



# Permanent Supportive Housing:

*SJ47 Housing Workgroup*

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# Housing Instability and Vulnerable Populations

**Housing Is A Key Determinant Of Health.** Poor living conditions, caused by poverty and homelessness, affect both people's vulnerability to illness and disease and their ability to benefit from treatment and manage their conditions.

**People Who Are Homeless Are At Greater Risk For Poor Health.** They have high rates of infectious and acute illnesses; chronic diseases; poor mental health and/or substance use disorders; and are victims of violence. In addition, their mortality rate is 3-4 times higher than for the general population.

**Homelessness Is Correlated With High Health Care Costs.** The high proportion of complex health needs and co-occurring health and behavioral health disorders increases the number, intensity, and scope of the services. Homelessness also increases the likelihood of excessive use of the hospitals and crisis services.

A report in the New England Journal of Medicine documents that homeless people spent an average of 4 days longer per hospital visit than comparable non-homeless people at an ***extra cost of approximately \$2,414 per hospitalization.***

# Housing Needs and System Costs in Virginia

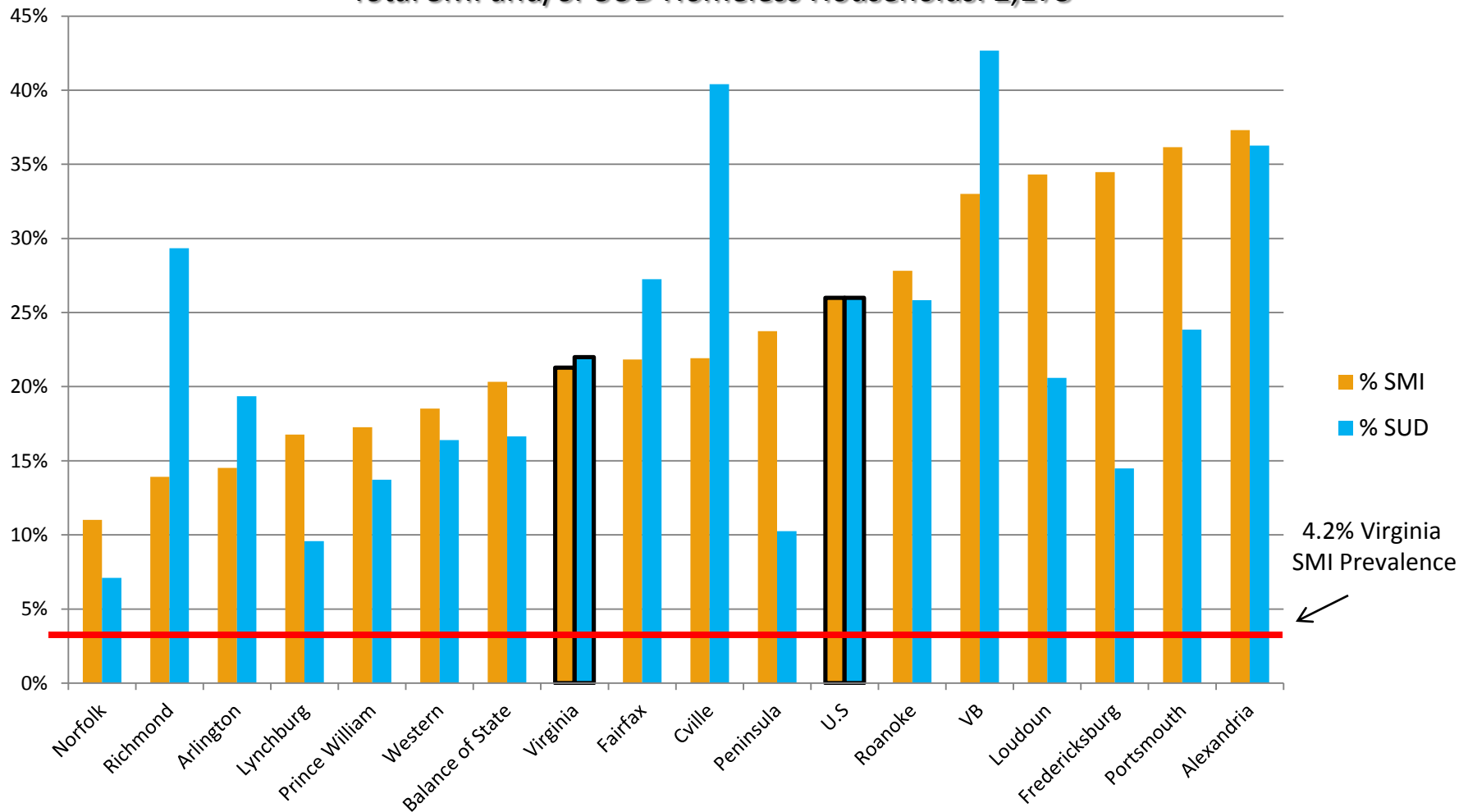
- Lack of suitable affordable housing with appropriate supports remains the primary barrier to discharge for individuals who are clinically ready to return to the community from state psychiatric facilities (OIG- DBHDS; OSIG 2014).
- Cost per Virginia state psychiatric hospital bed \$632/day. A Virginia PSH bed costs \$34-\$55/day.

Virginia DBHDS study of homeless CSB clients and local psychiatric hospitalizations (2005) found:

- The average homeless CSB consumer, as compared to the average housed CSB consumer, had four times the number of admissions and three times the number of bed days and three times the total estimated cost for local psychiatric inpatient care.
- Psychiatric Hospital Inpatient Cost for Shared Homeless Consumers for 410 individuals cost \$2.9 million/year.

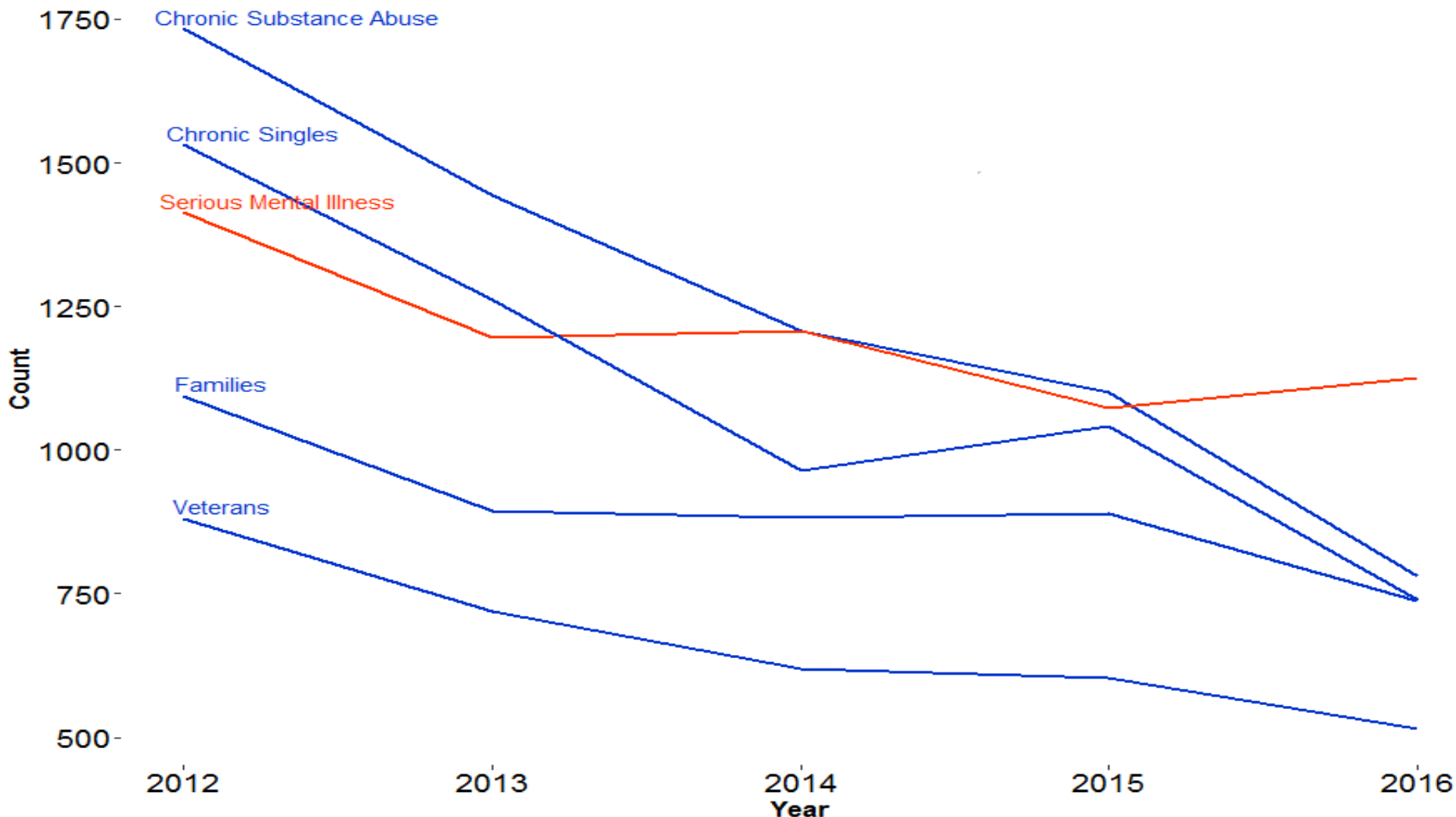
# Percentage of Homeless Virginians with Serious Mental Illness and/or Substance Use Disorders

Point In Time, January 2015  
Total SMI and/or SUD Homeless Households: 2,175



# Virginia's Count of Homeless Subpopulations 2012-2016

Virginia's CoC Point in Time Count



# Key Components of the PSH Model

Permanent supportive housing is a national ***Evidence Based Practice*** for adults with serious mental illness. Multiple peer-reviewed research studies, including seven randomized controlled trials, have found that PSH is particularly effective in **improving participants housing stability and reducing their emergency department and inpatient hospital utilization.**

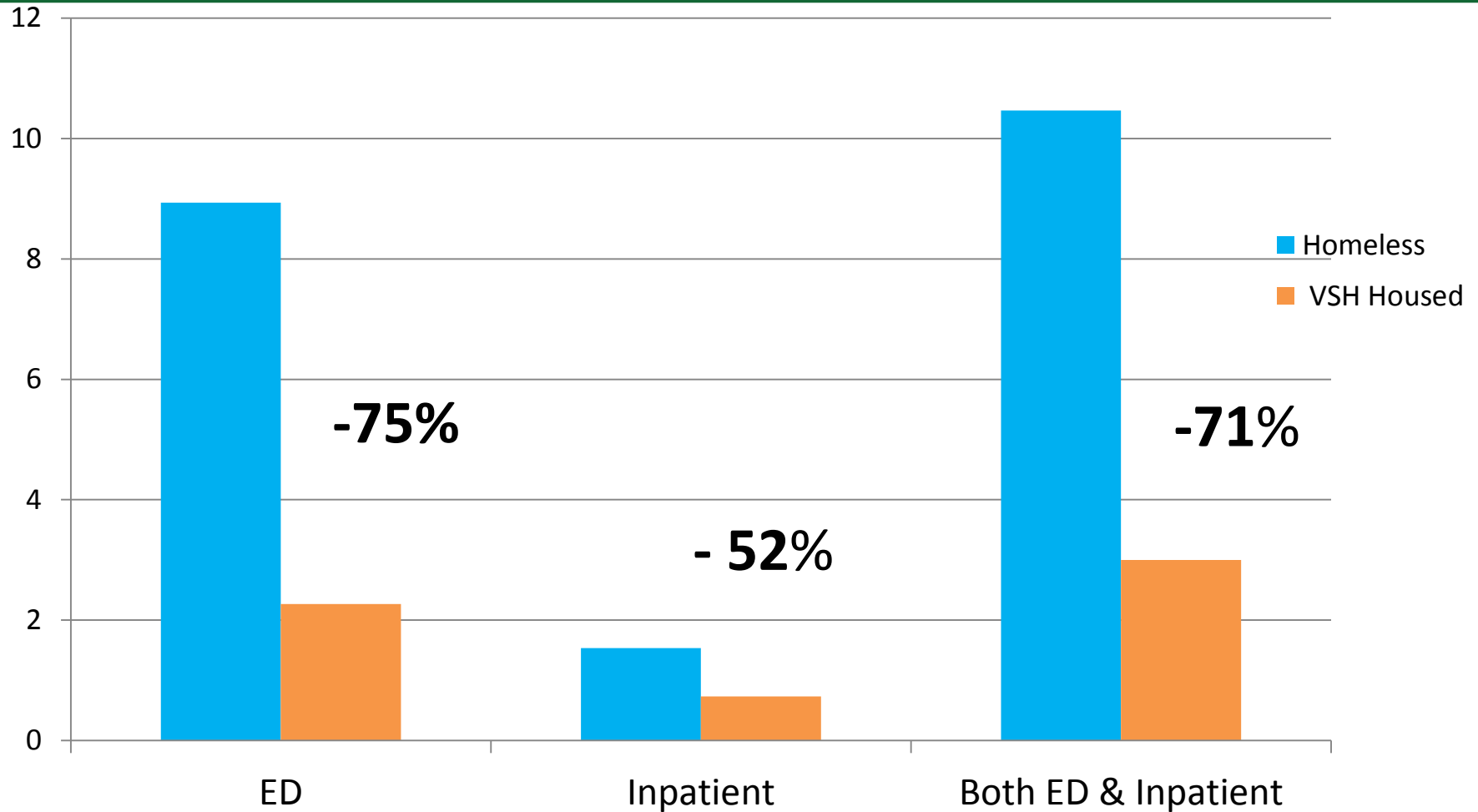
- ***Permanent*** = No time limits. Individuals live in lease-based housing in the community.
- ***Supportive*** = A flexible, voluntary array of supportive services is available to participants and is designed to assist individuals with securing and maintaining housing and addressing health and behavioral health needs.
- ***Housing*** = Affordable rental housing. Participants general pay 30% of their income to rent.

# Impact of Permanent Supportive Housing

Especially when targeted to high utilizers of homeless, criminal justice, and hospital interventions, Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is the widely recognized solution to **reducing system costs** and **ending homelessness**:

- Nationally, between 74-91% of individuals remain in PSH after being housed. Virginia's largest provider, Virginia Supportive Housing (VSH), consistently reports that 93% or more of its housed clients do not return to homelessness.
- Multiple quasi-experimental studies have shown 42-87% reductions in **jail stays** post-PSH interventions.

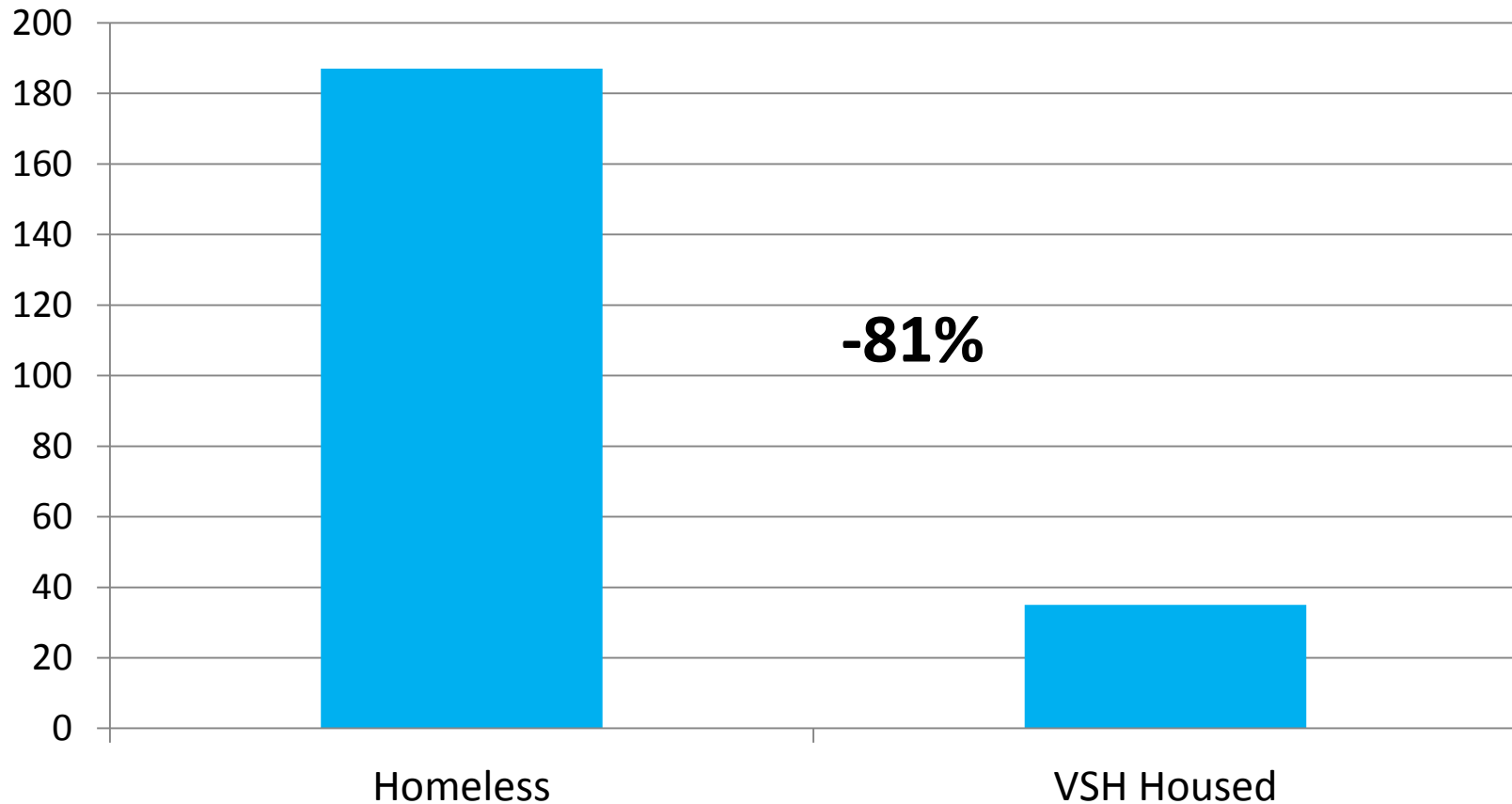
# Annual Average VCUHS Visits Per Virginia Supportive Housing Clients



	ED	Inpatient	Both
Homeless	8.9	2.3	10.5
VSH Housed	1.5	0.7	3.0

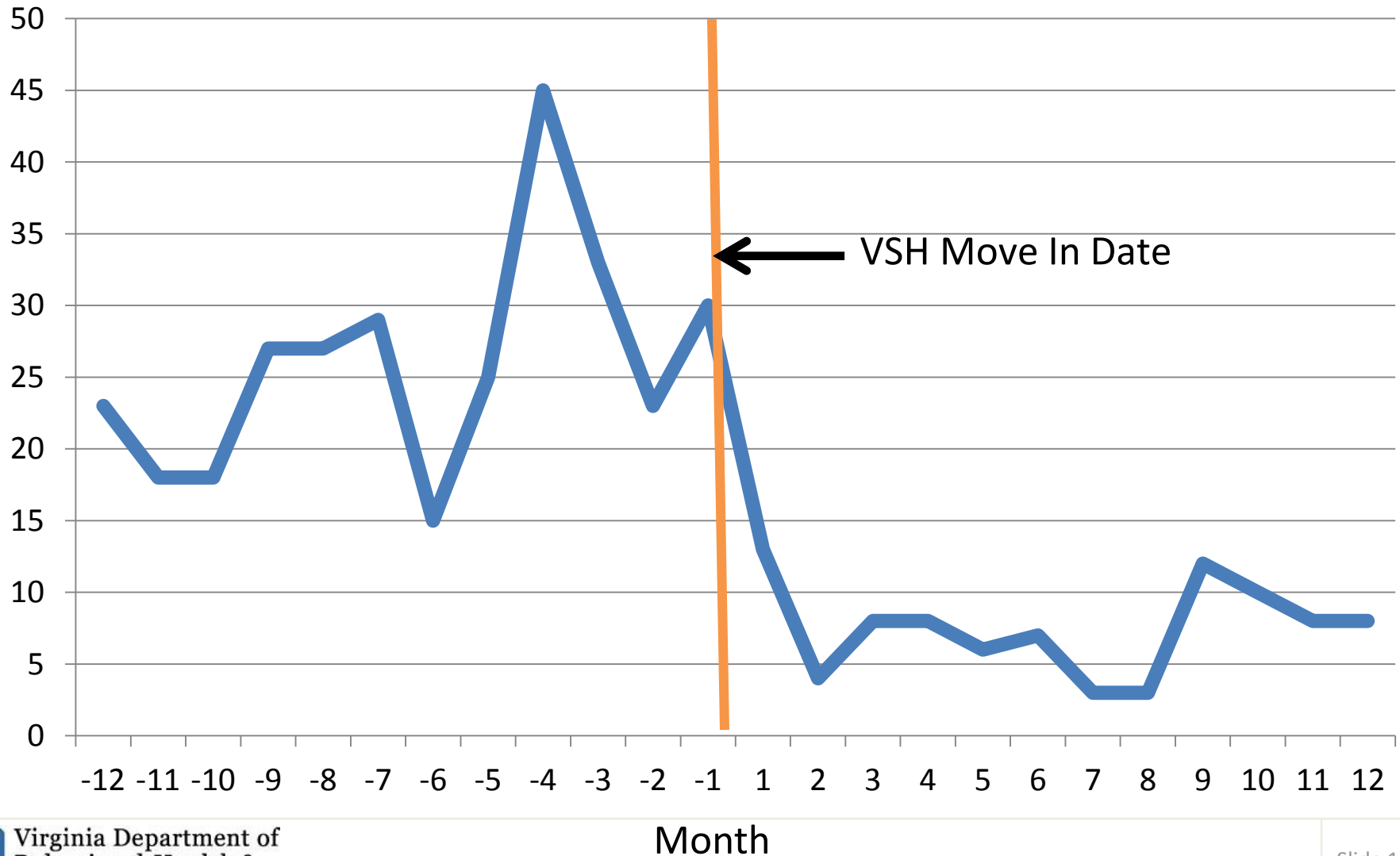


# Return visits to VCUHS ED or Inpatient within 30 Days of Discharge (excluding same day returns)



	Number of Visits
Homeless	187
VSH Housed	35

# Total Monthly VCUHS ED + INPT Visits Before and After Move In for Highest Utilizers (n=30)



# PSH Units Needed to End Chronic Homelessness

## *The State of Permanent Supportive Housing in Virginia* (Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness, 2015)

Current Units of PSH in Virginia: 2,886

Existing Units Housing Single Adults: 2,550

Existing Units Housing Families: 36

Estimated PSH Need in Virginia: 2,232 – 2,463

- 1,755 – 1,960 units for single adults, including **648 – 741 units for single adults experiencing chronic homelessness**
- 375 – 401 units for families
- 102 units for unaccompanied youth under the age of 25

# Virginia Initiatives

- Virginia Housing and Healthcare (H2) Initiative, part of the Governor's Coordinating Council on Homelessness
- SAMHSA Collaborative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) Grant
- State General Funds (FY15, 16-17) for Permanent Supportive Housing for individuals with Serious Mental Illness.
- Pay For Success
- Emergency Department Diversion Initiative