



North Star Project

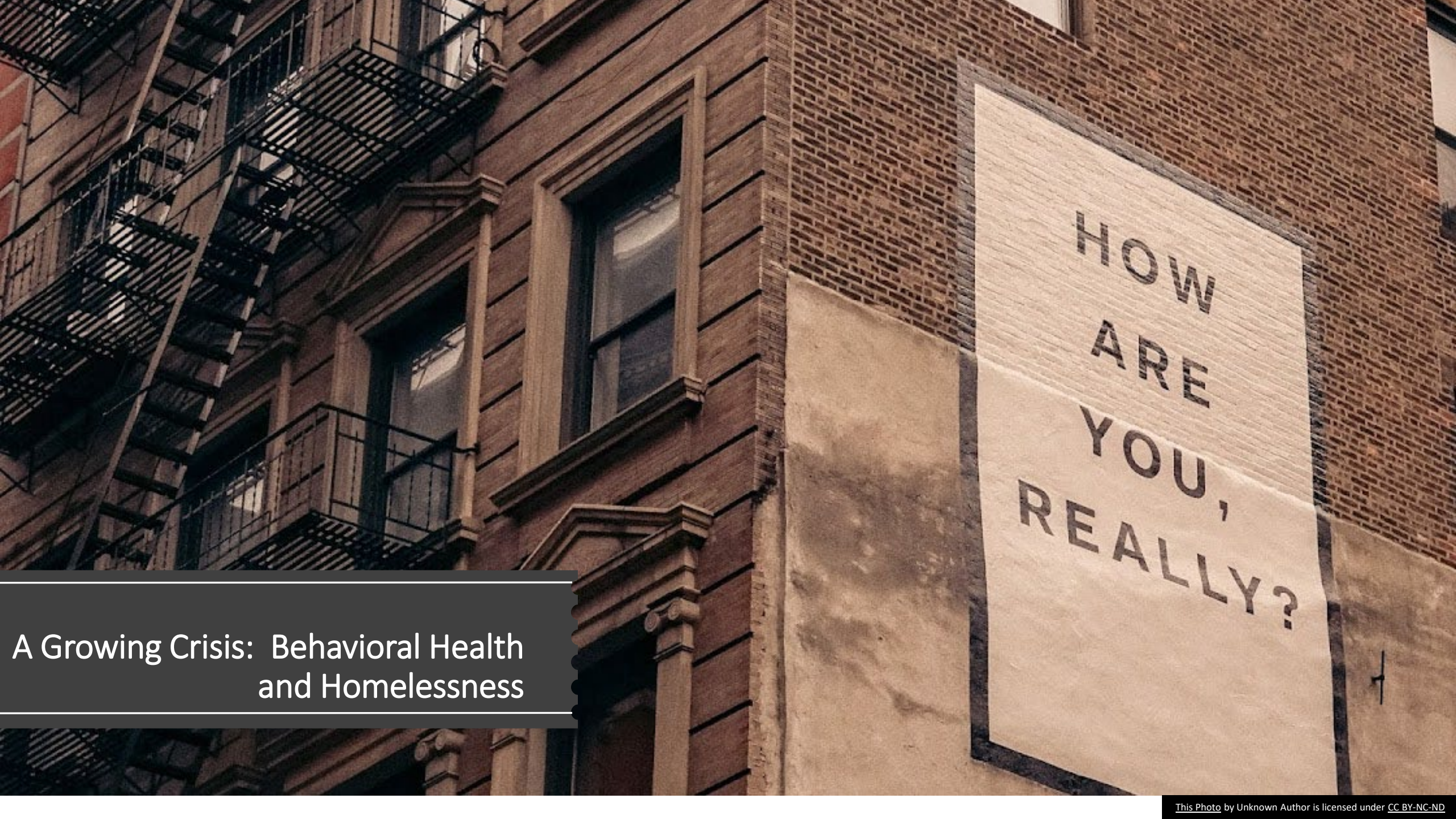
Design of Homelessness, Housing and Behavioral Health Services for Skagit County

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Problem Statement

Five different elected entities, community sector leadership and community partners all want to solve homelessness and behavioral health issues, but vision, priorities and methods are not aligned. The community lacks a countywide plan for leveraging collective resources for maximum impact.





A Growing Crisis: Behavioral Health
and Homelessness

Homelessness

**Behavioral
Health**



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Population Themes

Law Enforcement

- Individuals in behavioral health crisis
- Individuals without stable housing
- Individuals criminalizing behavioral health disorders; non-violent
- Limited diversion resources, especially evenings and weekends

Community Justice Center

- Individuals in behavioral health crisis
- Individuals without stable housing
- Non-therapeutic environment
- Expensive

Emergency Departments

- Individuals in behavioral health crisis
- Individuals without stable housing
- High acuity, safety and violence concerns
- Short term stabilization

Thriving

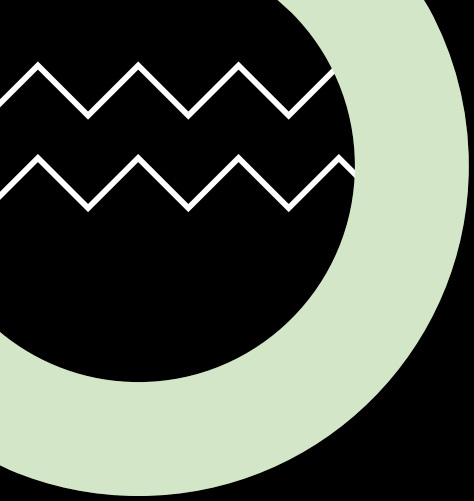
Vital Conditions:

- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Lifelong Learning
- Meaningful Work and Wealth
- Humane Housing
- Reliable Transportation
- Thriving Natural World
- Belonging & Civic Muscle





Community
Issue That
Needs a
Community
Response



Transforming Behavioral Health and Homelessness

- Phase 1: Develop a Shared North Star Vision for the County
- Phase 2: Build Out and Implementation of Skagit County's North Star Framework





North Star: City and County Commitment to Co-Design a Vision, Plan and Governance Structure for Behavioral Health and Homeless Services and Funding

- North Star Multi-Year Planning and Implementation Process
- County has engaged Tenfold Health, a team of experts with experience in health integration, transformation
- Move from crisis response to becoming multi-solvers with an integrated behavioral health, homeless and housing governance and service delivery model
- Investment allows us the ability to leverage over \$150 million behavioral health and homeless funding over the next 10 years to the maximum extent possible



Skagit County Phase I: Workplan

March – May 2022

Leadership Perspective

- Draft key interview questions
- Interview selected elected officials and leadership from Anacortes, Burlington, Mt. Vernon, Sedro-Woolley, and Skagit County
- Synthesize feedback from interviews
- Draft a non-binding Call to Action and Workplan
- Confirm a non-binding Call to Action and Workplan
- **Milestone:** Executive Summary Call to Action and Workplan to be shared with local government leaders and stakeholders

May – August 2022

Map Current Resources & Gaps (Client Perspective)

- Review all relevant data (reports, dashboards, results, etc)
- Interview regional subject matter experts and clients (BH and housing)
- Draft a diagram and description of the current state
- Review/edit the current-state diagram and description
- Finalize the current-state diagram and description
- **Milestone:** Current-state diagram with brief overview/description presented to Leadership/Steering Committee

July/August – September 2022

North Star Design: Research & Create

- Research and identify best practices that fit Skagit County
- Identify and map guiding principles to possible options
- Draft framework for Leadership Team Retreat
- **Milestone:** Facilitated Leadership/Steering Committee Retreat discussion on North Star framework

September – November 2022

North Star Design: Engage, Shape & Finalize

- Hold input sessions with interested parties/organizations that have subject matter expertise
- Distill the ideas and themes generated into draft version of the North Star framework
- Further refinement by the Leadership/Steering Committee

October/November – December 2022

Organizational Alignment

- Draft county-city compact outlining commitment for Phase II implementation
- County and cities review/edit the compact
- Finalize the compact
- **Milestone:** Signed compacts from county and city officials



Change



A night sky with a bright star and many smaller stars. The background is dark blue/black, filled with numerous small white stars of varying sizes. A single, very bright star with a yellow core and a blue-white glow and long, thin rays is positioned in the upper right quadrant. At the bottom of the image, there is a solid orange horizontal bar.

Thank You!