housing, and prevention strategies".
  - ☐ Written standards that establish a minimum set of expectations in terms of the quality expected of projects, their priorities and the implementation of strategy.

Membership

- Formalized process

- Agency representation and individuals

- Voting – Designated voting member (agencies only)

- Agencies contacted when designated member leaves (replace member contact for agency)

- Participation – Code of Conduct under development
  - Proposed – attend not less than one meeting (membership, Board, Committee, or Subcommittee) per year
  - Agencies can substitute staff for meeting participation
  - Policy for inactive or non-voting members TBD

- Conflict of Interest under development

Key Changes to the
Georgia Balance of State CoC
Governance Charter

March 2015

Don Watt – Director

Changes to the Governance Charter

- Page 2:
  - Revised the date to end chronic homelessness to December 31, 2016 to align with changes to the federal goal.

- Page 4 & 5 – Section B – Governing Board
  - Removed names of specific agencies and referred to each as the "State agency responsible for" based the mission or purpose noted in OCGA.

Changes to the Governance Charter

- Page 6 – Removed statement that read:

"Each Board Member shall serve a staggered term of 3-5 years."

- Replaced with:

"Board terms shall be for 3 years. Initially, however, to ensure continuity, initial terms will be staggered (3, 4, and 5 years), as determined by the Membership and Rules Committee."

Changes to the Governance Charter

☐ Page 7: Deleted the following statement:

"Board actions shall require a majority vote from a quorum (9 members) of the Board."

Added the following statements:

"A quorum shall require that at least fifty percent (50%) of the entire Board membership is present. Assigned proxy can be used.

The affirmative vote of a majority of the Board members in attendance at a meeting shall be the act of the Board if a quorum is present."

Balance of State Continuum of Care Competition

Georgia Department of
Community Affairs

March 2015 | Tina Moore – CoC Program Coordinator

Georgia Funding History

Continuum	1997	1998	2000	2004	2008	2012	2013	2014
Tri-J	5,654,241	5,122,962	5,997,067	5,804,726	9,408,317	11,530,171	0	0
Atlanta	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,849,630	6,959,507
DeKalb	0	0	0	837,187	0	0	3,423,018	3,867,362
Fulton	0	0	0	207,659	0	0	2,797,895	2,808,355
Augusta-Richmond	0	695,493	65,499	377,152	451,828	681,567	710,169	709,617
Columbus-Muscogee	1,006,445	710,009	819,664	938,892	1,192,067	1,360,074	1,279,722	1,274,573
Cobb	81,260	1,271,876	840,578	2,143,202	1,482,204	2,155,870	2,070,501	2,084,323
Savannah-Chatham	740,998	1,342,266	902,441	3,086,266	3,263,282	3,940,548	3,841,550	4,052,707
Athens-Clarke	0	778,776	0	536,882	570,905	803,337	670,853	689,244
Douglas	379,300	51,798	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gwinnett	0	213,594	0	0	0	0	0	0
Macon	325,603	270,155	467,488	0	0	0	0	0
GA BoS	0	3,977,892	3,360,960	9,282,077	11,119,822	12,812,525	13,902,819	14,626,267
Totals	8,187,847	14,434,821	12,462,697	23,214,043	27,488,425	33,284,092	35,545,887	37,071,955

Context – 2013 and 2014 Competition

The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) is a competition held each year to compete for both renewal and new funding.

It has 2 principal layers…

1. The Collaborative Applicant (DCA) for the CoC competes against other CoCs to show the work the CoC is doing to end homelessness. It receives a score for this work.

Based on this score, the CoC may get some or all of the funding available nationwide, up to its ARD (annual renewal demand).

2. Projects must compete against each other within the CoC to ensure that they have priority in receiving funding that is allocated to the CoC for each competition.

HUD ranks its preferred program types and so the types it prioritizes are more likely to receive funding…

Context – 2013 and 2014 Competition (Continued)

- Overall funding in each year was around $1.7 billion—not enough to cover all renewals

- CoCs must rank projects into two tiers: Tier 1 includes projects that are relatively safe (2014 set at ARD minus 5%)

- Tier 2 includes projects that are at risk of being reduced or unfunded

- HUD will select projects in Tier 1 using project selection priorities, and then select projects in Tier 2 using the same priorities

- CoCs that receive a higher CoC Application score are in the strongest position to have some Tier 2 projects funded

- Combined CoC application (and score) covering both FY13 and FY14 competitions

- Separate project applications and priority lists for FY13 and FY14 competitions

- New policy priorities and emphasis on strategies to accelerate progress on ending homelessness

2014 Competition

Only new projects allowed were:

☐ Reallocations to PSH for people experiencing chronic homelessness

☐ Reallocations to RRH for households with children

☐ CoC planning costs

☐ CoCs can propose new projects only by shifting funds from one or more projects to new PSH and RRH without decreasing the CoC's available funding

2014 Scoring Criteria (Renewals)

Projects that met threshold were scored on:

- Utilization of grant funds and project utilization
- Housing stability performance
- Program targets/serves Chronically Homeless
- Program targets/serves Veterans
- Program serves people with special needs (disabilities)
- Employment income, increased income, & mainstream
- Number of persons exiting to street, shelter, unknown
- DCA monitoring, CoC participation, and HMIS data quality
- HUD priority (non SSO)
- Match and Leveraging
- Project summary
- Point deduction for late applications
- Bonus points for CoC defined priority projects (PH)

2014 BoS Awards

- $14.6 million
- 73 projects awarded funds
  - 44 PSH renewal projects
  - 20 TH renewal projects
  - 2 SSO renewal projects
  - 1 Coordinated Assessment
  - 1 HMIS
  - 1 CoC planning
  - 4 New RRH
- The three lowest scoring projects, and a project that did not meet threshold, were reallocated.

2014 New BoS Awards (RRH)

- Caring Works, Inc. – Newton & Rockdale Counties

- New Horizons Community Service Board – Chattahoochee, Clay, Harris, Quitman, Randolph, Stewart, & Talbot Counties

- Ninth District Opportunity – Banks, Barrow, Cherokee, Dawson, Elbert, Fannin, Forsyth, Franklin, Gilmer, Habersham, Hall (City of Gainesville), Hart, Jackson, Lumpkin, Madison, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Pickens, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, & White Counties

- Project Community Connections – Gwinnett County

HUD NOFA Priorities

- HUD selects projects following the eligibility and selection priorities outlined in the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). HUD's priority order for both Tier 1 and 2 (2014):

  1. Permanent housing renewals

  2. PSH reallocations

  3. RRH reallocations

  4. Transitional housing renewals

  5. CoC planning costs

  6. UFA costs

  7. SSO for coordinated

  8. HMIS renewals

  9. All other SSO renewals

  10. Projects not included on GIW

HUD NOFA Priorities (Continued)

- CoCs should consider the policy priorities established in each CoC Program Competition NOFA in conjunction with CoC priorities to determine the ranking of all projects
  - Permanent Housing (PSH & RRH)
  - Strategic resource allocation
  - Ending chronic homelessness
  - Targeting – chronically homeless should be given priority for non-dedicated PSH beds through turnover
  - Housing First

Federal Emphasis for CoC to…

- ❑ Use a performance scorecard to rank projects
- ❑ Reallocate from underutilizing projects
- ❑ Reallocate from TH and SSO to PSH and RRH
- ❑ Prioritize admission to turnover PSH units to people experiencing chronic homelessness

Does not recommend…

- ❑ Shaving a little from each project
- ❑ Using a closed, subjective ranking process
- ❑ Skimping on planning and data

2015 Competition

- HUD has released the 2015 GIW – Due 3/16/15

- HUD will release CoC Registration (CoC completes)

- NOFA expected to be released shortly after CoC Registration deadline

- We will:

  - Expect to request review applications before NOFA release (renewal projects)

  - Work w/committee and Board on policy

  - Webinars for applicants and review teams

Membership Input

Georgia® Department of
Community Affairs

March 2015 | Don Watt – Director

Coordinated Assessment
HUD Minimum Requirements

- Each Continuum is responsible for establishing and operating a centralized or coordinated assessment system that will provide an initial, comprehensive assessment of the needs of individuals and families for housing and services.

- Centralized or coordinated assessment system is defined to mean a **centralized or coordinated process designed to coordinate program participant intake, assessment, and provision of referral**s.
  - Must **cover the geographic area**
  - Be **easily accessed** by individuals and families seeking housing or services
  - Be **well advertised**, and
  - **Include a comprehensive and standardized assessment tool.**

- Should be designed locally in response to local needs and conditions. For example, rural areas will have significantly different systems than urban ones. While the common thread between typical models is the use of a common assessment tool, the form, detail, and use of that tool will vary from one community to the next.

- Developed in consultation with recipients of Emergency Solutions Grants program funds within the geographic area (DCA, Gwinnett, and Clayton),

- The Continuum must develop a specific policy to guide the operation of this system on how its system will address the needs of individuals and families who are fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, but who are seeking shelter or services from nonvictim service providers.

Coordinated Assessment - Input

- ☐ Are there regional systems in place to take advantage of?

- ☐ What barriers do we need to work through?

- ☐ Other?

Coordinated Assessment – Initial Thoughts

- Advertising & Access
  - Virtual system, accessed through computer or smart phone
- Pre-Screening
  - Triage to screen eligibility, best fit, & resources
- Assessment
  - Full assessment at program entry
- Data Analysis
  - Ease of use & program entry of referrals
- Other
  - Alignment & integration with HMIS
  - Social Serve
  - Other systems of care
  - Committee

HMIS

- How many here use HMIS?

- How is it working for your agency?

- Thoughts?

- Other?

Needs, Gaps and Issues

- What are the biggest needs in your region/county?

- Are there specific challenges for homeless individuals/families in your region/county?

- Are there particular gaps in services or the system of care?

- Other issues?

Next Steps

March 2015

Tina Moore – CoC Program Coordinator

Next Steps

- Please make sure you signed in (notices sent by email)
- Survey for further engagement and for members on the webinar

Resources

❑ The Governance Charter -
http://www.dca.ga.gov/housing/HousingDevelopment/programs/documents/GovernanceCharterGeorgiaBoS-ContinuumOfCareAdopted1-21-2015.pdf

❑ DCA's Continuum webpage -
https://www.dca.ga.gov/housing/HousingDevelopment/programs/continuumofcare.asp

❑ HUD's Continuum of Care Interim Rule
https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2035/coc-program-interim-rule-formatted-version/

❑ HUD's Continuum of Care webpage – https://www.hudexchange.info/coc/

- Thank you so much for your participation!
- Questions?
  - Tina Moore – (404) 327-6870 tina.moore@dca.ga.gov
  - Katie Arce – (404) 679-3102 katherine.arce@dca.ga.gov
  - Amy Zaremba – (404) 679-0611 amy.zaremba@dca.ga.gov
  - Don Watt – (404) 679-0660 don.watt@dca.ga.gov