



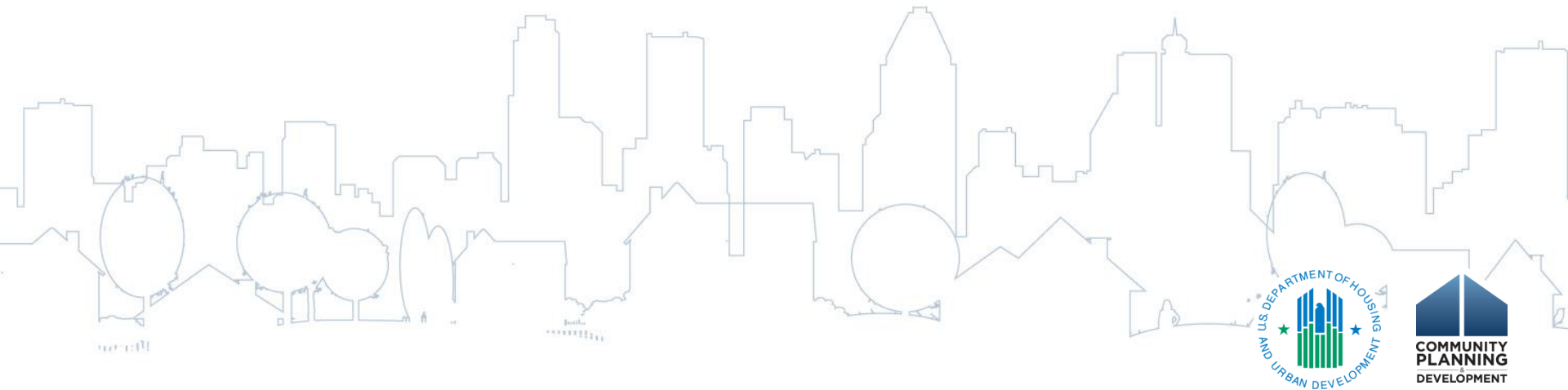
Housing First

Overview for Mid-Willamette Homeless Initiative



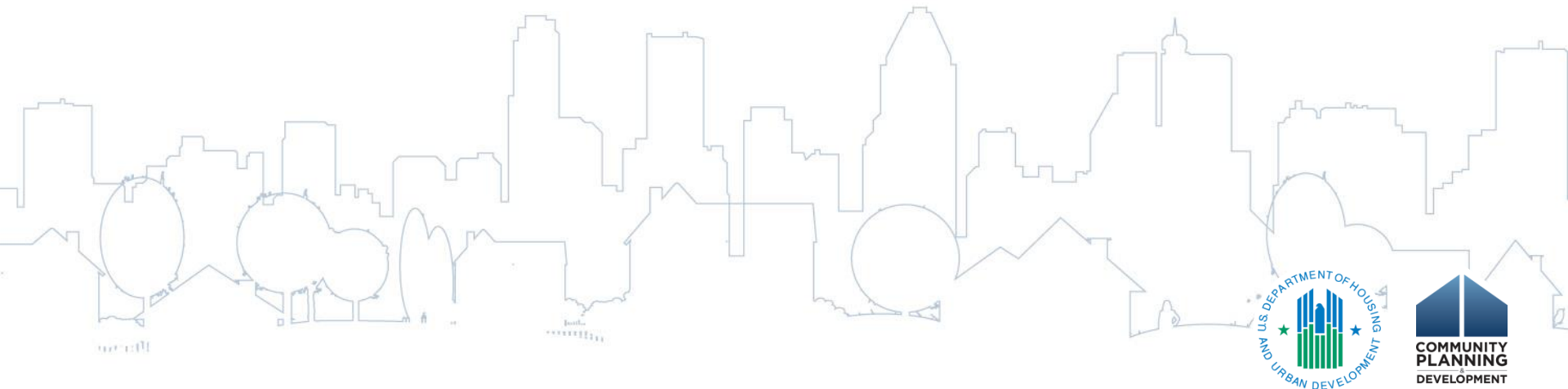
Overview of Presentation

- What is Housing First?
- Why Does HUD Support It?
- Housing First: Background
- Using Housing First With Other Housing Models
- Coordinated Assessment
- Examples



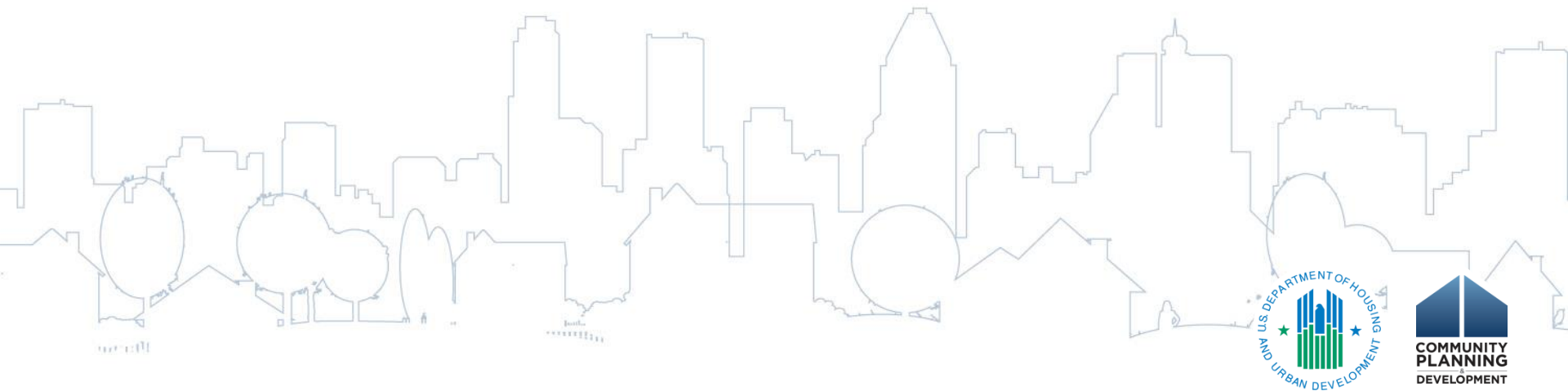
What is Housing First?

- Housing First is an approach to quickly and successfully connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to entry, such as sobriety, treatment or service participation requirements.
- Supportive services are offered to maximize housing stability and prevent returns to homelessness as opposed to addressing predetermined treatment goals prior to permanent housing entry.



Why Does HUD Support it?

- Housing First yields:
 - Higher housing retention rates
 - Lower returns to homelessness
 - Significantly reduces the use of crisis services and institutions



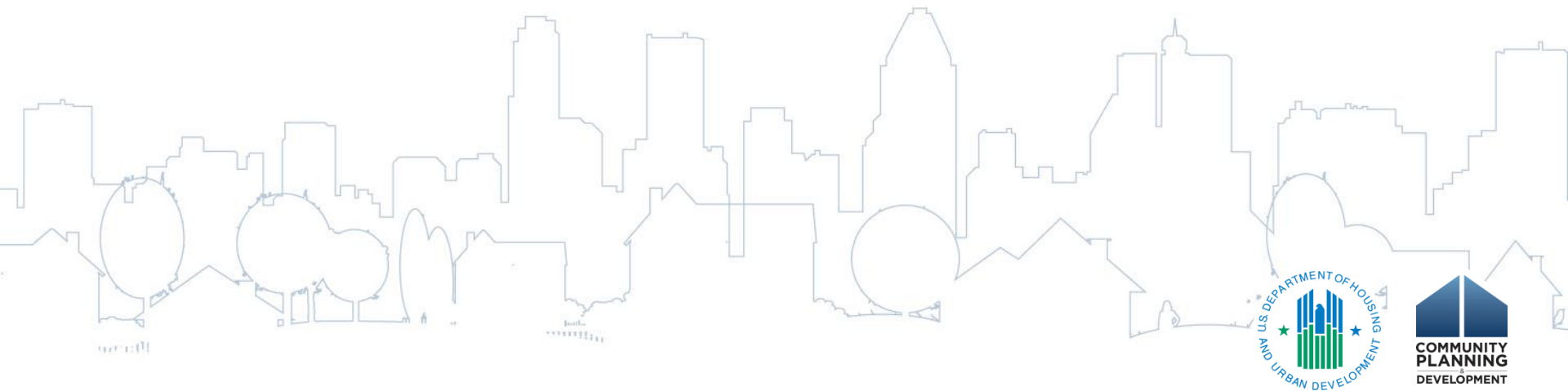
Housing First: Background

- Began as reaction against view that people experiencing homelessness must “earn” their way to permanent affordable and supportive housing:
 - Provide people experiencing homelessness with housing without treatment pre-requisite
 - Focus on reducing barriers to entry
- Evolved into a distinct approach for delivering permanent supportive housing
 - Services informed by harm reduction and motivational interviewing
 - Project-level policies and procedures that prevent lease violations and evictions



Housing First With Other Housing Models

- Housing First is an approach that can be adopted by housing programs, organizations, and across the housing crisis response system. The approach applies in both short-term interventions, like [rapid re-housing](#), and long-term interventions, like [permanent supportive housing](#).



Coordinated Assessment

Coordinated assessment, also known as coordinated entry or coordinated intake, paves the way for more efficient homeless assistance systems by:

- Helping people move through the system faster (by reducing the amount of time people spend moving from program to program before finding the right match);
- Reducing new entries into homelessness (by consistently offering prevention and diversion resources upfront, reducing the number of people entering the system unnecessarily); and
- Improving data collection and quality and providing accurate information on what kind of assistance consumers need.



More Information

Four Clarifications about Housing First

<https://pathwaystohousing.org/about/news/four-clarifications-about-housing-first>

From Street to Home: The Coordinated Entry System and Housing First

<https://pathwaystohousing.org/about/news/street-home-coordinated-entry-system-and-housing-first>

"Housing the Homeless" on Now What with Ryan Duffy

<https://pathwaystohousing.org/about/news/housing-homeless-now-what-ryan-duffy>

