
IN GESPREK MET STEPHEN GAETZ EN
MELANIE REDMAN, HOUSING FIRST VAN
HVO-QUERIDO, ERVARINGSDESKUNDIGEN,
EN EEN EXPERTPANEL

DAK- EN THUISLOOSHEID
ONDER
JONGVOLWASSENEN;
LESSONS LEARNED IN
CANADA EN NEDERLAND



kennisplatform
Utrecht
Sociaal

Programma

- **Opening** door Ronja Bruijns en Ineke Baas
- **Presentatie** Stephen Gaetz en Melanie Redman
- **Intermezzo** door Etienne van Etten
- **Presentatie** HVO-Querido
- **Panelgesprek** met Ronja Bruijns, Willem van Sermondt, HVO Querido, Etienne van Etten, Esther van Tilborg
- **Slotwoord** door Ronja Bruijns en Ineke Baas

Ronja Bruijns
Ineke Baas

OPENING



A Shift to the Prevention of Homelessness

Stephen Gaetz President & CEO, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness

Melanie Redman President & CEO, A Way Home Canada



Canada

1

Who we are ...

ABOUT US:

A WAY HOME
VERS UN CHEZ-SOI
CANADA



A Way Home is a national coalition reimagining solutions to youth homelessness through transformations in policy, practice and planning. We also lead the National Learning Community on Youth Homelessness.

ABOUT US:



canadian
observatory on
homelessness

The *Canadian Observatory on Homelessness* (COH) is a research and policy partnership working to conduct and mobilize research designed to have an impact on solutions to homelessness.

2

Preventing

Homelessness

Addressing homelessness in Canada





Dr. Eric Latimer
McGill University

Cost of keeping someone in a state of homelessness per year, in five Canadian cities:



Moncton	-	\$29,610
Montreal	-	\$56,406
Toronto	-	\$58,927
Winnipeg	-	\$45,565
Vancouver	-	\$53,144

Canadian Definition of the Prevention of Homelessness

Homelessness prevention refers to policies, practices and interventions that provide supports designed to achieve the following:

Primary Prevention Reduce inflows into homelessness – in other words stop people from becoming homeless in the first place.

Secondary Prevention Reduce the risk that those who have recently become homeless transition to long term or chronic homelessness.

Tertiary Prevention Reduce the likelihood that those who exit homelessness will return to it.

The change we want to see ...





Preventing

YOUTH

Homelessness

Age of first experience of homelessness

Many homeless youth became homeless before they were 16, and youth who leave home at a younger age experience greater adversity on the streets.

40.1%

were younger than 16 when they first experienced homelessness

THOSE WHO LEAVE HOME AT AN EARLY AGE ARE MORE LIKELY TO:

- Experience multiple episodes of homelessness
- Be involved with child protection services
- Be tested for ADHD
- Experience bullying
- Be victims of crime once homeless, including sexual assault
- Have greater mental health and addictions symptoms
- Experience poorer quality of life
- Attempt suicide
- Become chronically homeless

Involvement with **Child Protection services**

57.8%

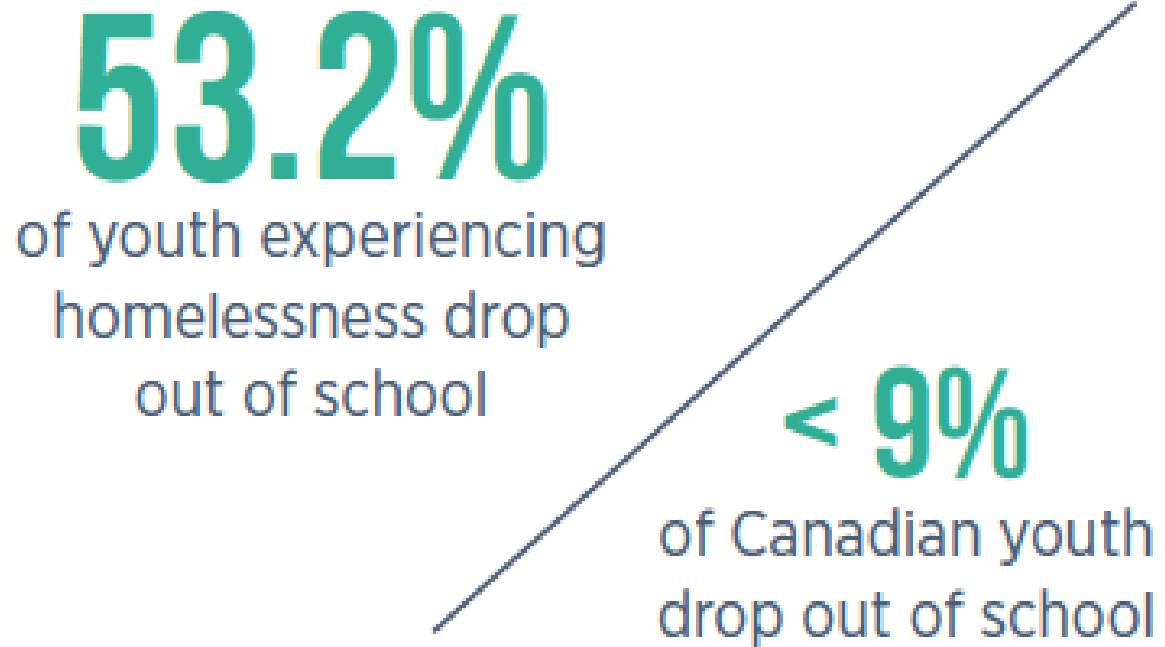
*indicated some kind of
involvement with child
protection services in the past*

47.2%

*had a history of
placements in foster care
and/or group homes*

30.9% were in group homes

Dropping out?



This is not a result of their lack of desire or motivation, as 73.9% of those who have dropped out would like to return to school at some time.

Mental Health and Well-Being

Findings indicated that a total of 85.4% (942) of the youth fell in the 'high' symptom/distress category. This is indicative, in the general Canadian population, of youth midway between inpatient and outpatient psychiatric care levels.

85.4%

of youth fell in the 'high' symptom/distress category

42%

reported at least one suicide attempt

35.2%

reported at least one drug overdose requiring hospitalization

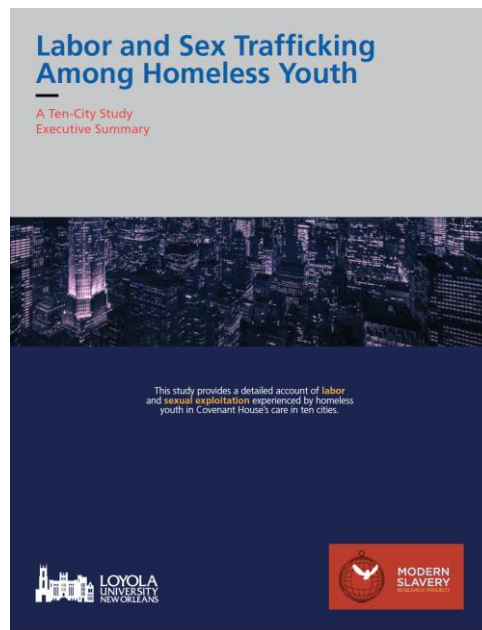
Criminal Victimization

PROLONGED EXPERIENCES OF HOMELESSNESS

Exposure to street violence makes the impact of pre-street adversity much less relevant. This suggests that whether prior to becoming homeless young people were exposed to adversity or not, experiencing violence while homeless has a 'leveling' effect on youth mental health risk.

Exposure to sexual and physical violence on the street made youth over three times as likely to be in the high mental health risk group.

Exploitation and **Sex** **Trafficking**



Nearly
1 in 5



(19%) of interviewed youth were identified as victims of some form of human trafficking.



Pathways off the streets

and

Exits from Homelessness

Data points to some important conclusions

First, we are waiting too long to intervene.

Second, experience of homelessness has a devastating impact on health, safety, mental health and well-being.

Third, some young people – Indigenous, LGBTQ2S, newcomer youth – experience additional burden of discrimination and exclusion.

Fourth, the emergency response does not prevent or end youth homelessness.

Fifth, our public systems are failing to prevent youth homelessness.

Sixth, people with lived experience of youth homeless strongly profess the need to shift to prevention.

2018 **EVERYONE COUNTS HIGHLIGHTS**

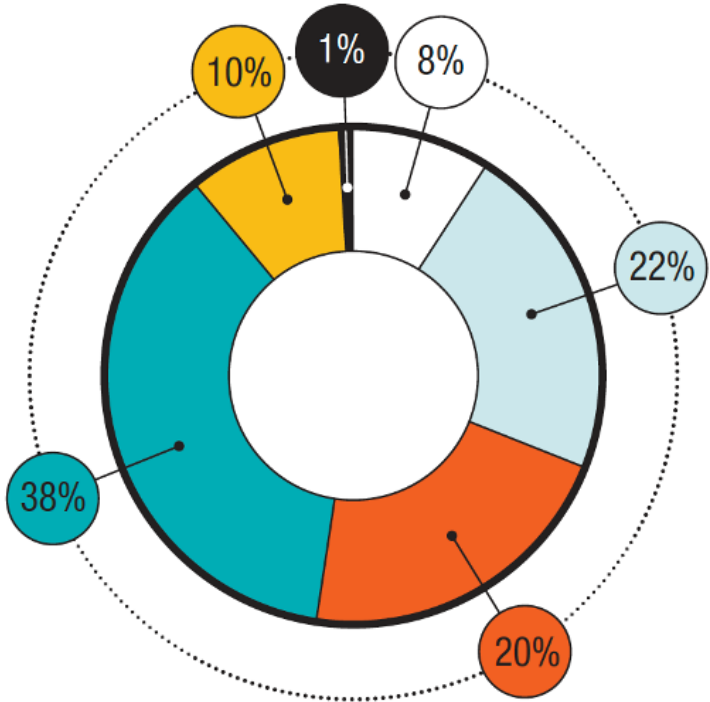
Preliminary Results from the
Second Nationally Coordinated Point-in-Time Count
of Homelessness in Canadian Communities

Employment and Social Development Canada / Emploi et Développement social Canada

Canada

FIGURE 6 Age of First Homelessness Experience

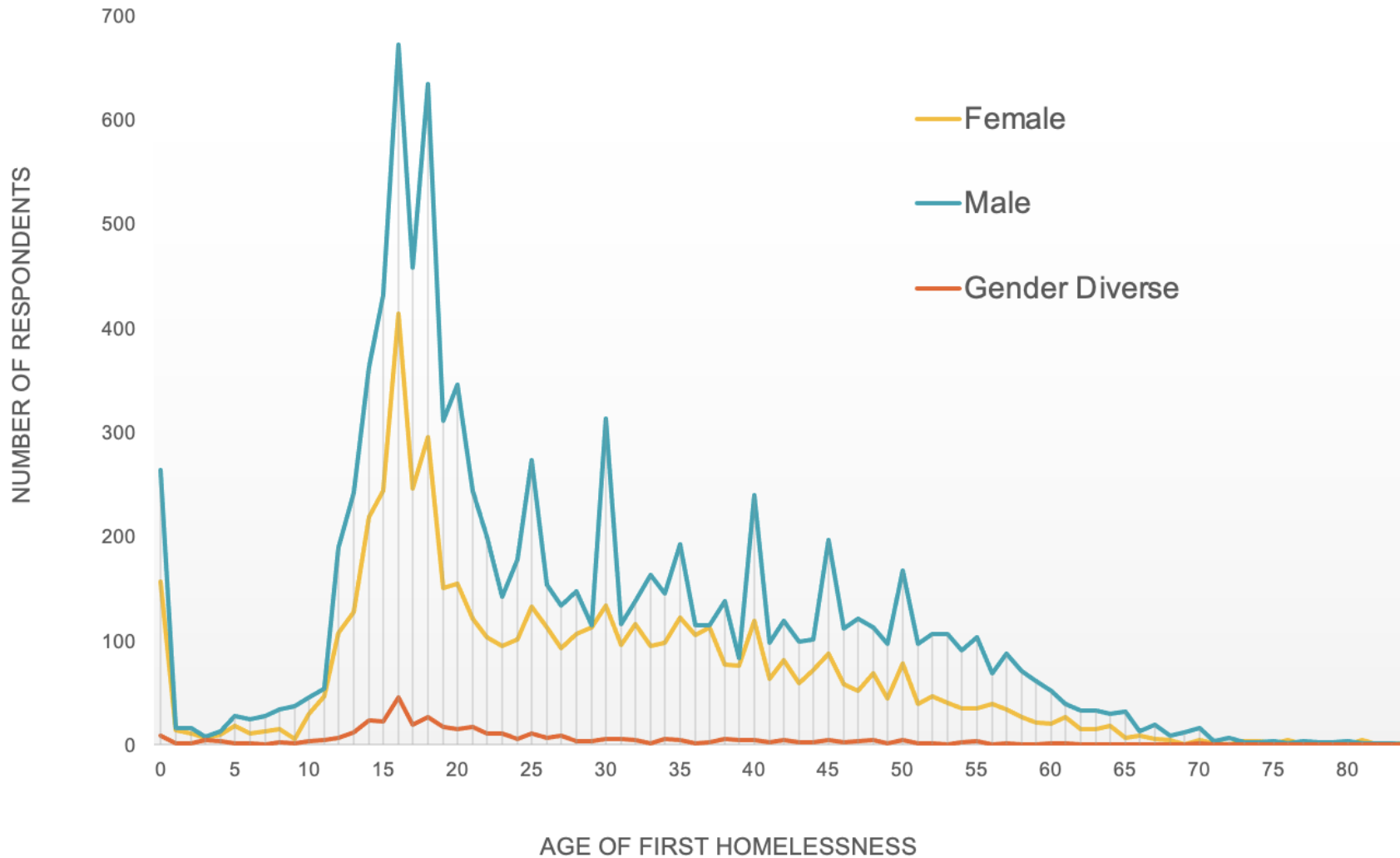
50% First experienced homelessness before the age of 25



Child (0-12)	Adult (25-49)
Teen (13-17)	Older adult (50-64)
Youth (18-24)	Senior (65+)



Selected research findings on youth (PiT 2018)



The 2018 PiT Count survey asked respondents at what age they first experienced homelessness.

Half of all respondents first experienced homelessness under the age of 25. This percentage was still high among older adults (aged 50-64) and seniors (aged 65+), with 25% first experiencing homelessness before 25.

Solving problems through

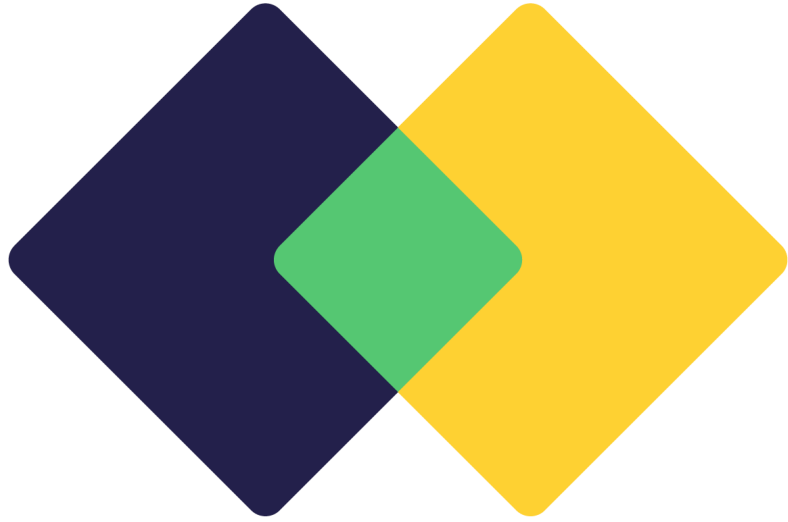
Social

Innovation



MAKING
THE SHIFT

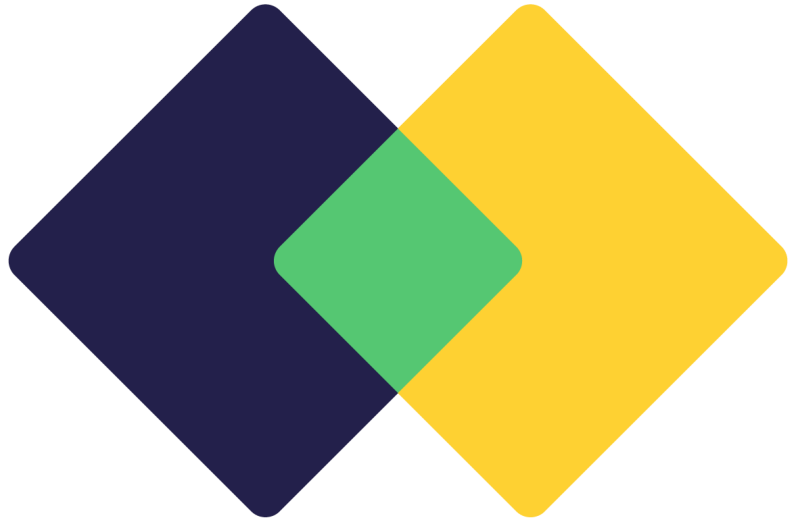
**Youth
Homelessness
Social Innovation Lab**



MAKING THE SHIFT Funded Research

Making the Shift has funded **39 research projects** across Canada focusing on the prevention of youth homelessness





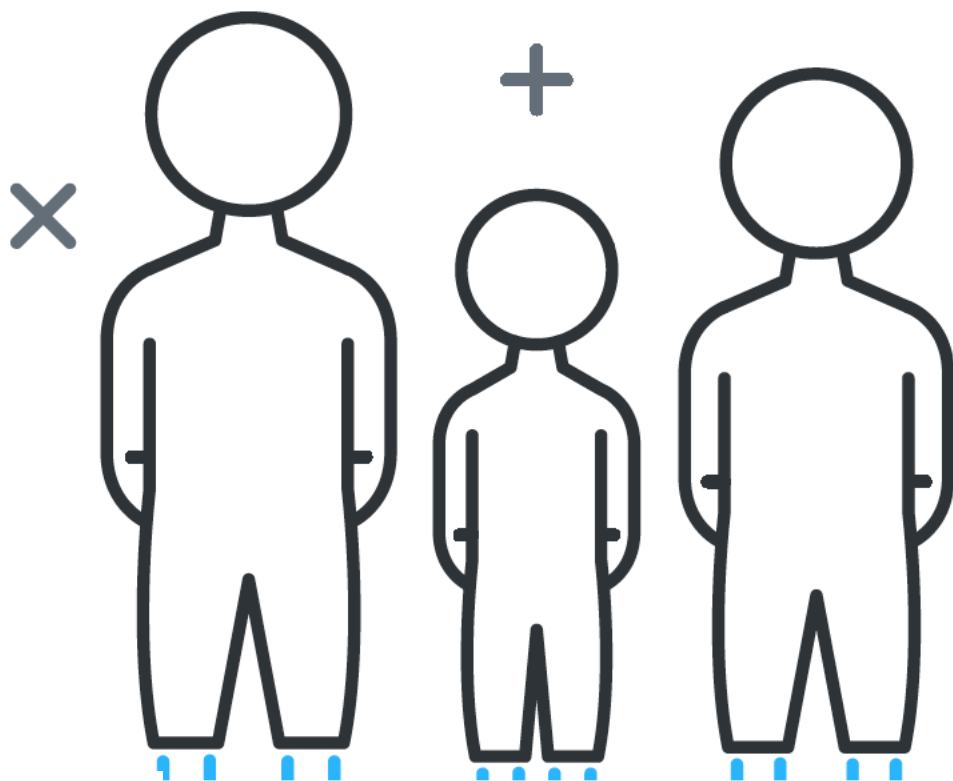
MAKING
THE SHIFT
**Demonstration
Projects**

Employing design thinking, our ***demonstration projects*** are intended to expand our knowledge and understanding of innovative approaches to preventing and ending youth homelessness by identifying, developing, prototyping, testing, evaluating, and mobilizing innovations in policy and practice.

Demonstration Project Models:
Upstream, Youth Reconnect, Family and Natural Supports (FNS), Housing First for Youth (HF4Y)

1

Enhancing Family and Natural Supports



"My trauma led me down a wrong path, and I didn't know that I had ... places where I could go to access help for that. And my family didn't know how to support me with my mental health. So they ended up giving up on me because they didn't know... how. And they didn't have... anyone show them or teach them how to take care of someone with those circumstances."

Kamloops Youth





Why enhance Family and Natural Support



Youth experiencing homelessness said that enhancing family and natural supports was an important goal on their journey:

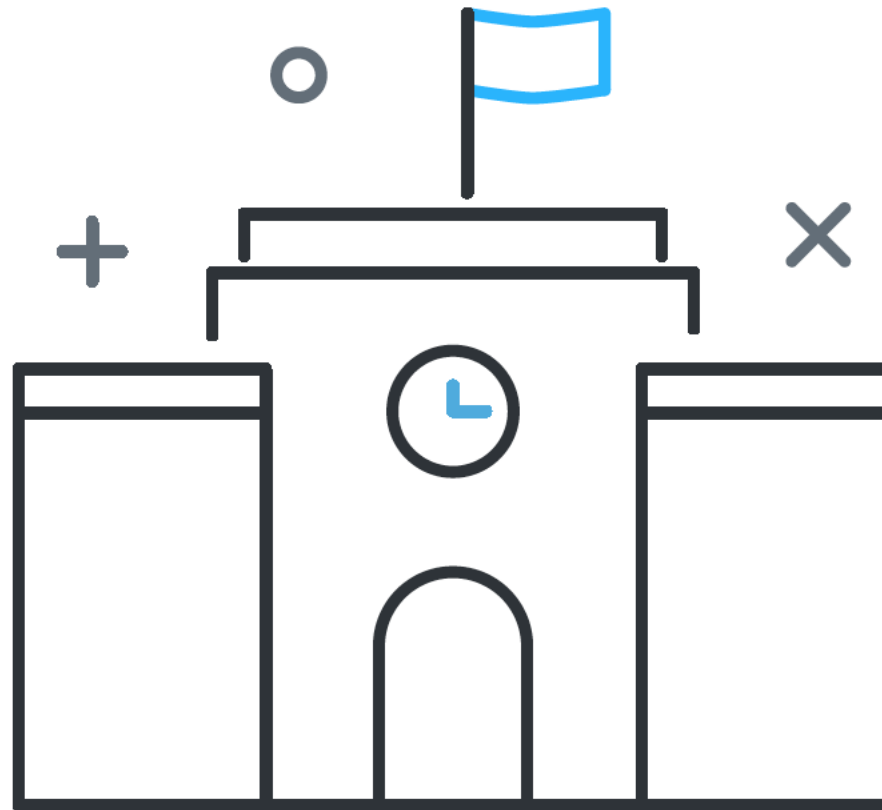
- 77% said they would like to improve contact and relationships with their family.
- Young people who reported positive relationships with friends were much more likely to report high levels of self-esteem. Likewise, those who are in regular contact with family members (more than once a month) and who value family connections also demonstrate higher levels of self-esteem (Gaetz et al., 2016)

The underlying ethos of an FNS approach is that family and the support of caring adults is important to almost everyone and can be an asset that enhances young people's quality of life, and gives youth a sense of belonging, identity, security, self-esteem, and someone to rely on when problems emerge.

SCHOOL-BASED Early Intervention

“Almost everyone has, like, the one teacher that they really trusted and liked, or the one school counsellor that was cool and not scary. So it would be nice if just they got this basic training and also like, signs to look out for. And like, how to approach a student and be like, “hey, you know, how’s everything at home, everything going okay?”

Vancouver Youth



Why do **SCHOOLS** matter?

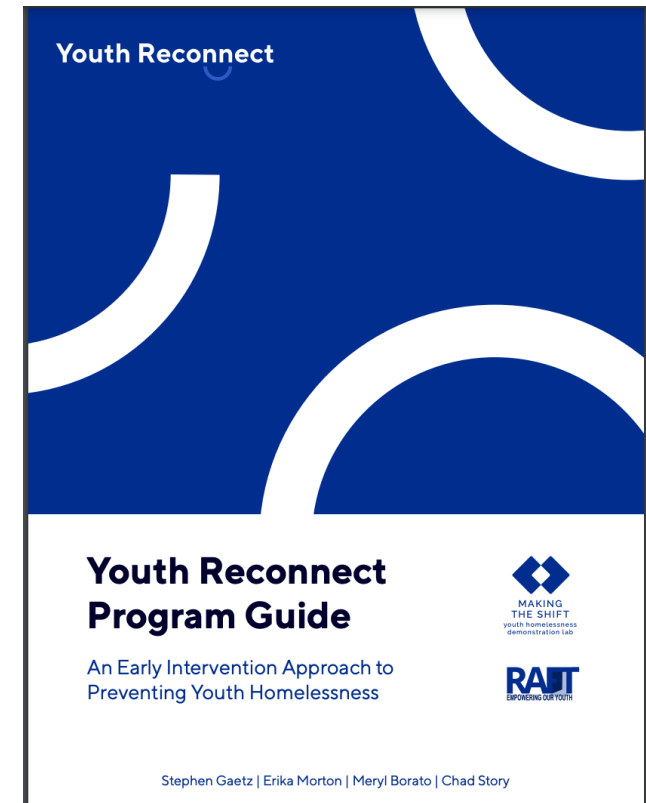


2

Youth Reconnect

Keeping young people
in place through

School ↔ Community
Partnerships



YOUTH RECONNECT Workers

Engage with students,
teachers and counsellors



A young Black woman with her hair pulled back, wearing a pink hoodie, is looking towards a young white woman. The white woman has blonde hair and is wearing a blue and red plaid shirt. She is resting her head on her hand, appearing to be in a state of distress or deep thought. The background is a solid teal color.

Meets Youth Reconnect Worker

Who supports Sarah
and her family.

1 Keep young people “in place”

“Keeping young people in place is about keeping them in their community. To this day I still feel out of place, an outcast, that’s bumming out of housing...It would be so nice to get that sense of home again, even if you have to rebuild your home.”

Youth with Lived Experience

2 Stabilize living situation

“A lot of kids and their families need help, they don’t get along, YR helps with that, you can sit down and have conversations, handle conflict when it comes to parents.”

Youth Reconnect Participant

3 Support young people and their families

“The family is a collective unit that needs to be supported. (It’s) not the youth that has all this bad stuff that happened to them.”

Youth with Lived Experience

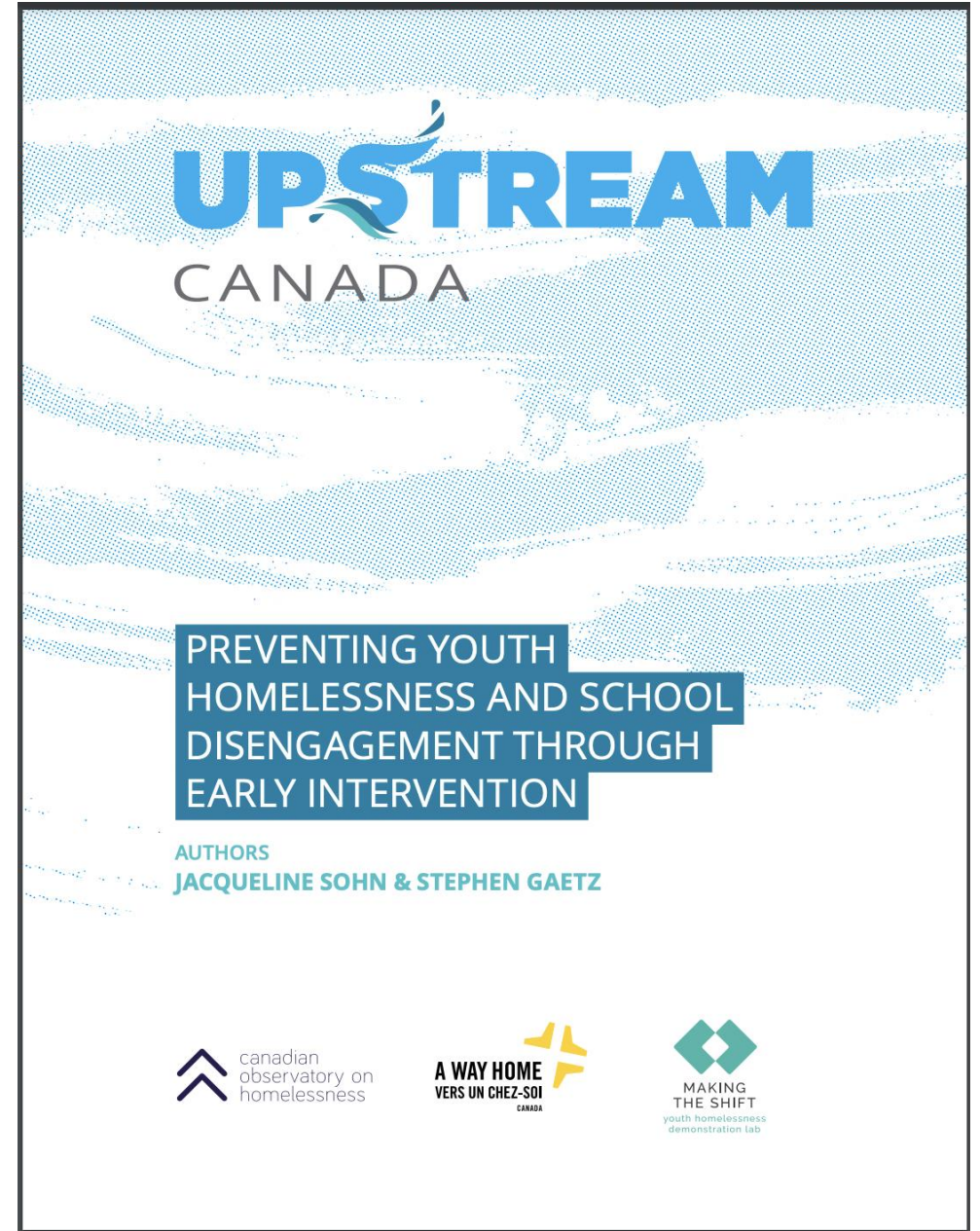
4 Enhance school engagement

“A lot of people on the verge of dropping out of schools. YR would be a helpful response for those youth...A lot of people hesitate (to reach out for support) and the more they hesitate they aren’t going to do anything. They are ashamed of the situation.”

Youth Reconnect Participant

3

**THE
UPSTREAM
PROJECT
CANADA**



Population Screening:

The *Student Needs Assessment* is used to identify students at risk of homelessness, dropping out, and criminal involvement.

All students fill out a survey, conducted once a year ...



Flexible Supports Delivery

A 3-Tier Response

Tier 1.

Active monitoring by school staff, or a secondary consultation where a referral is made to another program or agency.

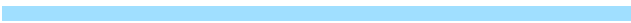
Tier 2.

Casework support, either a brief counselling-type of casework or case management by TGP

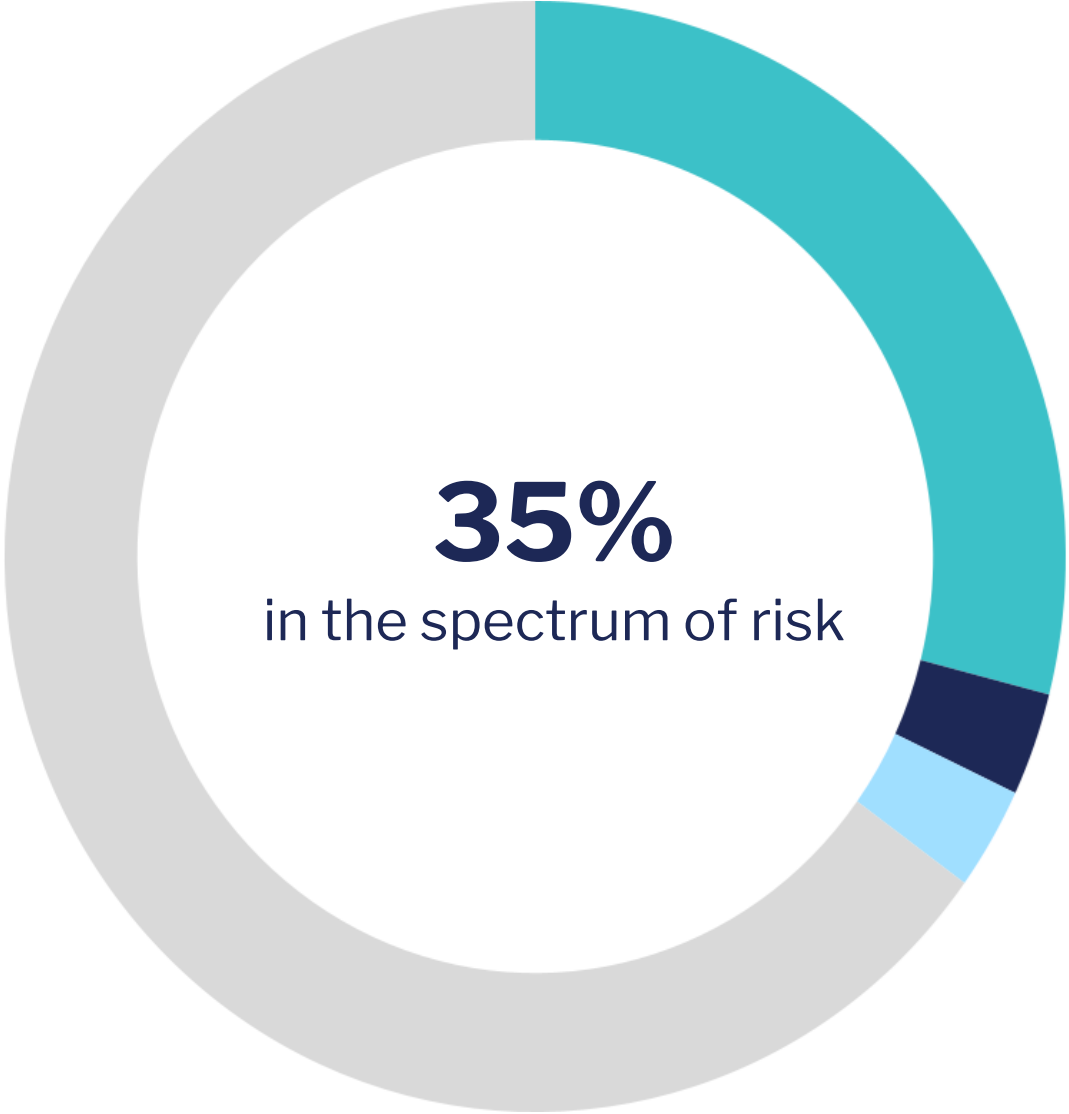
Tier 3.

'Wrap-around' case management for complex cases requiring the formal involvement of several agencies.

Results: Screening



KELOWNA



- Tier 1
- Tier 2
- Tier 3
- Not flagged

Risk of Homelessness & School Disengagement

Follow up interview assessment

Conducted by Upstream Case Manager



4

Helping youth *exit* homelessness for good!

Housing First
4 Youth



**The importance of
developing a response
based on the needs of
developing adolescents
and young adults.**



The Core Principles of HF4Y

Promoting housing stabilization, well-being, social inclusion and positive transitions to adulthood.



● 1. A Right to Housing with No Preconditions



● 2. Youth Choice, Youth Voice, and Self-determination



● 3. Positive Youth Development and Wellness orientation



● 4. Individualized, Client-driven Supports with no Time Limits



● 5. Social Inclusion and Community Integration

Models of Accommodation

for Housing First for Youth



Areas of supports to enhance HOUSING STABILIZATION

for Housing First for Youth



Housing First 4 Youth

1

**Currently
homeless
youth**

2

**Early
Intervention:
youth leaving
care**

3

**ENDAAYAANG
Supporting
Indigenous youth**

Randomized Controlled Trial

Group 1: Receiving
Housing First for Youth
intervention



Group 2: Treatment as Usual
(TaU) - *NOT* receiving the
intervention.

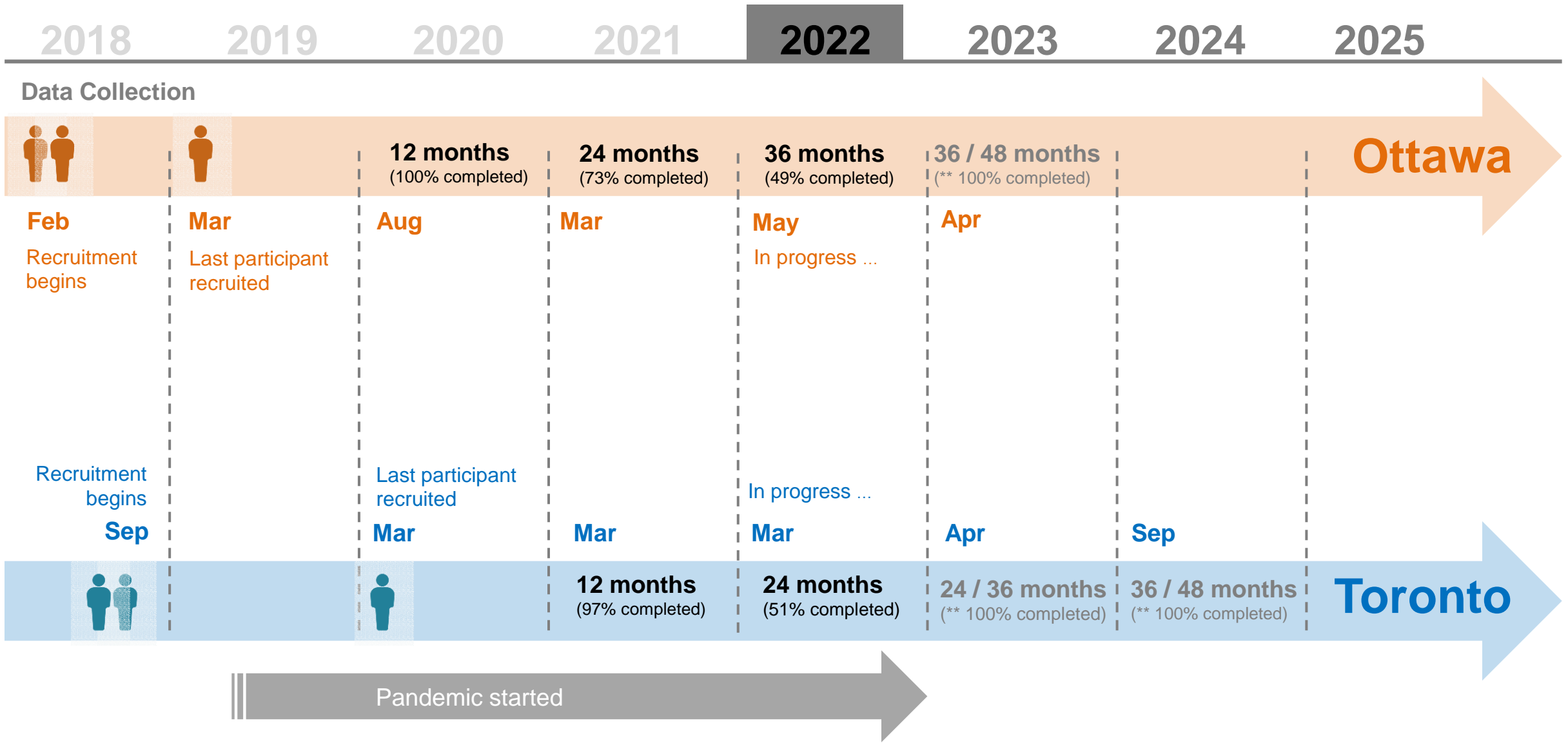


Preliminary

Outcomes

Data

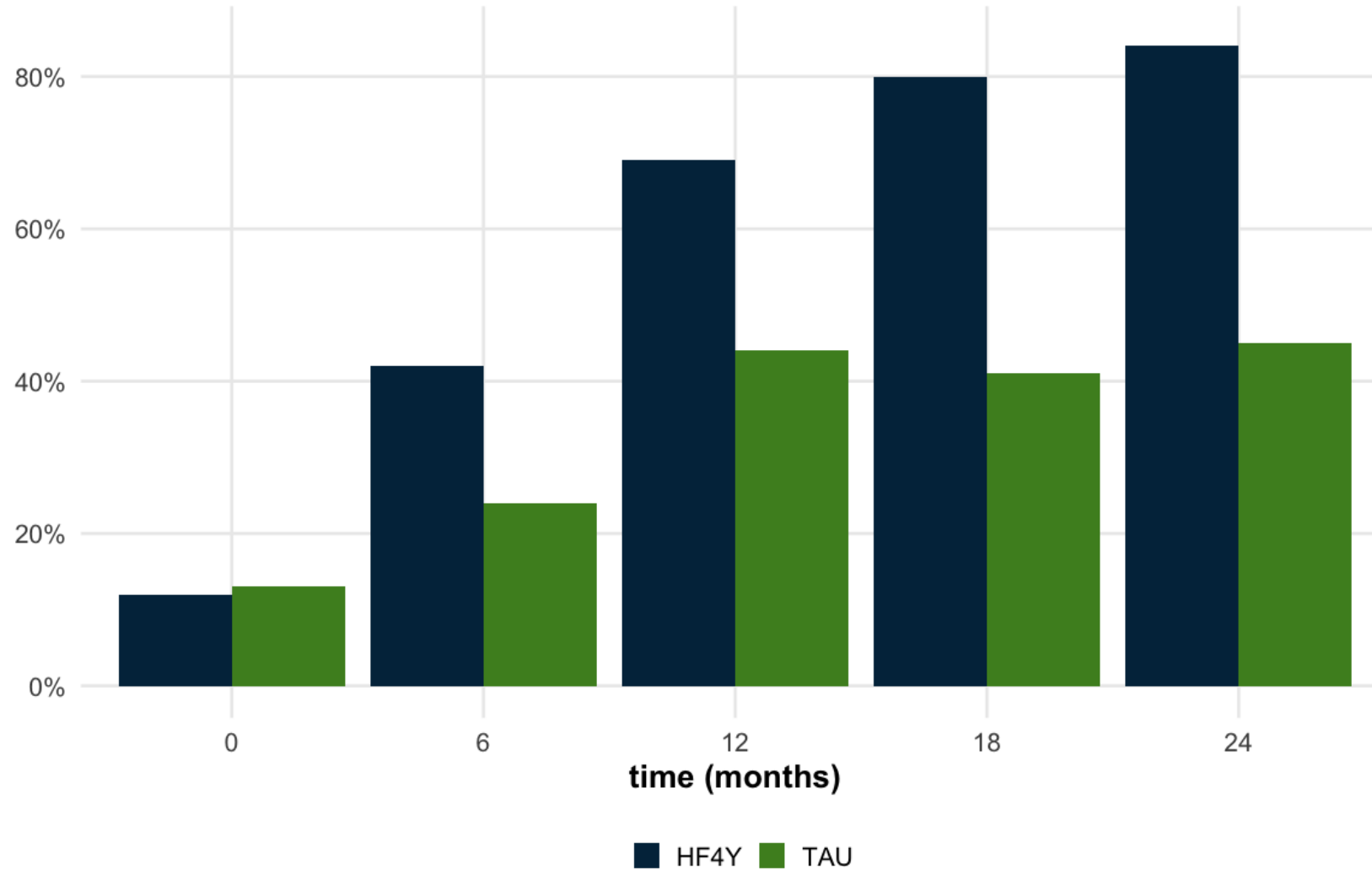
(24 months)



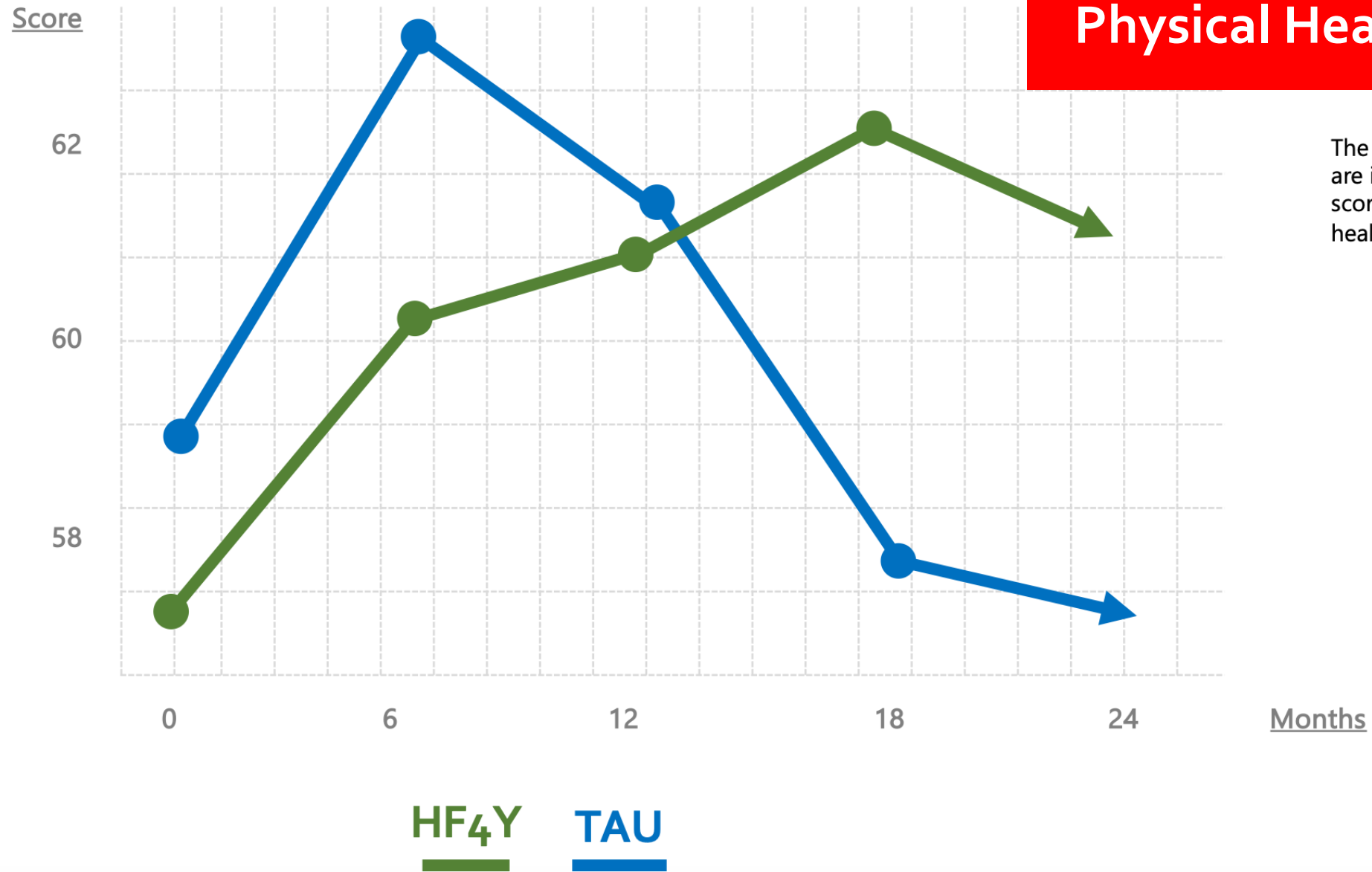
** Anticipated

Housing Stability

Proportion of Time Resided in Stable Housing Across 2 Years

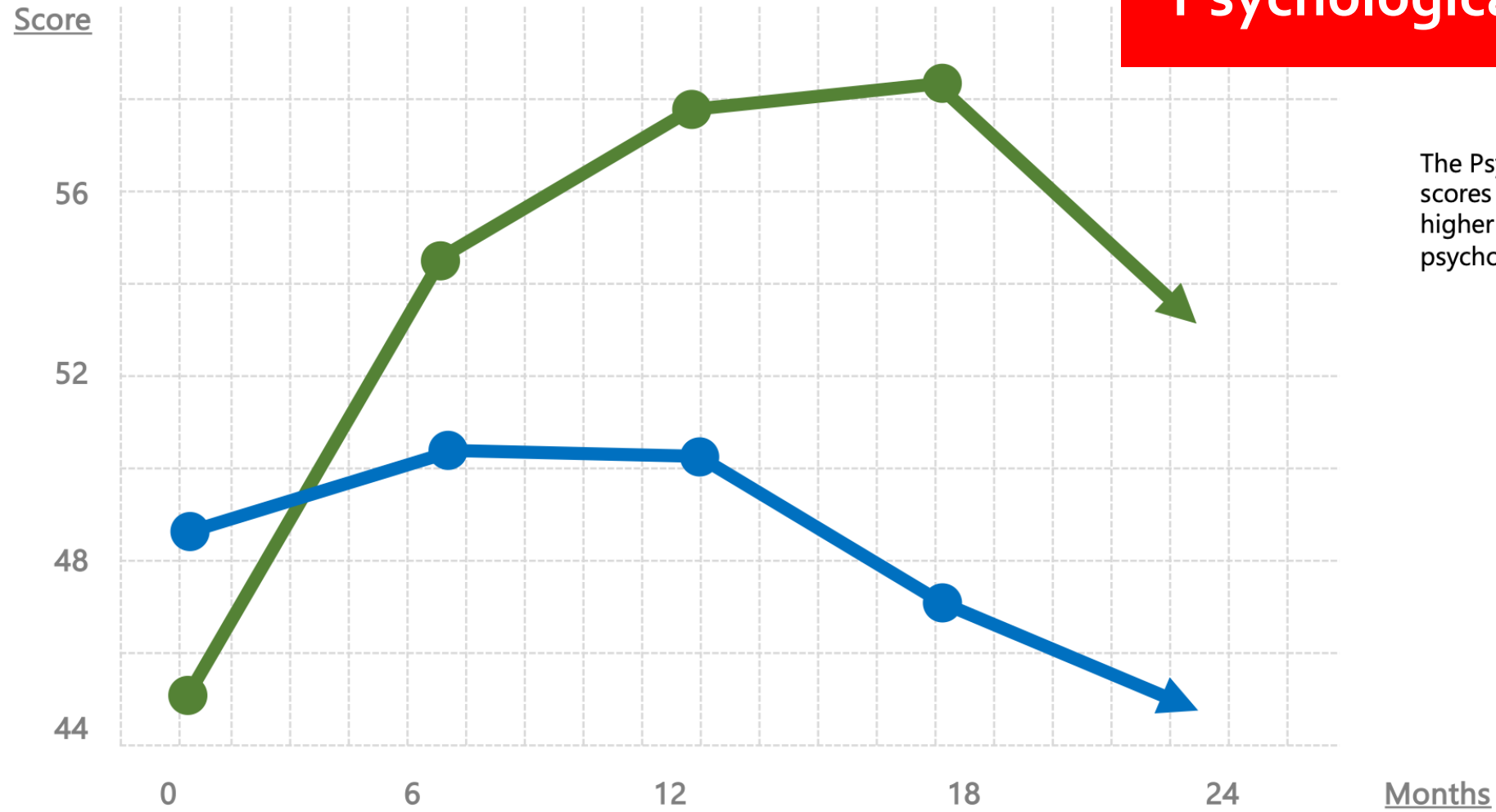


Physical Health



The Physical Health Domain scores are in a 0-100 scale. The higher the score, the better the physical health.

Psychological Health



The Psychological Health Domain scores are in a 0-100 scale. The higher the score, the better the psychological health.

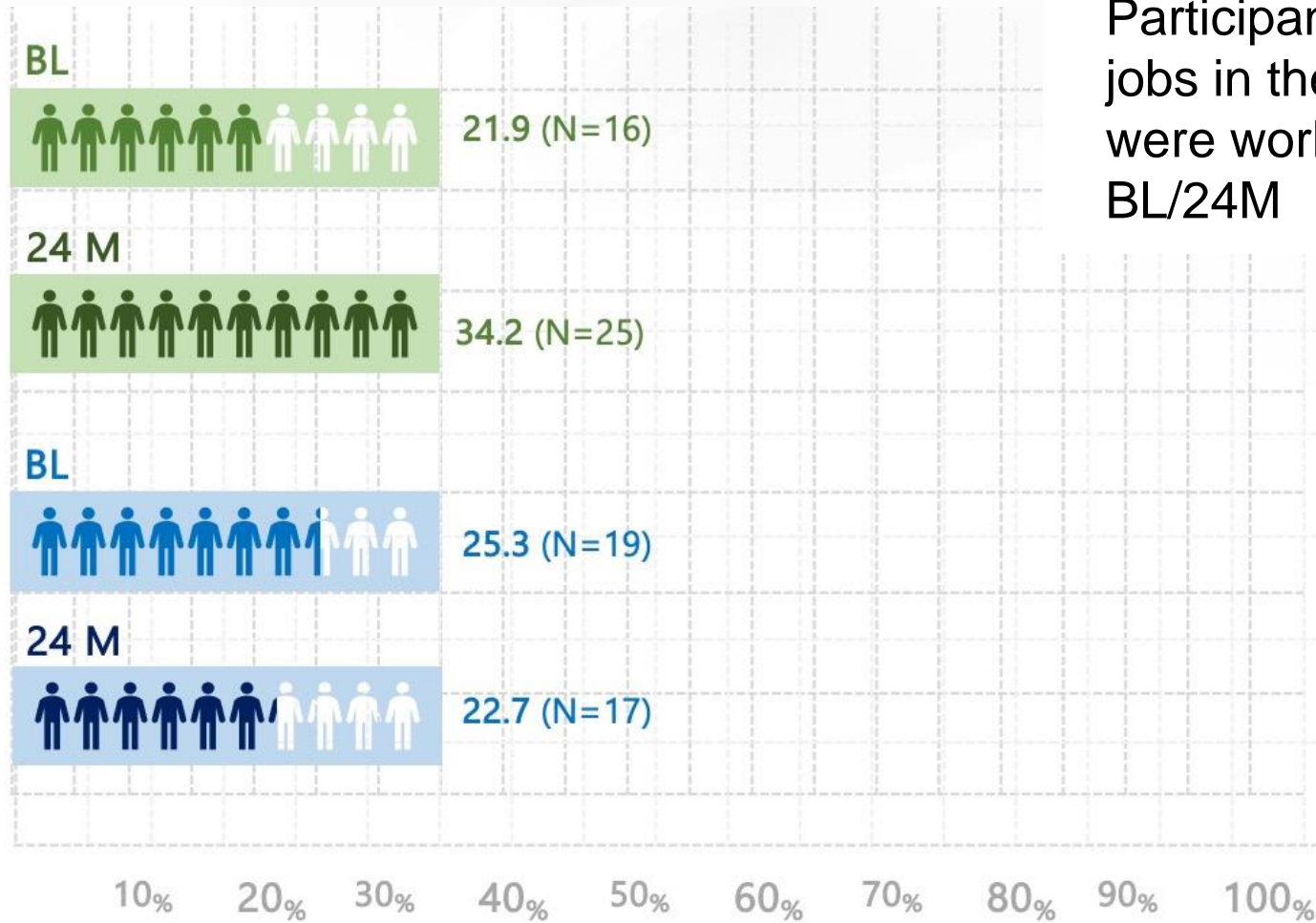
HF4Y **TAU**

Employment

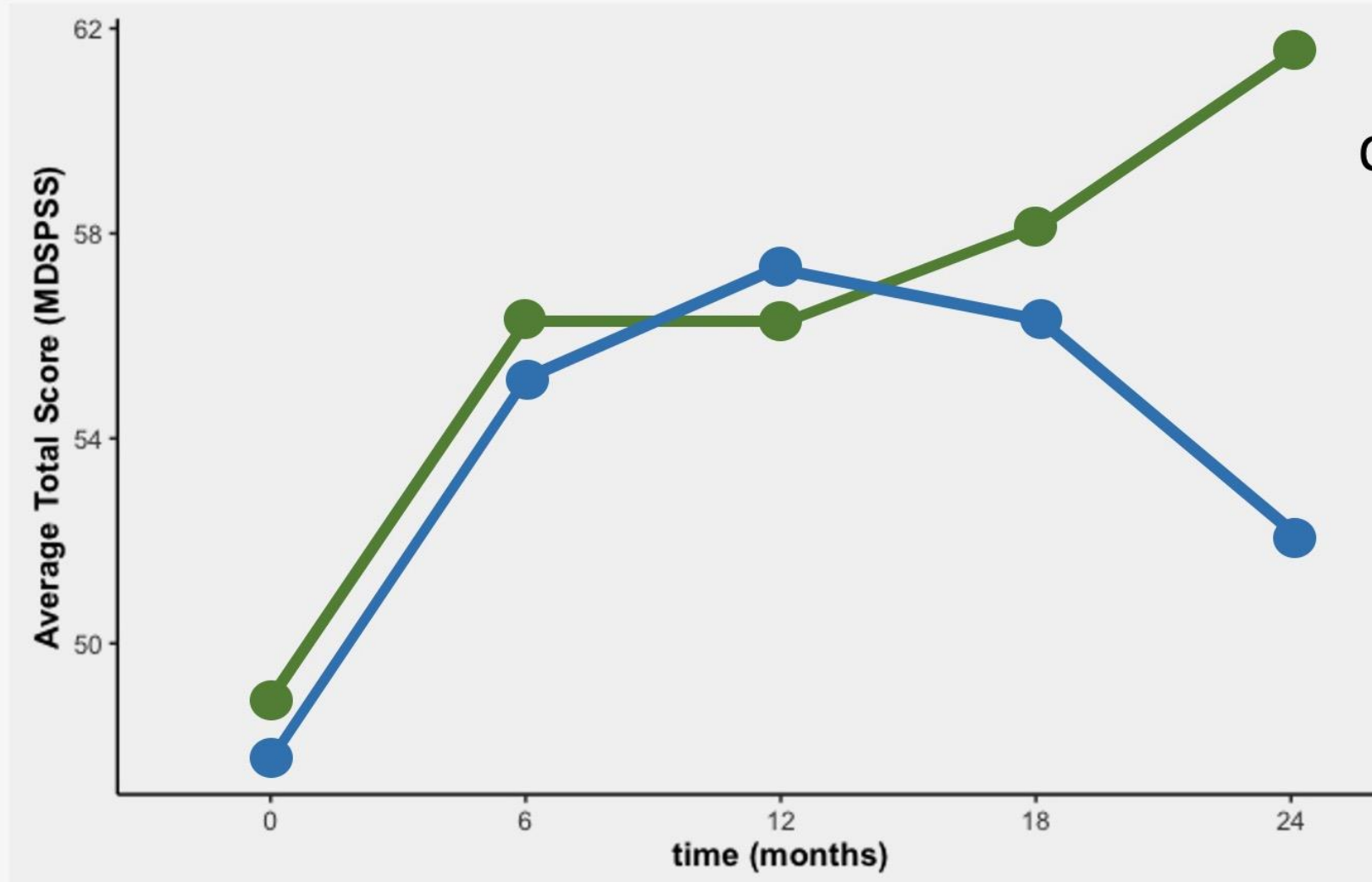
Participants who worked 1 or more jobs in the 6M prior to BL/24M & who were working at a job at the time of BL/24M

HF4Y
N = 73

TAU
N = 75



Perceived Social Support

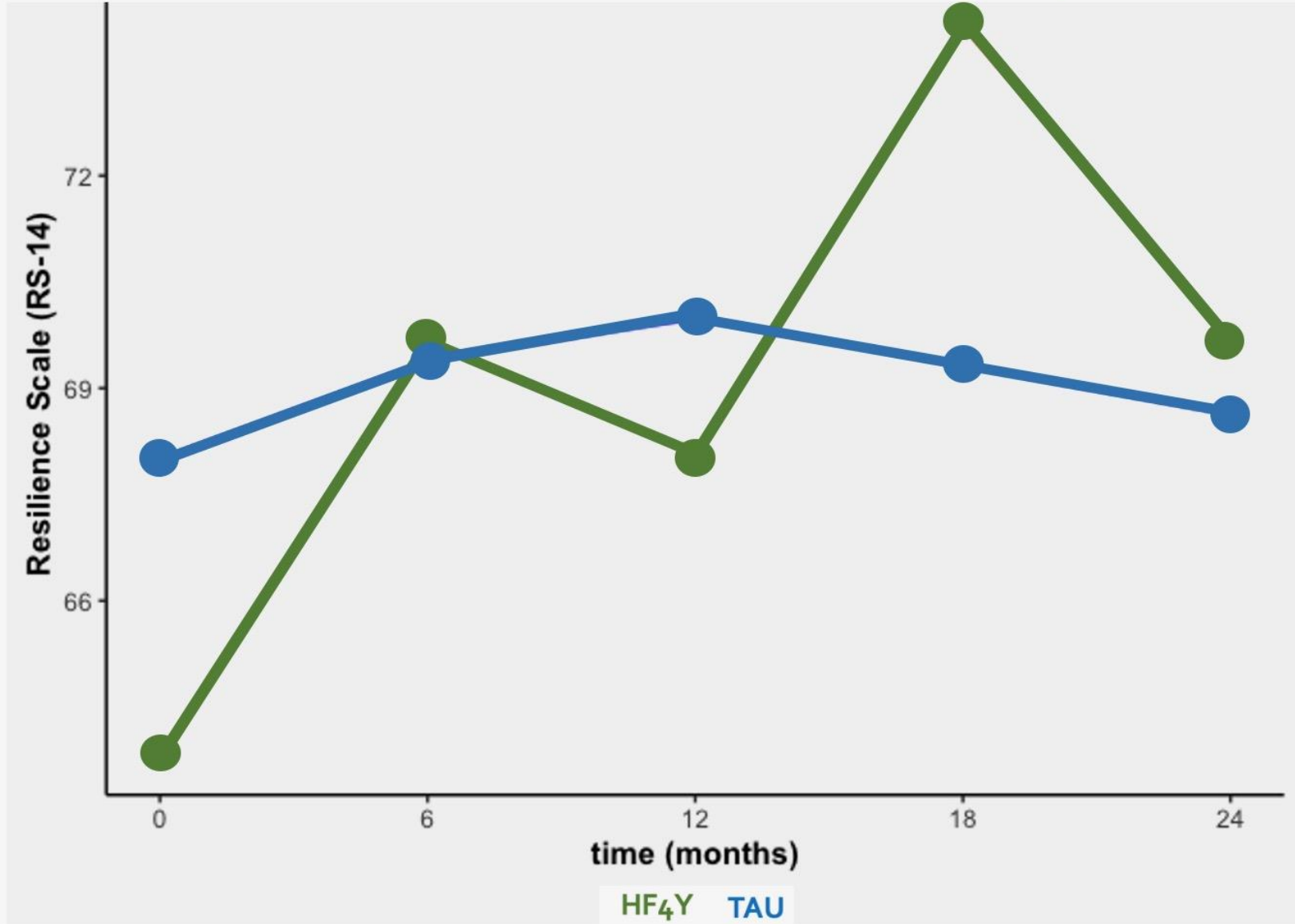


Quality of relationships with:

- Significant other
- Friends
- Family

HF4Y TAU

Resilience



Vision for the Future

Qualitative study – from interviews

The majority of youth in both the HF4Y and TAU had positive visions of the future, including optimistic goals, hopes, and aspirations.

HOWEVER

Youth receiving HF4Y tended to have more concrete, short and long-term plans in place for how they were going to achieve their goals and have their future expectations come to fruition.

Youth receiving TAU:

- Seemed to have a general sense of what they wanted their futures to look like but had no concrete steps or plans for how they might achieve this.
- expressed a fear of the unknown and a sense of uncertainty regarding the future
- seemed to lack the opportunity to envision the long-term future due to a preoccupation with figuring out the immediate future and overcoming daily hassles.

Vision for the Future

Qualitative study – from interviews

Research highlights the need to prioritize **Youth Homelessness Prevention!!!**

The longer a young person experiences homelessness, the less hope they have for the future, and the less likely they identify and actualize concrete steps to achieve a positive future.

“This sense of hope about the future tends to decline quickly over time, with youth reporting a significant decrease after one year of experiencing homelessness”.

Minda et al., Forthcoming



**Supporting
the shift to**

PREVENTION

Are communities ready?






REPORT

Youth Homelessness Prevention Initiative Needs Assessment

Stephen Gaetz | 2023

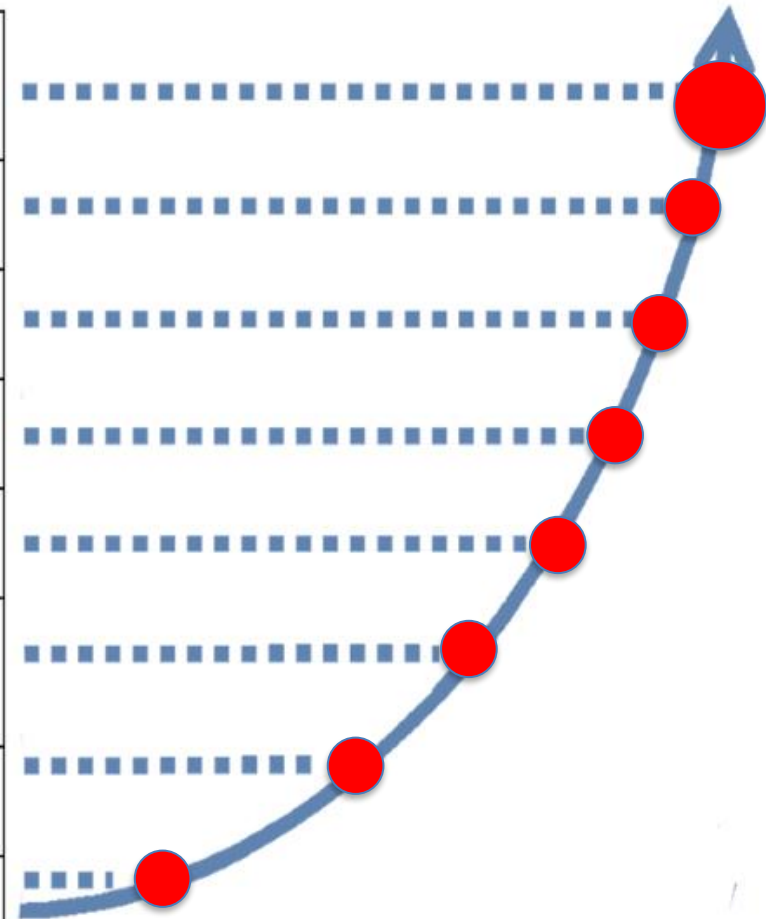
Interest in the Prevention of Youth Homelessness

Please indicate how much you agree with the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Not sure	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
 Prevention is necessary to solve youth homelessness.	6.7% (7)	3.8% (4)	0.0% (0)	6.7% (7)	82.7% (86)
I think my organization should do more in the area of youth homelessness prevention.	6.8% (7)	6.8% (7)	13.6% (14)	34.0% (35)	38.8% (40)
 I think my community should do more in the area of youth homelessness prevention.	5.8% (6)	1.0% (1)	1.9% (2)	12.5% (13)	78.8% (82)
I have seen a growth in interest in youth homelessness prevention in the last five years.	3.8% (4)	9.6% (10)	11.5% (12)	38.5% (40)	36.5% (38)
 We need support as an organization to help shift to prevention.	6.9% (7)	9.8% (10)	18.6% (19)	29.4% (36)	35.3% (36)
 We could do more homelessness prevention IF we were provided with dedicated funds.	6.9% (7)	4.0% (4)	7.9% (8)	13.9% (14)	67.3% (68)
 We could do more homelessness prevention IF we had access to quality Training and Technical Assistance	5.8% (6)	6.7% (7)	13.5% (14)	26.9% (28)	47.1% (49)
I think my organization has funding for and interest in TTA on youth homelessness prevention interventions.	29.1% (30)	11.7% (12)	32.0% (33)	17.5% (18)	9.7% (10)

Commitment Curve

1. Full Incorporation	Organization has fully implemented (intervention) and it is now one of our core programs.
2. Experimenting	Organization is currently piloting and testing (intervention) Program.
3. Planning	Organization is planning to implement (intervention) , but we need more support.
4. Interest/lack capacity	Organization is interested in (intervention), but we lack the capacity to implement it.
5. Positive Perception	Implementing (intervention) would help organization achieve its' goals.
6. Aware, but lack interest	Organization has a clear understanding of (intervention) but is not interested in implementation.
7. Awareness	Organization has heard of (intervention) but don't know much about it.
8. Contact	Organization is not aware of this program.



Youth Homelessness Prevention Interventions & the Commitment Curve

1. Housing First for Youth (HF4Y)
2. Family and Natural Supports (FNS)
3. Reconnect
4. Duty to Assist (D2A)
5. Upstream

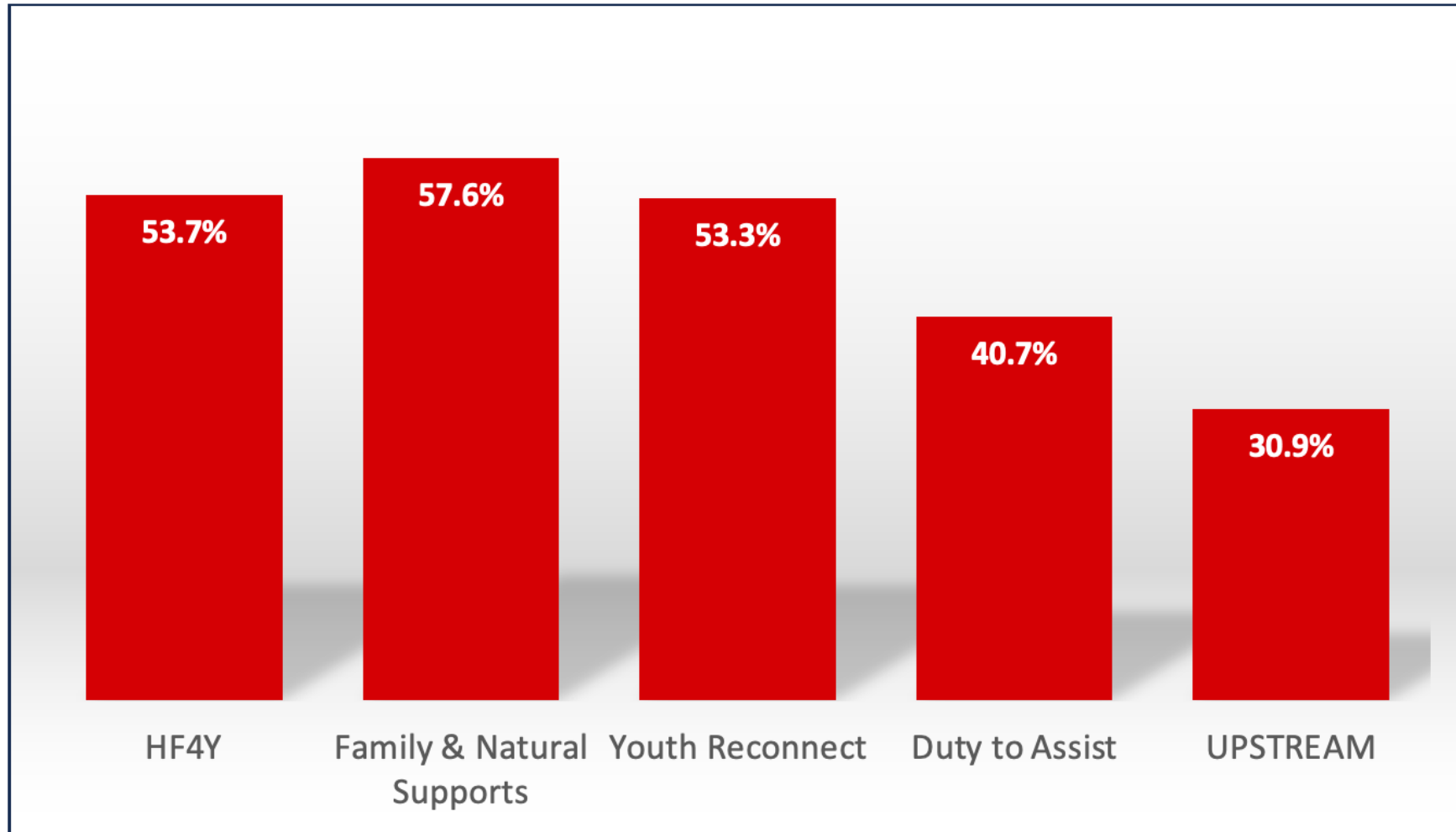


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Youth
Homelessness
Social Innovation Lab

In the Zone of Interest

Zone of Interest
Percent of respondents who are positively inclined towards implementing the intervention

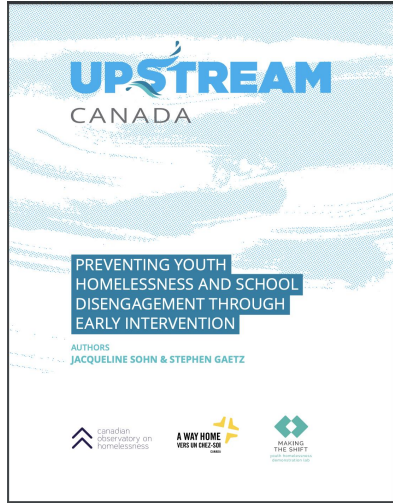




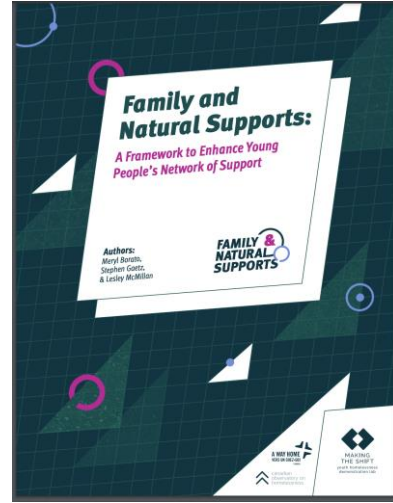
how
do we
get there?



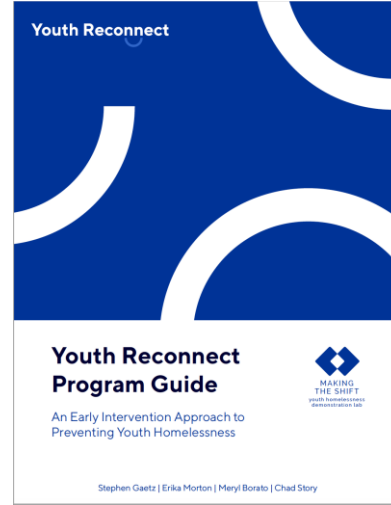
Public facing resources



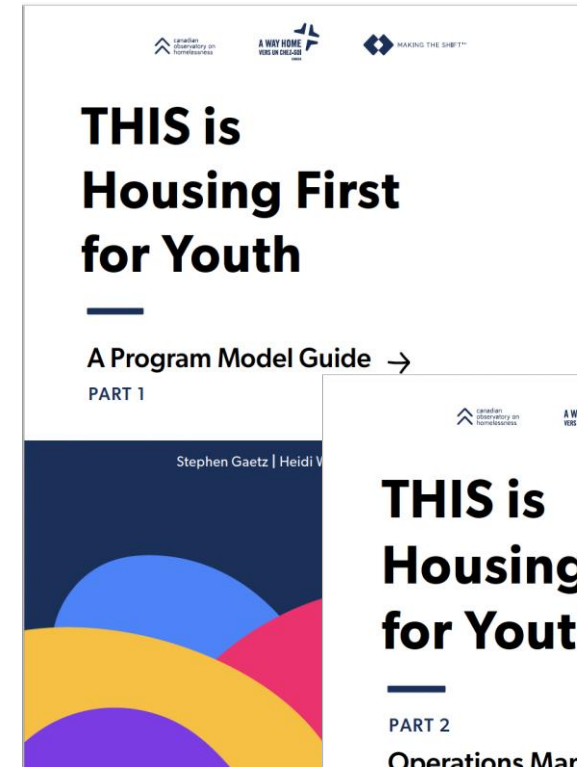
UPSTREAM



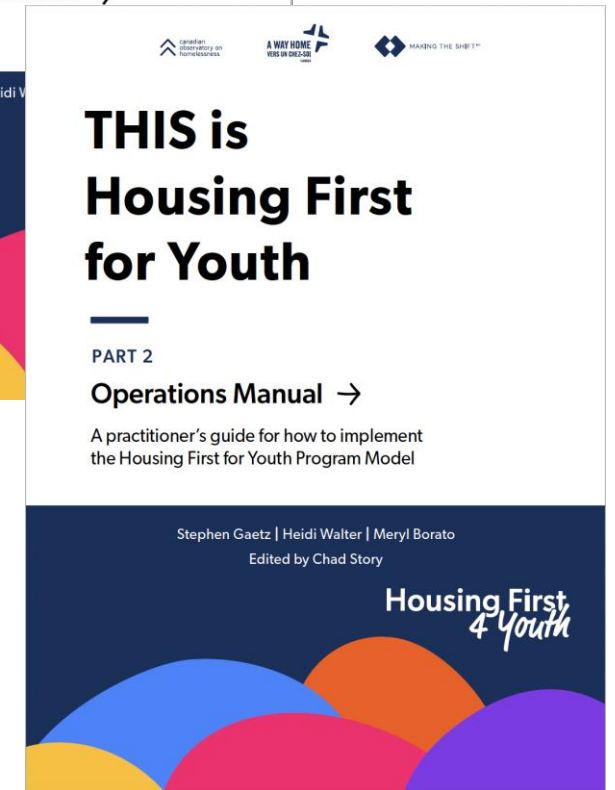
**Family and
Natural
Supports**



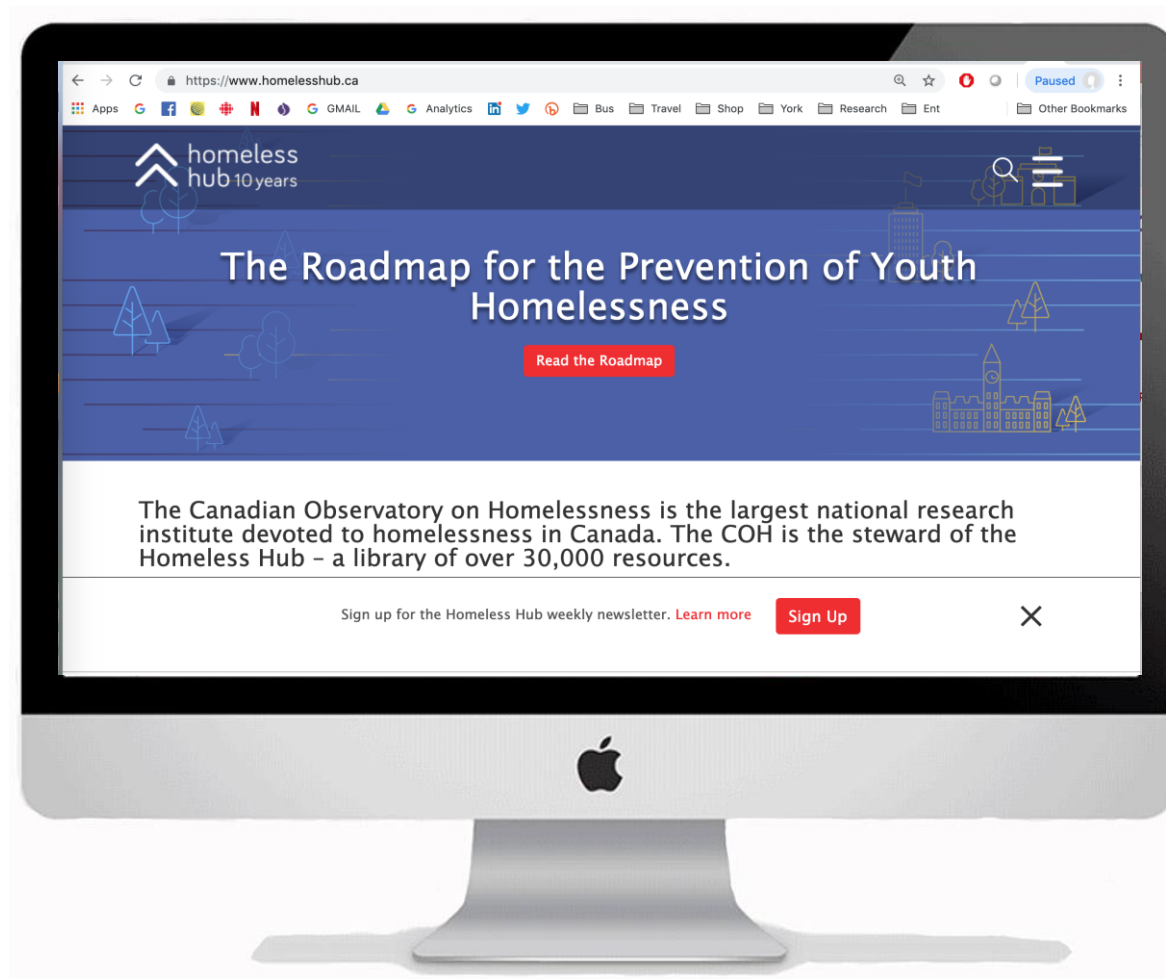
**Youth
Reconnect**



**HF4Y
Program Model
Guide +
Operations
Manual**



Communications Strategy



Productive Interactions



- All orders of government
- Service providers
- Community entities
- Funders



Training and Technical Assistance

Shifting Practices

Building capacity at the frontlines to deliver prevention-based services that improve the well-being of young people.

Get support:

- 1 Training & Technical Assistance offerings:
 - Youth Prevention Interventions
 - Indigenous training
 - Program Implementation
 - Systems Planning
- 2 Community of Practice calls
- 3 **FREE** Online training/resources on the Homelessness Learning Hub



Training in Europe



FEANTSA Youth Study Session 2017



MAKING THE SHIFT^{INC}
youth homelessness social innovation lab

ANY
QUESTIONS?

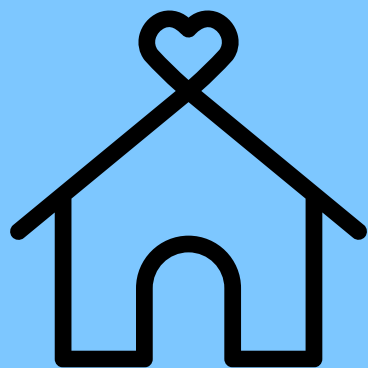


Etienne van Etten

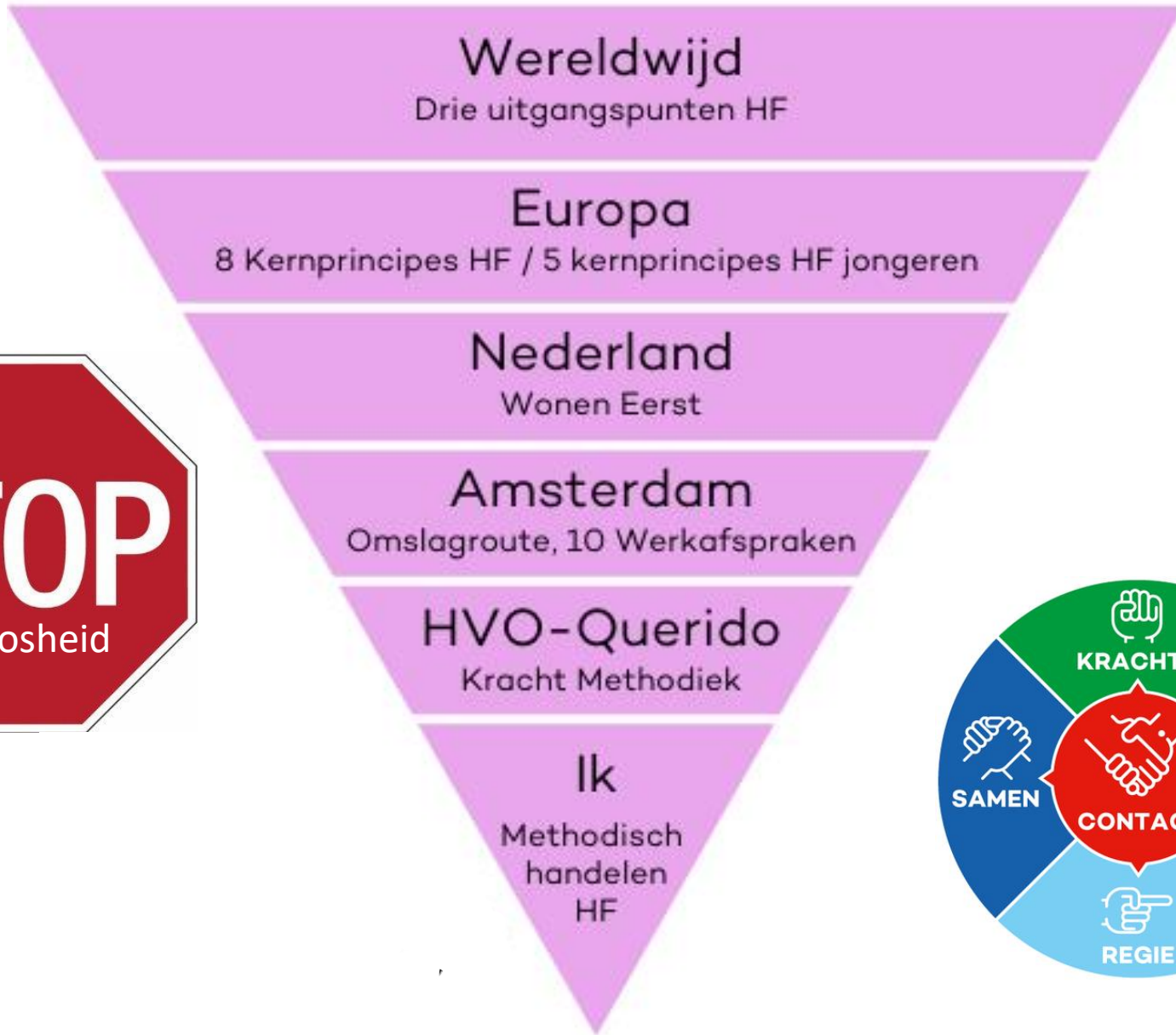
INTERMEZZO

Housing First Jongeren

Van ontstaan naar praktijk.



Mariëtte Gaarhuis & Mirella Paton





Huur betalen



Samenwerken



Geen Overlast
veroorzaken

3 uitgangspunten



Houding First

8 kernprincipes Housing First



1. Huisvesting is een mensenrecht
Recht op een passende woonvorm



5. Harm reduction
Beperken van negatieve effecten
gebruik of psychiatrische symptomen



2. Keuze en regie voor deelnemers
Klant in leidend, wij volgen



6. Actief betrokken zonder dwang
Geen maatregelen (altijd 2e kans)
handelen vanuit zorg ipv
beheersmatigheid.



3. Scheiden van wonen en zorg
Behandeling is niet voorliggend, we
volgen de klant.



7. Persoonsgerichte begeleiding
Bewandeld eigen pad.



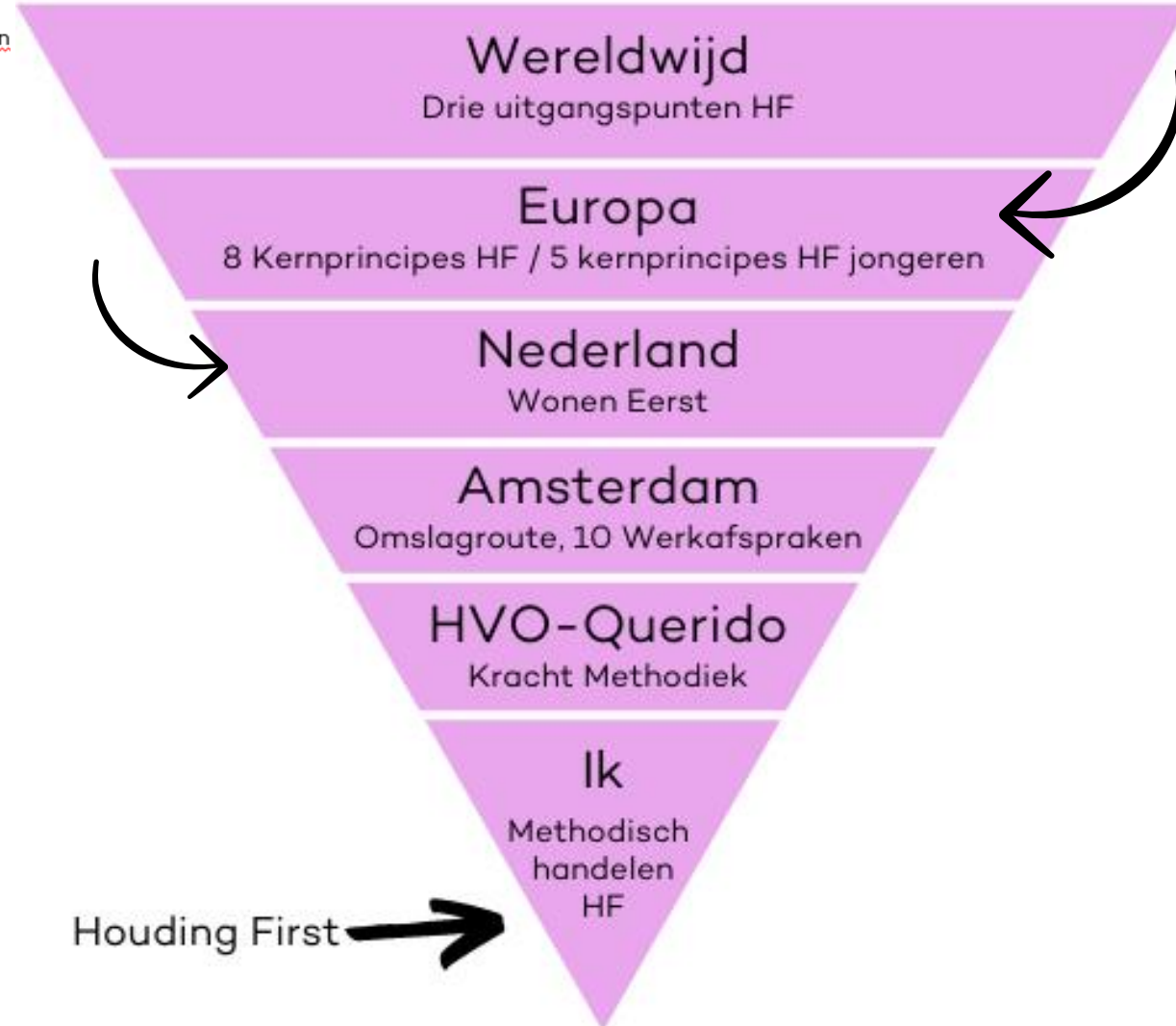
4. Geloven in herstel
Het begint bij de overtuiging dat
iedereen kan herstellen



8. Ondersteuning zo lang als nodig is
Niet volgens de financiering, maar
flexible op en afschalen.

VIJF KERNPRINCIPES HOUSING FIRST JONGEREN

- Onvoorwaardelijke toegang tot huisvesting
- Autonomie en inspraak als vertrekpunt
- Persoonsgerichte aanpak zonder tijdslimiet
- Krachtgerichte ondersteuning
- Aandacht voor sociale integratie





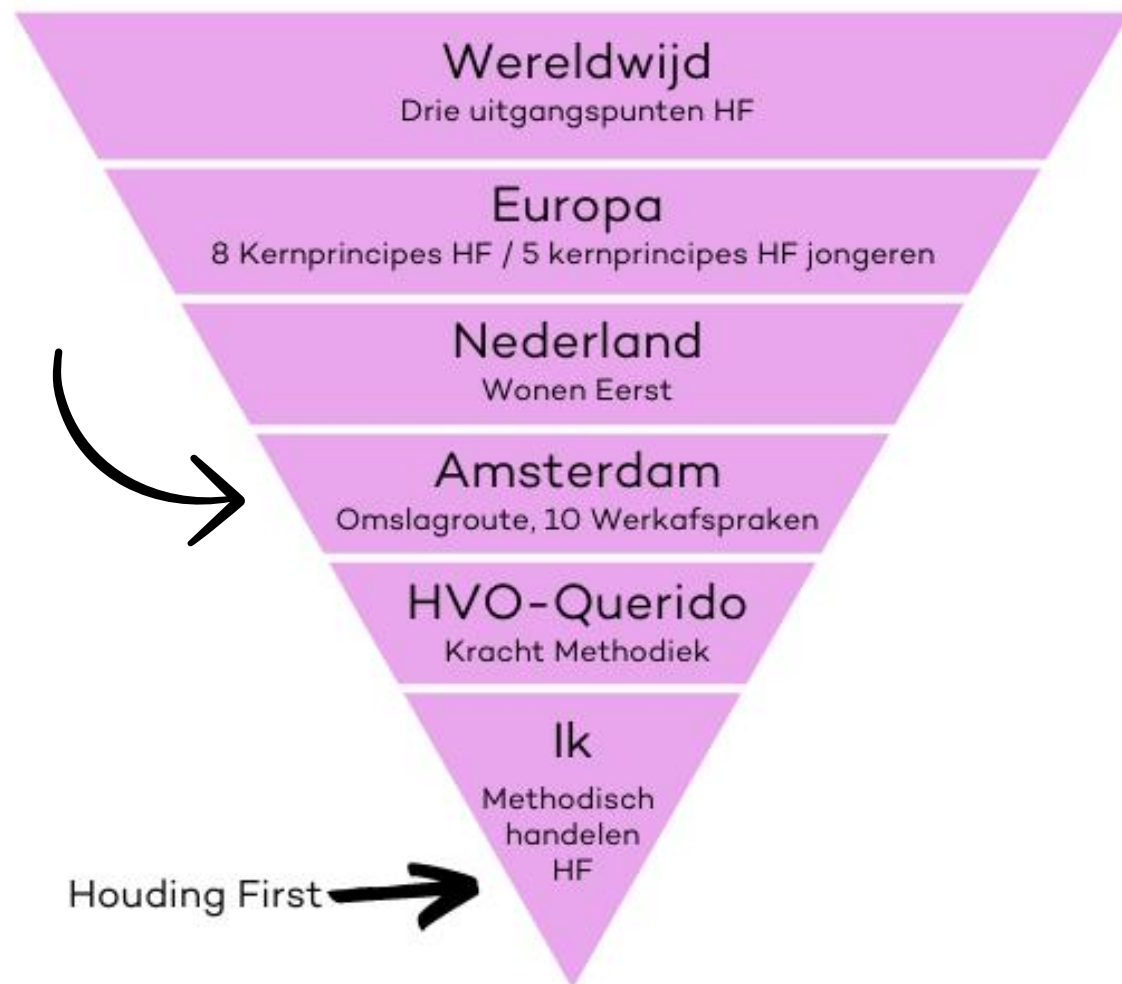
VIJF KERNPRINCIPES HOUSING FIRST JONGEREN

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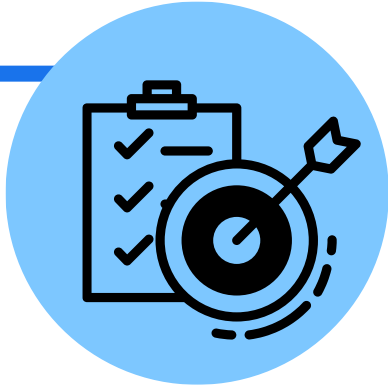


10 werkafspraken

- Afgestemd aanbod van wonen en zorg
- Zorgbegeleiding op maat
- Passend wonen met intermediaire verhuur
- Wonen en goed Huurderschap
- Vroegsignalering en preventie
- Voorkomen van en omgaan met overlast
- Ondersteuning bij financieel beheer
- Omklappen naar 'contract op eigen naam'
- Zorg en ondersteuning na omklap
- Respect voor privacy cliënt



10 werkafspraken in de praktijk



Gepersonaliseerde
doelen



Start gesprek



Jaarevaluatie
woningbouw



Wijkbeheer &
meldpunt Z&W.O



Overlast
protocol

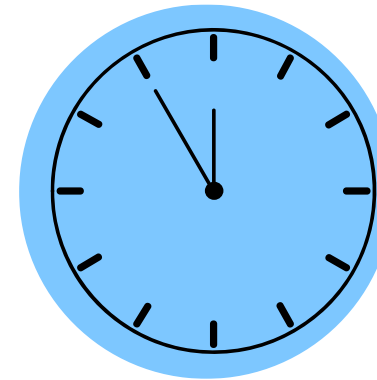


Time-out
plekken

10 werkafspraken; 2 aanvullingen voor jongeren



5 jaren contract
+ uitzonderingen



Ruggensteunregeling

Traject binnen HVO Querido

- Krachtgericht werken
- Selectie criteria
- Slagingspercentage



Praktijk

- Wat werkt binnen HFJ?
- Uitdagingen
- Tips & Tricks



**HVO
QUERIDO**

Vragen?



*Goodbye
&
Good Luck*

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