



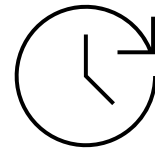
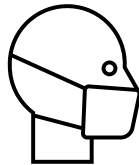
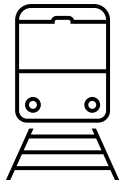
# Addressing Homelessness in the Region

Metropolitan Council's current approach and programming



March 1, 2023

# Background



2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

- Homeless Action Team formed
- 89 Mainstream Vouchers

- 67 Mainstream
- Service Provider contract

- Pandemic hits
- Overnight service suspended
- Encampments
- 47 Mainstream
- CARES Act

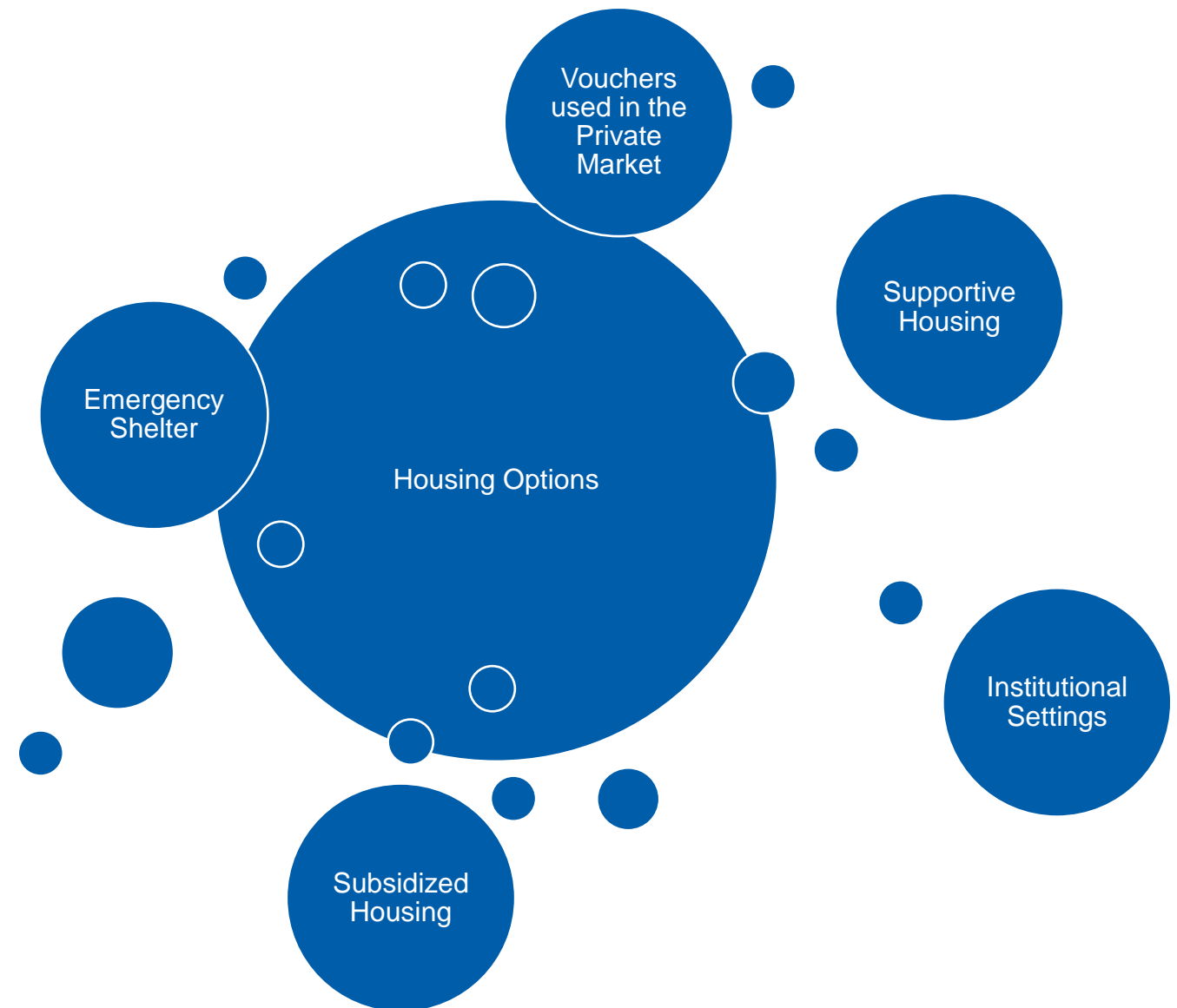
- 218 Emergency Housing Vouchers
- RentHelpMN,
- Eviction Moratorium

- RentHelpMN, Eviction Moratorium phased out
- 50 Mainstream vouchers

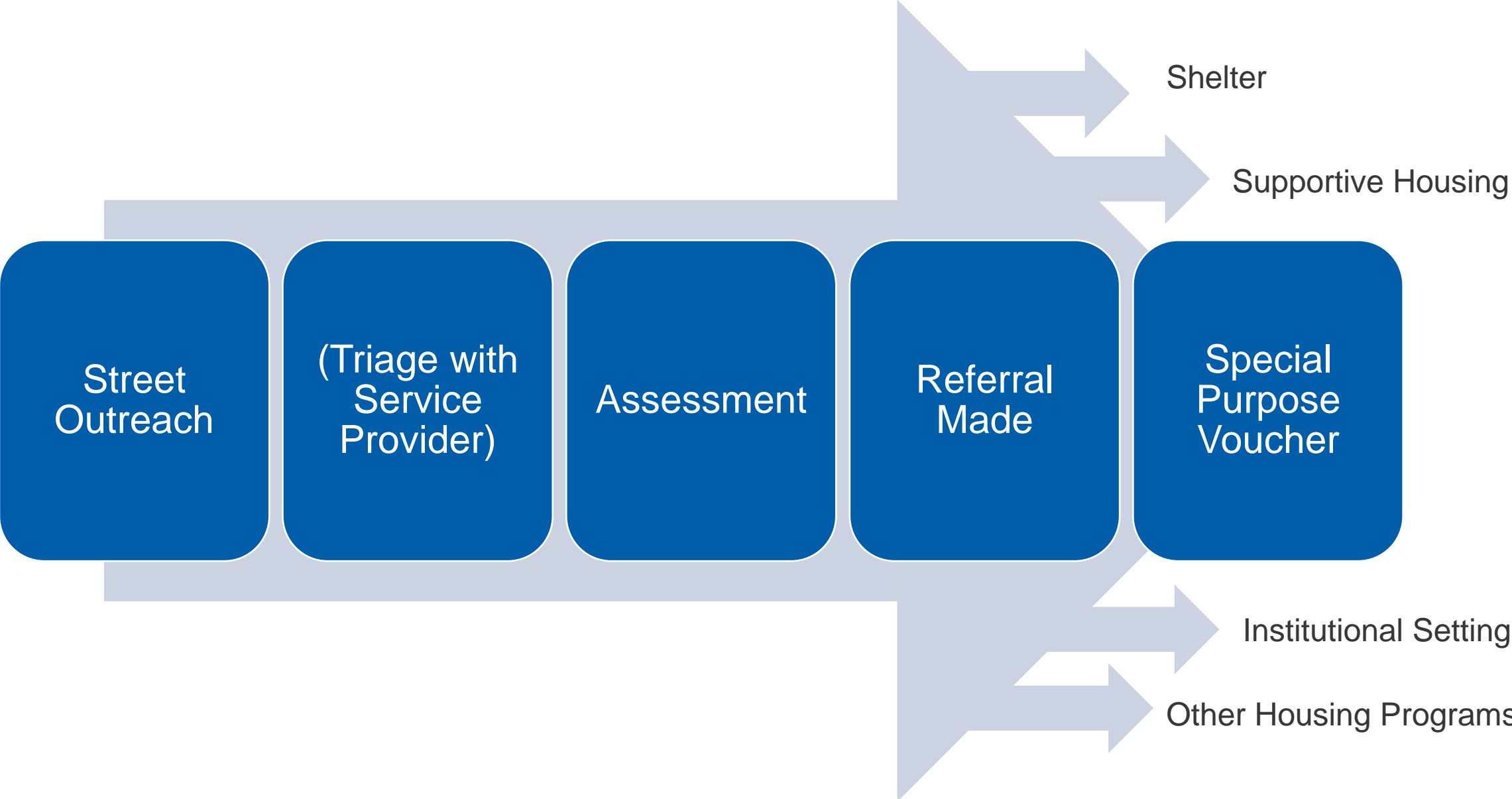
- EHV's sunset in September
- \$607M federal funding for Mainstream
- Long-term housing stability

# Factors impacting housing options

- Household size and composition
- Cultural preferences
- Substance use/chemical dependency
- Mental Health, Serious Persistent Mental Illness
- Criminal background
- Availability of slots



# Pathway to Voucher



# Same Population / Different Programs

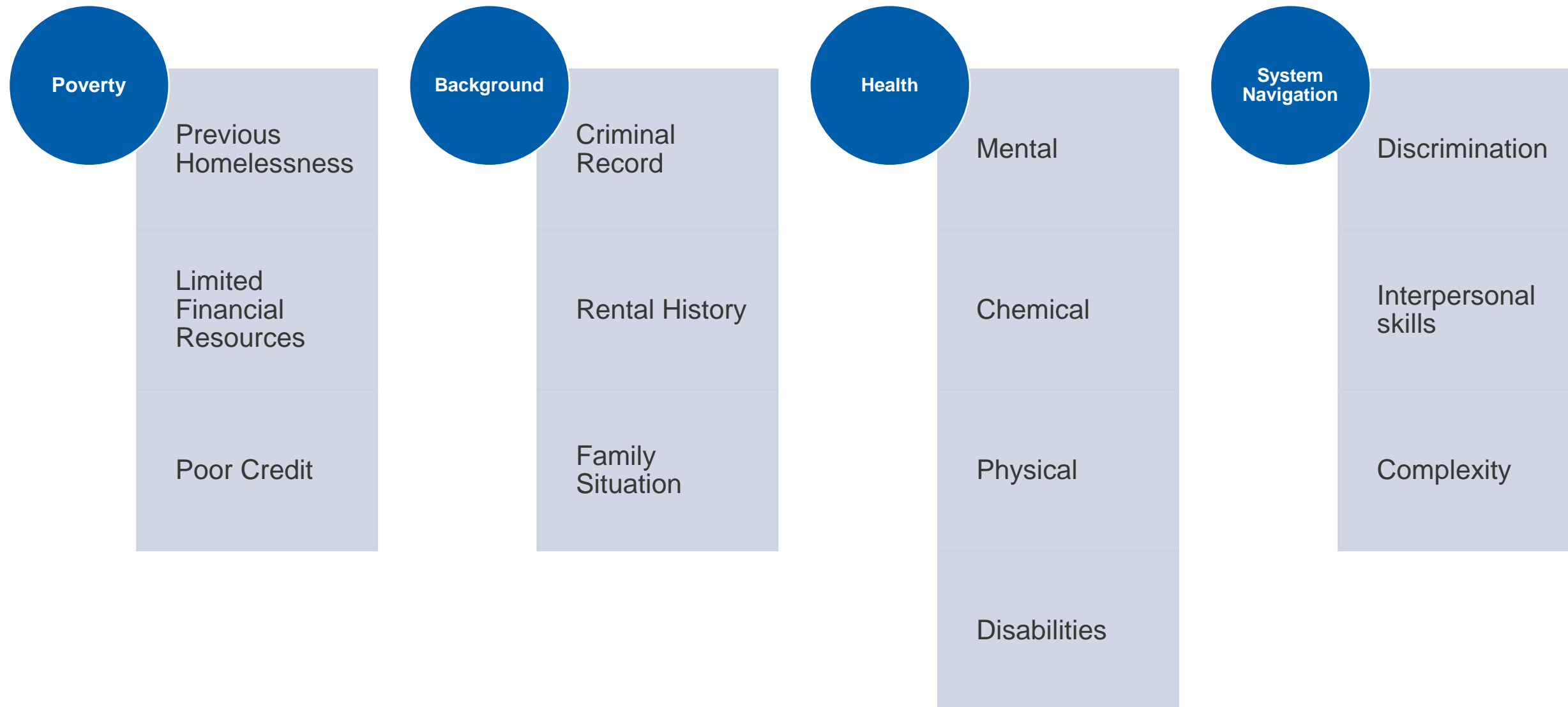
## Mainstream

- Non-elderly
- Disability required
- 3 year look back for violent criminal and drug offenses
- No case management requirement
- HAT Partnership
- 253 vouchers – no sunset

## Emergency Housing Vouchers

- 18+
- No disability requirement
- Certain eligibility criteria are waived
- One year of case management required
- Referrals = Coordinated Entry
- 218 vouchers – sunset in 2023

# Housing Search Increases Success for Highest Barrier Families



# Service Providers



- Case management for at least one year
- Determined by the referral partner
- Depends on the client
- Address holistic needs of families
- Trust building is key

# Limited housing options



## In a competitive housing market...

- Few housing providers will work with highest barrier families
- Certain neighborhoods are unaffordable
  - Zero Income households
- Very low supply of deeply affordable housing
- High turnover of property managers



# Approved Funding Categories

**CARES**  
**\$1205**  
**Avg**

- Moving Expenses
- Debts owed preventing lease up
- Application fees
- Security Deposits

**EHV**  
**\$1312**  
**Avg**

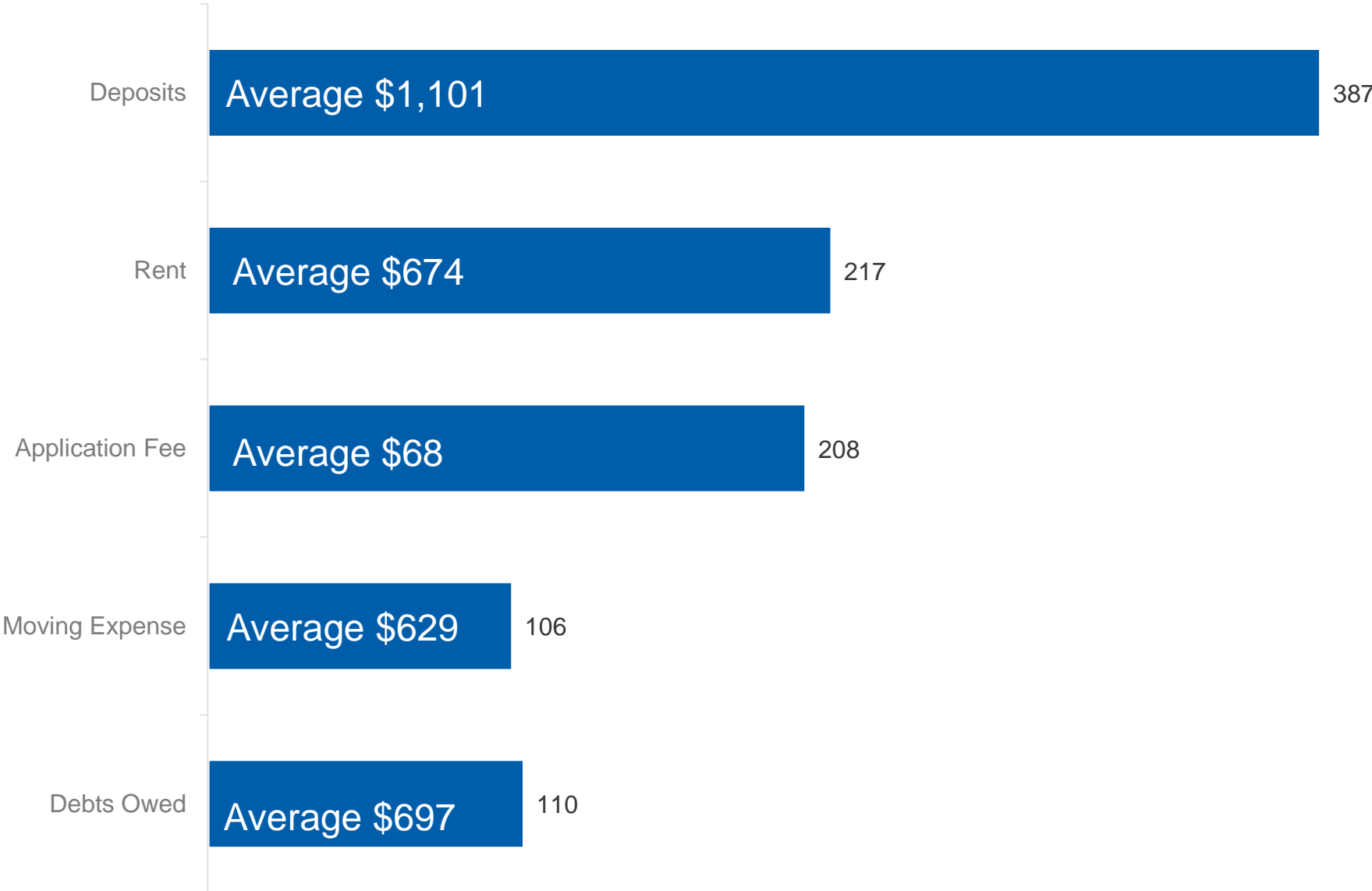
- Above plus...
  - Transportation for housing search
  - Utilities
  - Essential household items
  - Renter's insurance
  - Property owner incentives

**MS5**  
**\$1073**  
**Avg**

- Above plus...
  - Transportation, including cabs and TAP cards
  - Rent

# Funding makes a difference

Number of families accessing funds by spending category



# Takeaways



## What's Working

- Funding for move-in and housing stability expenses
- Relaxed program screening criteria
- Flexibilities and support once admitted
- Case management for at least one year

# Takeaways



## What's Needed

- Funding for move-in and housing stability
- Ongoing case management
- Landlord motivation to accept vouchers
- Housing affordable to people at very low incomes
- Supportive housing

# Conclusion

## On the horizon

- Expanded service provider contract
- Interventions for long-term housing stability
- Updating the procedure on encampments



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