

Interfaith Breakfast:

The Impact of Permanent Supportive Housing on Families with Special Needs

May 14, 2014 Affordable Housing Week





Contra Costa Interfaith Housing

Mission

To provide *permanent, affordable housing* with *vital supportive services* to homeless and at-risk individuals and families in Contra Costa County.





East Bay Housing Organization

Mission

To preserve, protect and expand affordable housing opportunities through education, advocacy, and coalition building.



Poverty

In the U.S

16 Million Children – more than 1 in 5

- Over 40% lived in extreme poverty (\$11,746/year – family of four)

In California

Highest rate in the United States

- Almost 24%



Poverty

In Contra Costa County

196,000 living in Poverty

- 50,000 Children

Federal Poverty Line - \$23,850/year for a family of 4

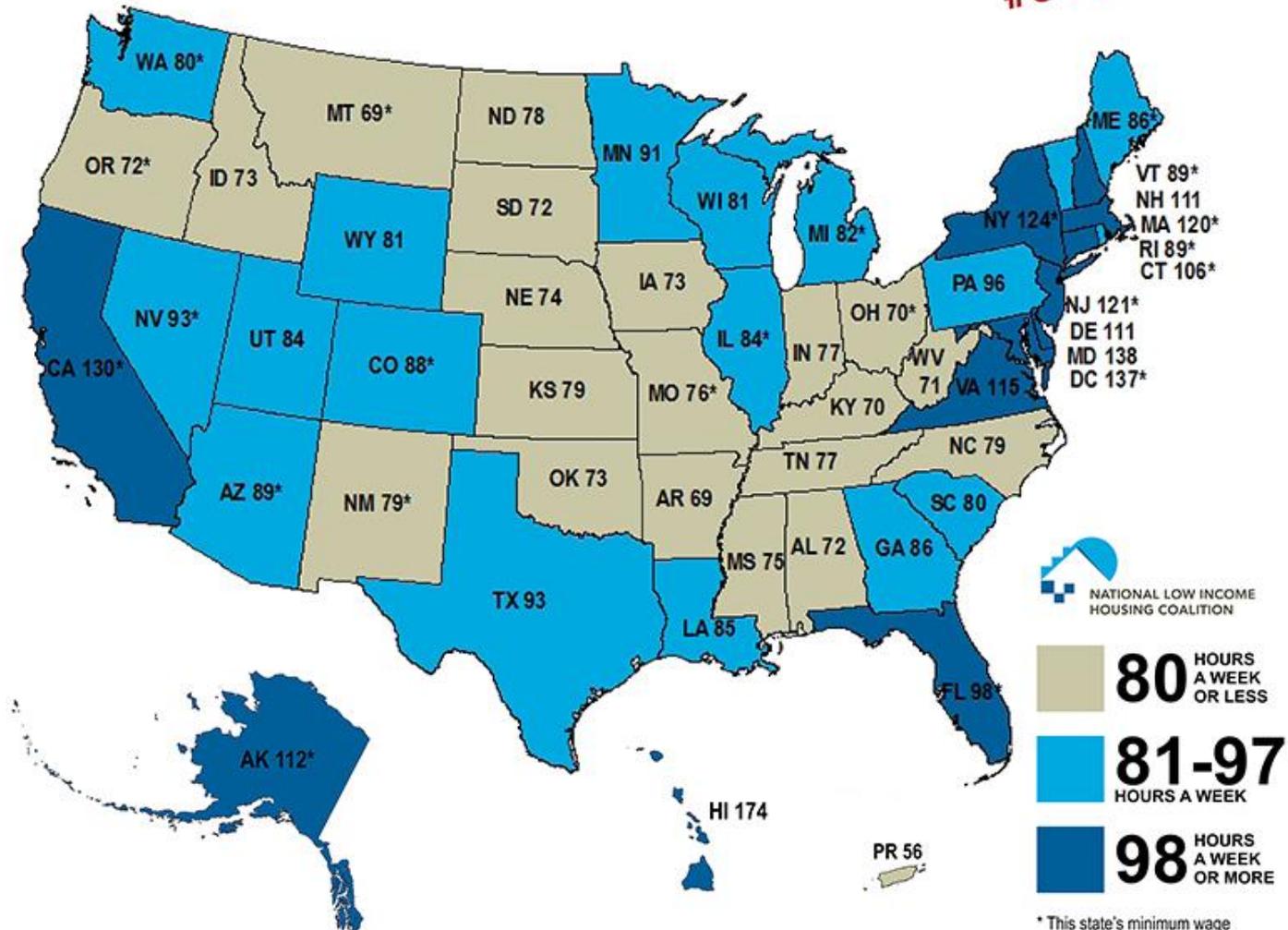
CA Poverty Line - \$44,700/year for a family of 4

How Many Hours At Minimum Wage Must AMERICANS WORK TO AFFORD RENT?

In no state can a minimum wage worker afford a two-bedroom rental unit at Fair Market Rent working 40 hours a week.

Out of Reach 2014 // National Low Income Housing Coalition

#OOR2014



WWW.NLIHC.ORG/OOR/2014

Impact of Poverty on Families and Children

Poor School Performance

- 2x more likely to repeat grade, suspended, or drop out

Hunger

- Twice the rate of other children

Illness

- E.g. twice as likely to have asthma

Greater exposure to Violence

Homelessness



Impact of **Homelessness** on Families and Children

- 92% of mothers experienced severe physical or sexual abuse
- 1/6 of children – severe emotional problems
- 47% school age have anxiety, depression, withdrawal
- By age 12 – 83% exposed to serious violent event



Impact of **Homelessness** on Families and Children

- Elementary Youth
 - 21.5% are proficient in Math
 - 24.4% in reading
- High School Youth
 - 11.4% proficient in Math
 - 14.6% in reading
- Physical Health
 - 4x respiratory infections
 - 2x ear infections
 - 5x gastrointestinal problems



The Response

Permanent Housing

- Affordable
- Lease
- Stay as long as necessary

&

Support Services

- On-Site
- Long Term
- Professional Staff
 - Mental Health
 - Education
- Family/Parent Support
- Focus on Youth
- Focus on Self-Reliance
- Culturally Compatible
- Eviction Prevention
- Life Skills/Employment



Garden Park Apartments (GPA)

Collaboration between Mercy Housing and CCIH
(established December 2004)

Eligibility

- Homeless
- Adult Member with a Disability
- Low Income (average - \$11,000/annually/household)

Common Issues

- High degree of trauma – PTSD
- Mental Illness/Substance Addiction
- Low life skills
- No transportation
- Youth significantly behind peers

Garden Park Program

- Fully furnished apartment
- Upon Entry – Assessment, Individualized Family Plan
- Licensed Mental Health Clinicians- 5days/week
- Intensive Case Management
- Community Building
- Collaboration with many other service partners
- Strong Interfaith support and collaborations
- 24 hour on-site desk clerks
- Internship program

Focus on Youth

- Afterschool Program 4 days/week
- Youth Enrichment / Teen Club / KidPower
- Youth mental health program
- Parenting courses/support – evidence-based
- Collaboration with Children and Family Services



Selected Outcomes for GPA

- 100% high school completion rate
 - 71% working or in school
- 93% in homework club have demonstrated improvement in at least two academic benchmarks
- 82% of K-5 students are reading at or above grade level
- 91% of K-5 students improved their overall grades during the year
- >90% of residents have maintained permanent housing

Affordable Housing with Support Services

A Collaboration with Resources for Community Development

Lakeside Apartments

- 124 Units
- “Affordable” Housing
- Predominantly Spanish speaking
- 12 “special needs” families
- Average Income \$14,085
- Average rent for a 2BR apartment = \$595-\$1,109



Affordable Housing with Support Services

A Collaboration with Resources for Community Development

East County Programs

Bella Monte

Apartments (Bay Point)

- 52 Family Units
- “Affordable” Housing
- Average Income = \$23,000/yr
- Average rent = \$788-\$1,165/2BDR

Los Medanos Village

(Pittsburg)

- 71 Family Units
- “Affordable” Housing
- Average Income = \$28,000/yr
- Average rent = \$595-\$1,016/2BDR

Affordable Housing with Support Services

A Collaboration with Resources for Community Development

Services

Case Management

Youth Afterschool Program

Youth Enrichment

Eviction Prevention



Affordable Housing with Support Services

A Collaboration with Resources for Community Development

Selected Outcomes from East County

- This year 3 high school seniors (100%) going to college
 - UC Berkeley, UC Santa Barbara, Holy Names
- 81% of students improved in four or more academic benchmarks
- 75% of K-5 students reading at or above grade level
 - *The district does not report reading levels for middle school students*
- 57 families at risk for eviction – none evicted

Cost Comparison

- \$23,000/family at Garden Park for housing and services
- \$47,000 - \$50,000 to keep one adult in prison
- \$50,000 - \$200,000 for one child in foster care in CCC

Child poverty costs US \$500 billion annually in extra education, health, criminal justice costs and lost productivity.

2011 high school dropouts will cost the economy \$154 billion in lost income over the course of their lifetimes.



“Safety and security don’t just happen, they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in society, a life free from violence and fear.” Nelson Mandela