

**TRI COUNTY CoC OF WARREN,
HUNTERDON & SUSSEX –
JOURNEY TO A MERGER**

October 2013

Early Discussions - 2011

- HEARTH Act prompts discussion at local level
- CEAS committees support the idea of merger
- Human Service Directors and key staff from 3 counties meet with Monarch Housing Assoc.

Discussion Points

- What will be gained?
- What will be lost?
- Structure?
- Who will assume lead?

Benefits

- Increased ability to coordinate across counties
- 1 annual application
- 1 GIW, AHAR, HIC etc.
- Maximize use of funding
- Performance likely to improve
- Increased services

Challenges

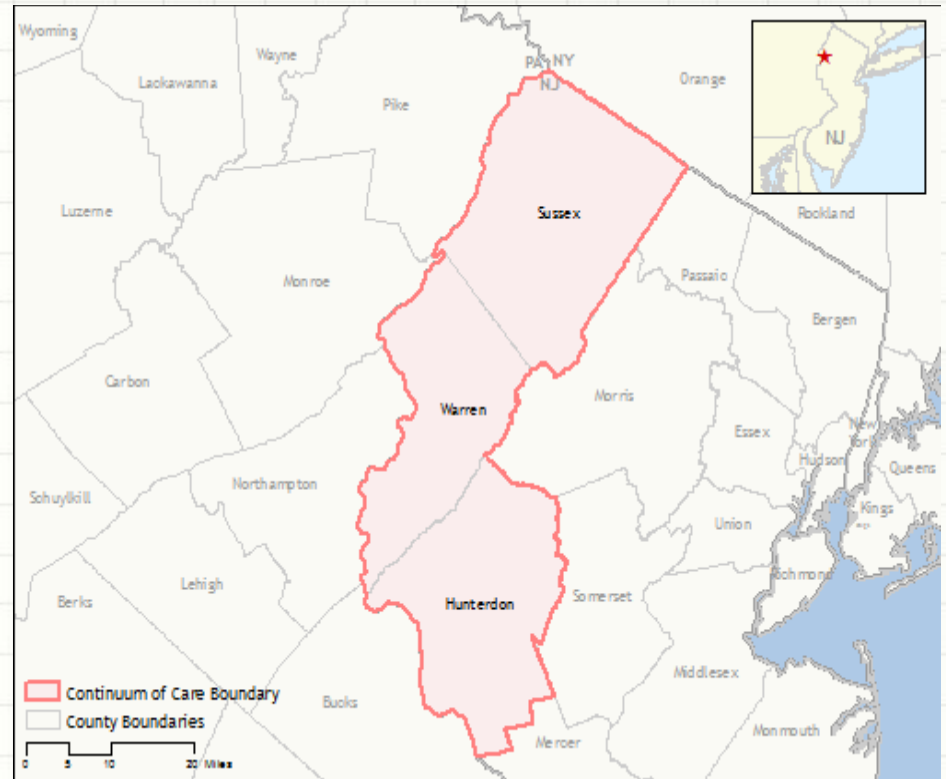
- Additional layer of planning
- Potential loss of local control
- Need for increased organization and facilitation
- Greater renewal burden
- More meetings!

Agreement to Merge – 6/11

- Lead entity selected
- Formal MOU signed
- Memo to HUD



Merger Approved

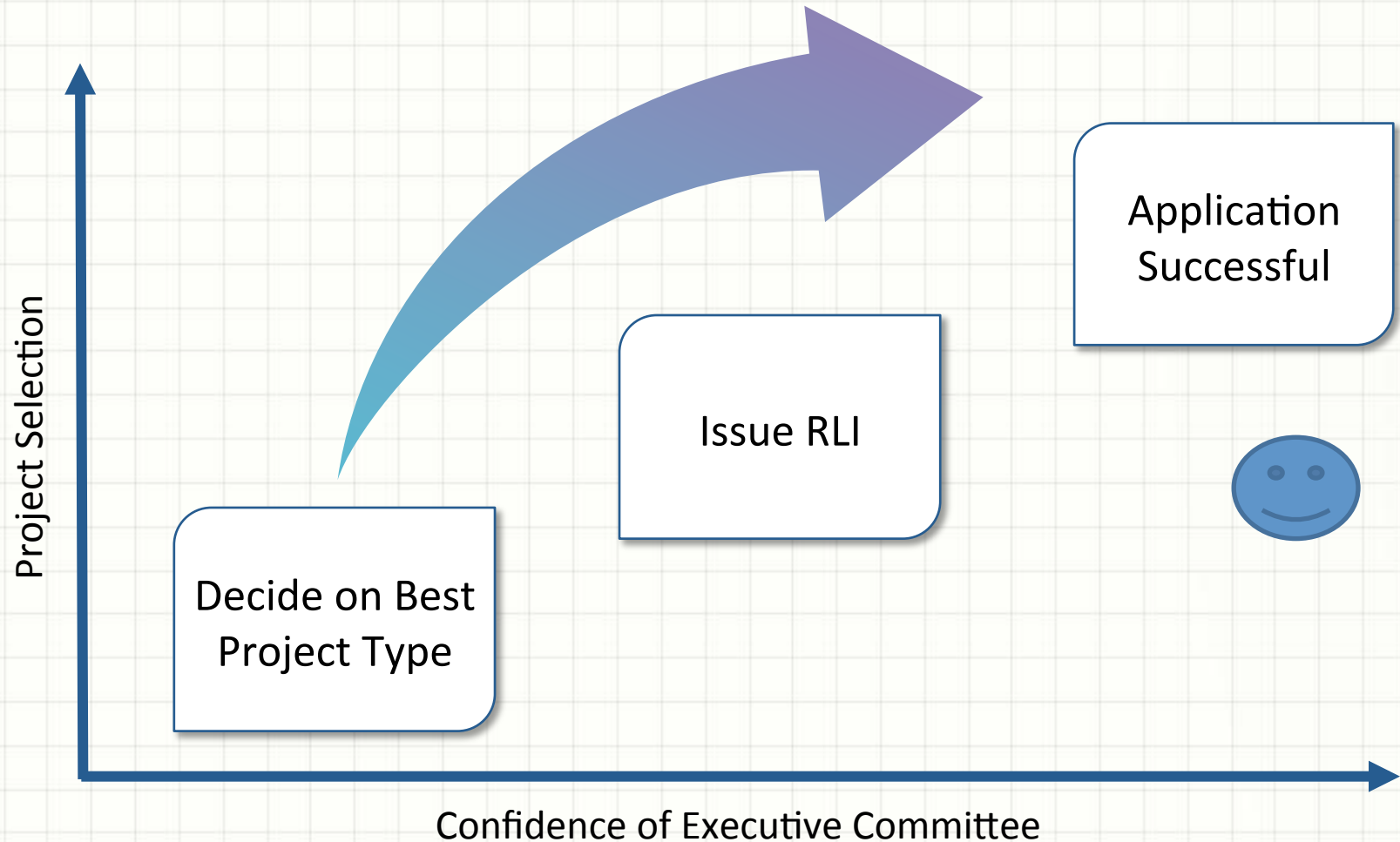


Next Steps – summer 2011



- Lead county drafts by laws
- Local committees select representatives for Executive Committee
- Executive Committee meets and begins discussion on tasks and planning

Learning Curve – FY2011 Application



Major Responsibilities of Lead

- Convene Tri County meetings; keep agendas, minutes, correspondence, etc.
- Prepare and update all documents concerning governance and planning
- Responsible for issuing RLI and all aspects of annual application
- AHAR, GIW, HIC
- Monitoring of HMIS and projects

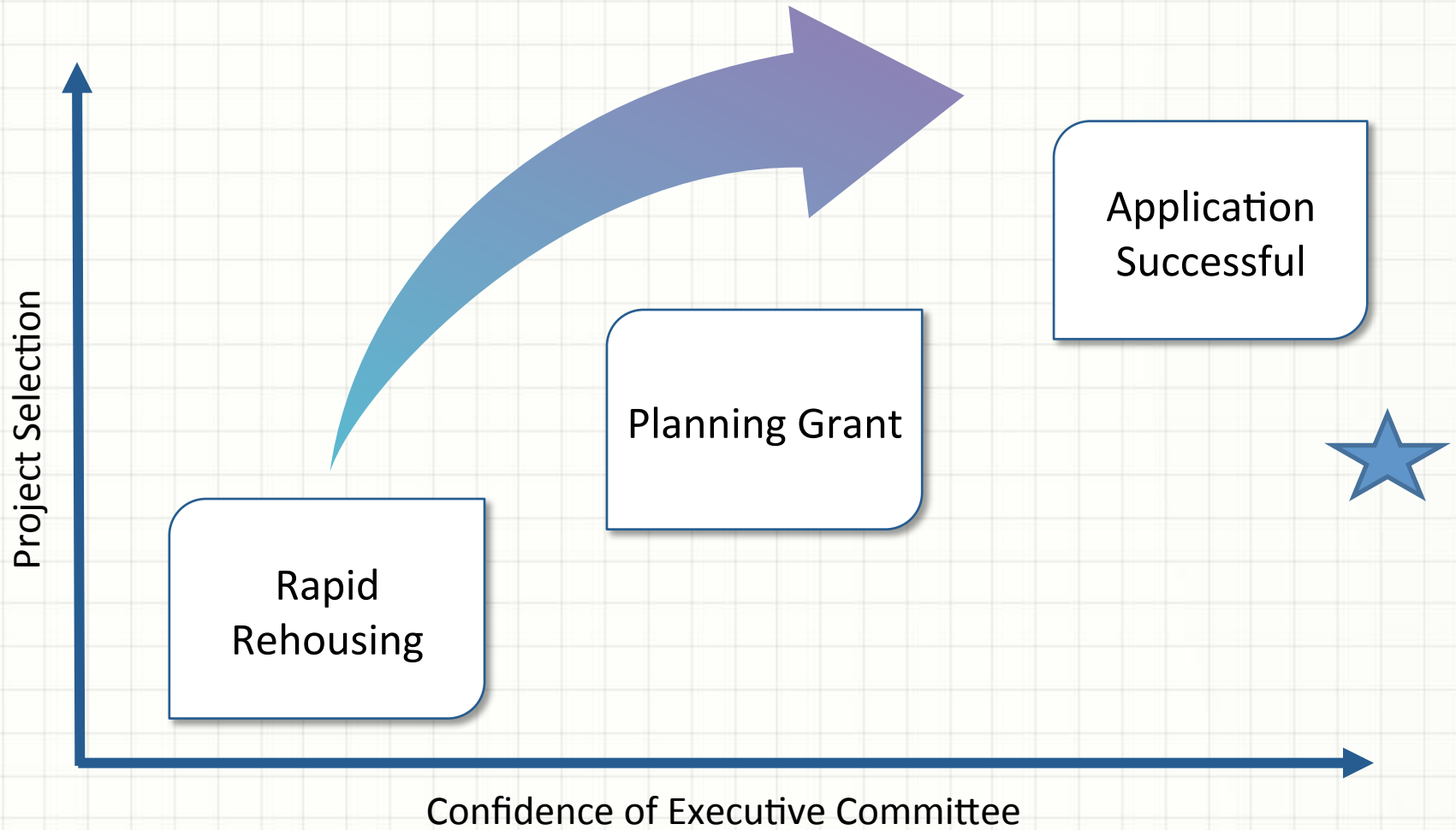
What is changing?

- Increased housing options across CoC
- Counties becoming familiar with issues regarding homelessness across the region – similarities and differences
- Closer examination across the CoC of HMIS data and reporting – striving to have consistency in data entry
- Using data to inform planning

What has stayed the same?

- Local homeless service providers continue to meet and plan locally
- PIT activities occur locally; data collected available separately but filed with HUD as Tri County
- Homeless/Community Connect events take place locally

Successes – FY2012 Application



Current Challenges

- Coordinated Assessment across three rural counties
- Renewal burden
- Uncertainty concerning the Federal Government and future funding
- Development of a Ten year Plan to adequately reflect the needs and abilities of all three counties



QUESTIONS?

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