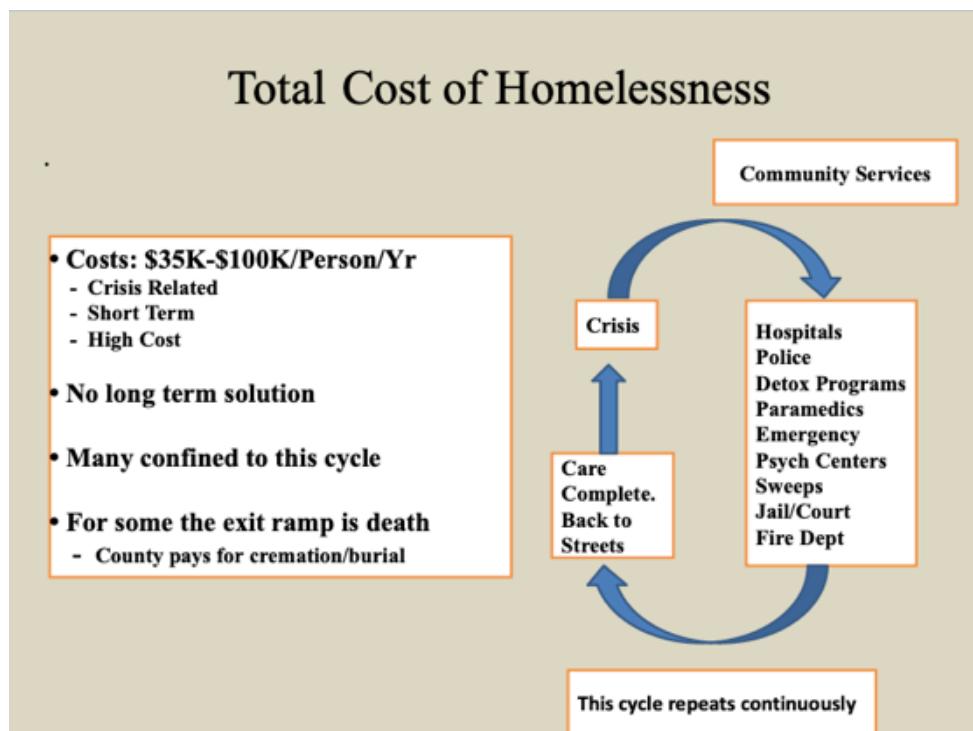


Educate

- Here is what we learned from the recent Community Forum on Homelessness:
 - Each homeless person costs the public \$35,000 to \$100,000 annually when we consider all services involved.



Created by Patrick Hanna

- The homeless population is growing here. At the same time, there is an acute shortage of truly affordable supportive housing units.
- People who are doing street outreach report an increase that feels like a “tipping point” as street homelessness is growing quickly. Significant factors contributing to this growth are opioid use, mental health issues, and unexpected life

events. [**Watch this video**](#) showing the growth of encampments.

- We can save money if the county provides block grant funding for the services offered by current nonprofit shelter organizations.
- Family homelessness is on the rise. Assistance for housing is the largest category of 211 calls. Agencies that serve homeless families report that the number of calls each day far exceeds their capacity.
- We need a multi-pronged approach that will treat all people with respect and dignity by helping them find ways to live with joy and self-worth.

Organize

- We would like to organize more community forums on homelessness. We plan to invite the larger Rochester community, which needs to take ownership of this problem.

Agitate

- We continue to support both state and federal initiatives to build more housing for people living on very low incomes.
- We plan to visit our own elected officials to gain their support for this approach to homelessness.