

# HOMELESSNESS IN SALEM

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*A Collaborative for Hope*

City of Salem | Salem Police Department | Lifebridge | North Shore  
Community Health | North Shore Community Action Program | North  
Shore Workforce Investment Board

# Tonight's Conversation

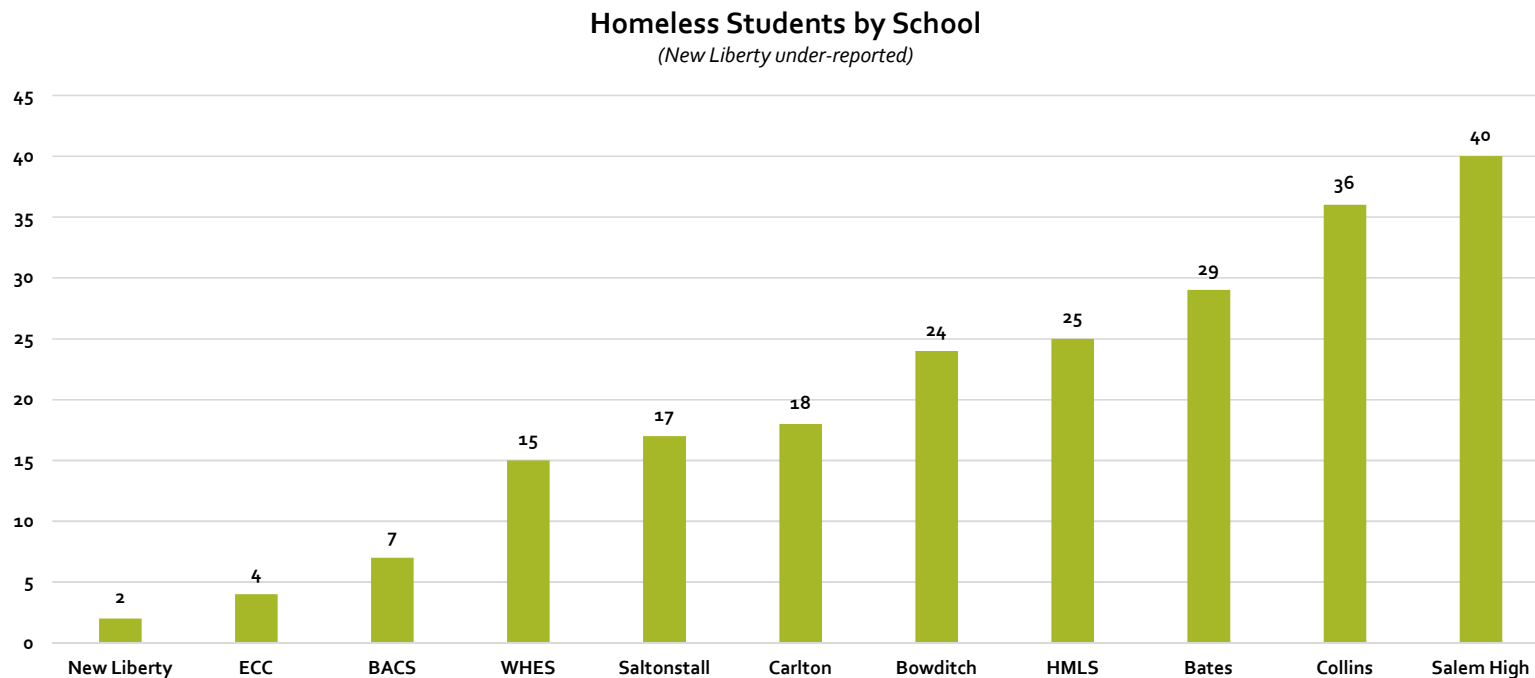
- Update on Statistics
- Update on Strategies:
  1. Police Patrol
  2. Alternative Giving & Day Employment
  3. Housing First
  4. Hub Model
  5. Outreach Caseworkers
- New Strategy: Day Program
- What you can do
- Open Q&A and Discussion

# Update on Statistics

- Two types of homeless populations:
  1. Chronic homeless: 13 identified in 2017 survey; down to 8. All 4 received treatment/services; 3 are now housed locally, 1 is in Lifebridge and doing well, and 1 has found housing in Haverhill after 15 years living on Salem streets.
  2. Larger group of transient individuals, often new to area or recently homeless, couch-surfers, often more responsive to treatment and services.
- Each require a different response.

# Update on Statistics

- Homeless children (K-12) in Salem (2017-2018 school year):
  - **220 Salem students are homeless:** "no fixed, adequate, and regular nighttime residence, including those living in a shelter, a motel, hotel, or campground, a car, abandoned buildings or other inadequate accommodations, staying with others due to loss of housing or economic hardship, and unaccompanied or migrant youth living in the above situations."

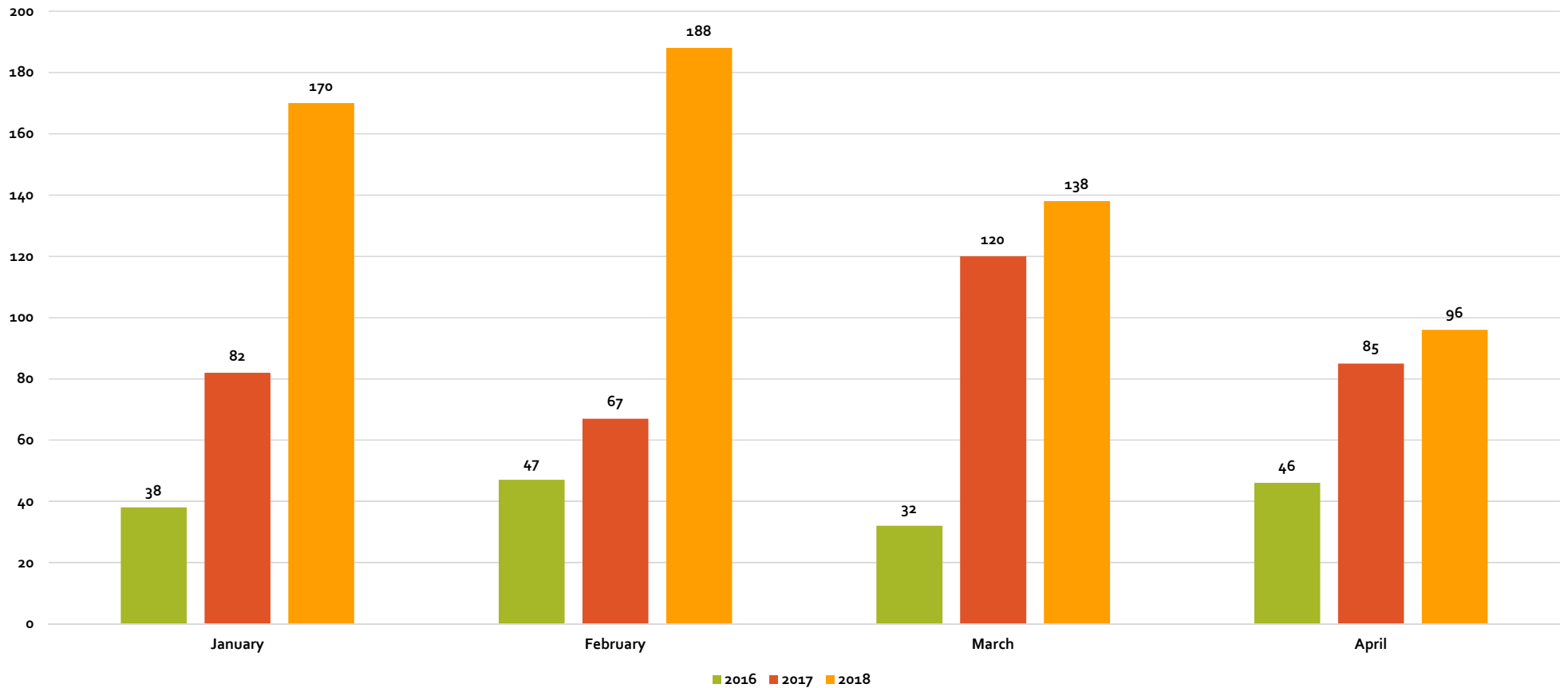


# Update on Statistics

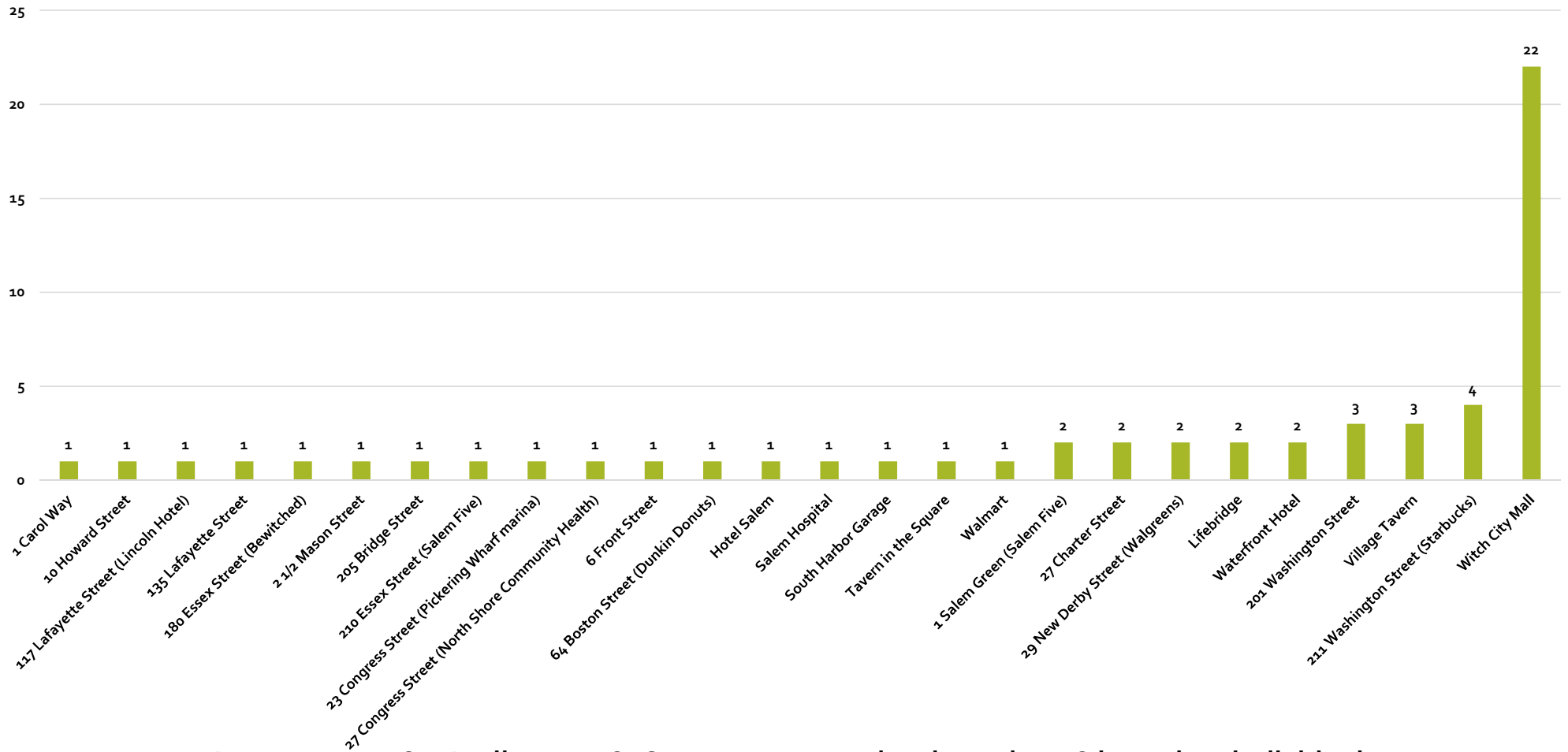
- SPS has spent FYTD \$379,000 on transportation for homeless students and students in foster care.
- 2017-2018 is 2<sup>nd</sup> year of SPS receiving McKinney-Vento Federal grant (\$30,000). This grant funds all of the following for homeless students:
  - Students 8 years old and up to attend Boys & Girls Club after school program at Collins, including transportation costs.
  - Up to 10 homeless students to attend the licensed child care summer camp program for 9 weeks.
  - Purchase of over 70 backpacks and assorted school supplies.
  - Purchase of winter hats and gloves.
  - Purchase of personal care products.
- SPS partnerships/resources for homeless students, parents, grandparents/guardians, and non-school age children in the family: DTA/DHCD, NSCAP, Centerboard, YMCA, FKO, B&G Club, DCF, HAWC, multiple medical practices, SPUR, SPS Holiday Giving Tree, SFD Operation Warm, Salem Children's Charity, and a Bed for Every Child.
- Haven Project partnership, City Connects tool, existing SPS Homeless Education Liaison

# Update on Statistics

Homeless-related Calls for Service



Homeless Individuals No Trespass Orders by Address (2018 YTD)



January 1, 2018 – April 22, 2018: 62 no trespass orders issued to 38 homeless individuals.  
This is 55% of all no trespass orders issued during this period.

# Update on Strategies: Police Patrol

- Increased patrols with reserves and new officers/strategic task force/CIU & outreach worker.
- Distribution of “Homeless Solutions & Resources: A Police Officer’s Guide to Policing the Community” as part of Patrol Training.
- Added five FTE to ranks for FY2018.
- Adjusted patrol schedules based on calls for service data.





# Update on Strategies: Alternative Giving & Day Employment

- Panhandling can be a disincentive to seeking employment.
- Which populations of homeless or transient need or would make use of day employment opportunities?
- Day employment connections: WIB/Career Center, City, private companies.
- Alternative giving campaign: text-to-donate.



# Update on Strategies: Housing First

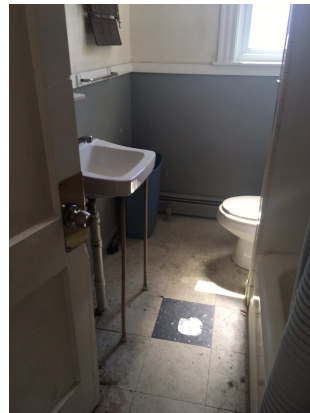
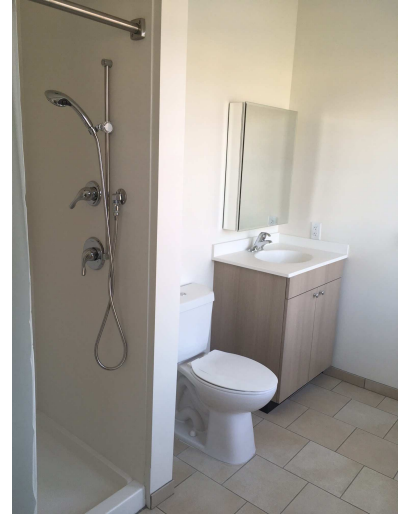
## Typical "Housing Readiness"



## Housing First



# Update on Strategies: Housing First



# Update on Strategies: Housing First

- Five Lifebridge residents will go into apartments at Boston Street Crossing (26 units in all).
- Lifebridge congregate housing: 22 units.
- NSCDC housing: Congress/Dow and 15-17 Harbor (17 units for formally-homeless, low-income youth aging out of foster care system).
- CDBG funded homeless prevention (FY17): 33 Salem families (65 people) kept from falling into homelessness.

# Update on Strategies: Hub Model

- Monthly check-in meeting of service providers and organizations to coordinate activities.
- Review status of benchmark statistics.
- Review cases of specific high-risk individuals.
- Check in on effectiveness of existing strategies.



# Update on Strategies: Outreach Caseworkers

- Outreach workers on call out of Salem PD. Funded through CDBG, in partnership with North Shore Community Health.
- Haven Project partnership with Salem Public Schools to support homeless students.
- Contact Outreach to report non-emergency transient or homeless issues: [hope@salem.com](mailto:hope@salem.com).
- Identify & work to connect those in need with health insurance, primary care, behavioral health, substance abuse treatment, housing, and/or employment.



# Update on Strategies: Outreach Caseworkers

Since program launch (August 2017): 70 homeless individuals contacted and assisted on Salem streets.

- 25 clothing vouchers provided.
- 15 established/reestablished primary care at NSCH.
- 13 received housing assistance (shelter, lottery application assistance, case management).
- 8 referred to opioid treatment (medication-assisted/Vivitrol).
- 8 referred to behavioral health or mental health services.
- 7 received financial counseling, primarily regarding medical insurance.
- 7 treated/cured of Hepatitis C virus.
- 2 sleeping bags provided.
- 1 homeless senior referred to SSI for benefits application.
- 1 referred to treatment/management for chronic illness.
- 1 homeless pregnant woman established prenatal Ob/gyn care



# New Strategies: Day Program

- Similar to facilities in Gloucester (Grace Center) and Haverhill (Community Action Inc.).
- Reduces number of homeless loitering outside.
- Provides comfortable space for access to services, facilities, food, etc.





# What you can do

1. Call: Salem Police at 978-744-1212 or Outreach worker at [hope@salem.com](mailto:hope@salem.com) (number forthcoming).
2. Alternative giving option, not panhandlers.
3. Keep an open mind about alternatives and options, such as housing first.
4. Help form a community coalition and share your ideas.
5. Sign up with Lifebridge for the next Homeless Survey.

# Open Q&A and Discussion

