



Investing in Housing and Community Development as a Delivery System for Health

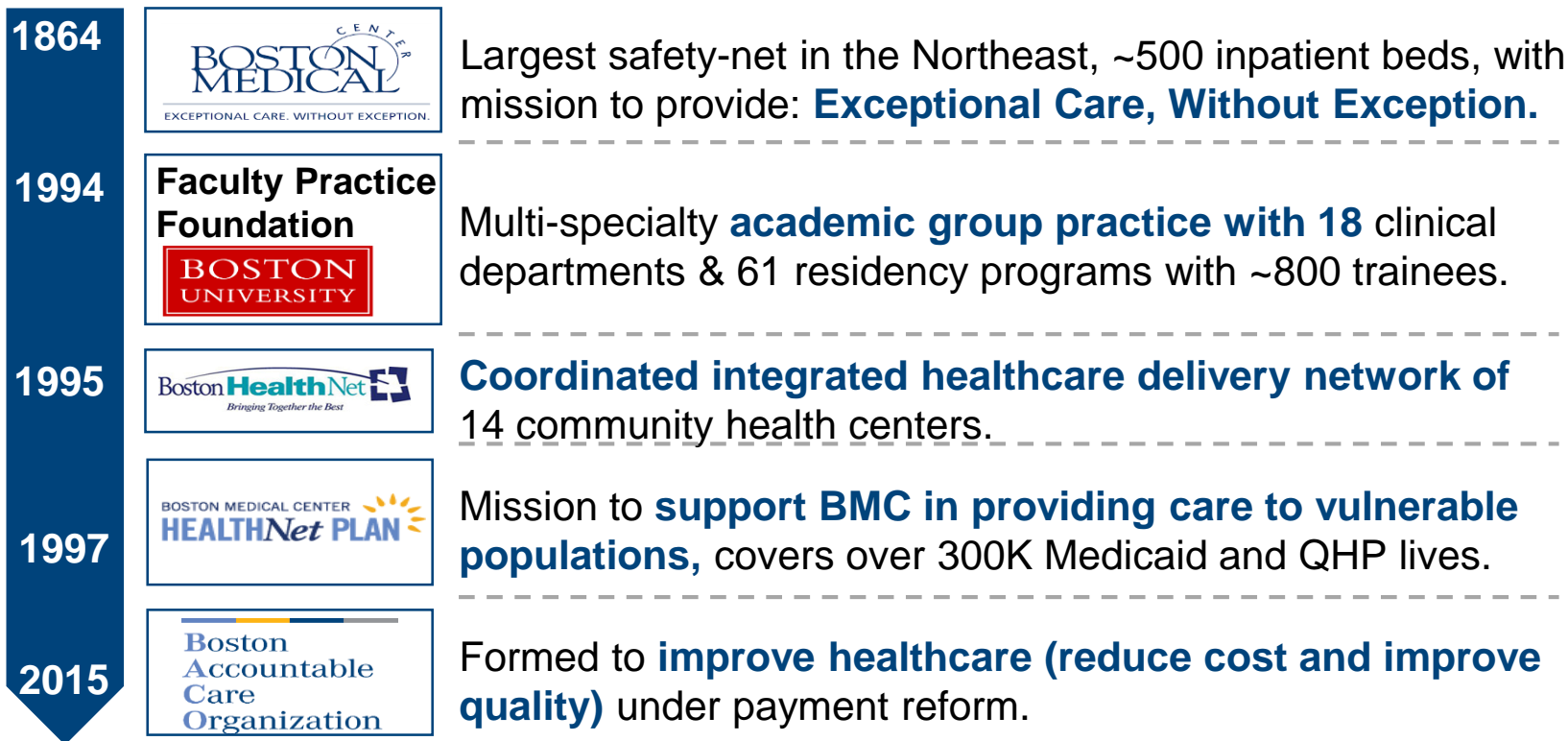
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Executive Summary

- Brief overview of **Boston Medical Center** as a hospital and health system
- We are nationally recognized for our research, education, and social service programs aimed at **promoting health equity**.
 - Started a **Housing Prescriptions as Healthcare Program** with support from The Boston Foundation and Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation
 - Validated social screening tools through **Children's HealthWatch** including a **Housing Stability Vital Sign**.
- We have taken stock of our campus and the community we serve and identified areas where we can impact measurable and meaningful change.
 - We have begun to transform our campus through **strategic renovations** which led us to invest our entire **Determination of Need** obligation of **\$6.5 million** in Housing and Community Development partnerships.

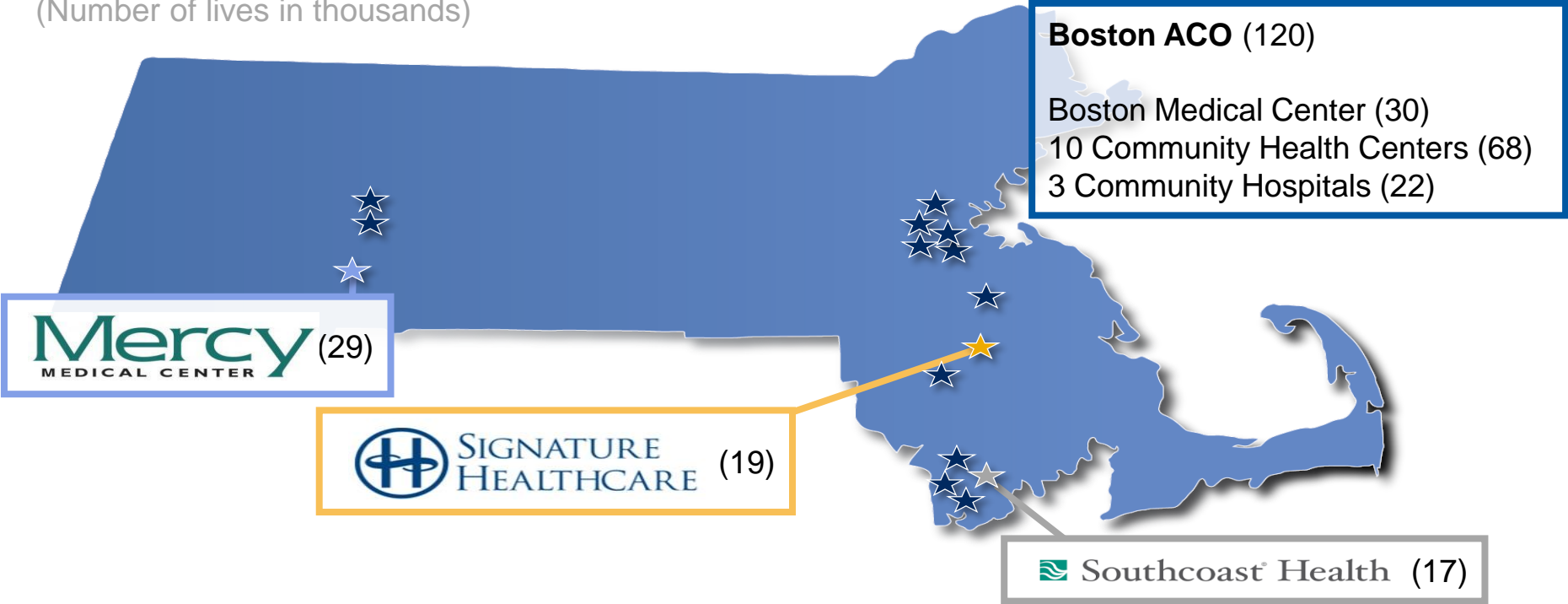
Over the years, BMC has grown from a small community hospital into a \$2.8B Health System with a mission to serve the underserved



BMC is forming 4 ACO partnerships across the Commonwealth

ACO partner organizations by region

(Number of lives in thousands)



We have identified addressing social determinants of health as another critical component of our overall approach to improving population health

- We have implemented a new social determinants of health screening and referral tool **(THRIVE)** to help us identify patients' needs and also assess their desire to be connected to additional support and resources.

We currently have several successful programs in place to meet patients' needs and are working to build community partnerships to expand the breadth of services available to our patients.

Nutritional Needs

- ✓ **BMC Food pantry & demonstration kitchen:** providing food for more than 80,000 people per year

Financial Stability

- ✓ **StreetCred:** helping families obtain the Earned Income Tax Credit – the program returned \$726,006 to ~300 BMC families in 2017



Social & Cultural Needs

- ✓ **Violence Intervention Advocacy Program:** working to break the cycle of violence for those presenting to the ED with gunshot or stab wounds

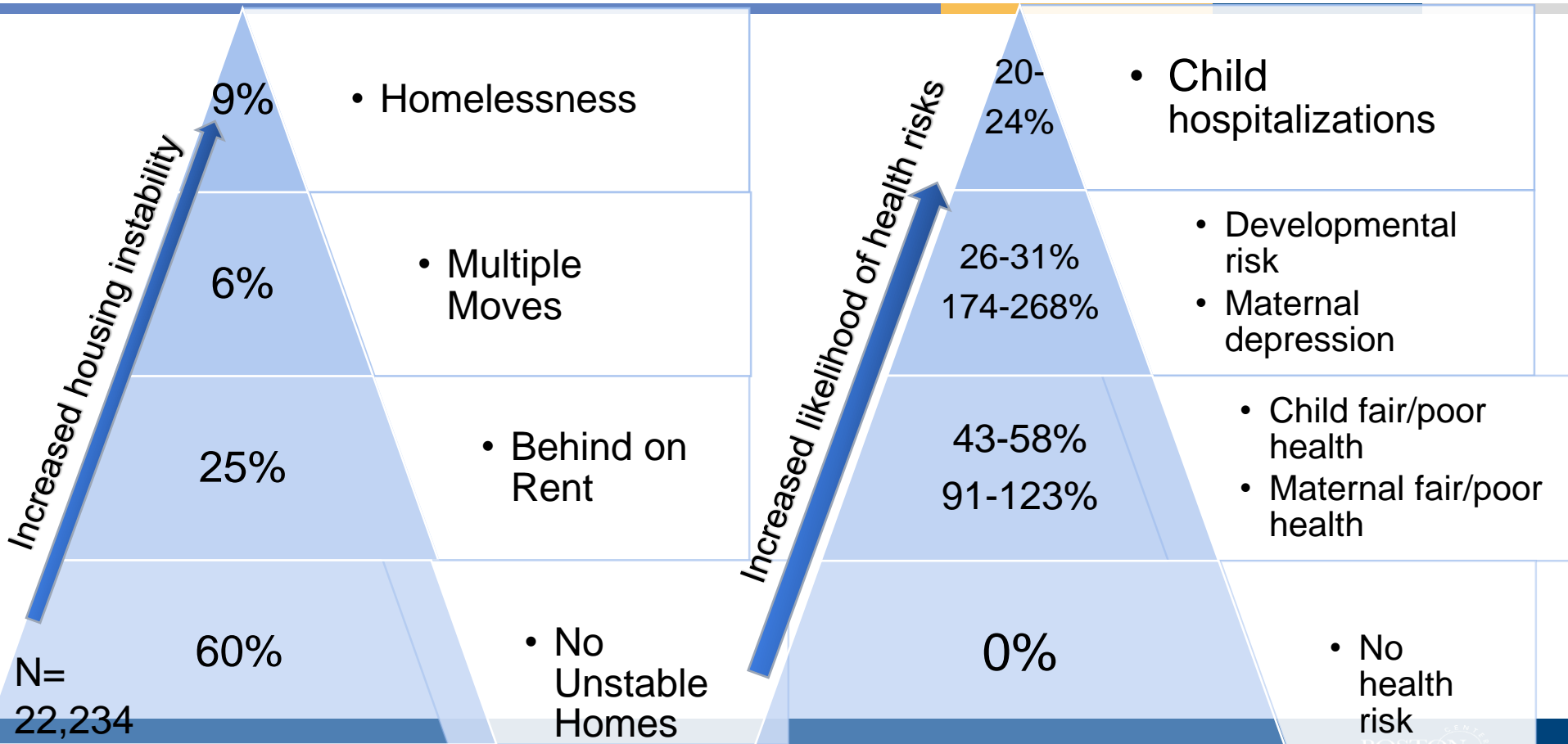
Housing Services

- ✓ **Housing Prescriptions:** helping 50 families with young children find and maintain affordable housing

Housing Prescriptions as Healthcare at BMC

- **Health Starts at Home** program targets
 - Population: Low-income, housing insecure children 0 – 11 years and their families
 - Partnership: Boston Medical Center, Boston Housing Authority, Project Hope, Nuestra Comunidad, MLP-B
 - Goals:
 - highlighting the importance of affordable housing in children's health outcomes;
 - identifying promising new and existing models for partnership that can be brought to scale to improve children's health outcomes;
 - decreasing health care costs; and
 - decreasing costs related to homelessness

Health Risks Associated with Unstable Homes



HOUSING Stability Vital Sign™

Since [current month] of last year,

1. Was there a time when you were not able to pay the mortgage or rent on time?

Answer is yes/no, positive screen if answer is yes

2. How many places have you lived?












Answer is # of places lived, positive screen if answer is 3 or more (i.e. multiple moves ≥ 2 in 12 mos.)

3. At any time did you stay in a shelter or didn't have a steady place to sleep at night (including now)?

Answer is yes/no, positive screen if answer is yes

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We have already made some progress towards addressing affordable housing – a key social determinant of health

	Partners	Funding
Housing Project Investments	 	\$2.2M
Housing Support Service	 	\$0.9M
Hybrid Housing Project Investment	  	\$1.3M
Community Engagement & Housing Stability	  	\$1.7M
Social Impact Fund		\$0.5M

- This fall, we innovatively guided Determination of Need funding towards housing.
- We aim to support housing and wrap-around services our patients and use **Community Investment Tax Credits** to stretch dollars.
- We plan to test multiple approaches and have devoted \$0.65M to evaluation and oversight to determine the best approach.
- We look forward to working with other Boston hospitals to make similar investments and work collaboratively to improve community health.