The Emerging Crisis
of Aged Homelessness:
Could Housing Solutions Be
Funded by Avoidance of
Excess Shelter, Hospital, and
Nursing Home Costs?

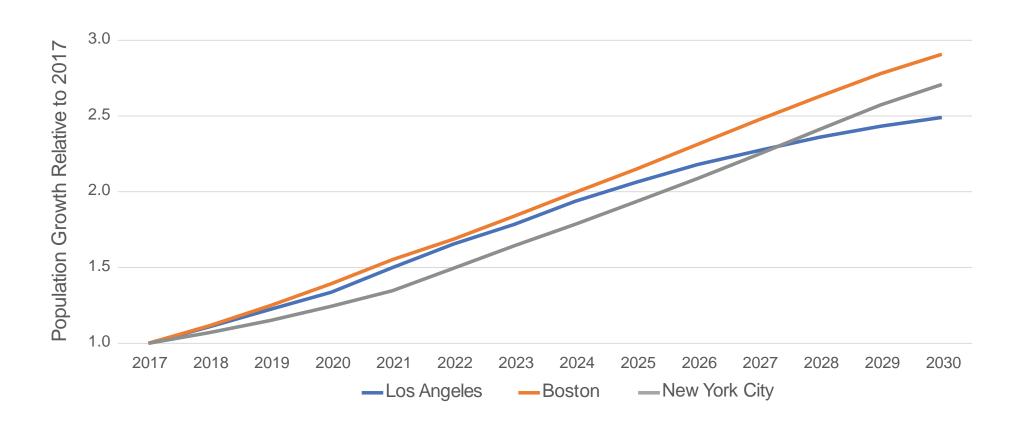
Dennis Culhane, PhD, Dan Treglia, PhD
Thomas Byrne, PhD
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#### Homelessness, A Birth Cohort Phenomenon

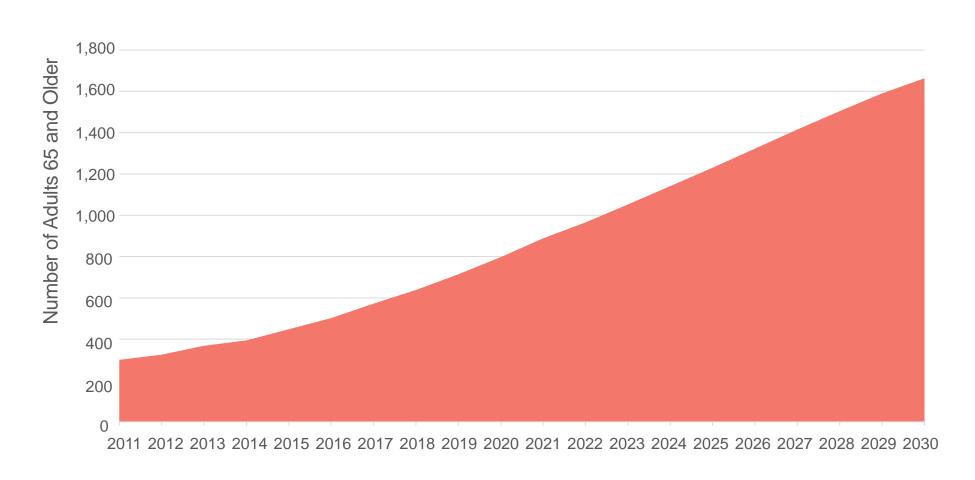
Single Adult Male Shelter Users, United States



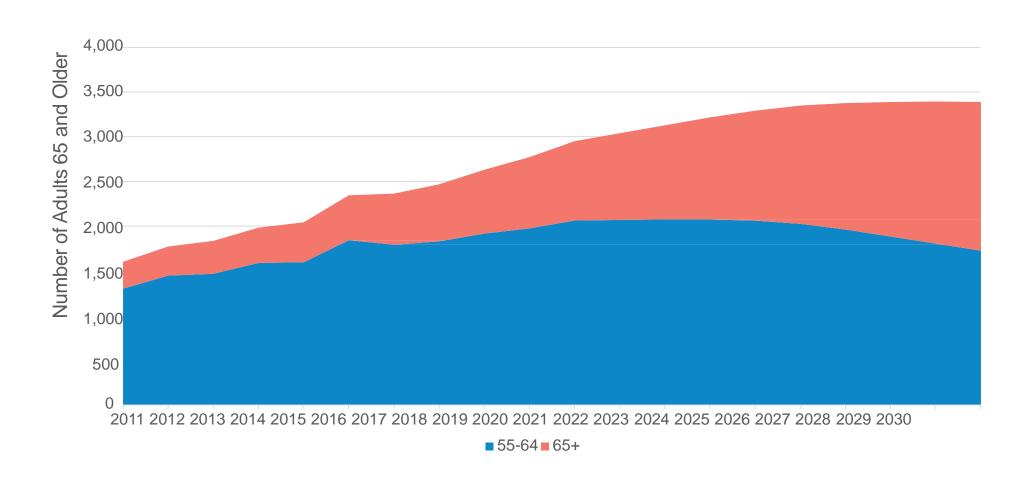
#### Forecasting Change in 65+ Homeless Population



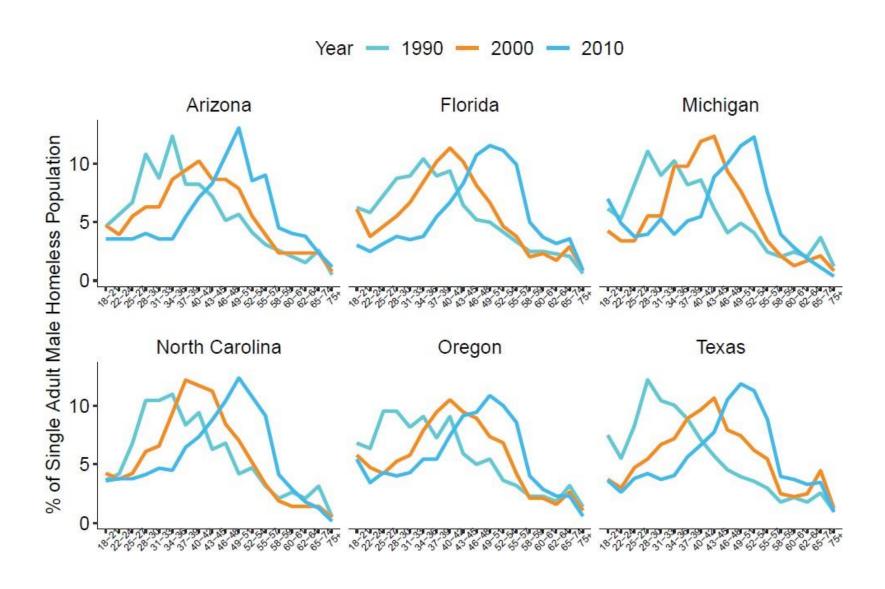
## Projecting the 65+ Homeless Adult Population: Boston, MA



## Projecting the 55+ Homeless Adult Population: Boston, MA



#### **Aging Homelessness Trends Across U.S**



### Examining Shelter, Healthcare, and Nursing Home Use & Costs of Older Homeless Adults

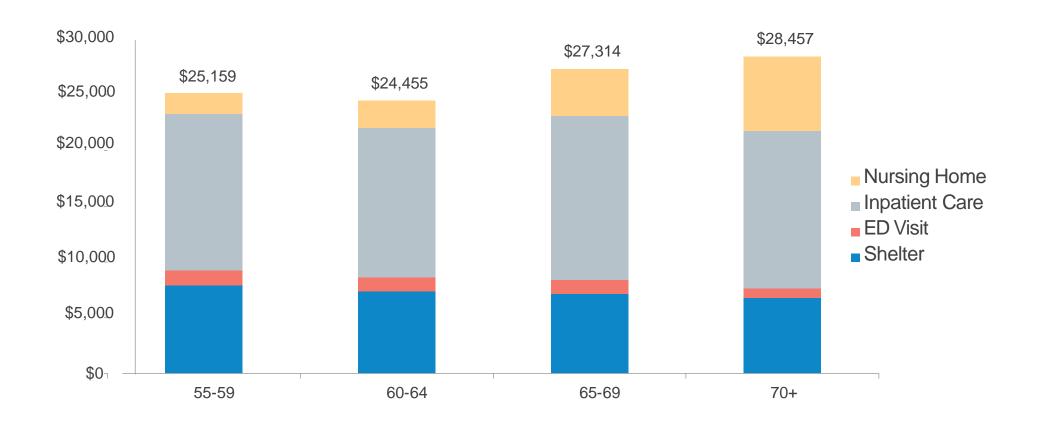
## Data Sources

- Boston
  - Shelter: City of Boston HMIS
  - Health care: MassHealth Medicaid Claims

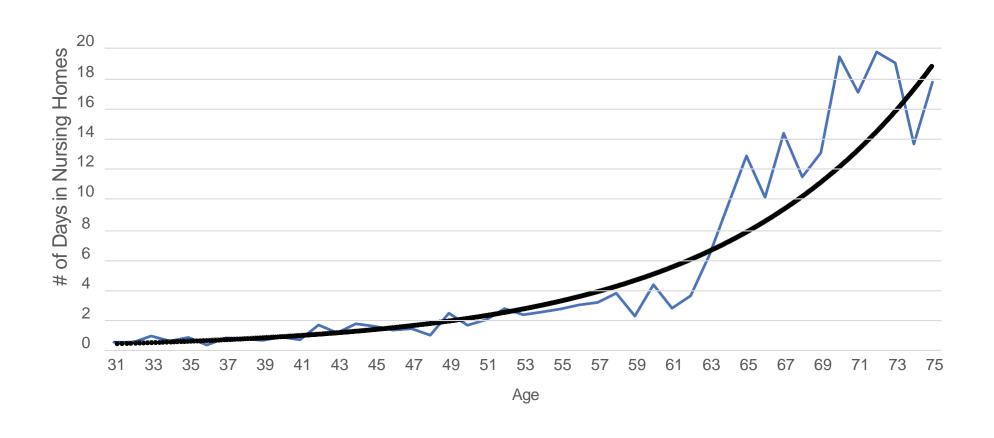
#### Los Angeles

- Shelter: Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority & Point-in-Time Count
- Health care: LA Enterprise Linkage Project (Departments of Public Health, Mental Health, & Health Services), CMS (through Mission Analytics); California Office of Statewide Healthcare Planning & Development
- New York City
  - Shelter: NYC Department of Social Services
  - Health care: NYS Department of Health SPARCS Database,
     CMS (through Mission Analytics)

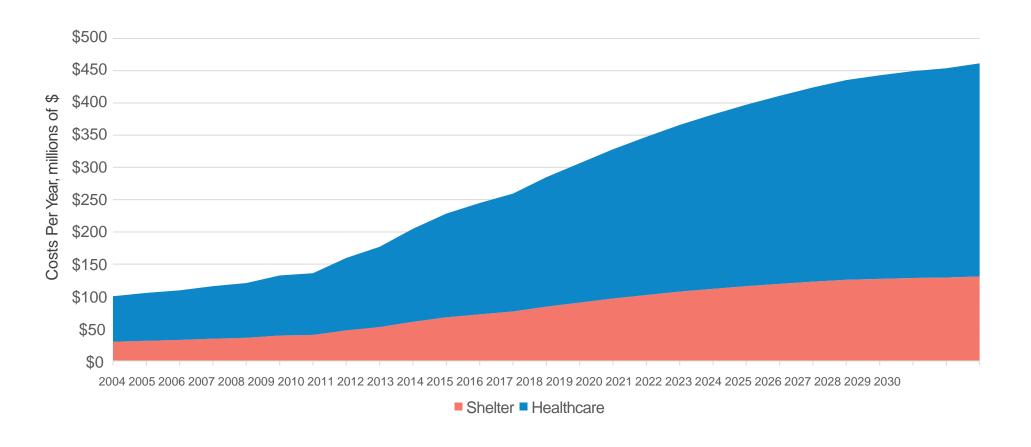
#### **Average Annual Per Person Costs by Age: New York City**



#### **Nursing Home Use by Age: LA County**



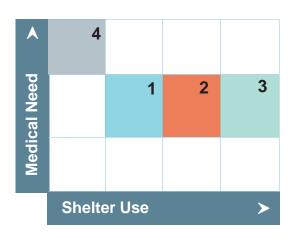
#### Projecting Total Costs through 2030: New York City



## Segmenting into Subgroups to Assess Potential Housing & Service Needs

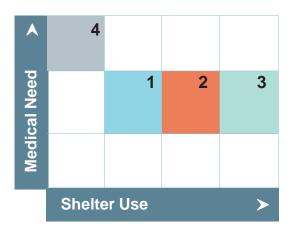
- Cluster Analysis: A tool for grouping observations based on similarities and dissimilarities
- Clusters were created based on a small set of variables, and validity was assessed through other variables of service use and medical acuity

	Shelte r Days	Inpatien t Days	ED Visits	Nursing Home Days	Shelte r Cost	Health Service s Cost	Total Service s Cost
Cluster 1	44	3	1	9	\$5,167	\$13,369	\$18,536
Cluster 2	196	4	2	6	\$23,018	\$15,870	\$38,888
Cluster 3	329	3	1	3	\$38,638	\$10,281	\$48,919
Cluster 4	9	51	10	32	\$1,075	\$175,437	\$176,494



# Envisioning a Continuum of Potential Interventions

	Intervention	Annual Housin g Cost	Annual Servic e Cost	Total Annua I Cost
Cluster 1	Subsidy + Services	\$4,795	\$1,650	\$6,444
Cluster 2	PSH	\$15,468	\$11,500	\$26,968
Cluster 3	PSH	\$15,468	\$11,500	\$26,968
Cluster 4	PSH + Additional Supports	\$15,468	\$23,000	\$38,468



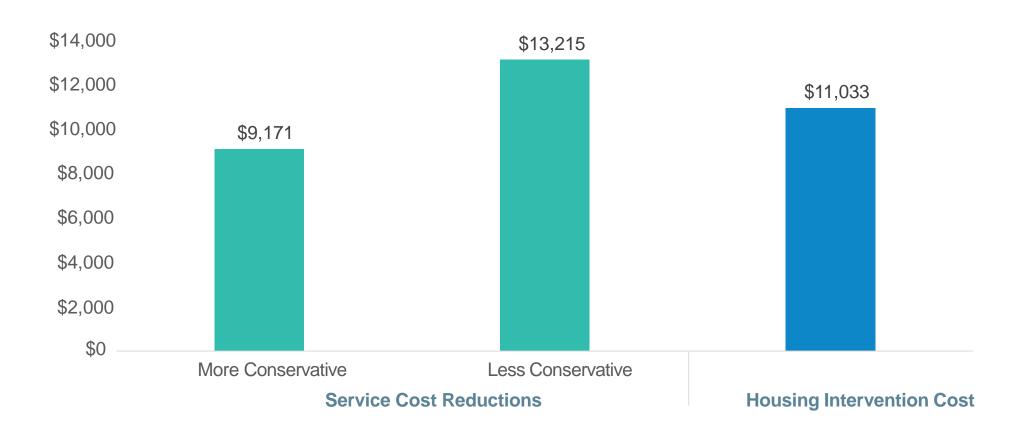
## A Range of Potential Service Cost Reductions

Cost Category	Scenario 1 (More conservative)	Scenario 2 (Less conservative)
Inpatient medical	-18%	-33%
Emergency Department	-6%	-45%
Outpatient medical	-6%	-45%
Outpatient behavioral health	48%	-29%
Inpatient behavioral health	-35%	-56%
Nursing home	-42%	-90%
Shelter	-71%	-71%

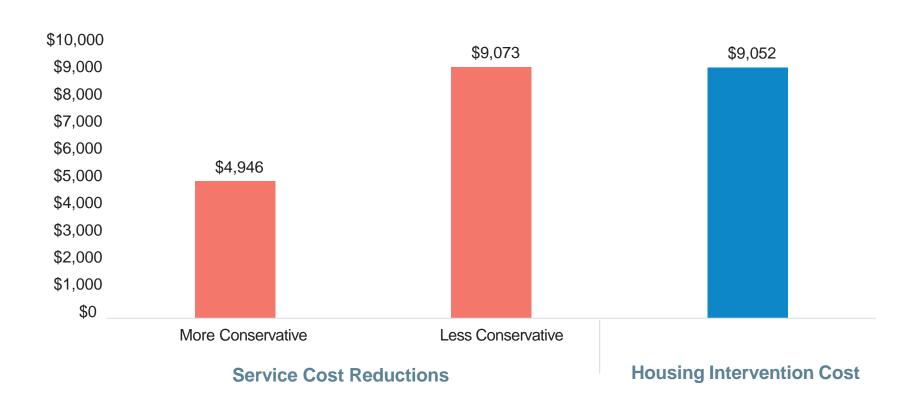
#### Cost Reduction Possibilities by Age Group: LA County Average per Person Per Year



### **Cost Reduction Possibilities in NYC Average Per Person Per Year**



#### Cost Reduction Possibilities in Boston Average Per Person Per Year



## Annualized Average Projected Costs & Potential Cost Reductions (in millions of \$)

Not Offcoto

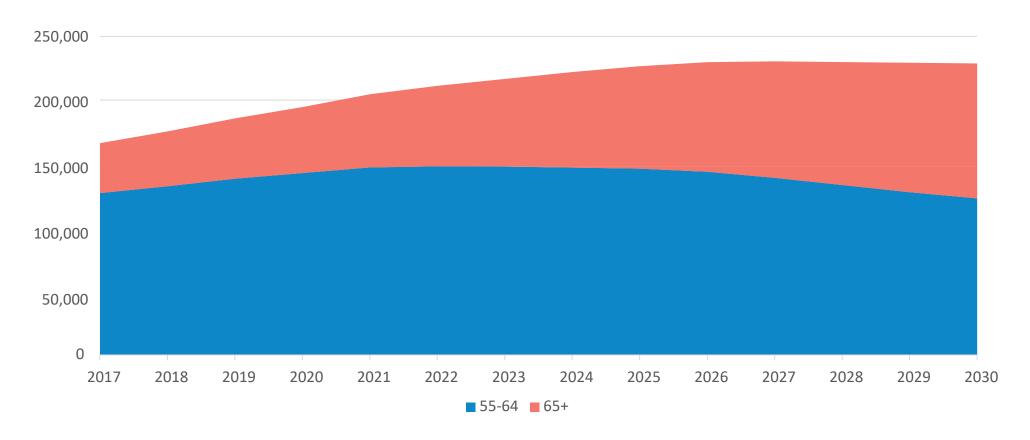
	Service Costs without an Intervention		Average Service Cost Reductions	(Service Cost Reductions - Intervention Costs)	Return Per Dollar Spent
New York City	\$408	\$157	\$177	\$20	1.13
Boston*	\$67	\$39	\$30	(\$9)	0.77
<b>LA County</b>	\$621	\$241	\$274	\$33	1.14

<sup>\*</sup> Boston service costs and cost reductions exclude Medicare-reimbursed services. A forthcoming analysis estimating Medicare costs suggests that an intervention would be break-even or provide net savings

Could Housing Solutions be Funded by Resultant Service Cost Reductions?

Yes

## National Projections (with cautions)



#### **Key Stakeholders**

U.S. HUD & VA

U.S. DHHS - CMS

State Medicaid Regulatory Agencies

Medicaid Managed Care Organizations

Hospitals & nursing homes

Homeless Service Providers (CoC's)

**Housing Authorities** 

Local Area Agencies on Aging