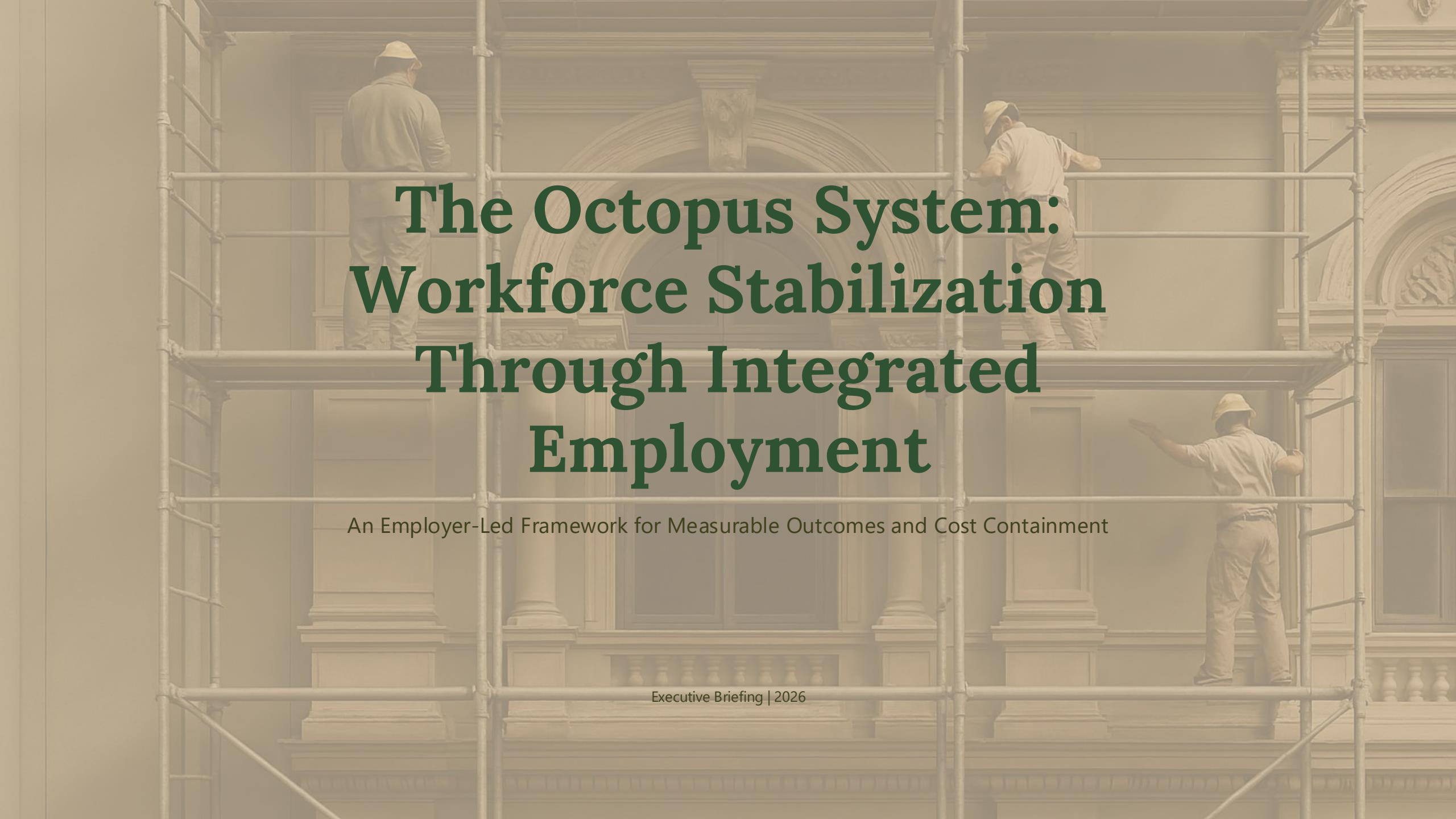


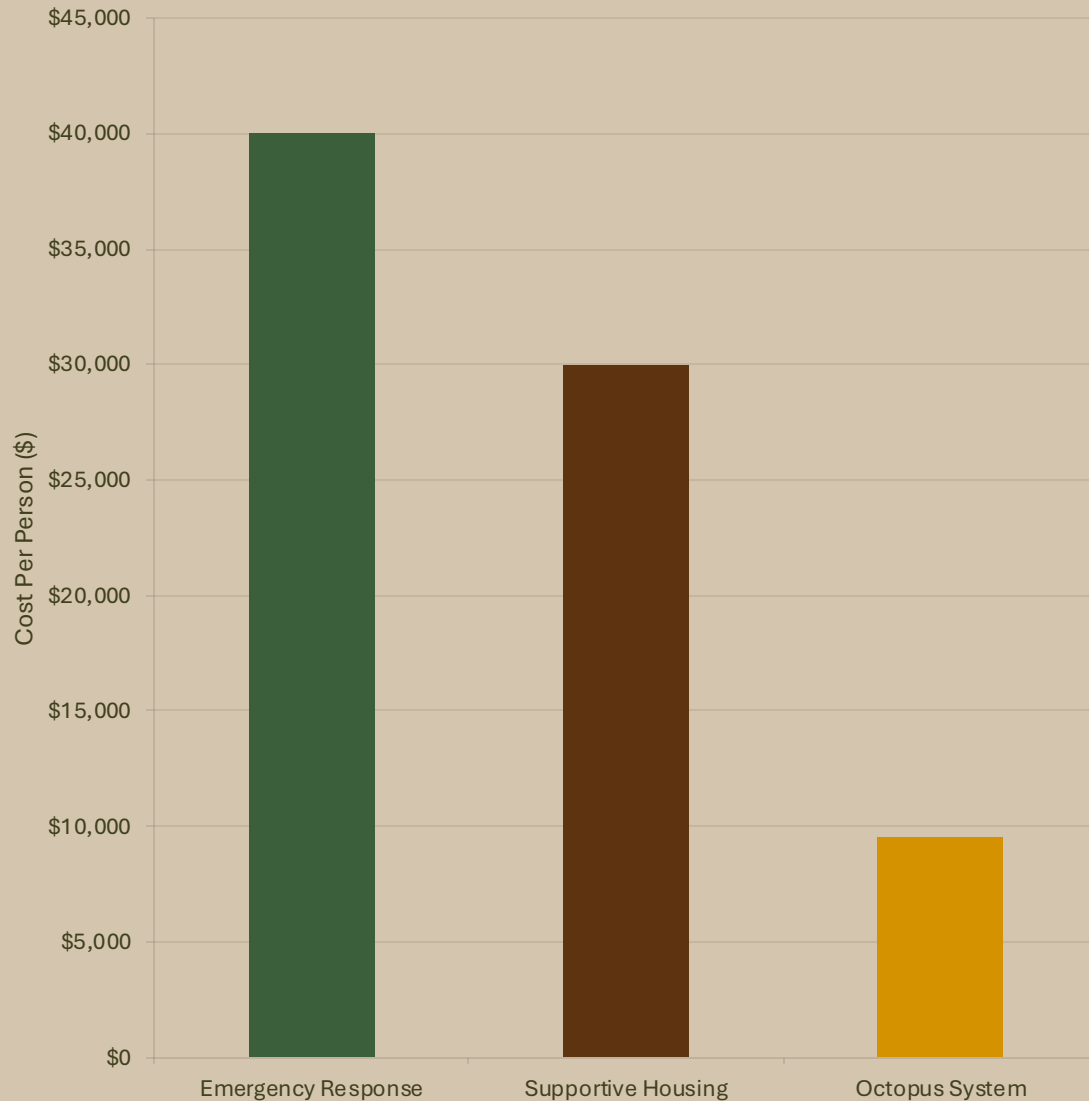
The background of the slide is a faded, sepia-toned photograph of three construction workers on a metal scaffolding. They are positioned in front of a grand, classical-style building with large columns and arched windows. The workers are wearing hard hats and work clothes, and they appear to be engaged in some form of construction or maintenance work. The overall tone is professional and industrial.

The Octopus System: Workforce Stabilization Through Integrated Employment

An Employer-Led Framework for Measurable Outcomes and Cost Containment

Executive Briefing | 2026

Annual Public Cost Comparison by Model



Source: [Octopus System_Final_20min_Presentation 1](#)

A Crisis of Cost and Fragmentation

- Homelessness interventions are fragmented across disconnected housing, labor, health, and justice systems creating administrative inefficiencies and unclear accountability ^[1]
- Emergency-driven spending on shelters, ER services, and policing costs \$30,000-\$50,000 per person annually without producing stable employment or independence
- Current workforce programs operate separately from stabilization efforts resulting in participants who are trained but not housed or housed but not employed
- The Octopus System consolidates parallel service tracks into a single employment-centered pathway reducing net public cost to approximately \$9,000-\$10,000 per person



Organized



Community



Training



Occupational



Partnership



Unification



Stabilization

What Is the Octopus System

\$9K-\$10K

Net annual public cost per participant [\[1\]](#)

2 of 3

Participants successfully transitioned in 2022 pilot [\[2\]](#)

Multi-Arm Model

Each component functions independently yet interconnected

- Founded by craftsman with lived homelessness experience combining vocational training and social services [\[3\]](#)
- Integrates paid work workforce training stabilization supports and placement into single accountable framework
- Each arm addresses different barriers while remaining interconnected for resilience

The Problem We're Solving

Fragmentation Creates Inefficiency

\$30K-\$50K

Emergency response annual per-person cost without employment outcomes ^[1]

- Services span disconnected funding streams with independent reporting requirements making it difficult to determine true cost-per-outcome for oversight bodies ^[1]
- Administrative overhead multiplies across agencies while emergency shelter ER utilization and policing function as default safety nets without producing independence

Sequential Rather Than Concurrent

Multiple Agencies

Fragmented oversight across Housing, Labor, Health, Justice systems

- Workforce programs deliver training separately from stabilization resulting in participants trained but not housed or housed but not employed reducing success rates
- Emergency-driven costs recur year after year for the same individuals indicating lack of durable exits representing compounding liability rather than converging solution



Employer-Led Integration Model

Day One

Participants hired immediately and begin paid work

Single Operator

Clear line of sight between funding management and results

- Participants hired immediately and placed into supervised restoration projects with training embedded within work ^[1]
- Training aligns with apprenticeship and OSHA standards while stabilization supports coordinate with work schedules
- Single accountable operator eliminates multiple vendors enabling precise reporting on placement rates and outcomes
- Each participant represents discrete unit of cost and outcome directly supporting audit readiness for oversight

Earn While You Learn Philosophy

Real Projects

Windows, doors, siding, stair systems requiring quality control

Revenue-Generating

Public funds purchase labor skills and tangible outputs

Verified Work History

Creates accountability and employment documentation

- Participants work on actual construction projects gaining relevant experience while earning income rather than unpaid training environments [\[1\]](#)
- Real tasks on windows doors siding and stair systems require quality control produce revenue ensure immediate engagement and reinforce accountability
- Paid work experience yields stronger employment outcomes than classroom-only training aligning with workforce policy best practices [\[1\]](#)
- This approach produces measurable value tangible outputs and verifiable work history while reducing disengagement and recidivism rates

Implementation Roadmap

2022 Pilot

2 of 3 participants transitioned to housing and employment [\[2\]](#)

Scalable Model

Designed for replication in cities worldwide

- Initial 2022 pilot successfully transitioned 2 of 3 participants to housing and employment [\[2\]](#)
- Three-year phase launches pilot programs and establishes local hubs with documented outcomes
- Five-year expansion includes regional scaling and curriculum refinement based on performance data
- Fifteen-year vision institutionalizes model globally tracking generational outcomes and community impact

3-Year Phase

Launch pilot programs establish local hubs train first cohorts

5-Year Phase

Expand regionally refine curriculum secure sustainable funding streams

15-Year Phase

Institutionalize model globally track generational outcomes and impact

Audit-Ready Accountability

- Every participant tracked from intake through placement with detailed documentation of wages hours worked certifications earned and employment status at exit and follow-up [1]
- Financial reporting distinguishes gross operating cost from earned revenue yielding clear net public cost per participant responding to audit criticisms
- Consolidating services under single accountable operator reduces administrative duplication and enables transparent evaluation for oversight bodies [1]
- System provides rare opportunity to examine workforce-stabilization intervention with clear fiscal boundaries and measurable returns

Accountability Framework Components

Component	Key Elements
Participant Tracking	Intake to placement with wages hours certifications employment status
Financial Reporting	Gross operating cost separated from earned revenue
Outcome Measurement	Placement rates wages retention cost-per-success
Service Consolidation	Single operator reduces duplication enables transparency

Cost Containment and ROI

\$9K-\$10K

Net Annual Public Cost Per Participant^[1]

\$30K-\$50K

Emergency Response
Status Quo Cost^[1]

70-80%

Reduction in Net
Public Expenditure

Day One

Participants Contribute
Economically Through Paid
Work

Employment as **cost-offsetting force** shifts public dollars from indefinite service provision to **time-limited investment** in skill acquisition and job placement

Policy Alignment and Federal Framework



WIOA Aligned

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
integration



Apprenticeship Standards

National Apprenticeship Act compliance



Housing First

Stabilization principles with employment
integration

- System aligns with WIOA, National Apprenticeship Act, and Housing First by integrating employment with support rather than separating them [\[1\]](#)
- Offers demonstration-ready model that can be authorized, monitored, and evaluated within existing statutory frameworks without new legislation
- Implementation includes pilot authorization, braided funding flexibility, and mandatory reporting on cost-per-participant employment outcomes and retention
- Approach enables Congress to evaluate whether integrated employer-led models deliver superior outcomes at lower cost than fragmented systems

Strategic Next Steps

Pilot authorization with braided funding and outcome-based reporting will enable evaluation of integrated model effectiveness and cost performance

Pilot Authorization

- Authorize demonstration pilots in multiple jurisdictions to test model across varied urban and regional contexts
- Establish baseline metrics including cost-per-participant, placement rates, wage levels, and 12-month retention

Braided Funding Structure

- Enable braided funding flexibility across housing, workforce, and health budgets to support integrated service delivery
- Create single accountability mechanism for tracking total public investment against employment and housing outcomes

Mandatory Outcome Reporting

- Require quarterly reporting on participant outcomes including employment status, wages earned, certifications obtained, and housing stability
- Mandate transparent financial reporting separating gross program costs from participant-generated revenue to calculate net public cost

References

[1] [Octopus System Final 20min Presentation 1](#)

[2] [Octopus System Manual](#)

[3] [Octopus System Executive Summary](#)

[4] [Octopus System Final 20min Presentation 1](#)

[5] [The Octopus System — what I've been building](#)