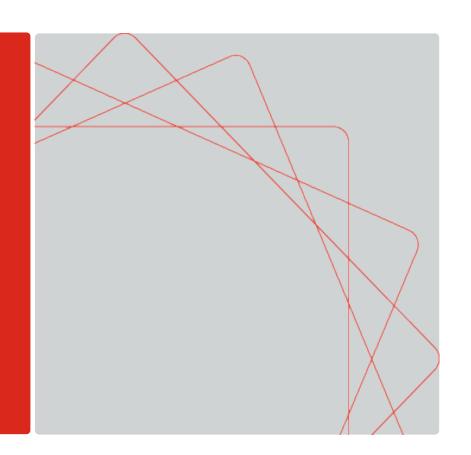




Design and Implementation of the Family Options Study

Daniel Gubits, Marybeth Shinn, Michelle Wood, and Stephen Bell

> APPAM Fall Conference November 5, 2016



Family Homelessness



HUD's 2015 Annual Homeless Assessment Report estimates that nearly 150,000 families with children experience homelessness each year in the US

Study Goal and Scope



Examines the effects of alternative housing and services interventions for homeless families

Uses experimental design: 2,282 families with 5,397 children were randomly assigned to 3 distinct interventions and "usual care" group

Study timeline



Family enrollment

Short-term impacts report

3-Year impacts report

September 2010-January 2012

July 2015

2016

≈20 months after enrollment

≈ 37 months after enrollment

Outline of Presentation



- Characteristics of homeless families in the Family Options Study
- Design and implementation of the study
- Programs used by families

Parents in Family Options Sample



| Median age of family head | 29 years |
|---|----------|
| Female adult respondent | 92% |
| Two-parent families | 23% |
| Male adult respondent with no female wife/partner present | 4% |

Children in Family Options Sample



| Number of children | | | | |
|--|-----|--|--|--|
| One child | 44% | | | |
| Two children | 30% | | | |
| Three or more children | 26% | | | |
| | | | | |
| At least one child under 3 | 50% | | | |
| Mother is pregnant | 10% | | | |
| At least one child separated from family | 24% | | | |

History of Homelessness and Instability



| Homeless History | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| or episode of homelessness 63% | | | | | | |
| Total homelessness in life | Median: 6 months | | | | | |
| Doubled-Up History | | | | | | |
| Doubled up as adult because couldn't pay rent | 85% | | | | | |
| Time doubled up last five years | Median: one year | | | | | |
| Exposure to Violence | | | | | | |
| Domestic violence by romantic partner 49% | | | | | | |
| Symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder | 22% | | | | | |
| Childhood Instability | | | | | | |
| Homeless as child | 16% | | | | | |
| Foster care, group home, or institution as child 27% | | | | | | |

Interventions Studied



Permanent housing subsidy—usually a housing voucher, no supportive services (SUB)

Community-Based Rapid
Rehousing—temporary
rental assistance with limited
services
(CBRR)

Project-based Transitional
Housing—temporary
housing with supportive
services
(PBTH)

Usual Care—emergency shelter and housing and services families access on their own

(UC)

12 communities participated

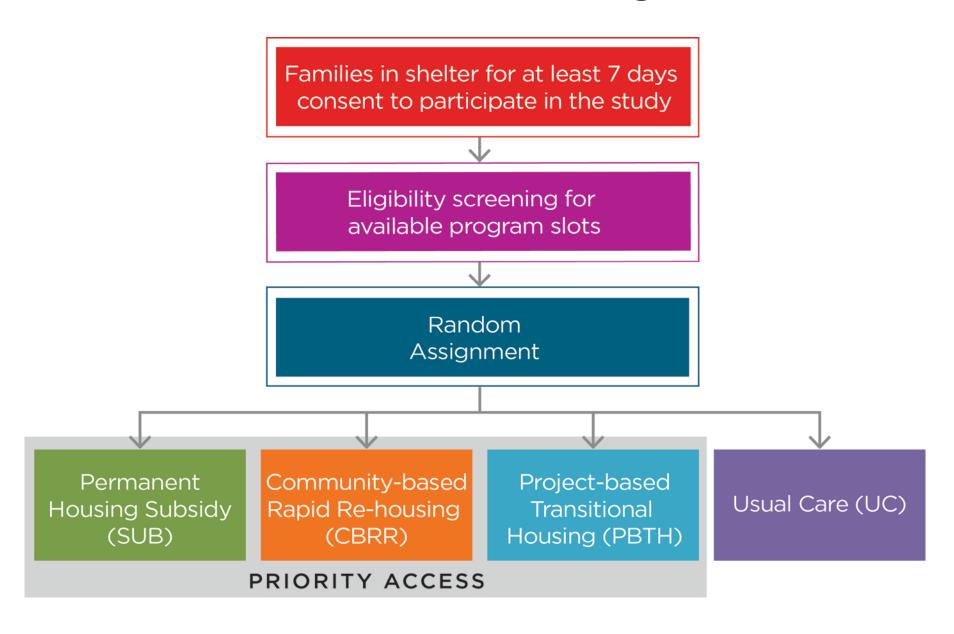


2,282 families5,397 children

148 programs

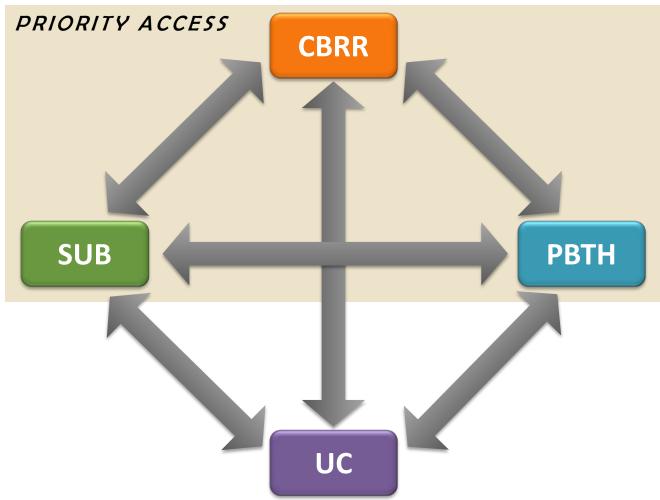


Intake and random assignment



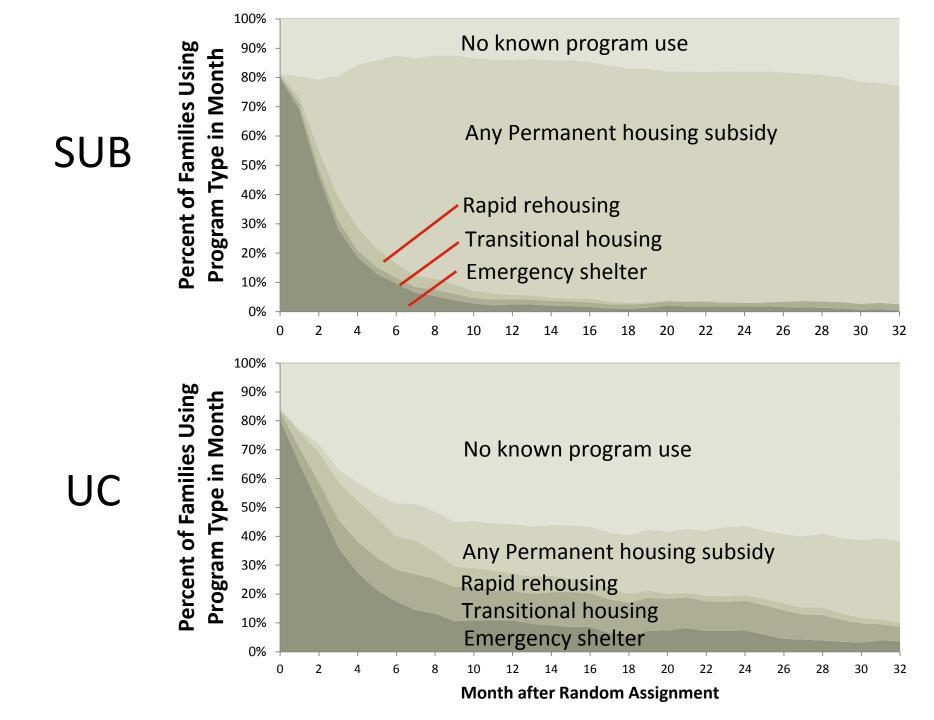
Impact comparisons

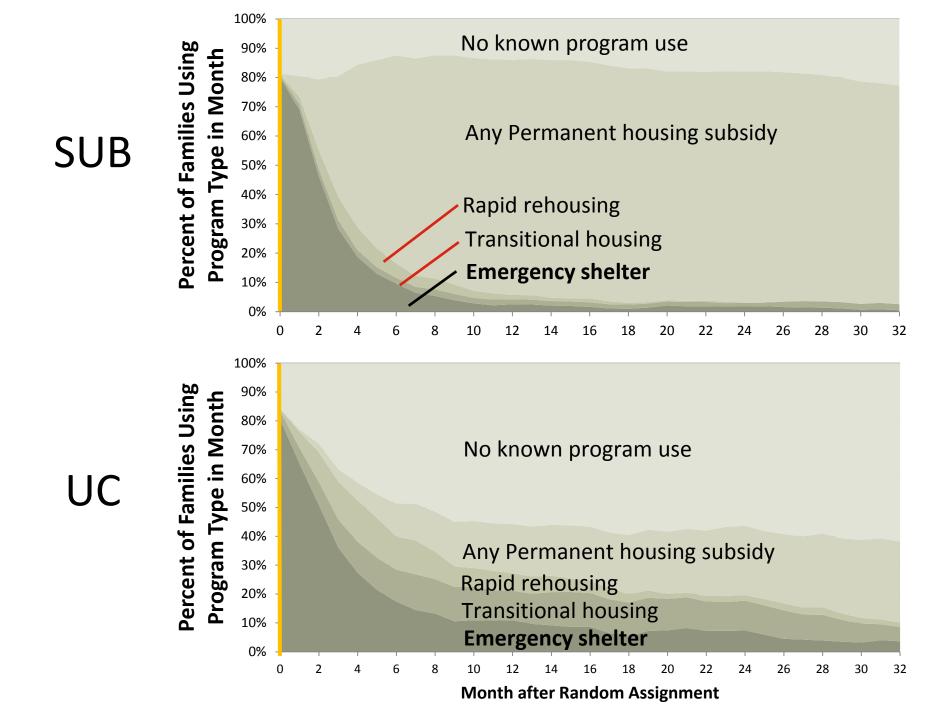


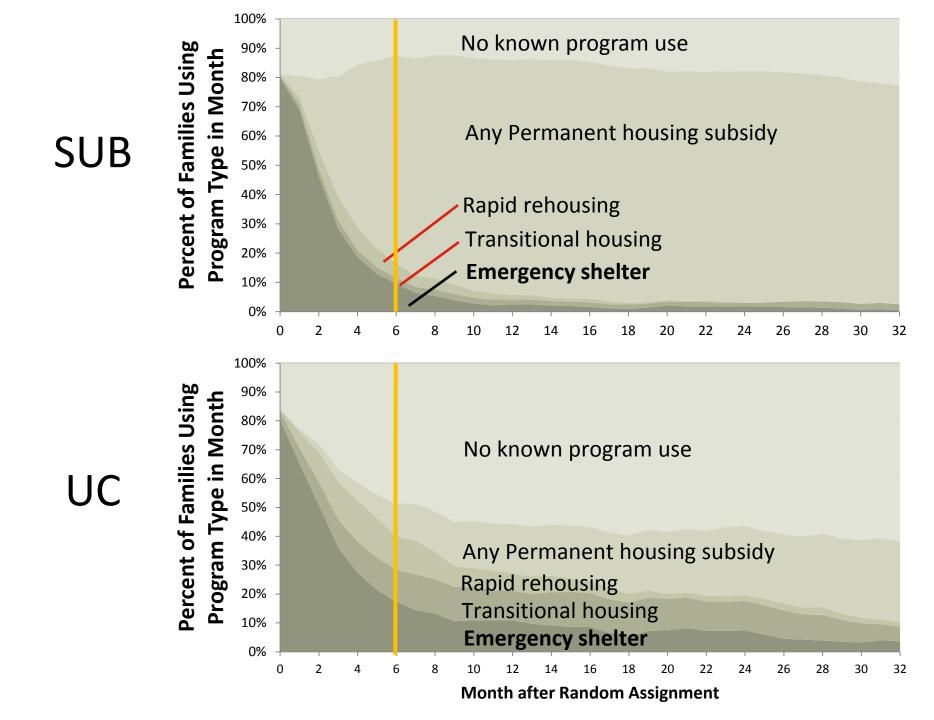


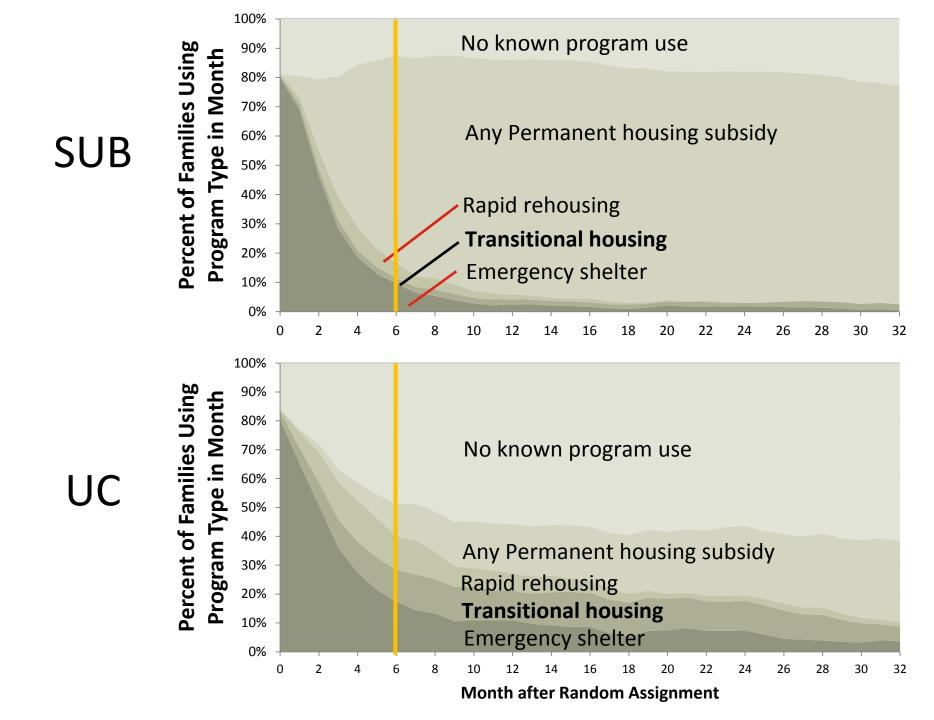


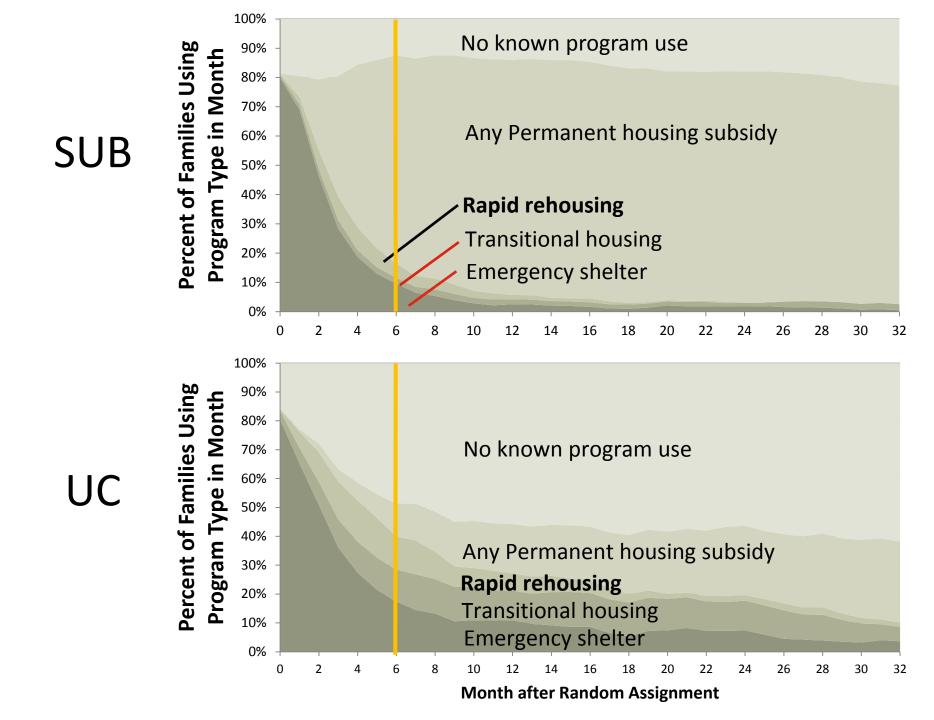
Take-up of offered program and use of other programs

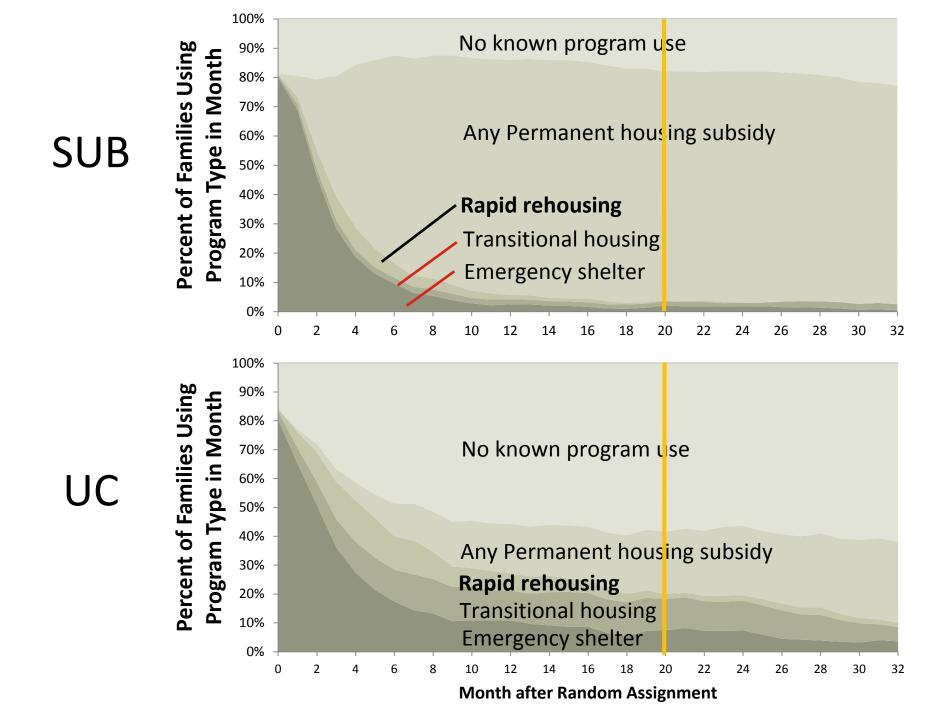


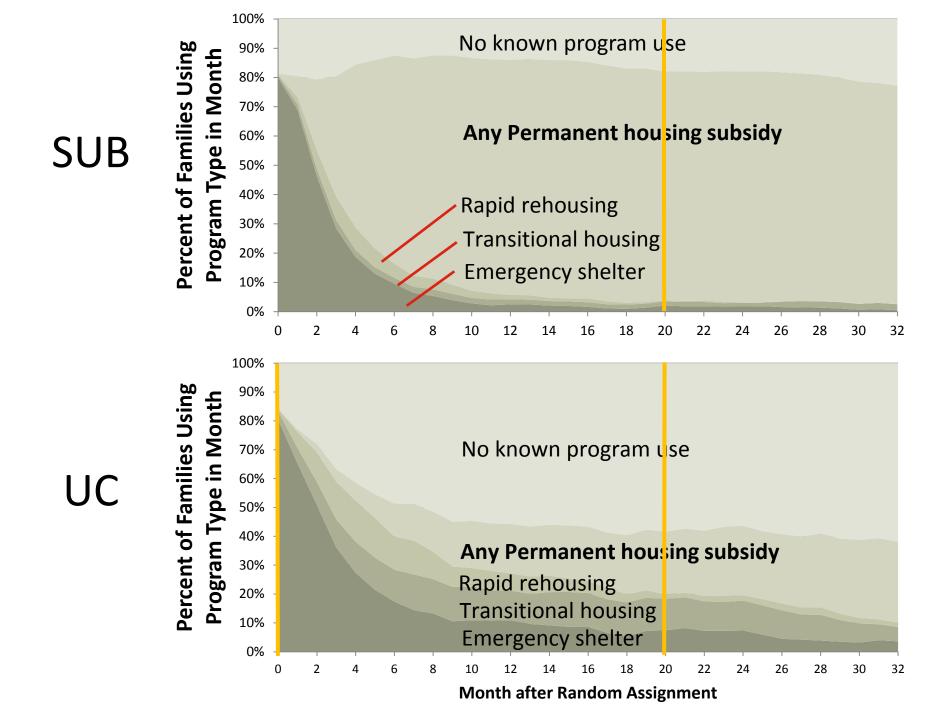


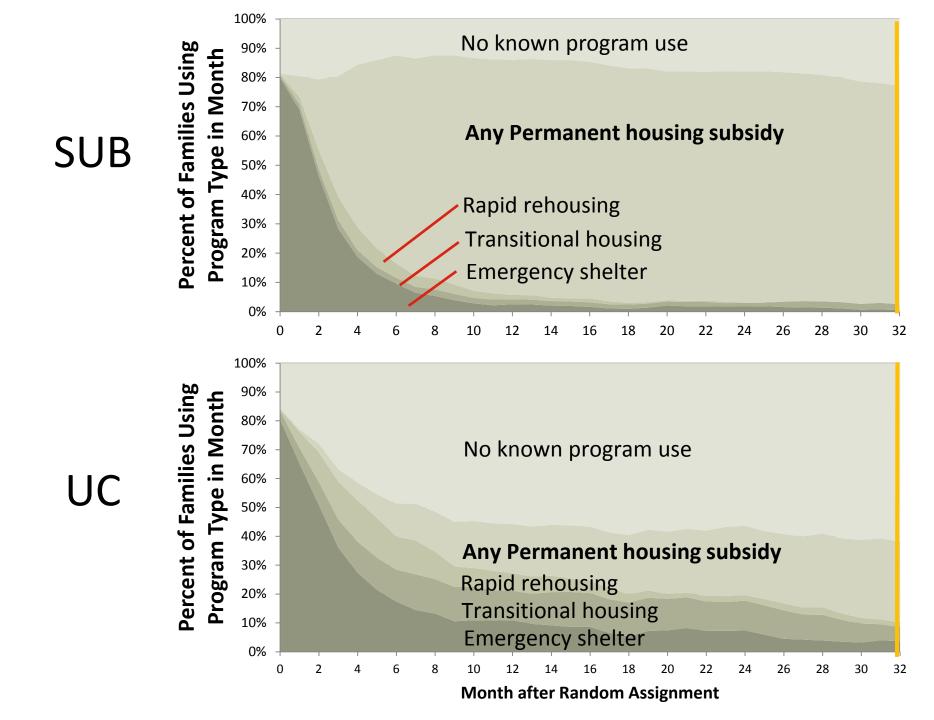


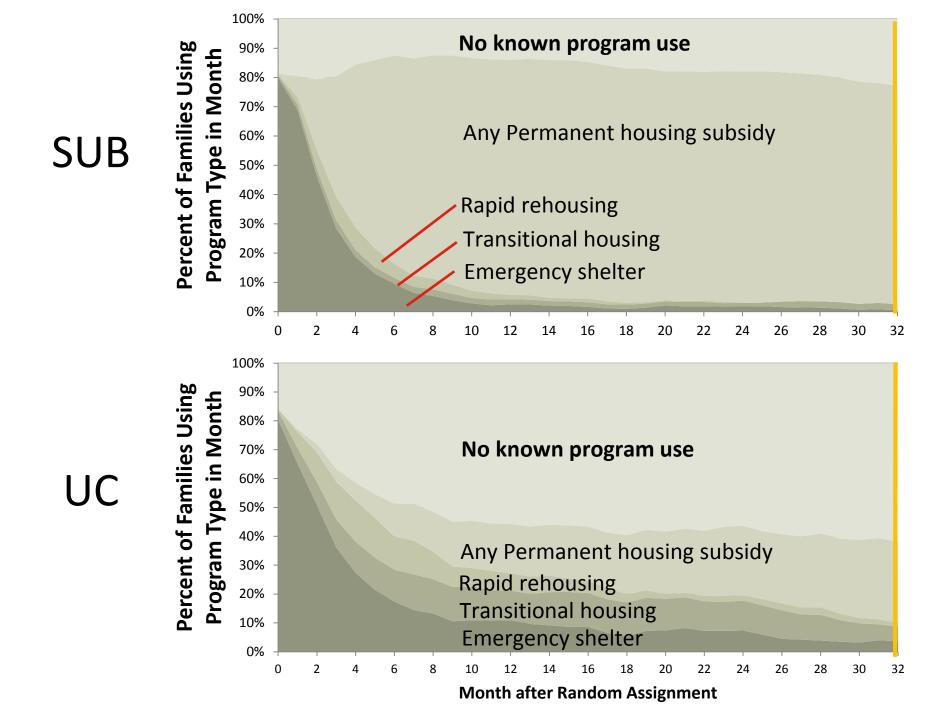


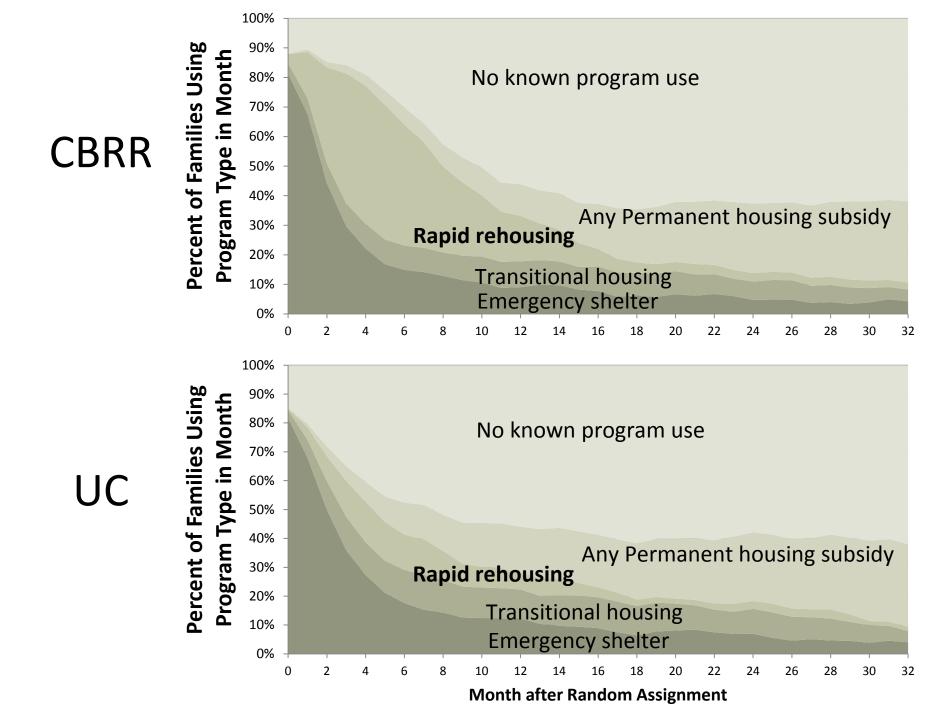


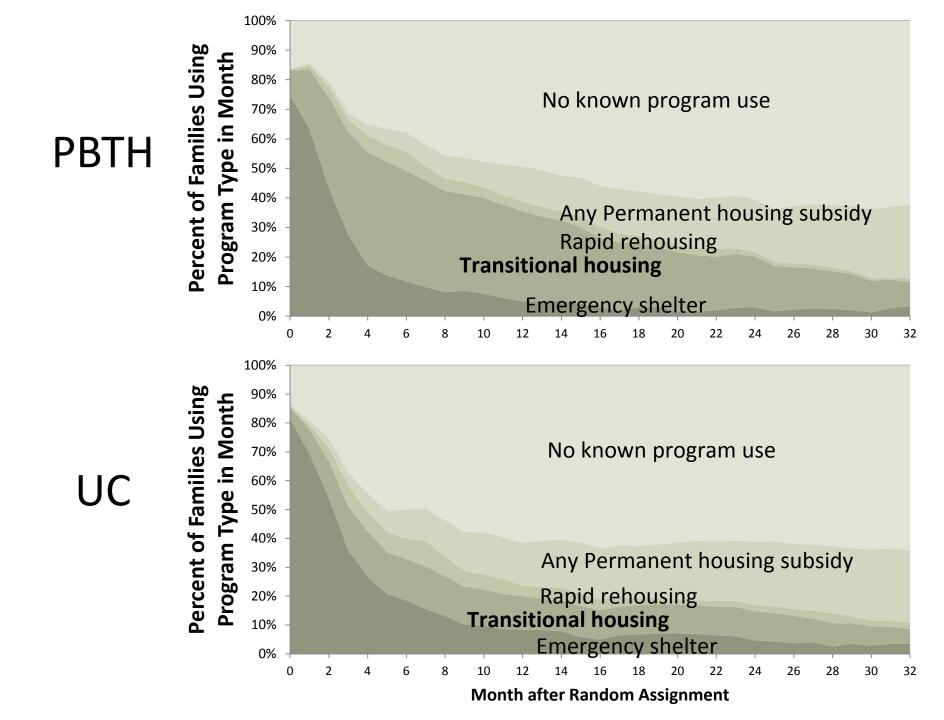






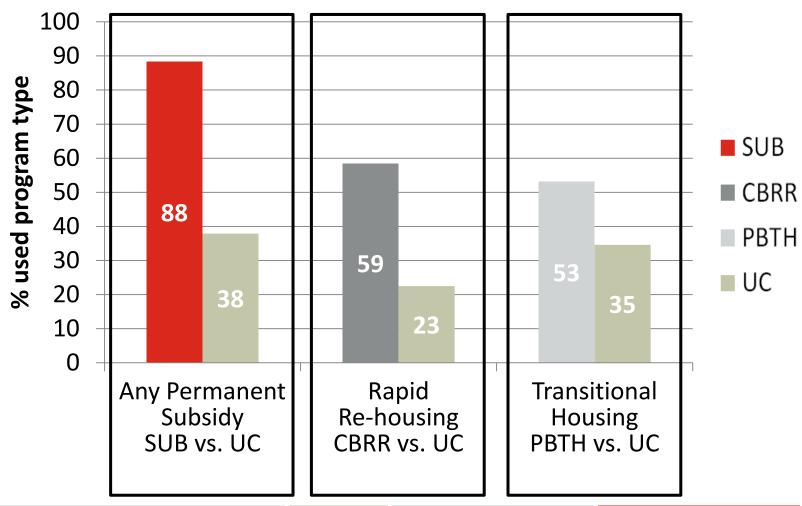






Take-up of offered program type





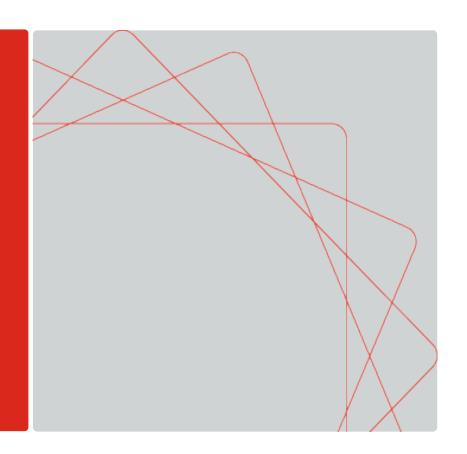




Family Options Study: Three-Year Impacts on Family Well-Being

Marybeth Shinn, Daniel Gubits, Michelle Wood, and Stephen Bell

> APPAM Fall Conference November 5, 2016



Outline of Presentation



- Impacts in five domains
 - Housing stability
 - Family preservation
 - Adult well-being
 - Child well-being
 - Self-sufficiency
- Costs of interventions
- Key take-away points

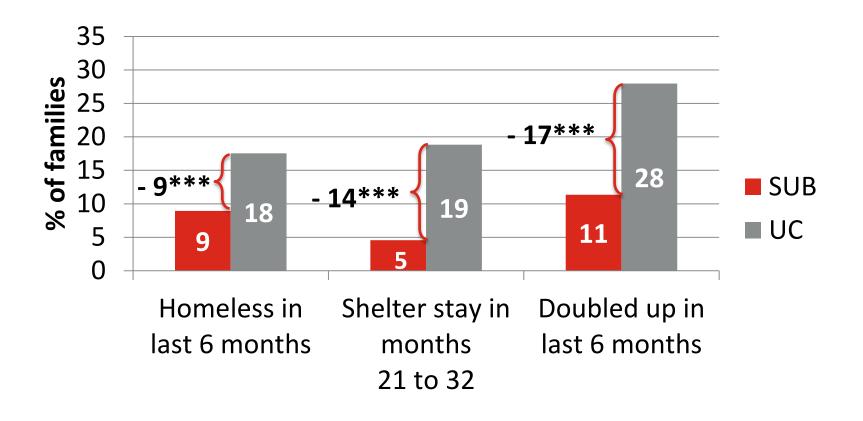
Impacts of assignment to the intervention



- "Intent to Treat" impact estimates reveal the average impact of offering a family priority access to a particular type of program relative to usual care
- All families are included, whether or not the families used the assistance (or used other types of assistance instead)

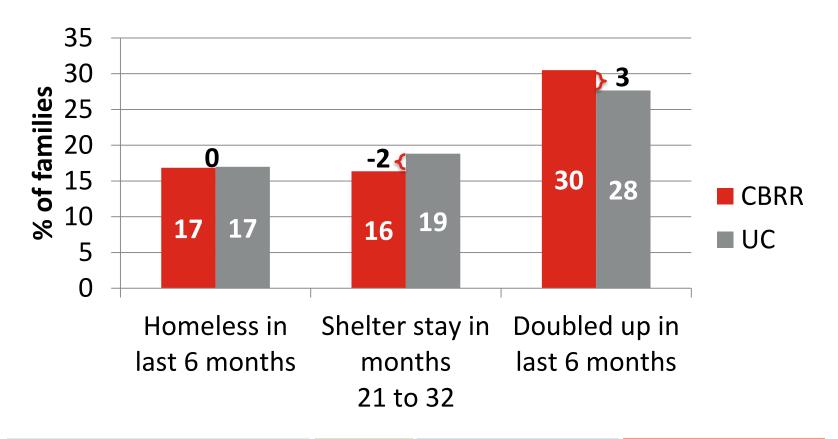
Housing stability impacts at 37 months: SUB versus UC:





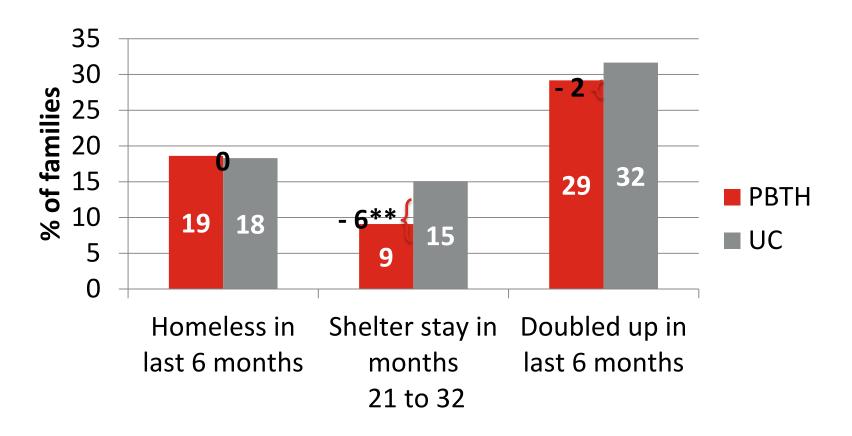
Housing stability impacts at 37 months: CBRR versus UC





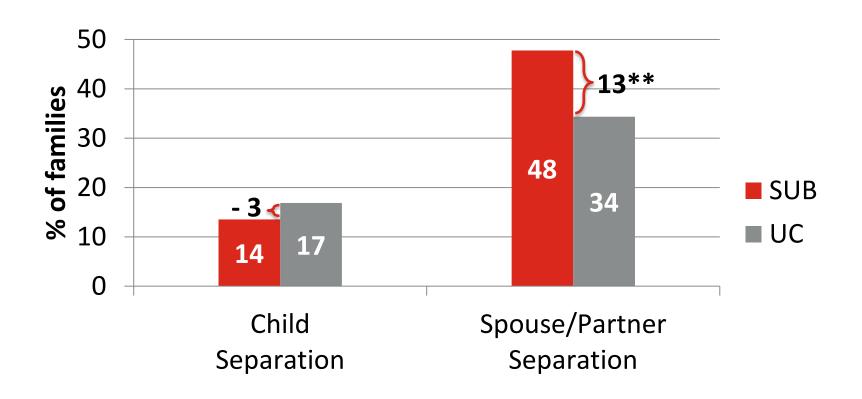
Housing stability impacts at 37 months: PBTH versus UC





Family preservation impacts at 37 months: SUB versus UC

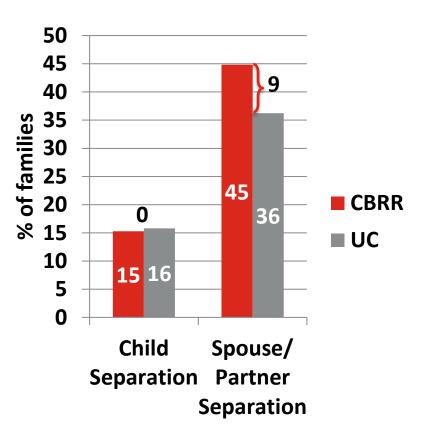




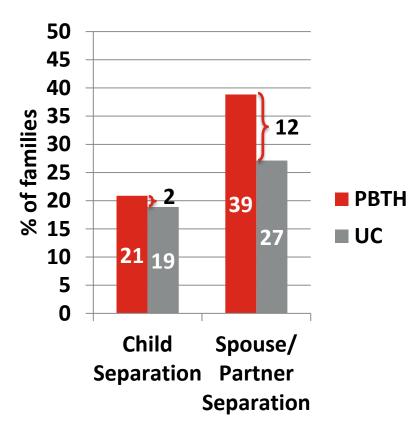
Family preservation impacts at 37 months: CBRR versus UC, PBTH versus UC





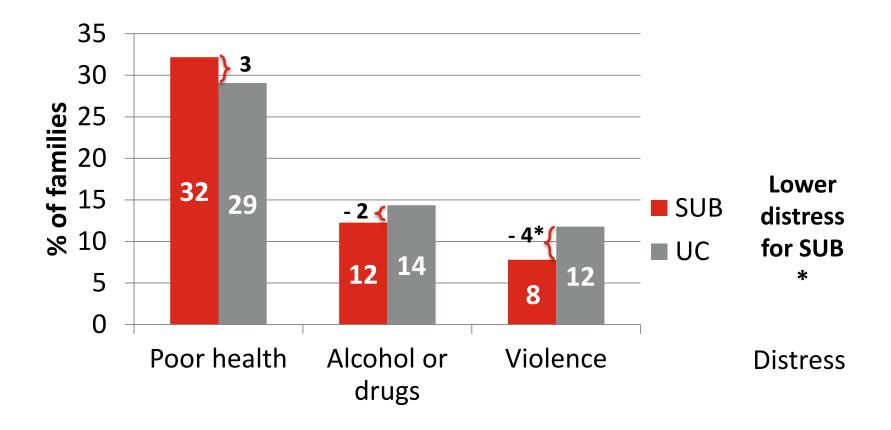


PBTH versus UC



Adult well-being impacts at 37 months: SUB versus UC

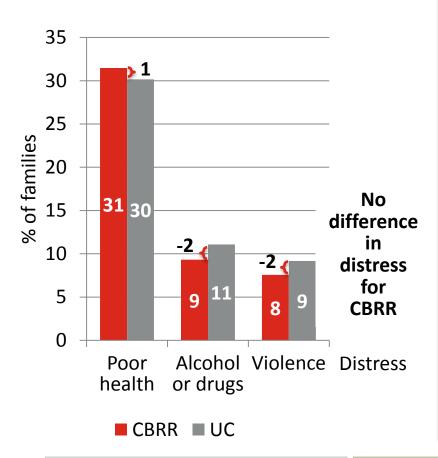




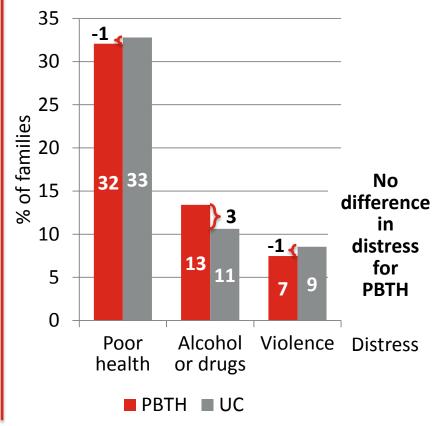
Adult well-being impacts at 37 months: CBRR versus UC, PBTH versus UC



CBRR versus UC

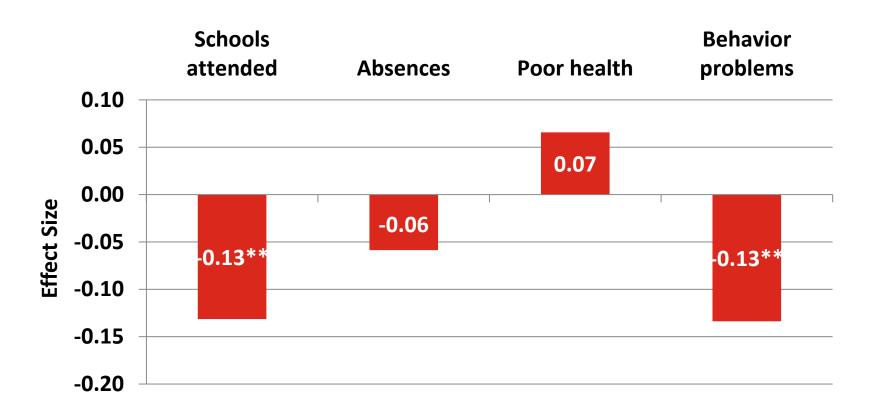


PBTH versus UC



Child well-being impacts at 37 months: SUB versus UC

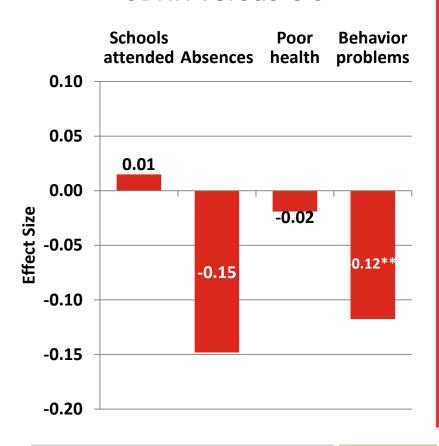




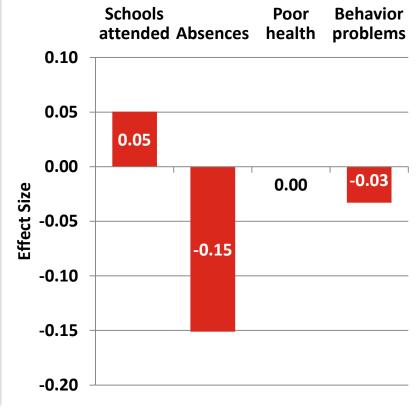
Child well-being impacts at 37 months: CBRR versus UC, PBTH versus UC



CBRR versus UC

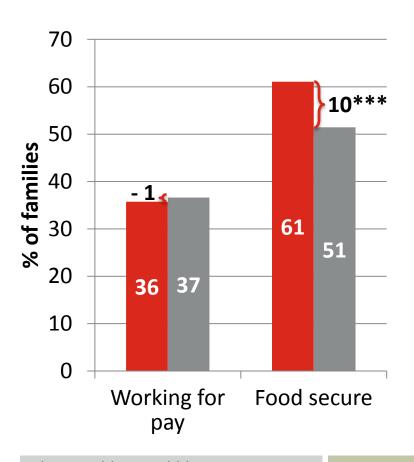


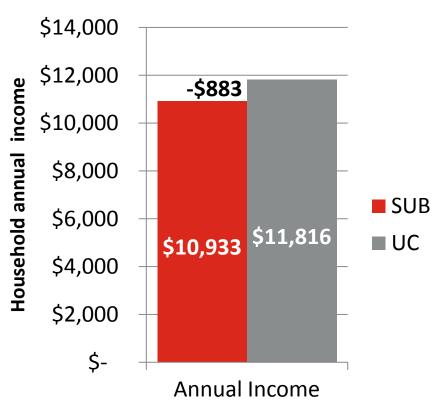
PBTH versus UC



Self-sufficiency impacts at 37 months: SUB versus UC:

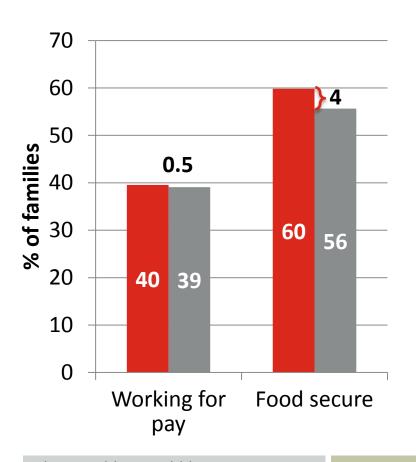


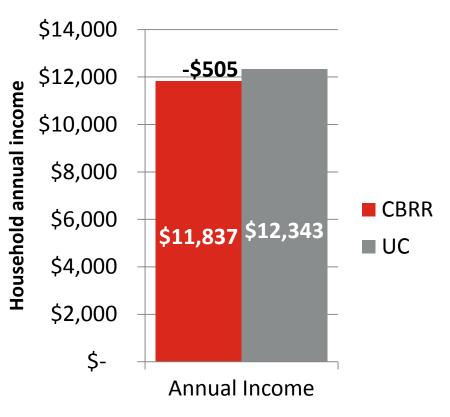




Self-sufficiency impacts at 37 months: CBRR versus UC

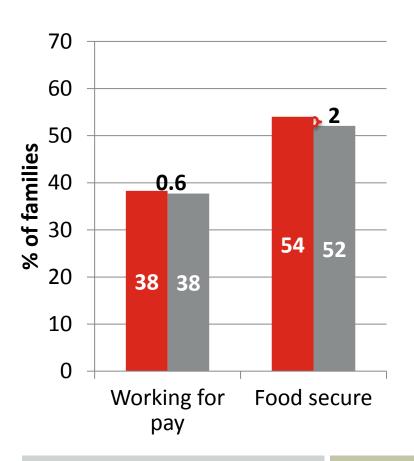


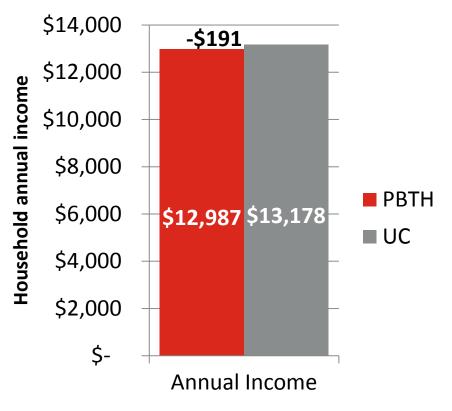




Self-sufficiency impacts at 37 months: PBTH versus UC







Summary of 20- & 37-Month Impact Results



| Outcomes | SUB vs. UC | | CBRR vs. UC | | PBTH vs. UC | |
|---------------------|------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| | 20 mos. | 37 mos. | 20 mos. | 37 mos. | 20 mos. | 37 mos. |
| Housing stability | +++ | +++ | | | ++ | + |
| Family preservation | + | | | | | |
| Adult well-being | +++ | | | | | |
| Child well-being | ++ | + + | | | | |
| Self-sufficiency | -+ | + | ++ | | | |

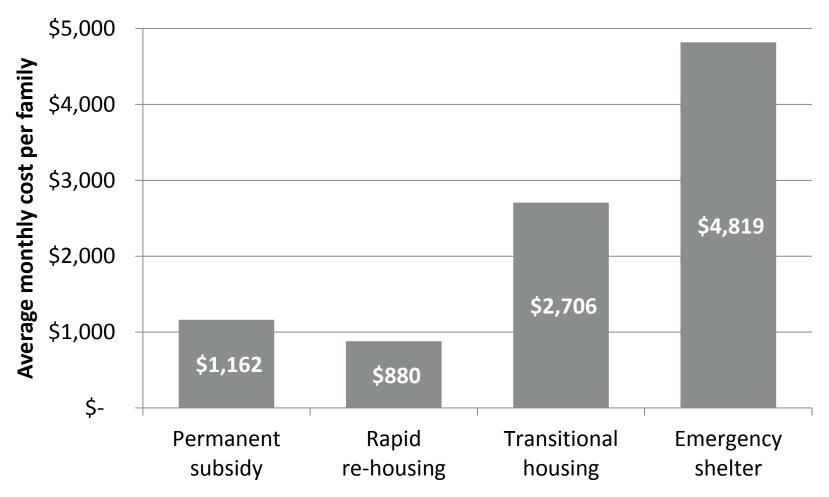
Cost measures



- Per family monthly program cost:
 Cost of a program when a family uses it for a full month
- Cost of all programs used during the followup period by families assigned to each intervention: Costs for all programs families used (full followup period)

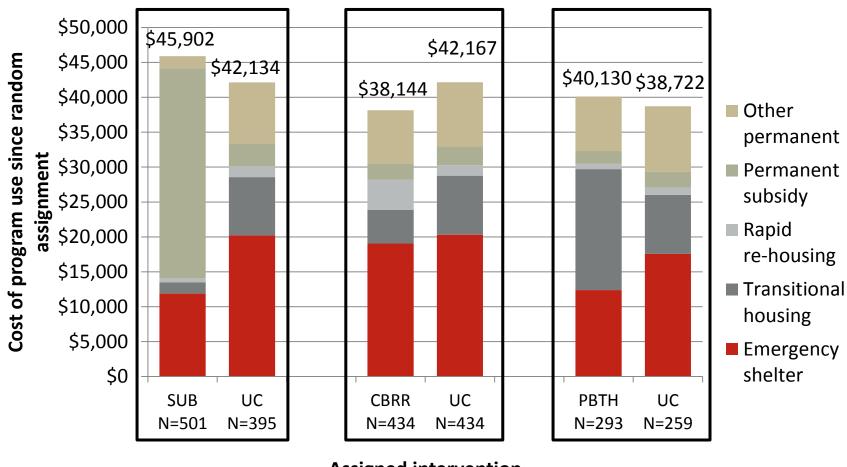
Per family monthly program cost





Cost of all program use during the 37-month followup period:





Key Take-away Points



- Priority access to permanent housing subsidy (SUB) radiated benefits at both time points.
- Rapid re-housing (CBRR) led to similar results to usual care at a lower cost.
- The service-intensive approach (PBTH) improved housing stability while families were in PBTH but <u>did not</u> affect other domains.