# YOUNG ADULTS WITH CARE EXPERIENCE IN TRANSITION **TO ADULTHOOD** approach in Flanders and Brussels



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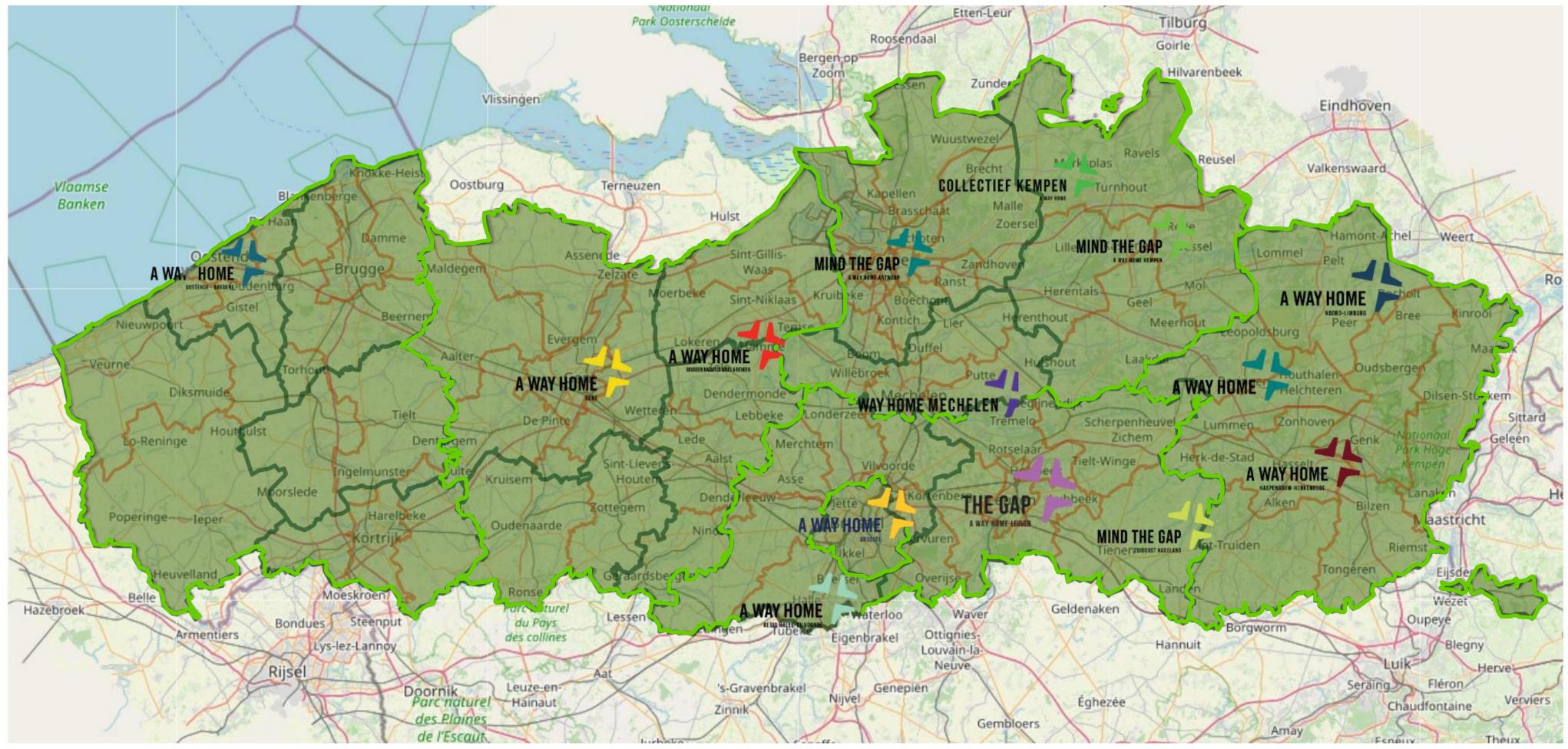
- The basics of youth aid in Flanders and Brussels
- A piece of history
- Young adults on the political agenda
- A specific target group with a specific approach
- What works lacksquare
  - On a structural level
  - In the relation with the client  $\bullet$
- Still some work to do  $\bullet$







### The basics about youth care in Flanders and Brussels





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### A piece of history

1998 - 2023: towards tailor-made assistance and pathways in youth care

- Modulating care (2014-...)
- Demand-driven assistance
- Intersectoral approach
- Participation of clients in policy design

Young adults

- 2008: local initiatives 'Bruggen na(ar) 18'
- 2016: assistance to young adults becomes a high priority



# A response in the approach of young adults

Young adults formulated recommendations

Youth assistance was raised to the age of 24

An action plan was written for the assistance for young adults

Start of regional teams with a focus on the most vulnerable young adults

Start of local coalitions A Way Home

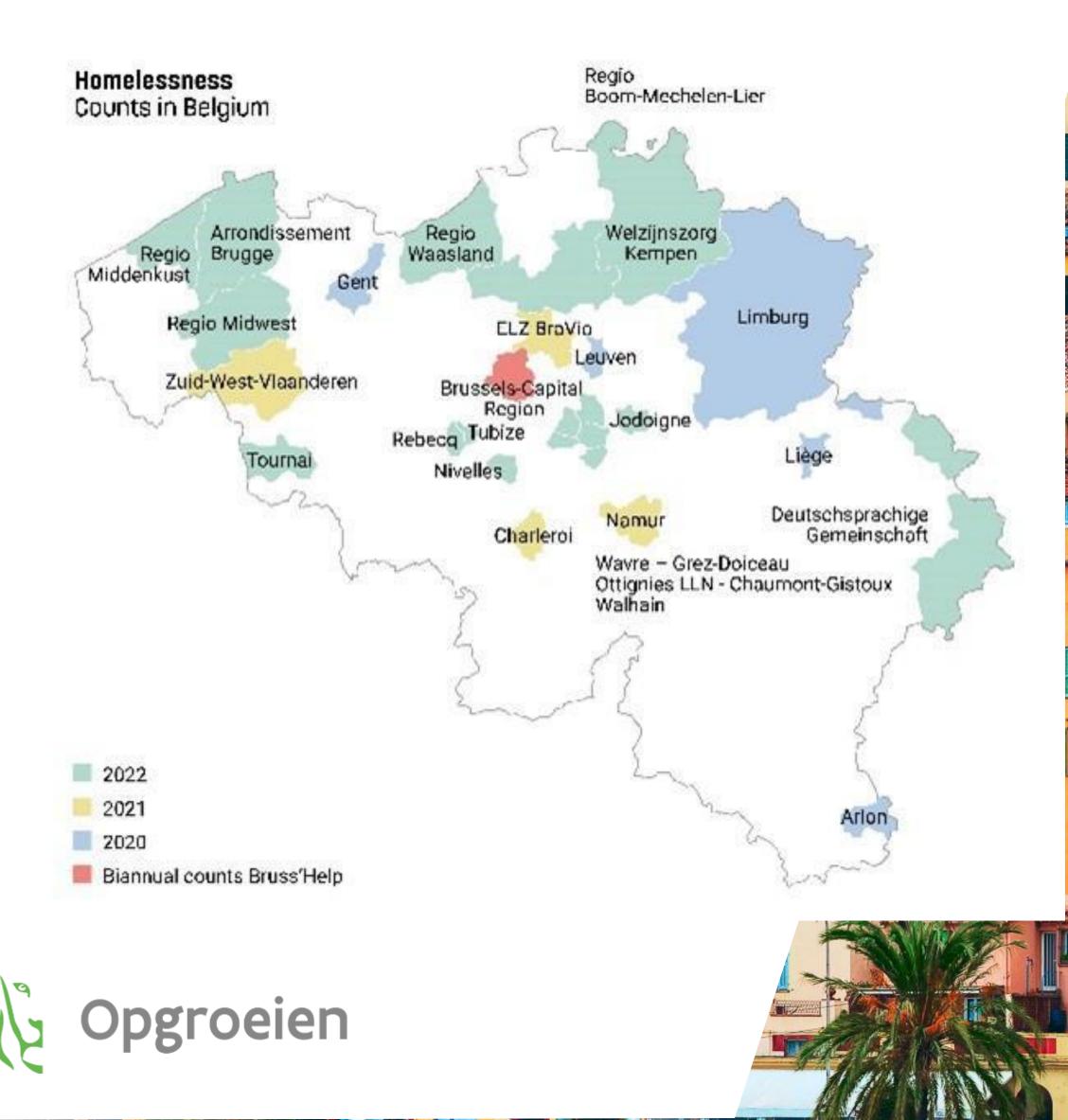
The government incorporated OverKop in their policy







### The numbers



### ETHOS Light

### EUROPEAN TYPOLOGY OF HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING EXCLUSION

### A Harmonised Definition of Homelessness for Statistical Purposes

Sometimes referred to as ETHOS 'Light', this is a version of the ETHOS typology developed in the context of a 2007 European Commission study: Measurement of Homelessness at European Union Level. It is a harmonised definition of homelessness for statistical purposes. It is a pragmatic tool for the development of homelessness data collection, rather than a conceptual and operational definition to be used for a range of policy and practice purposes.

0	PERATIONAL CATEGORY		LIVING SITUATION	DEFINITION
1	People living rough	1	Public spaces / external spaces	Living in the streets or public spaces without a shelter that can be defined as living quarters
2	People in emergency accommodation	2	Overnight shelters	People with no place of usual residence who move frequently between various types of accommodation
3	People living in accommodation for the homeless	3 4 5 6	Homeless hostels Temporary accommodation Transitional supported accommodation Women's shelters or refuge accommodation	Where the period of stay is time-limited and no long-term housing is provided
4	People living in institutions	7 8	Health care institutions Penal institutions	Stay longer than needed due to lack of housing No housing available prior to release
5	People living in non- conventional dwellings due to lack of housing	9 10 11	Mobile homes Non-conventional buildings Temporary structures	Where the accommodation is used due to a lack of housing and is not the person's usual place of residence
6	Homeless people living temporarily in conventional housing with family and friends (due to lack of housing)	12	Conventional housing, but not the person's usual place of residence	Where the accommodation is used due to a lack of housing and is not the person's usual place of residence





## The numbers



### Jongvolwassenen\*

- 20-25% van alle getelde personen.
- 40-50 % verblijft tijdelijk bij vrienden of familie (ETHOS 6).
- Ruwweg 15-30 % heeft verleden in jeugdzorg.
- Aanleiding is veel vaker een conflict met ouders/familie.
- Minder lang dak- en thuisloos dan volwassenen.

\* cijfers uit rapport 'Dak- en thuisloosheid bij jongvolwassenen'





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## A specific target group with a specific approach

- Interplay of neurobiological, legal and social factors
- Family Finding
- L'age du choix



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### What works!

- A patchwork of possibilities
- Intensive cooperation between several services and organisations
- A dedicated team
- Flexibility in approach









### What works!

- Right of self-determination
- Connect with their world
- Individual approach
- Relational continuity
- Availibilty





### Still some work to do

Housing first for Youth

Intensifying the intersectoral approach

**Prevention Upstream** 



