

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO HOMELESSNESS

DAN STRAUGHAN

The logo for the Homeless Alliance, featuring a stylized house icon with a blue roof and red walls, and the text "HOMELESS ALLIANCE" below it.

EMPLOYMENT


Unemployment – 5%

In civilian labor force – 61.3%

Fewer manufacturing jobs, more service sector jobs

Fewer full time (with benefits), more part time and “gig” economy jobs

Minimum wage 26% less in real terms than in 1979

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POVERTY

16.6% of Oklahoman live below the poverty rate

610,000 people

Making less than \$22,500/year for a family of four.

30% housing means monthly rent and utilities must be \$560/month or lower



PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

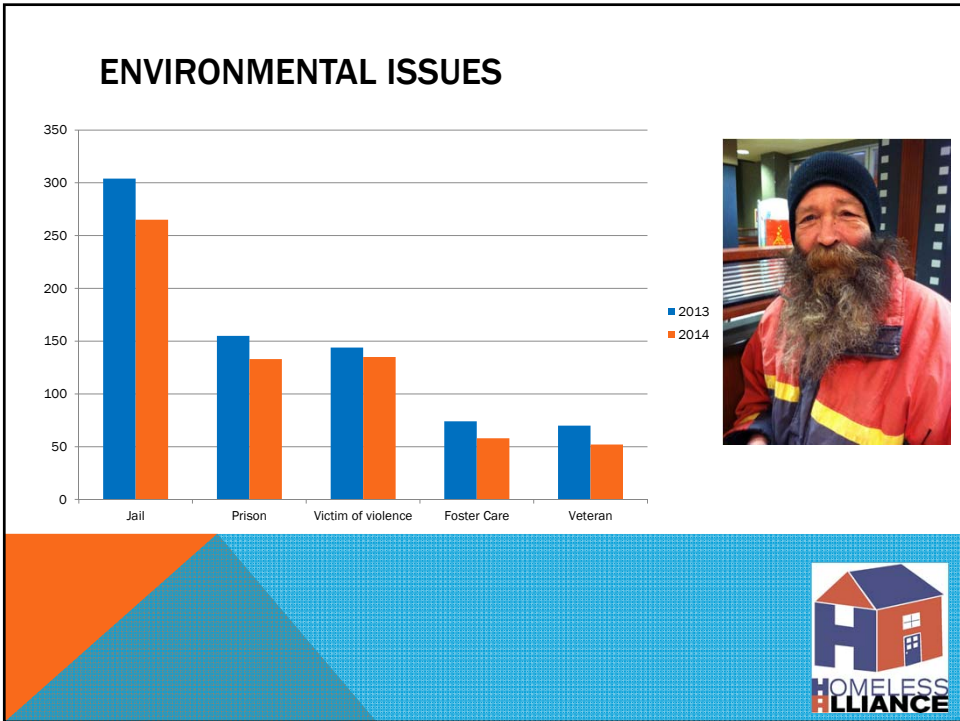
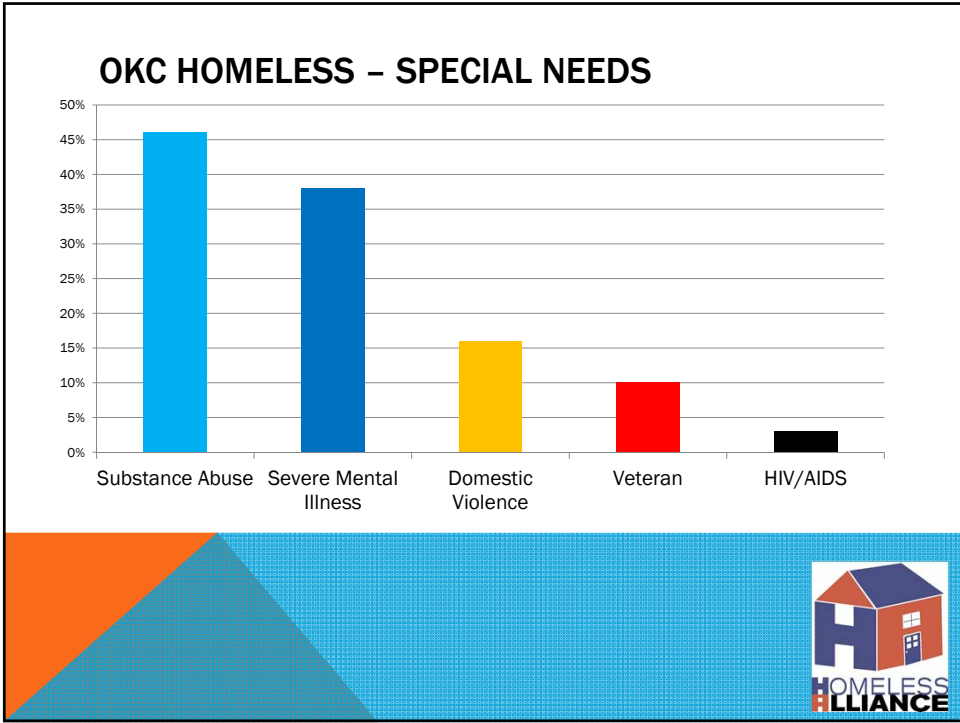
TANF reaches one-third the number children AFDC in 1996

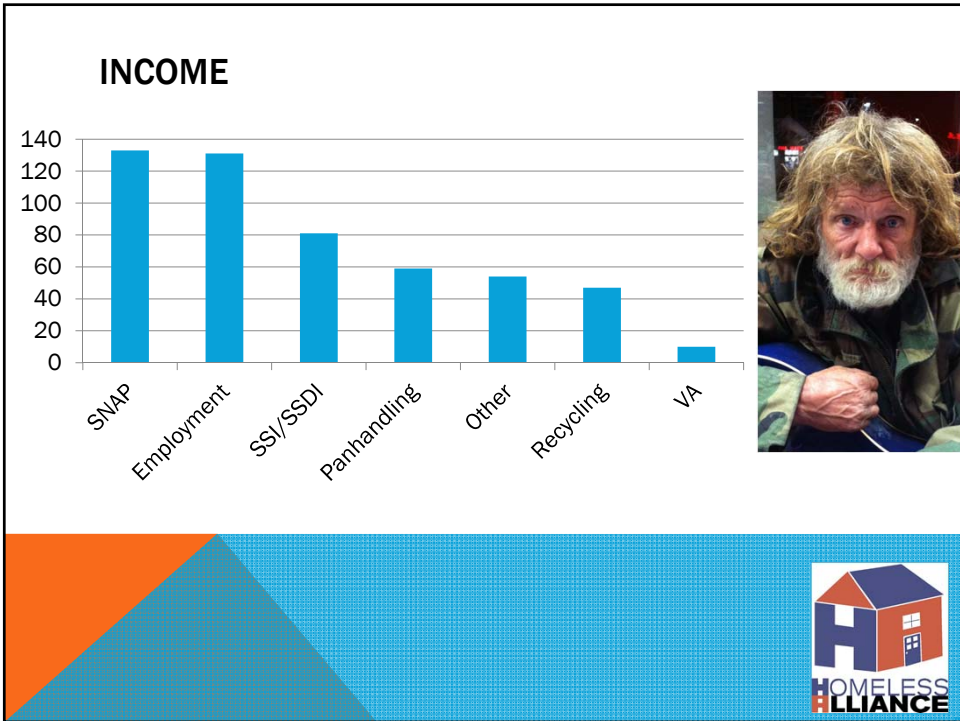
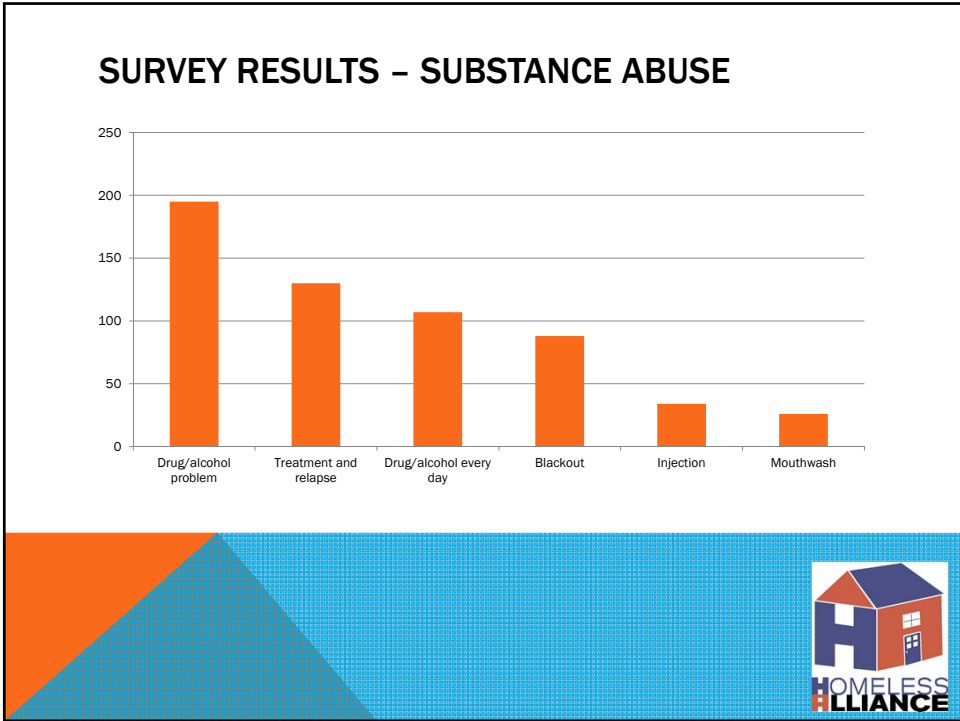
Social Security Supplemental Income (SSI) \$747

Average one bedroom rent in OKC - \$670

Waiting lists for Housing Choice (Section 8) vouchers and public housing measured in months







(LACK OF) TRULY AFFORDABLE HOUSING

To people outside the homelessness services sector, the idea that housing is the solution to homelessness may appear obvious. Employing randomized controlled trials to prove it may seem like testing whether food would be an appropriate treatment for starvation. -Dennis Culhane

