The Bridge at Washoe County Sheriff's Office

Creating Pathways to Successful Reentry

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the BRIDGE at WCSO

Rebuilding Lives, Strengthening Community

Our Vision

- We envision a community where every individual, no matter their past, has the opportunity for successful reentry after incarceration.
  - Jail-based, pre-release reentry programs
    - Provide the structure, tools, and support for change
  - What is successful reentry?
    - Reduce recidivism and increase long-term stability

The Challenge We Faced

- Funding structure
- Lack of institutional knowledge
- Outdated processes: “The way we’ve always done it…”
- Programming was often ineffective and misaligned
- No tools to measure outcomes or improvement

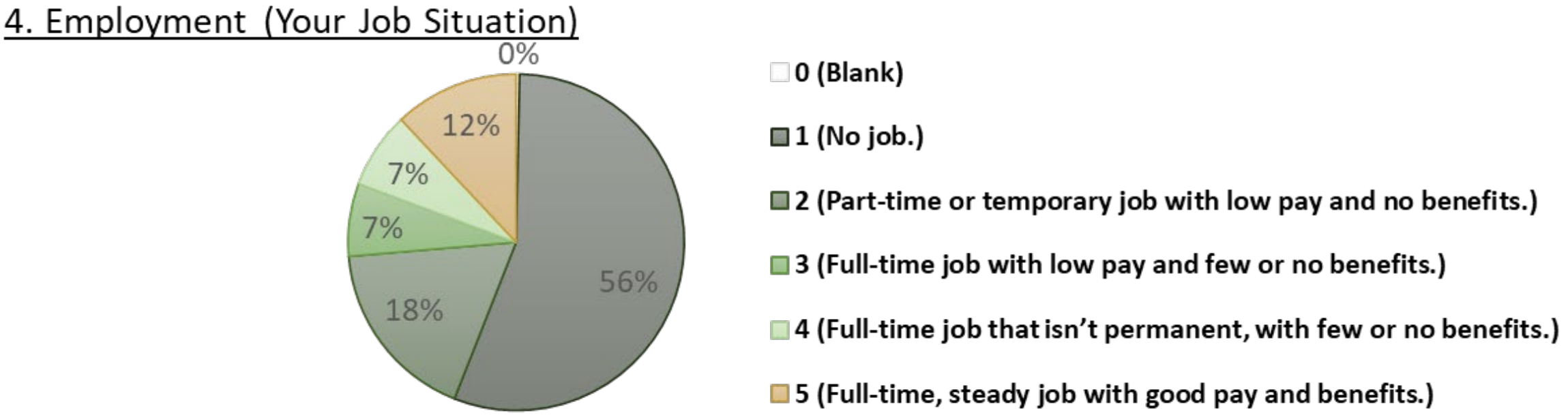
Commitment to change

- Launched June-July 2024 with full agency support:
  - Department-wide transformation
  - Evidence-based, data-driven, holistic
  - Built to work – and built to prove it
  - Not platitudes

Screening Tool

- Partnered with national researchers
  - Existing tools didn’t meet our needs – so we built one
  - 550 + participants
    - ±4% margin of error
    - 95% confidence level
  - Comprehensive research report
  - Partnering with research agency to create a predictive model

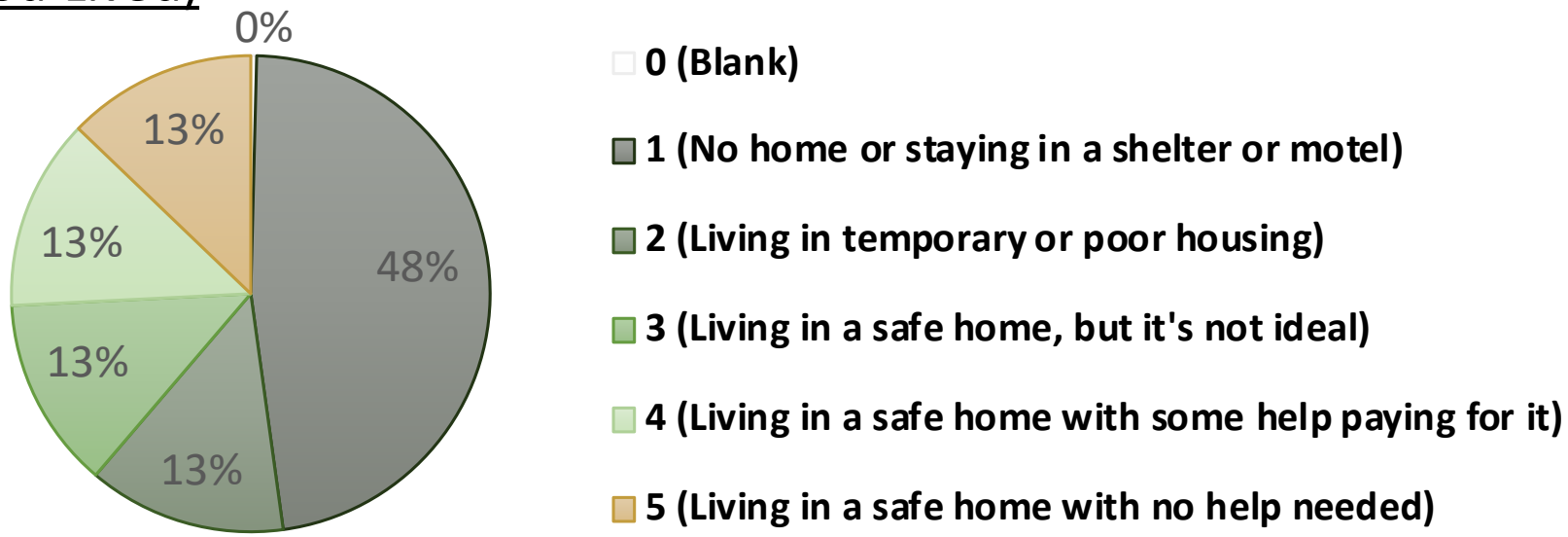
Screening Tool Results



- 88% did not have gainful employment

Screening Tool Results

1. Housing (Where You Lived)



- 74% did not have stable or independent housing

Updated Programming

- Capacity mapping
- Assessed all existing programming for impact
- Phased out ineffective legacy programming
- Invested in what works:
  - TMCC – Adult Basic Ed
  - UNR CFRC Home Visiting – parent-child connection
  - Remote – CBT
  - In-House – Chaplain Travis Sharpe

Community Collaboration

- Over 80 partners across local, state, and national levels
- Sectors: education, workforce, clinical, justice
- Our strongest asset: collaboration
- Real partnerships → real results → real scalability
- Headwinds

What's Next (FY25/26)

- Validate and refine predictive screening tool
- Scale what works: TMCC, UNR Home Visiting, Remote
- Provide state-level subject matter expertise
  - How does your program define successful reentry?
  - It isn't meaningful if it isn't measurable
- Long-Term: WCSO Community Reentry Center

Questions?

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WASHOE COUNTY
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