

A person is walking in a traffic jam, holding a cardboard sign. The sign has the word 'HOMELESS' written in large letters at the top. Below it, there is some smaller, less legible text that appears to say 'Share A Book?' and 'Anybody will help?'. At the bottom of the sign, it says 'Thanks and GOD BLESS'. The background shows several cars in a line, including a red car and a dark SUV. The overall scene is a depiction of homelessness in an urban setting.

Root Causes of Homelessness

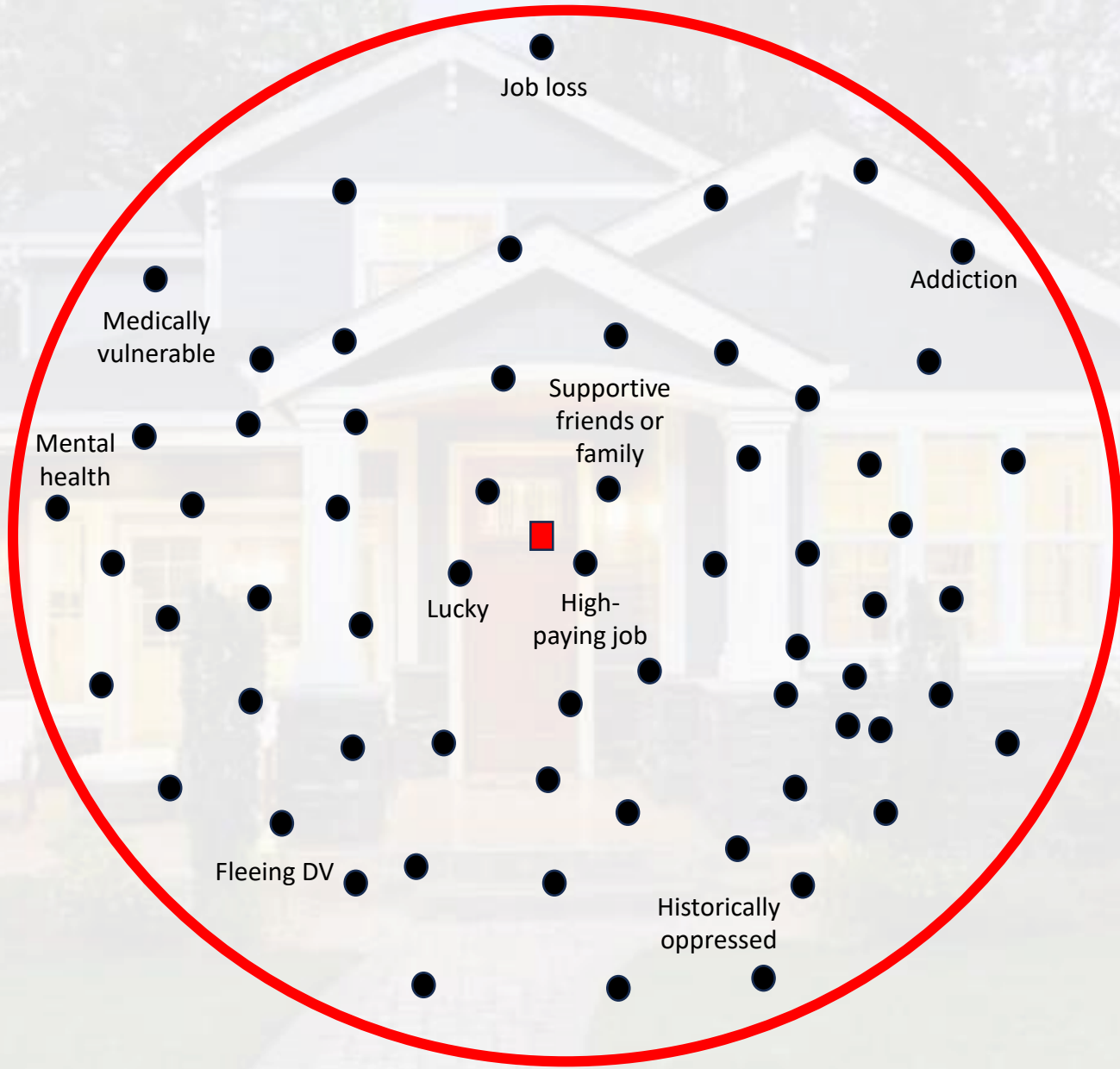
- Commonly discussed potential root causes include the following.
- Individual factors like:
 - Poverty, unemployment, mental health, drug use, demographics
- Large-scale factors like:
 - The weather, the size of the homelessness response system in an area, the availability of social services, political environment, housing availability

Individual Factors

- Don't predict homelessness at-large
- Some, like poverty, even have a negative correlation (think Detroit)
- Individual factors DO contribute to the risk that someone could become homeless

Large scale factors

- Most large-scale factors also do not predict homelessness
- Two significantly do predict homelessness:
 - The median cost of rent
 - Vacancy rate



Job loss

Addiction

Medically vulnerable

Supportive friends or family

Mental health

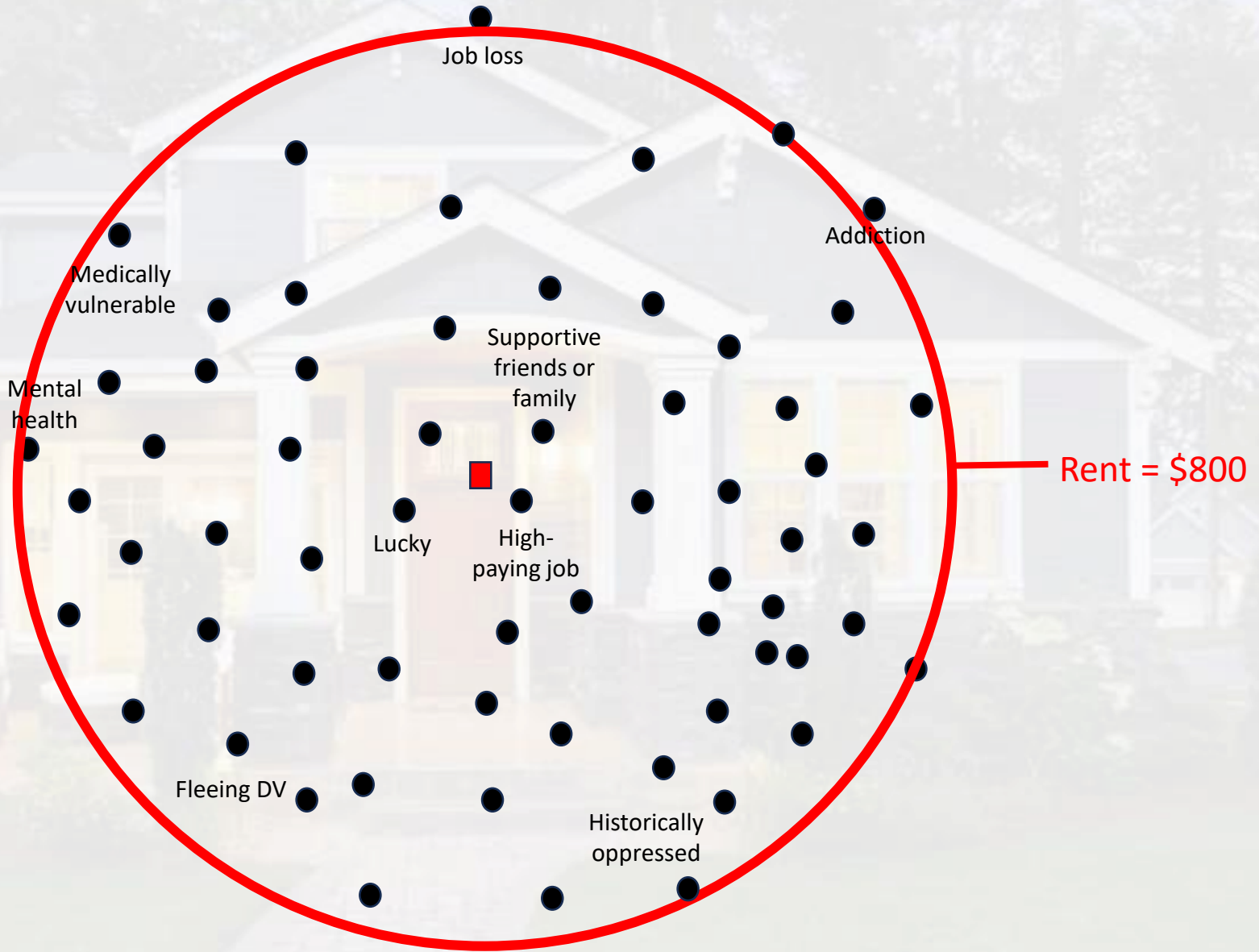
Lucky

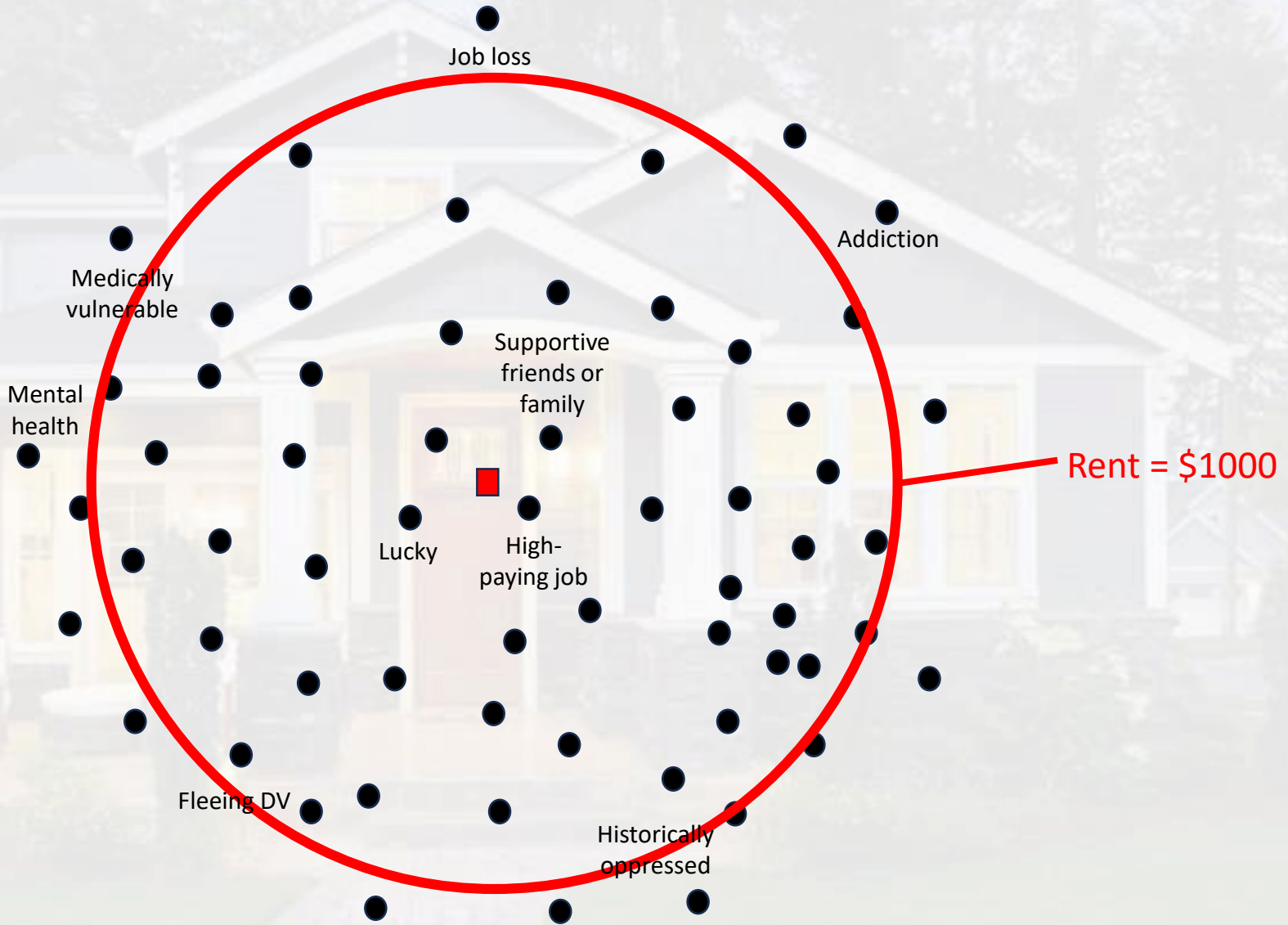
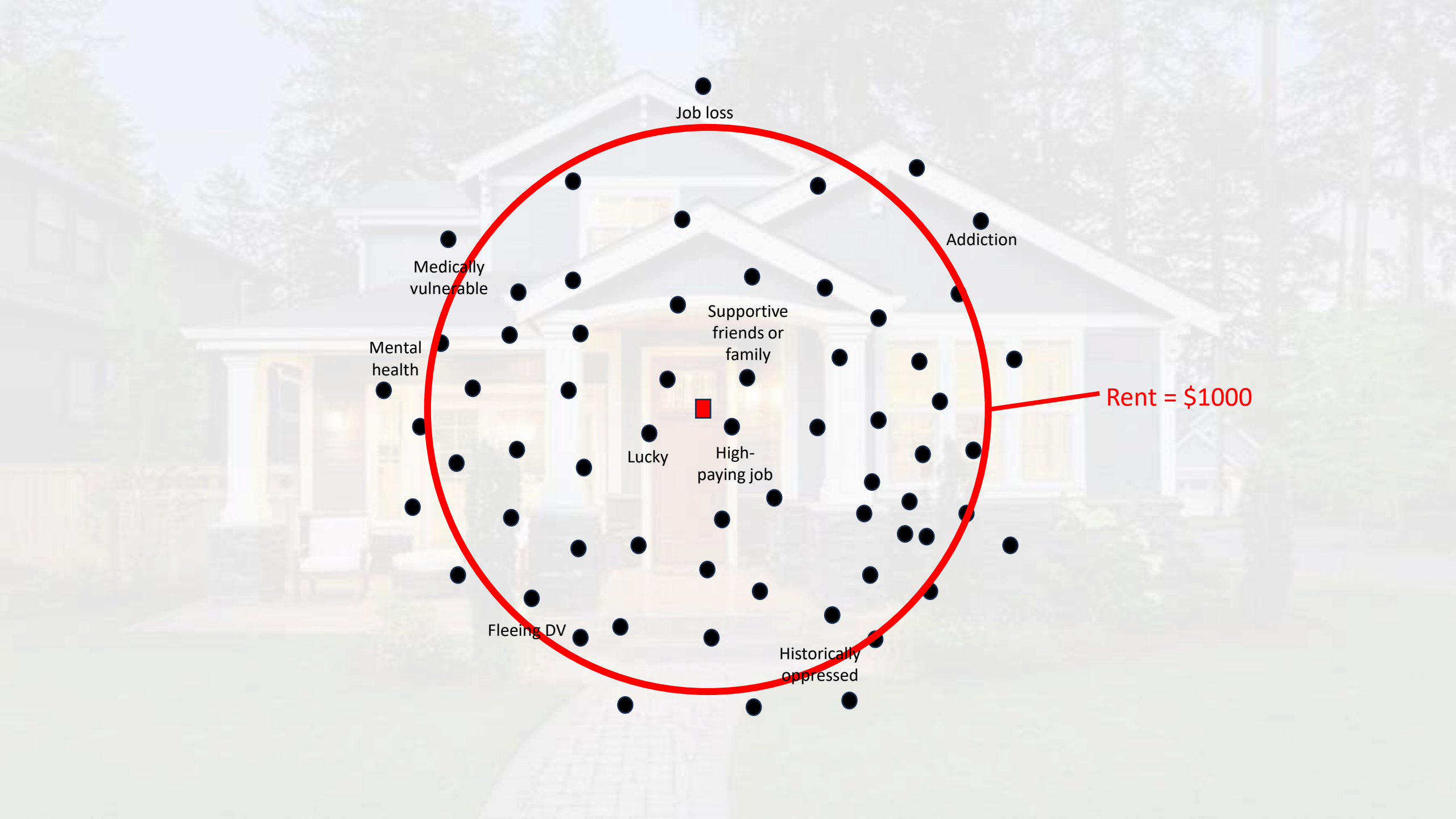
High-paying job

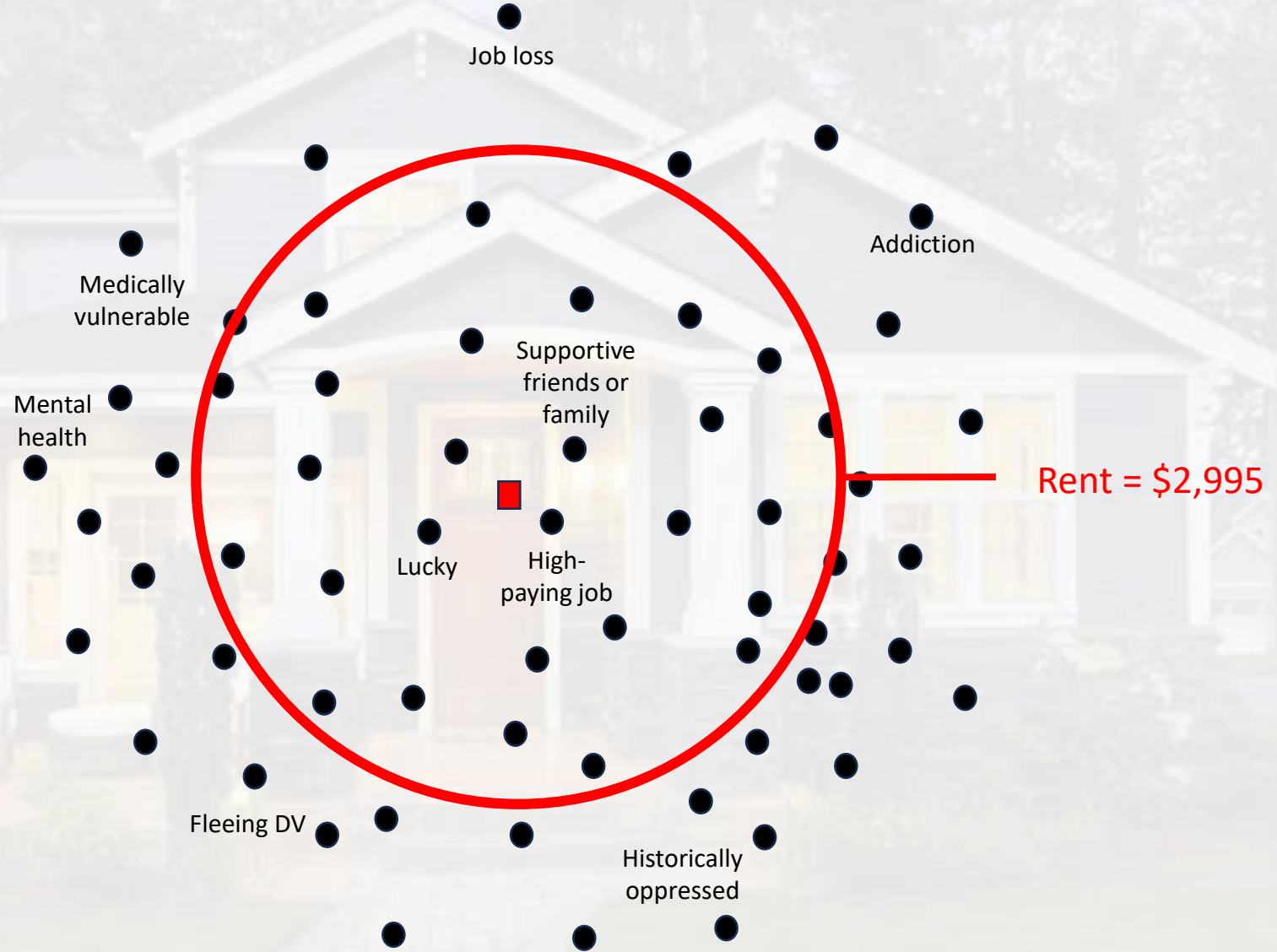
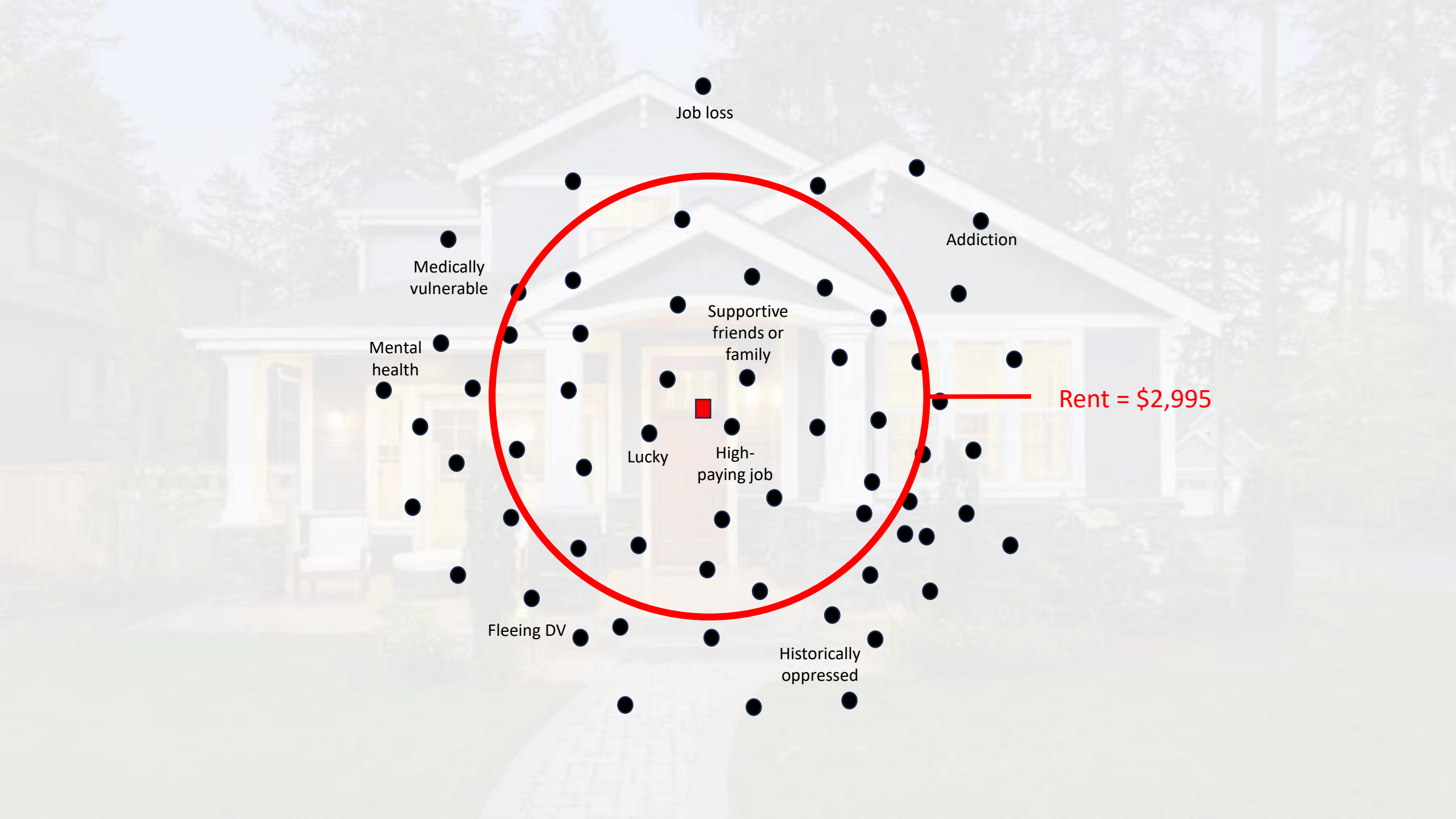
Rent = \$600

Fleeing DV

Historically oppressed







How Communities Manage

An architectural rendering of a modern, multi-story building with a prominent green roof. The building features large glass windows and a dark facade. In the foreground, there is an outdoor seating area with wooden tables and chairs, surrounded by lush greenery and trees. The scene is set in a bright, sunny environment with a clear sky.

- Long term: Prioritizing building and creating affordable (and permanent supportive, transitional and other forms of) housing units
 - Housing first but not housing only
- Short term: fund programs to provide shelter, navigation, resources
 - Entrepreneurial Spirit
 - Put the power where the experience is
 - Create innovative approaches
 - Analyze and iterate