

Housing Opportunity Grant Program (HOP) **~ State Fiscal Year 2021 Awards Summary ~**

The Department for Children and Families Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) has awarded approximately \$7.5 million in federal¹ and state funding in State Fiscal Year 2021 under the Housing Opportunity Grant Program (HOP) to thirty-seven non-profit organizations across Vermont, including community organizations. Of the total funds awarded, approximately \$1.5 million represents investments from the General Assistance (GA) program to support community-based projects that decrease reliance on GA-funded motel stays.

The Housing Opportunity Grant Program provides funding to operate emergency overnight shelter; provide essential services to shelter guests; provide transitional housing where appropriate; rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families; prevent individuals and families experiencing a housing crisis from becoming homeless; implement coordinated entry to streamline client access to resources; and administer the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

The Housing Opportunity Grant Program moves forward in State Fiscal Year 2021 with programmatic changes resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. To comply with public health requirements, bed capacity was reduced in several shelter programs while hours of operation were extended in many others. In some cases, shelters closed or relocated operations to motels to provide non congregate sheltering. Motel-based services and outreach has grown significantly. Seasonal shelters typically provide congregate shelter during cold weather months on overnights only. This year, some seasonal shelters plan to open with adjusted capacity or have not yet finalized their plans; many have decided not to operate this year at all. As part of the COVID response and recovery efforts, the Department has worked to reinforce the emergency shelter network to improve shelter options. Key activities include:

- A continued partnership with the Vermont Department of Health to provide guidance, training and technical assistance, including site-specific support on infection prevention and control.
- Additional funding to support expanded services, hours of operation and COVID-19 related costs. A summary of supplemental funding can be found in the HOP COVID 19 Supplemental – Phase 2 Awards Summary.
- Provision of supplies, including thermometers cleaning supplies, and personal protective equipment.

¹ Federal funds are primarily from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG). The [Vermont Consolidated Plan](#) outlines the activities and objectives for use of ESG funds. Additional federal sources are noted separately. Some federal funds are from the HUD Continuum of Care Grant Program and awarded under a separate subrecipient grant agreement, although included in the HOP Award Summary.

- Maintaining capacity for non-congregate sheltering options and alternative housing capacity to quarantine and isolate households with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

The Housing Opportunity Grant Program operates within the [Home Together, Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#) and the [Vermont Plan to End Homelessness](#). During COVID 19, additional resources have been made available to support re-housing efforts and supplemental the core funding in the Housing Opportunity Grant Program. Coordinating with other resources while maintaining stable core funding is critical. The primary goals of the Housing Opportunity Grant Program remain to:

- Decrease the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness;
- Shorten the length of time people experience homelessness;
- Reduce the number of individuals and families returning to homelessness; and
- Prevent people from becoming homeless.

A guiding principle of the Housing Opportunity Grant Program is to tie homeless assistance activities to permanent housing through systems, practices, and initiatives that are informed by data and proven approaches. While the program will continue to address the needs of homeless people in emergency or transitional shelters, the focus is to assist people to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis or homelessness.²

OEO works in close partnership the Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness and the Chittenden County Homeless Alliance to ensure that state and federal resources are targeted to have the strongest collective impact. The organizations receiving awards work as part of their local homeless continuum of care (CoC) to coordinate services and housing for Vermonters experiencing homelessness in their community. The HOP Awards Summary is organized to reflect these local Continua of Care. For more information about Vermont's Continua of Care visit www.helpingtohousevt.org.

Housing Opportunity Grant Program funding is awarded to support one or more strategies:

- Emergency Shelter: Operations and/or Essential Services (including Emergency Apartments)
- [Homelessness Prevention](#): Services, Relocation & Stabilization Assistance, Rental Assistance
- [Rapid Re-housing](#): Services, Relocation & Stabilization Assistance, Rental Assistance
- Innovation and [Coordinated Entry](#)
- [Transitional Housing](#), where shown to be the most effective strategy
- [Homeless Management Information System \(HMIS\)](#)³

Grantees are allowed up to 10% of their award to support administration through a federally approved or *de minimis* indirect rate.

Eligibility for services and assistance is determined by an individual or family's housing status. In general, emergency shelter, rapid re-housing and transitional housing serve those who meet the Vermont Agency of Human Services (AHS) and US Housing Urban Development (HUD) definition of

² HUD HEARTH Emergency Solutions Grants Program, Interim Regulation, <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/1927/hearth-esg-program-and-consolidated-plan-conforming-amendments/>

³ In the case of programs serving victims of domestic or sexual violence, funds support participation in a comparable separate system.

homelessness. Homelessness prevention assistance is available to those who meet the AHS and HUD definition of “at risk of homelessness” as well as income guidelines.⁴

This year, fourteen organizations are receiving funding to support Coordinated Entry services to help connect people quickly to needed homeless assistance through a standardized assessment and referral process. Support for Coordinated Entry is funded in part through a HUD Continuum of Care grant. Coordinated Entry funds also support Housing Navigation Services to support homeless households with housing search and placement.

Organizations that received funding to provide Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-housing services provide the following to help households relocate or stabilize in housing:

- Housing Search and Placement, including work with nonprofit and private landlords
- Housing Stability Case Management, including follow-up and connection with post-lease supportive services
- Landlord-Tenant Mediation
- Follow-up or Supportive Services to Help Maintain Housing
- Money Management/Credit Repair
- Tenant Education

Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Financial and Rental Assistance include the following; specific availability varies by organization and community:

- Financial Assistance: security deposits, utility deposits/payments, last month’s rent, moving costs
- Rental Arrears, up to 3 months
- Short Term Rental Assistance, up to 3 months
- Medium Term Rental Assistance, up to 24 months

Additional State Fiscal Year 2021 homeless assistance resources administered by the Department for Children and Families total more than \$20 million, but are included in this HOP awards summary are:

- Rapid Resolution Housing Initiative
- COVID-19 HOP Supplemental Awards
- Vermont CARES Housing Vouchers Project
- General Assistance Emergency Housing
- Vermont Rental Subsidy Program

⁴ The definition of homeless may be found here: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2020/the-homeless-definition-and-eligibility-for-shp-spc-and-esg/>. The definition for “at risk of homelessness” may be found here: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/1975/criteria-for-definition-of-at-risk-of-homelessness/>

Addison County Continuum of Care

Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) \$133,725

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Coordinated Entry Housing Navigation, Innovation

Partial support for one full-time housing specialist (.75 FTE)

RentRight, an education program combining tenant information, financial capability and housing assistance; RentRight program staff (.4 FTE) split between Chittenden, Franklin and Addison Counties

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$8,870

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$59,774

Charter House Coalition \$72,750

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations, Coordinated Entry Assessment and Housing Navigation

Operation of a year-round emergency shelter in Middlebury providing at least 15 beds for adults

Support for Coordinated Entry staffing (.72 FTE)

General Assistance investment: support for seasonal shelter capacity in Middlebury (November – April) and overnight staffing (3.75 FTEs)

HOPE \$82,190

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Innovation

Partial support for two full-time housing specialists and support staff (1.09 FTE)

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$7,250

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$9,190

Flexible Support Funding: \$6,000

John Graham Housing & Services \$197,000

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services, Rapid Re-housing

Partial support for four full-time Service Coordinators (2.72 FTE), operation of the Main Street

Operation of year-round emergency shelter in Vergennes with capacity of 9 rooms for adults and families with children

General Assistance investment: 2 units with 2 bedrooms each of emergency housing in Addison County for families (including those fleeing domestic/sexual violence)

Bennington Housing Solutions Team

Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE)

\$123,904

Strategy: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services, Motel Pool, Coordinated Entry Assessment

Operation of a year-round emergency shelter with capacity of 5 rooms for individuals and families fleeing violence

Coordinated Entry Specialist (.5 FTE) to streamline client access to resources (HUD CoC funding, separate grant agreement)

General Assistance investment: operation of year-round shelter and funds for overflow motel vouchers, and services (.75 FTE) to meet the full emergency shelter need for all persons fleeing domestic/sexual violence in the district

Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless

\$211,446

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services, Coordinated Entry Housing Navigation

Partial support for several shelter staff (.75 FTE), operation of two facilities providing year-round emergency shelter in Bennington with capacity of 16 beds for adults (966 Main) and 9 units (with up to 36 beds) for adults and families with children (Thatcher House)

Coordinated Entry staffing (.25 FTE)

General Assistance investment: operation of emergency shelter at 966 Main with 1.47 FTE overnight staffing

BROC – Community Action in Southwestern Vermont

\$198,570

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Coordinated Entry Assessment, Coordinated Entry Housing Navigation

Partial support for two housing case manage positions (1.7 FTE) and Coordinated Entry staffing (.5 FTE)

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$20,000

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$25,000

Brattleboro Area Continuum of Care

Brattleboro Housing Authority

\$80,000

Strategies: Rapid Re-Housing, Innovation
Rapid Re-Housing Rental Assistance: \$71,625

Groundworks Collaborative

\$254,229

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services, Coordinated Entry Assessment, Innovation
Partial support for a full-time Shelter Case Manager, and a Seasonal Shelter Coordinator (1.8 FTE); operation of a year-round emergency shelter in Brattleboro with capacity of 18 beds for adults and families with children
Landlord Liaison (.37 FTE) to support landlord outreach and housing placement
Coordinated Entry Specialist (.68 FTE) to streamline client access to resources (HUD CoC funding, separate grant agreement)
General Assistance investment: shelter operation and essential services (Shelter Coordination and overnight staffing 5 FTE) for seasonal warming shelter in Brattleboro (January – April) with capacity of 15 beds for adults

Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)

\$177,781

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Coordinated Entry Housing Navigation
Partial support for two full-time housing specialists (1.2 FTE)
Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$25,000
Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$32,000
General Assistance investment: part-time (.5 FTE) motel-based housing specialist

Women's Freedom Center

\$251,974

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services, Motel Pool
Operation of a year-round emergency shelter with capacity of 6 rooms (13 beds) for individuals and families fleeing violence; transportation assistance for shelter guests
General Assistance investment: operation of a 6-room emergency shelter, funds for overflow motel vouchers, and services (2.7 FTE) to meet the full emergency shelter need for all persons fleeing domestic/sexual violence in the district

Youth Services

\$20,500

Strategy: Transitional Housing
Transitional Living Program: 1 unit with 3 rooms for unaccompanied youth with support services staff (.07 FTE)

Chittenden Homeless Alliance

Burlington Housing Authority

\$55,500

Strategy: Rapid Re-housing

Partial support (.77 FTE) for full-time Housing Retention Specialist

Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO)

\$709,170

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Coordinated Entry Housing Navigation, Innovation

Partial support for three full-time housing specialists (2.45 FTE)

RentRight, an education program combining tenant information, financial capability and housing assistance; RentRight program staff (.4 FTE) split between Chittenden, Franklin and Addison Counties

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$181,150

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$305,250

Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS)

\$422,000

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services, Coordinated Entry Assessment and Navigation, Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing

Partial support for shelter staff (4.15 FTE); operation of three year-round emergency shelters in Burlington with capacity of 15 beds for adults and 9 rooms (38 beds) for families with children. Partial support for housing navigators, housing resource specialists, a full-time Housing Resource Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator (2.7 FTE)

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$16,500

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$24,200

General Assistance investment: additional seasonal shelter staff at the Waystation (1.15 FTE)

Spectrum Youth & Family Services

\$215,000

Strategy: Emergency Shelter Operations, Essential Services, Transitional Living Services

Operation and services for a year-round emergency shelter in Burlington with 8-bed capacity for unaccompanied youth and support services for 9 beds of transitional shelter for youth at two sites in Burlington

Steps to End Domestic Violence

\$158,000

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services, Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Services, Coordinated Entry Navigation

Partial support for four full-time staff: Housing Coordinator, Emergency Housing & Safehome (Motel) Advocates, and Hotline Coordinator (2.47 FTE); operation of a year-round emergency shelter with capacity of 6 rooms (16 beds) for individuals and families fleeing violence; onsite services for those staying in shelter and publicly-funded motels

Franklin/Grand Isle Housing Solutions

Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) \$235,184

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Innovation, Coordinated Entry Assessment, Coordinated Entry Navigation

Partial support for two full-time housing specialists (1.18 FTE)

RentRight, an education program combining tenant information, financial capability and housing assistance; RentRight program staff (.4 FTE) split between Chittenden, Franklin and Addison Counties

Coordinated Entry Specialist (.5 FTE) to streamline client access to resources (HUD CoC funding, separate grant agreement)

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$55,520

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$40,204

Samaritan House \$105,000

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services

Partial support for overnight staffing (1.5 FTE), and a full-time housing specialist (.87 FTE).

Operation of a year-round emergency shelter in St. Albans with capacity of 12 beds (out of a total of 18) for individuals and families with children

Voices Against Violence (CVOEO) \$296,993

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services, Motel Pool, Coordinated Entry Assessment

Partial support for Shelter Advocacy Coordinator (.32 FTE), operation of a year-round emergency shelter with capacity of 3 rooms (8 beds) for individuals and families fleeing violence

Coordinated Entry Specialist (.5 FTE) to streamline client access to resources (HUD CoC funding, separate grant agreement)

General Assistance investment: operation of emergency shelter, funds for overflow motel vouchers, and services (.5 FTE) to meet the full emergency shelter need for all persons fleeing domestic/sexual violence in the district

Lamoille Valley Housing & Homeless Coalition

Capstone Community Action

\$143,234

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Coordinated Entry Assessment, Coordinated Entry Navigation

Coordinated Entry Specialist (.5 FTE) to streamline client access to resources (HUD CoC funding, separate grant agreement)

Partial support of a full-time housing specialist (.9 FTE)

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$13,000

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$19,790

Clarina Howard Nichols Center

\$82,038

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services, Motel Pool, Coordinated Entry Assessment

Partial support for a full-time Shelter Coordinator (.41 FTE), operation of a year-round emergency shelter with capacity of 6 rooms (12 beds) for individuals and families fleeing violence

Coordinated Entry Specialist (.5 FTE) to streamline client access to resources (HUD CoC funding, separate grant agreement)

General Assistance investment: expand operation of emergency shelter, funds for overflow motel vouchers, and services (.25 FTE) to meet the full emergency shelter need for all persons fleeing domestic/sexual violence in the district

Lamoille Community House

\$88,818

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services

General Assistance investment: Partial support for a full-time Shelter Director, Housing Coordinator, and day and overnight staff (3.85 FTE), operation of a seasonal shelter with 10 beds for adults

Northeast Kingdom Continuum of Care (Caledonia & Essex Counties) & Orleans Continuum of Care

Northeast Kingdom Community Action

St. Johnsbury **\$194,050**

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Coordinated Entry Assessment, Emergency Apartments

A full-time housing specialist (1 FTE), and 2 emergency apartments with 2 bedrooms each for individuals and families

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$45,000

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$30,000

Coordinated Entry Specialist (.75 FTE) to streamline client access to resources (HUD CoC funding, separate grant agreement)

Newport **\$168,092**

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Coordinated Entry Assessment, Emergency Apartments, Transitional Operations

A full-time housing specialist (1 FTE), and 2 emergency apartments with 2 bedrooms each for individuals and families

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$15,000

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$30,000

Coordinated Entry Specialist (.75 FTE) to streamline client access to resources (HUD CoC funding, separate grant agreement)

Transitional Living Program: transitional apartments for unaccompanied youth

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services **\$18,478**

Strategy: Transitional Housing

Transitional Living Program: 1 unit with 2 rooms for unaccompanied youth with support services staff (.1 FTE)

Umbrella **\$205,497**

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services

Partial support for a full-time Housing Advocate (.15 FTE), maintain year-round capacity of 4 rooms (6 beds) of emergency shelter for individuals and families fleeing violence

Coordinated Entry Specialist (1 FTE) to streamline client access to resources (HUD CoC funding, separate grant agreement)

General Assistance investment: expand operation of emergency shelter, funds for overflow motel vouchers, and services (.75 FTE) to meet the full emergency shelter need for all persons fleeing domestic/sexual violence in the district

Rutland County Continuum of Care

BROC – Community Action in Southwestern Vermont

\$16,400

Strategies: Shelter Operations, Coordinated Entry Assessment

Coordinated Entry staffing (.3 FTE)

General Assistance investment: operation of a very short-term overflow shelter during extreme cold weather conditions.

Dodge House

\$48,700

Strategy: Transitional Housing & Services

A full-time housing director/case manager (1 FTE); operation of a year-round transitional housing facility with capacity of 8 rooms for Veterans experiencing homelessness

Homeless Prevention Center

\$413,928

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Innovation, Coordinated Entry Assessment, Emergency Apartments, Coordinated Entry Navigation

Partial support for four housing specialists (2.75 FTE)

Innovation: Housing mitigation funds (“risk pool”); and a Landlord Liaison (.8 FTE) to support landlord outreach and housing placement

Partial support for a Coordinated Entry Specialist and support person (.95 FTE) to streamline client access to resources (HUD CoC funding, separate grant agreement)

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$50,000

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$75,000

3 Emergency Apartments for individuals and families

New Story Center

\$375,000

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations, Motel Pool

Operation of a year-round emergency shelter with capacity of 9 rooms (20 beds) for individuals and families fleeing violence

General Assistance investment: support for increased shelter capacity listed above (4 rooms/8 beds), funds for overflow motel vouchers, and services (1.6 FTE) to meet the full emergency shelter need for all persons fleeing domestic/sexual violence in the district

Upper Valley Continuum of Care (includes Randolph Area Housing Task Force)

Capstone Community Action **\$101,793**

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Coordinated Entry Navigation
Partial support for a full-time housing counselor (.9 FTE)
Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$7,000
Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$15,944

Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) **\$44,204**

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Coordinated Entry Navigation
Partial support for a full-time housing specialist (.3 FTE)
Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$10,000
Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$13,600

Upper Valley Haven **\$89,484**

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services, Coordinated Entry Assessment
Operation of two year-round emergency shelters in Hartford with capacity of 33 beds (28 rooms) for adults (Hixon House) and for families with children
Partial support for full-time Service Coordinator (.25 FTE).
Partial support for a Coordinated Entry Specialist (.5 FTE) position to support local partnership work to streamline client access to resources (HUD CoC funding, separate grant agreement)

Washington County Continuum of Care

Capstone Community Action

\$402,116

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Coordinated Entry Assessment, Emergency Apartments, Coordinated Entry Navigation

One full-time housing counselor (1 FTE)

Coordinated Entry: partial support for Coordinated Entry Specialist and Housing Navigator (.92 FTE) to streamline client access to resources (HUD CoC funding in separate grant agreement)

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$17,009

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$17,000

Three units with 2 bedrooms each of emergency apartments for individuals and families

General Assistance investment: 6 units with 8 total bedrooms of emergency apartments for families with .85 FTE of services

Circle

\$19,000

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services

Partial support for a full-time Shelter Coordinator (.16), operation of a year-round emergency shelter with capacity of 6 rooms (12 beds) for individuals and families fleeing violence

Good Samaritan Haven

\$296,770

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Operations & Essential Services, Coordinated Entry Housing Navigation

Partial support for full-time Housing Navigator, Housing Manager, Assistant Housing Manager, and shelter support staff (8 FTE), operation of a year-round emergency shelter in Barre with capacity of 15 beds for adults

General Assistance investment: operation of year-round shelter apartments in Montpelier (10 beds) for single adults and families struggling with mental illness; staffing for expanded services year-round including a mental health clinician (1 FTEs)

Mosaic Vermont (formerly SACT)

\$10,000

Strategy: Emergency Shelter Operations

Operation of a year-round emergency shelter with capacity of 4 rooms for individuals fleeing sexual violence

Windsor-Windham Continuum of Care

Our Place Drop In

\$12,550

Strategies: Emergency Shelter Essential Services

Partial support for a case manager and Director to work with households in emergency shelter (.32 FTE)

Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)

\$24,500

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Coordinated Entry Navigation

Partial support for a full-time housing specialist (.22 FTE)

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$9,500

Springfield Supported Housing

\$174,774

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, Emergency Apartment, Coordinated Entry Assessment, Coordinated Entry Navigation

Partial support for a full-time Motel Case Manager, an Assistant Director, and full-time housing specialists (1.4 FTE)

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$14,560

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$30,900

One Emergency Apartment for individuals and families

Coordinated Entry staffing (1 FTE) to streamline client access to resources

Windsor County Youth Services

\$15,000

Strategy: Emergency Shelter Operations

Operation of a year-round emergency shelter with capacity of 4 beds (out of 16 total) for unaccompanied youth at either Mountainside House (Ludlow) and House at 20 Mile Stream (Proctorsville)

Women's Freedom Center

\$75,000

Strategies: Motel Pool

General Assistance investment: funds for overflow motel vouchers for all persons fleeing domestic/sexual violence in the district

Statewide or Multiple Regions

Institute for Community Alliances

\$143,878

HMIS system operation, administration, data entry, and oversight, plus licensing fees for HOP grantees

Vermont Network Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

\$70,000

Strategies: Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing, HMIS Comparable

Rapid Re-Housing Financial & Rental Assistance: \$14,000

Homelessness Prevention Financial & Rental Assistance: \$43,000

Funds support the work of Network partners statewide

Vermont State Housing Authority

\$49,425

AHS Housing Inspections for the Housing Opportunity Grant Program

Housing Opportunity Grant Program – Program Performance Measurement

Grantee's individual performance measures will be structured around one or more of the following indicators:

1) Preventing Homelessness

The number of households at risk of homelessness assisted, the percentage whose housing is stabilized within 28 days (target 70%), the average length of time from program entry until housing was stabilized; AND the percentage of households who remain stably housed for at least 90 days following the intervention (target 70%).

2) Connecting Homeless Households with Essential Services

The percentage of homeless households in emergency shelter, transitional housing, or publicly-funded motels who meet with a case manager or program equivalent within 3 days of referral (target 90%).

3) Increasing Income and Access to Mainstream Benefits for Homeless Households

The number of homeless households receiving case management and:

*the percentage who subsequently attain employment **OR** are enrolled in an educational or training program, **OR** qualify for cash or non-cash benefits (e.g., Reach-Up, SSI, General Assistance, VA, 3SquaresVt, etc.) within 90 days of referral (target 70%);*

*the percentage who subsequently are stabilized in transitional or permanent housing within 90 days (target: 70%) **AND** the percentage of these formerly homeless households who continue to be stably housed for at least 90 days (target 70%).*

4) Rapidly Re-Housing Homeless Families and Individuals / Retention of Housing

The number of homeless households assisted, the percentage re-housed in permanent housing within 28 days (target: 70%), the average length of time from program entry until housing was stabilized, AND the percentage of formerly homeless households who continue to be stably housed for at least 90 days (target 70%).

For those served by Transitional Housing:

*At least 70% of households exiting the program will exit to permanent housing; **AND** 70% of these formerly homeless households who continue to be stably housed for at least 90 days.*

For Youth Programs:

*At least 70% of youth exiting the program will have "safe exits" as defined by one of the following categories: College, Friends, Home with Family, Independent Living, Job Corps, Military, Relative's Home, or Residential Treatment/Rehab. **AND** At least 70% of the above youth with a safe exit, will continue to be stably housed for at least 90 days.*

System Performance Measurement

A critical aspect of achieving HOP objectives is a focus on viewing the local homeless response as a coordinated system of homeless assistance options rather than separate programs and funding sources that operate independently in a community. In alignment with unfolding federal and State expectations, the Office of Economic Opportunity is committed to working in partnership with the Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness and the Chittenden Homeless Alliance to measure performance as a coordinated system. These include measures such as:

- The length of time individuals and families remain homeless;
- The extent to which individuals and families who leave homelessness experience additional episodes of homelessness;
- The thoroughness of grantees in reaching homeless individuals and families;
- The overall reduction in the number of homeless individuals and families;
- Jobs and income growth for homeless individuals and families;
- Success at reducing the number of individuals and families who become homeless;
- Successful housing placement to or retention in a permanent housing destination.