

Intro to Housing Problem-Solving



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Housing problem-solving is a flexible strategy that centers the individual (or household) in designing their personalized pathway to housing stability, taking their unique mix of strengths and needs into account. This strategy explores innovative, cost-effective solutions for swiftly resolving housing crises at any stage. In this session, gain insights from communities that have embraced problem-solving as a comprehensive, system-wide approach to preventing and ending homelessness.



Introduction to Housing Problem Solving

July 1st, 2025



End abuse and violence.
Advocate. Educate. Collaborate.

Johnnie Walker
Director of Housing and Shelter Services

What is Partners for Peace?

Established in 1973-The oldest domestic violence center in Maine

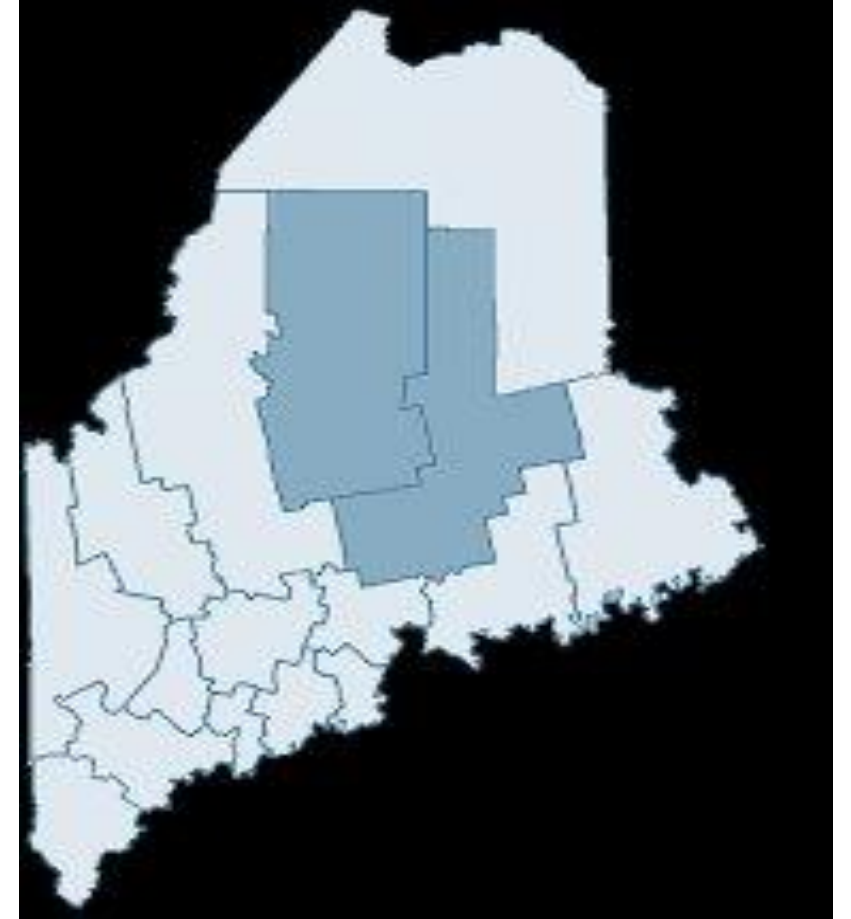
19 Staff

Serve on average 1,750 people per year

Serve 2 counties-Penobscot and Piscataquis

Population = 170,757 -- SQ Miles = 7,934

Maine CoC = the WHOLE State of Maine



Training Advocates to Effectively Support Survivors



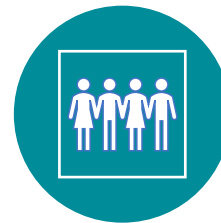
Basic Advocate Training



Training and Consultation for Other Providers



Housing Problem Solving = Advocacy



Internal and External Resources for Survivors

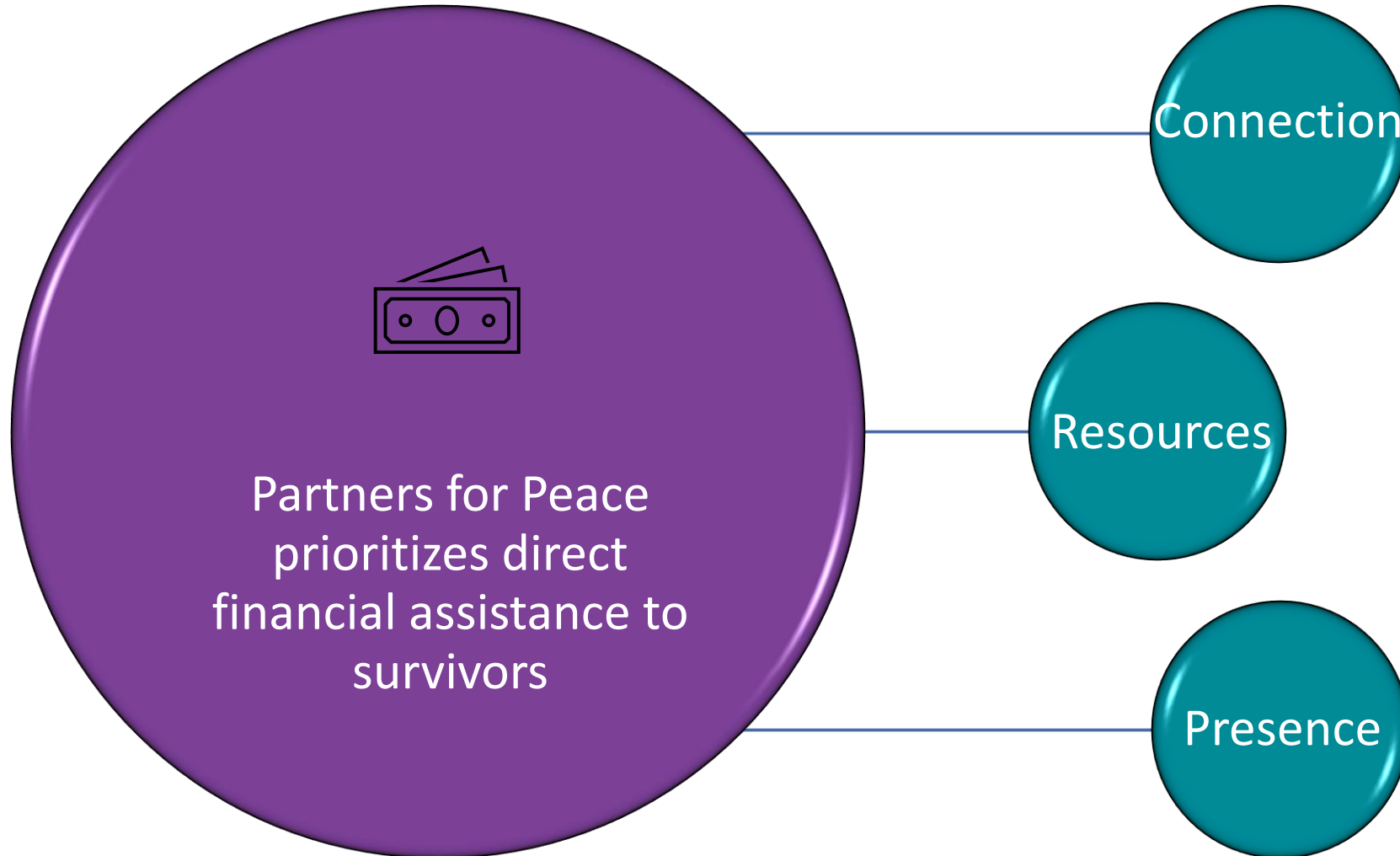


Budget Transparency

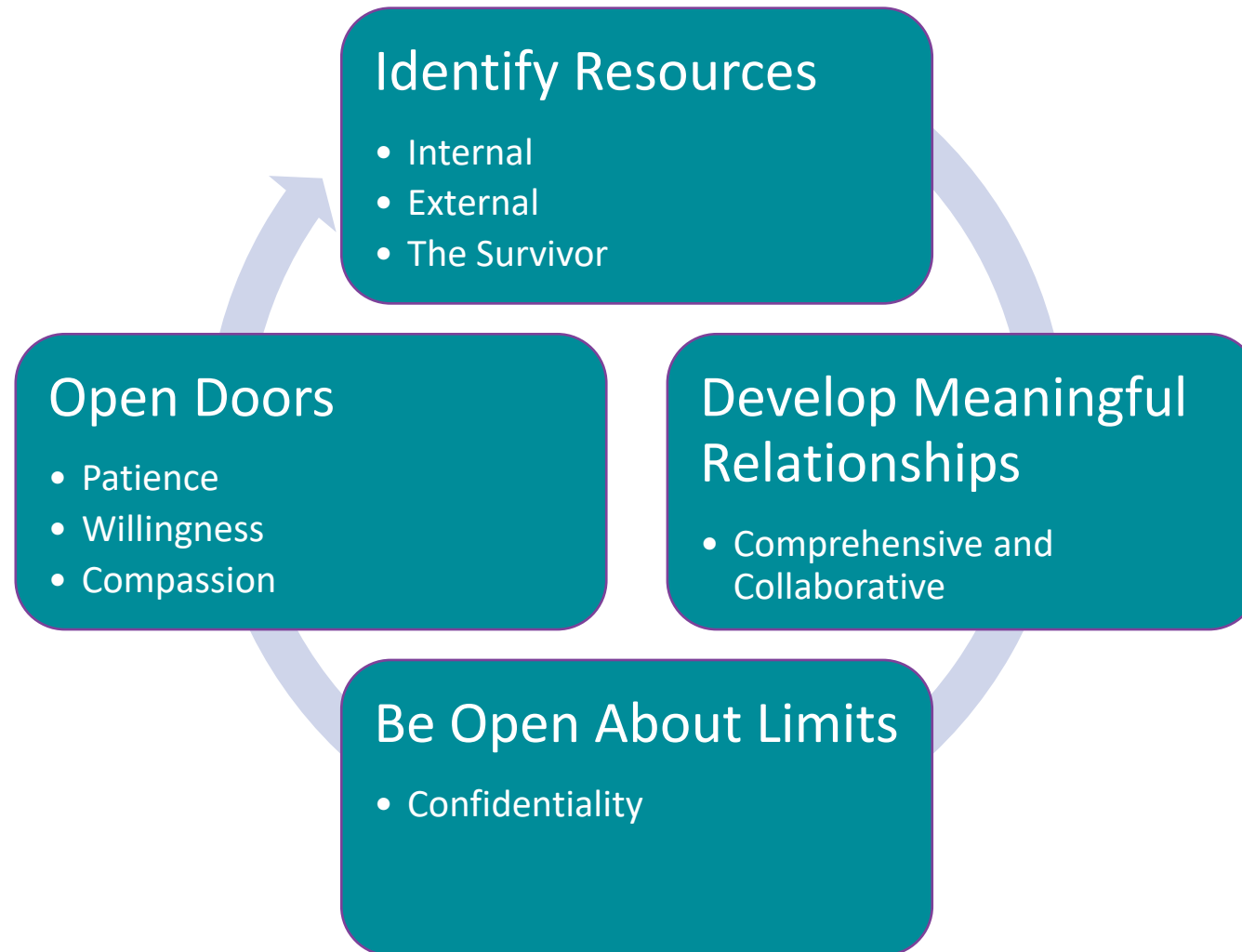


Survivors are the Experts

The Partners for Peace Approach



Phone a Friend



Thank you!



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Johnnie Walker

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Montgomery County, MD

Jimmy Slattery, Program Director
Interfaith Works, Drop-In Center and
Shelter at Progress Place



Northwest Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness

Housing Problem Solving, Shelter Diversion
and Rapid Exit in Northwest Michigan





Service Region and Funding Sources

Five county rural CoC in NW Michigan.

Population: 180,780 (53% in Grand Traverse County)

of people exp. homelessness: 250

Housing Problem Solving Funding

- Coordinated Entry (ESG and HUD CoC Program)
- Housing and Community Dev. Fund through State Budget Allocation
- Philanthropy



... Why Housing Problem Solving? ...

**Low
Vacancy
rate**

**High
Rental
Rates**

**High
Shelter
Utilization
rates**

**Need to
reduce
inflow**

... CREATING A CULTURE OF DIVERSION ...





Data and How We Use It



Diversion success rate

Determine if diversion is impacting the inflow into homelessness

Success rate by shelter

Determine how effective each shelter is at diversion practices. Is diversion increasing bed availability?

Length of time to divert

Determine if we are targeting the intervention at the right point in the system. Determine system flow.

Recidivism

Is diversion helping keep people out of homelessness for 30, 60, 90 days and beyond? Who is/isn't coming back and why?

Key Highlights

January 2024-May 2025

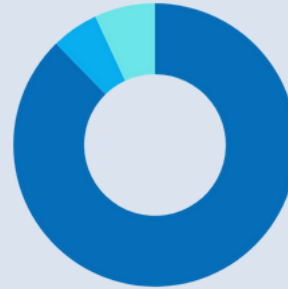


Average
Diversion Rate

27%

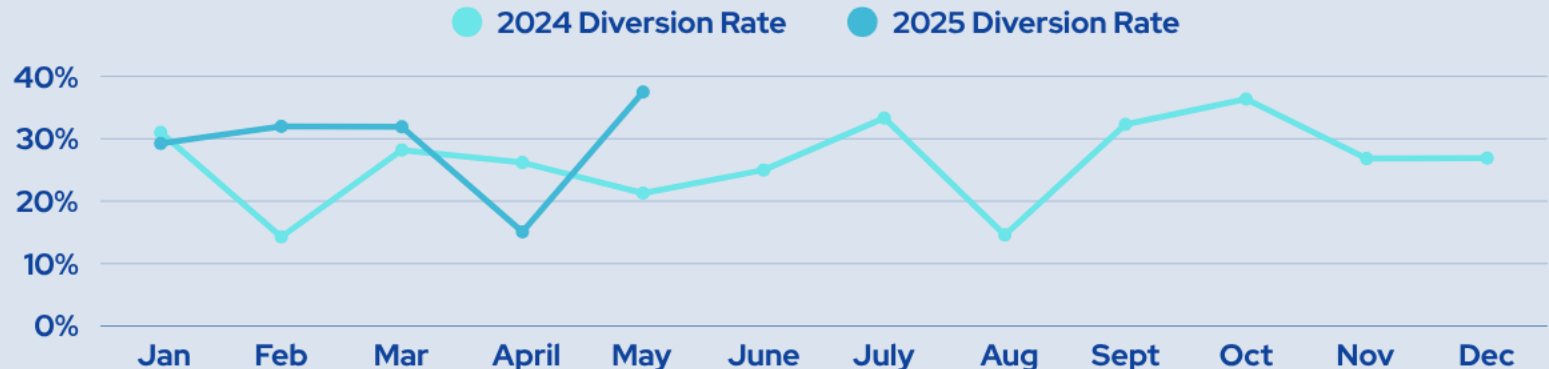
Diversion Expense Items

Housing 88%
Food/Supplies 5%
Transportation 7%



90 Day Diversion Success Rate

92%



...

Thank you

...

**Ashley Halladay-
Schmandt**

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