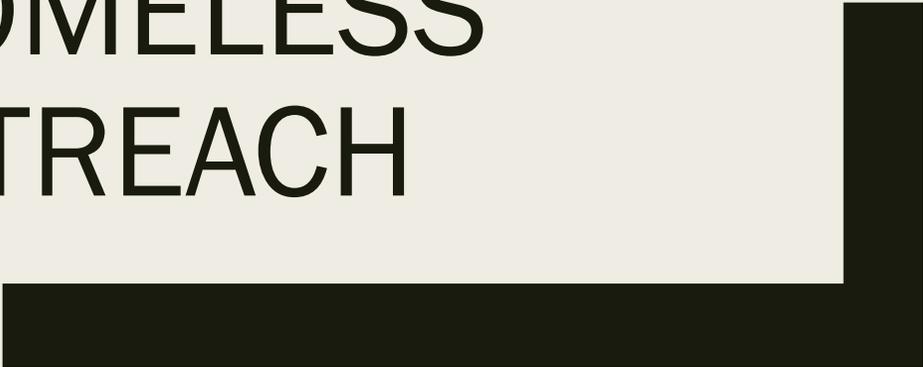


MOBILE INTERVENTION TEAM (MIT)
AND
UNSHELTERED HOMELESS
COMMUNITY OUTREACH



January 15, 2020

Behavioral health and homelessness challenges:

Anchorage Police and Fire Departments bear several negative outcomes of broken mental health and substance use treatment systems, compounded by an underfunded homeless services system

■ In 2015:

- *Homeless persons encountered by the CAP Team in camps and other locations were not receiving follow up in a timely manner*
- *APD and AFD frequently responding to locations housing or serving persons with high service needs that have very high call volumes and/or are subject to fees.*
- *APD and AFD - Homeless persons in psychiatric crisis struggle across the community with a lack of resources for stabilization.*
- *Social services have no funding to respond quickly to persons in crisis*
- *Lack of coordination across services and lack of dedicated outreach positions*

Behavioral health and homelessness strategies:

Today:

- ***APD – Mobile Intervention Team*** – responding to behavioral health crisis and coordinating community resources for people found in community locations – camps, business locations, etc.
- ***AFD CORE*** – identifying people escalating to crisis levels and diverting to solutions that will prevent continued escalation
- ***Camp abatement outreach coordination*** with community social service providers
- ***Training and on-site support*** to locations with high call volumes to discover effective practices to reduce calls and make locations safer
- ***Home for Good*** – a project targeting the top users of emergency services with a housing intervention using a “Pay for Success” financing mechanism to scale up a large project

Mobile Intervention Team: Current Positions

Clinical Supervisor –
Melina Breland

Social Service Referral Specialist –
Tanya Vandebos

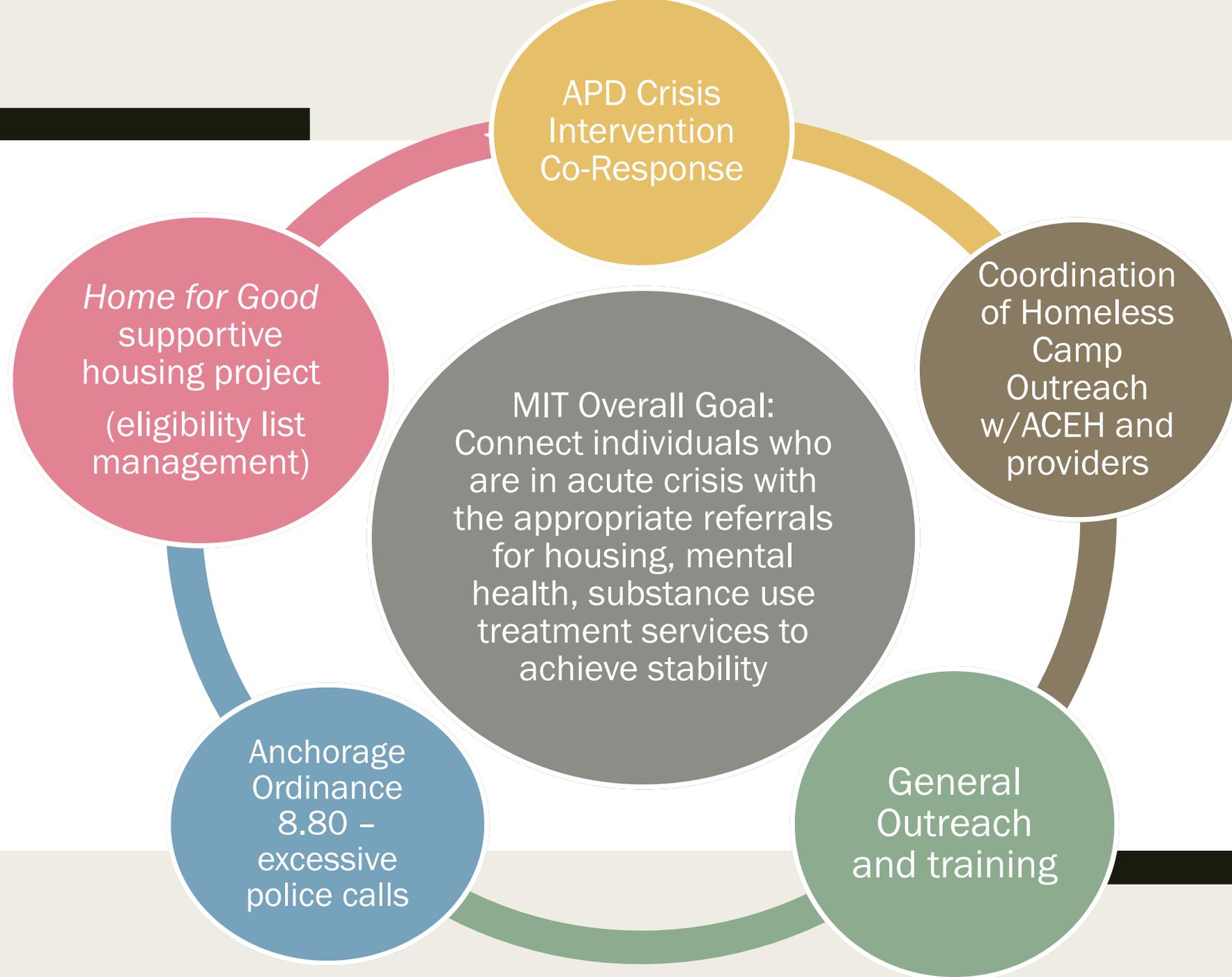
Social Service Referral Specialist–
Josh Pepper

New FY 2020:

- Administrative case manager
- \$45,000 additional support for data tracking pilot

In discussion:

- Additional administrative or coordination position under *Home for Good* program
- AHD services contract previously with RurAL CAP



Main Areas of Focus:



Co-Response: MIT's Social Services Coordinator accompanies CIT Officer Adolf on active 911 calls related to suicide and mental health issues, and routinely follows-up with individuals who are high utilizers of APD



Homeless Camp Outreach: MIT has served as coordinator for outreach to individuals camping and conducts regular outreach to campers with and without APD. Main outreach partners include: RurAL CAP, Veteran's Administration, Choices Inc., & Covenant House



General Outreach: Assist with referrals to APD Community Action Policing team or Crisis Intervention Team from various service providers, community members and/or organizations for training or on-site support



Anchorage Ordinance 8.80 or high-volume call areas: Businesses that have excessive calls to APD: encouraged to work with MIT to reduce calls and effectively serve persons with high needs



Home for Good and other permanent supported housing projects: Assisting with data, analysis, outreach and planning for referrals for safe stable housing for very vulnerable persons.

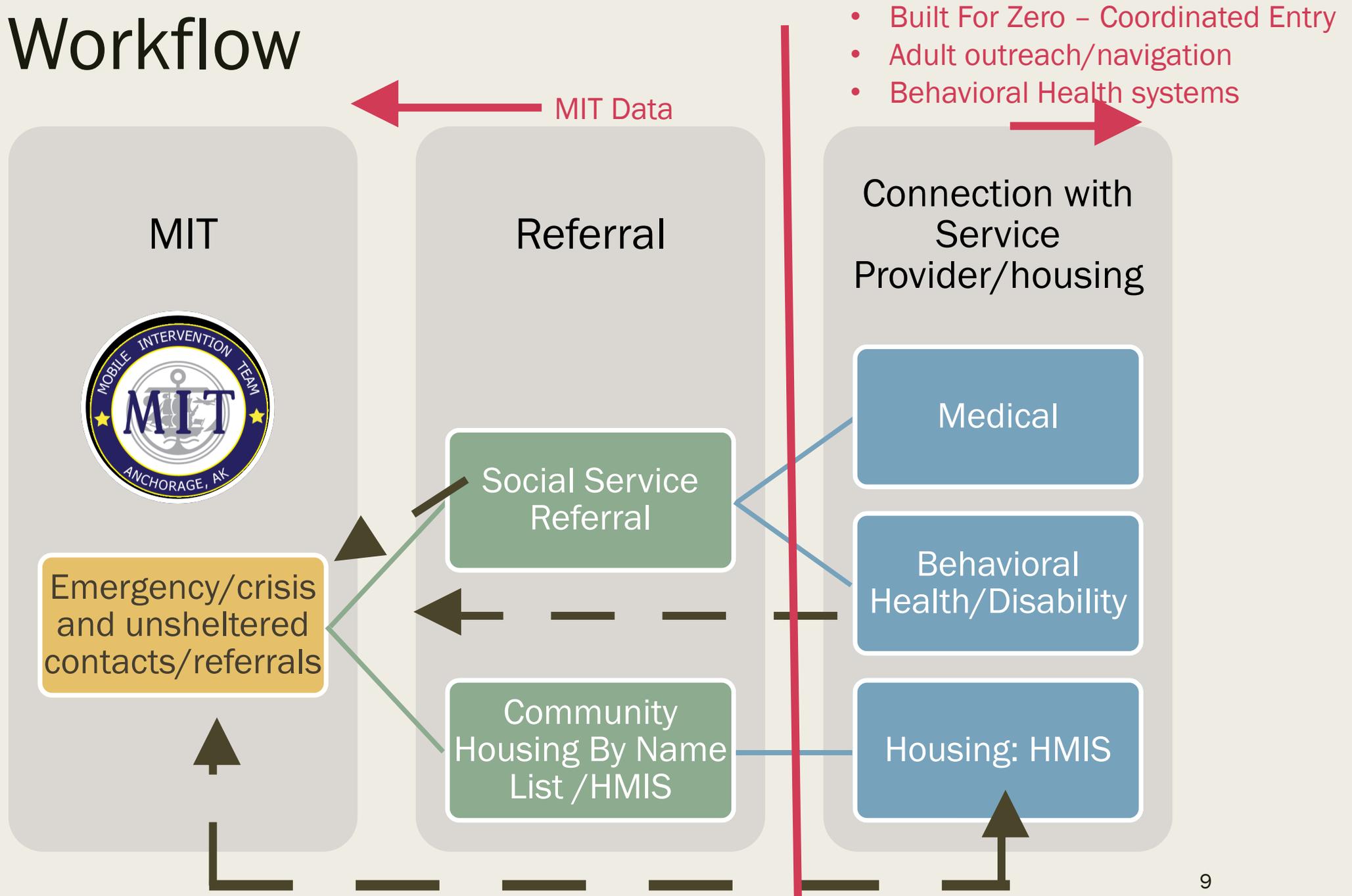
Community outreach, support and education:

- Support for increasing data quality on community homeless counts
 - *Point in Time: January 28, 2020!*
 - *Summer Community Count*
- Verifying service connections for individuals and advocating for services
- Monthly: facilitates meetings with area hospitals for high utilizing clients, coordination with AFD, Anchorage Downtown Partnership, etc.
- Resource development: Connecting with community members and non-profit partners such as United Way for donations for individual needs, i.e. hand warmers, socks, etc.
- Outreach Coordination Meetings and updates
- Training non-profits on when to call 911, 311, ASP, and how to trespass individuals
- Assisting Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness with policies and procedures to address high utilizing clients in emergency services
- Assisting with documentation, presentation and community education about the Municipality's efforts to outreach and house persons with high needs and acute mental health conditions

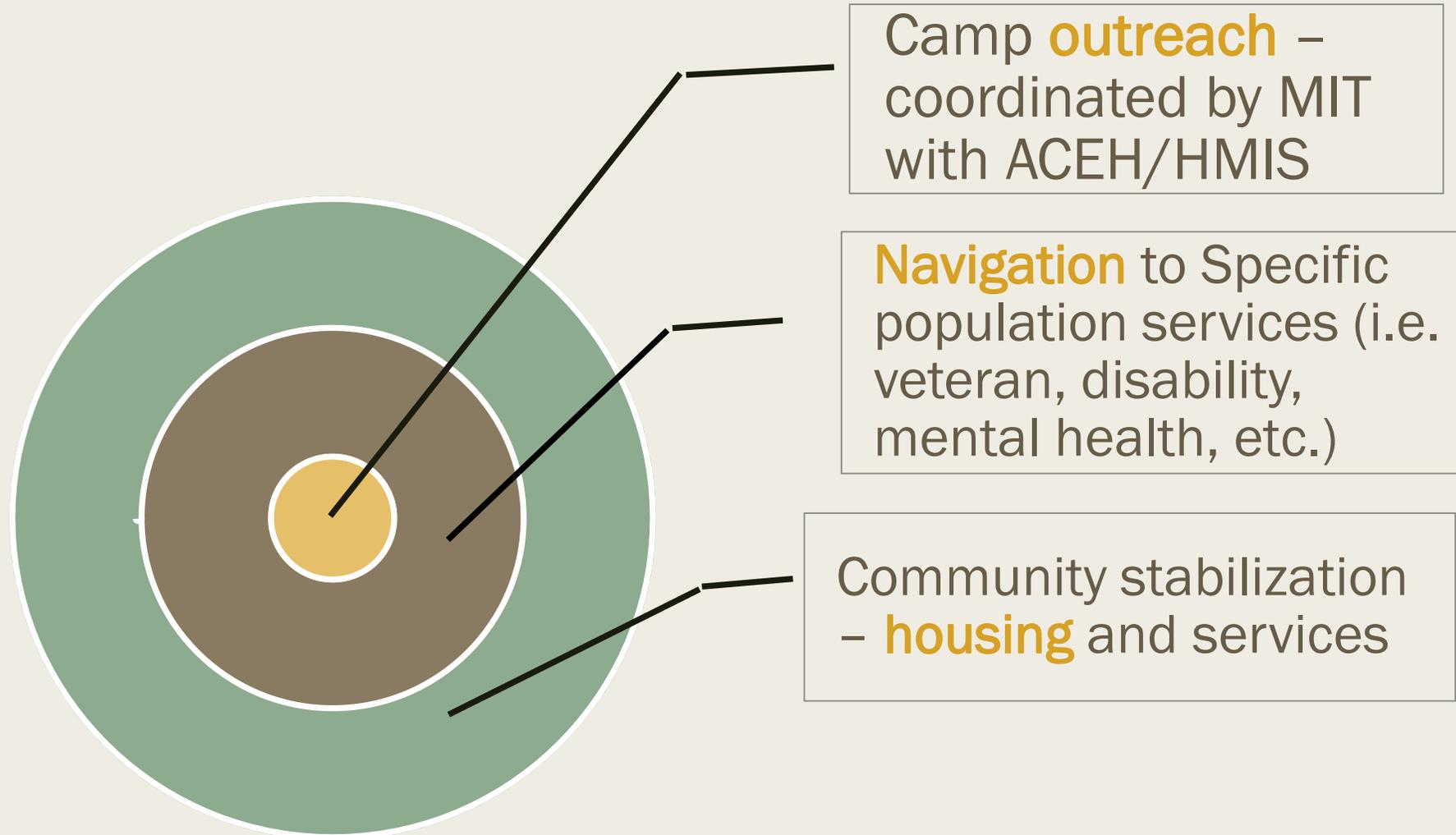


HOW DOES MIT
COORDINATE
WITH
COMMUNITY
SOCIAL SERVICE
AGENCIES?

MIT Workflow

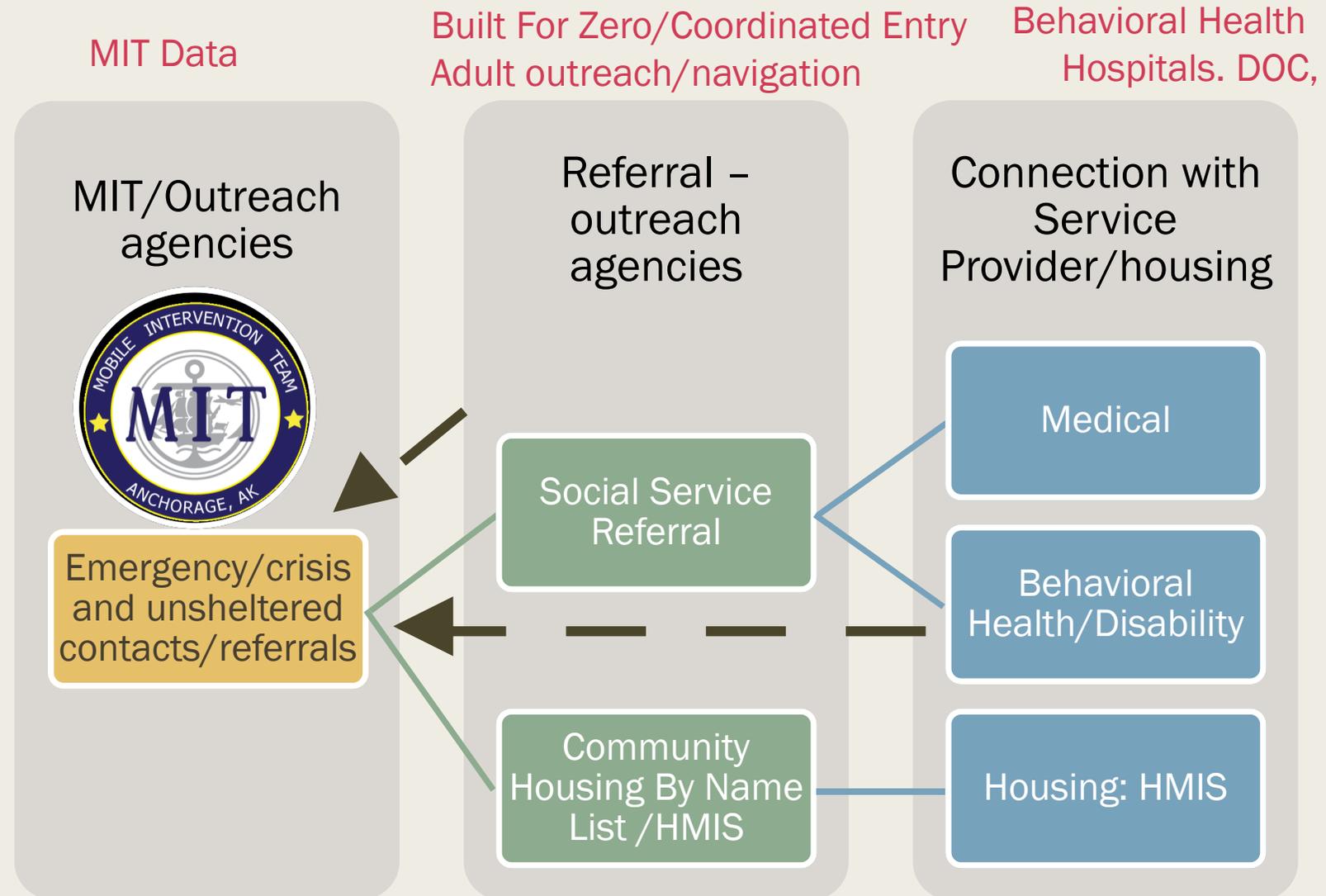


Adult outreach and navigation workflow

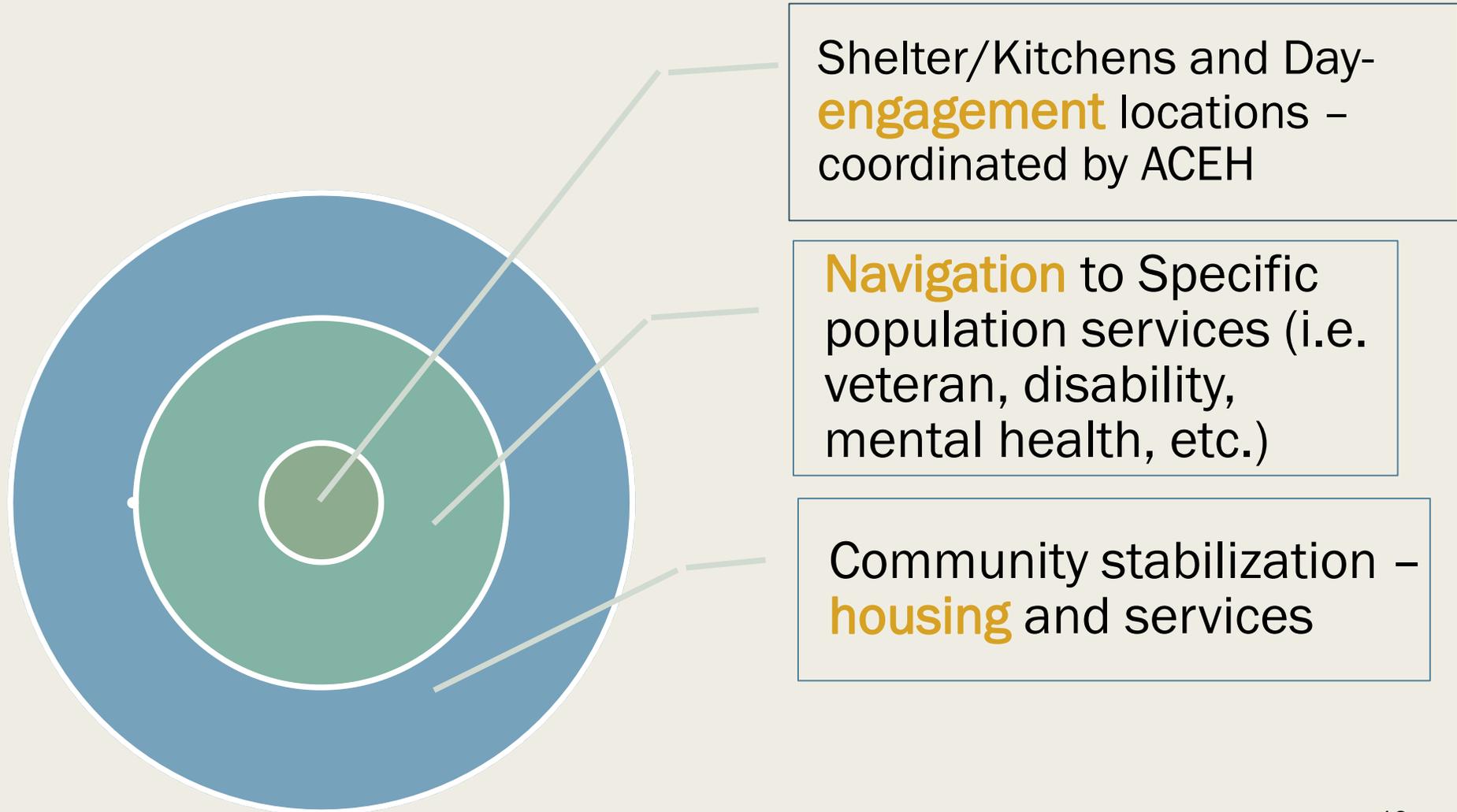


2020: Community Workflow

Data collection and tracking pilot across data areas



Additional community demands: Adult “in-reach” and navigation workflow



What's next?

- January – March: Planning to determine best position of personnel and funding
- Coordination with ACEH efforts to design community system: Built for Zero, Coordinated Entry, navigation and HMIS data and
- Coordination with community partners working on increased emergency shelter and engagement resources
- Data pilot to begin with winter PIT count and persons found outdoors on Jan 28th as a smaller subset of persons

Questions?

Addendum: Acronyms and definitions

- ACEH – Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
- ASP and ASC – Anchorage Health Department contract for Anchorage Safety Patrol and Anchorage Safety Center providing screening and transport to the Safety Center for people who have consumed alcohol and who are not capable of remaining safely in the community
- BfZ: Built for Zero – a process developed by Community Solutions to help organize the people coming into homelessness, those who are currently homeless and those who are exiting homelessness to housing and other locations. Lead: Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
- BNL – “By Name List” the phrase used to describe a quality accounting of all of the known people who are homeless in the community. Lead: Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
- CoC – Continuum of Care (a HUD term): The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is designed to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness. CoC is the organizing entity for federal funding. In Anchorage the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness is the administrator of the Continuum of Care. Lead: Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
- CES – Coordinated Entry System: A process for selecting people from the By Name List (BNL) through community prioritization according to those who are more vulnerable to death or other negative outcomes of homelessness. Lead: Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
- HUD – US Department of Housing and Urban Development
- HMIS – Homeless Management Information System- a data base tracking persons in the homeless services system. Anchorage’s HMIS system is operated by the Institute for Community Alliances (ICA), a national expert in HMIS systems
- MIT – Mobile Intervention Team: located in Anchorage Police Department providing mental health outreach for homeless persons and those in crisis in the community

Addendum: Acronyms and definitions

- RRH – Rapid rehousing. A model of assistance focusing on rehousing individuals as quickly as possible. This model works well with families and individuals who can transition to independent rental payment after a defined period (frequently between 6-18 months)
- P2I – Path to Independence. A housing program developed in Anchorage focusing on individuals and families using a Rapid Rehousing model combined with some opportunities for employment. This project is sponsored by Cook Inlet Housing Authority and Weidner Apartment Homes.
- PFS/Home for Good – A permanent supportive housing project in development for housing high cycling homeless individuals impacting police, fire and Anchorage Safety Patrol services, Uses a “Pay for Success” financing model.
- PSH – Permanent Supported Housing. A model of housing assistance used for persons with severe conditions that will not resolve quickly. This model allows persons to stabilize with on-site robust assistance at their own pace and is not necessarily a lifelong placement, but typically is a longer timeline for stability.
- VA – US Department of Veterans Affairs
- YHDP – A national housing demonstration program for youth and young adults funded by HUD. Anchorage was awarded this grant program in 2017 and Alaska’s statewide continuum was awarded this funding in 2019.