

# Washington Youth & Families Fund High-Needs Family Program (HNF)

## Outcomes for Families

### WHAT WE ARE LEARNING\*

Supportive housing fosters access to services, especially mental health and substance abuse.

Families continue or increase ER use while in HNF, suggesting a need for engaging community clinics and other physical health settings.

Compared to shelter, supportive housing offers a stable setting for family reunification, access to services and benefits, and reduced criminal justice involvement.

Supportive and public housing both offer added stability for families, with supportive housing providing greater access to services.

Stable housing for families with multiple housing barriers provides opportunities to achieve improvements in overall well-being.

\*A cost analysis of the program is forthcoming

#### Families who stay in housing for at least 12 months show significant improvements:



Residential stability



Substance Abuse



Employment



Sexual/  
Physical Abuse



Income



Healthcare access



Family reunification



Dental needs

\* 52% of families stay at least 12 months

#### Supportive Housing Compared to Emergency Shelters and Public Housing

##### HNF Use Compared to Emergency Shelter

- Increased access to mental health and substance abuse outpatient services
- Higher ER use for children
- Higher rate of family reunification
- Lower rates of criminal justice involvement
- Higher rates of TANF receipt

##### HNF Use Compared to Public Housing

- Higher ER use for Heads of Household
- Increased access to mental health and substance abuse outpatient services