

# FEDERAL HOMELESS, HOUSING AND LOW-INCOME PROGRAMS

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>U.S. Dept. of Housing &amp; Urban Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Sect. 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program (Mainstream, Family Unification, Family Self-Sufficiency, Non-Elderly Disabled, Homeownership)</li> <li>-Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program (<b>HOPWA</b>)</li> <li>-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH = HUD &amp; Veterans Affairs)</li> <li>-Project-Based Vouchers/Public Housing</li> <li>-Low Income Housing Tax Credit</li> <li>-Single &amp; Multiple Family Housing</li> <li>-Community Development Block Grants</li> <li>-HOME: Investment Partnerships</li> <li>-Fair Housing/Lead Control</li> <li>-Family Self-Sufficiency</li> <li>-Ex-Offender Reentry (HUD &amp; DOJ)</li> <li>-Supportive Housing for People with Disabilities (Sect. 811)/Elderly (Sect. 202)</li> </ul> <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>HUD HOMELESS PROGRAMS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Competitive Grants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Continuum of Care Program (<b>COC</b>) (formerly named Supportive Housing, Shelter+Care, Sect. 8 Mod Rehab SRO)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Formula Grants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Emergency Solutions Grants (<b>ESG</b>)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Other</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Surplus Federal Properties Program</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>U.S. Dept. of Health &amp; Human Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-CSBG/SSBG</li> <li>-Runaway &amp; Homeless Youth (<b>RHYP</b>)</li> <li>-SAMHSA/<b>PATH</b> (Mental Health)</li> <li>-Agencies on Aging</li> <li>-LIHEAP (fuel assistance)</li> <li>-Refugee Resettlement</li> <li>-TANF (Reach Up)</li> <li>-Child Support</li> <li>-Child Abuse Prevention</li> <li>-Welfare Services</li> <li>-Medicare &amp; Medicaid</li> <li>-Foster Care/Adoption</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>U.S. Dept. of Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-McKinney/Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program (homeless education liaisons, services, transportation)</li> <li>-Adult Education</li> <li>-College Loans</li> <li>-Centers for Independent Living</li> <li>-Mentoring</li> <li>-Special Education</li> <li>-School Dropout Prevention</li> <li>-Other Programs</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Supportive Services for Veteran Families (<b>SSVF</b>), <b>HCHV</b>-shelter beds, Grant &amp; Per Diem (<b>GPD</b>)-transitional housing, Supportive Housing, HUD-<b>VASH</b>, Pensions, Benefits, Health Care, Burials</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>U.S. Dept. of Justice- Office on Violence Against Women</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shelter Beds, Services, Transitional Housing Assistance, Trainings, Legal Assistance, Prevention</p>		

DOJ: [www.ovw.usdoj.gov](http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov)  
 VA: [www.va.gov/HOMELESS/housing.asp](http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/housing.asp)  
 HHS: [www.hhs.gov/about/infoguid.html#pub](http://www.hhs.gov/about/infoguid.html#pub)  
 DOE: [www2.ed.gov/programs/homeless/index.html](http://www2.ed.gov/programs/homeless/index.html)  
 HUD: <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/hudprograms/toc>

**FIND RESOURCES! Contact Vermont 2-1-1 (a program of the United Ways of VT)  
Simply dial 2-1-1 or [www.vermont211.org](http://www.vermont211.org)**

## **HUD CONTINUUM OF CARE [CoC] PROGRAM and other HOMELESS PROGRAMS**

**Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act.** The Act of 2009 *amends and reauthorizes* the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act with substantial changes to reduce and end homelessness in the U.S. <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/heardh-act/>

**Opening Doors- Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent & End Homelessness.** Established 2010; coordinated by Office of the President; implemented by U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH). Nation's first comprehensive strategy to prevent/end homelessness with joint action by 19 federal departments along with state & local partners in the public and private sectors. [http://usich.gov/opening\\_doors/](http://usich.gov/opening_doors/)

- VCH- <http://humanservices.vermont.gov/boards-committees/vermont-council-on-homelessness/>

**HUD Continuum of Care Rule-** Federal regulations guiding operation of HUD-recognized CoCs: Governance & Structure, CoC-ESG Coordination, CoC-HMIS Implementation, Coordinated Entry, CoC Program Eligible Costs. [https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CoCProgramInterimRule\\_FormattedVersion.pdf](https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CoCProgramInterimRule_FormattedVersion.pdf)

**HUD Continuum of Care:** <https://www.hudexchange.info/coc/>: HUD-recognized geographic area of community partners who develop strategic plans. Each HUD CoC (400+) in the U.S. oversees: submission of annual CoC NOFA application; conduct Point-in-Time Count of the Homeless/Housing Inventory Chart of Homeless Beds; Coordinated Entry; CoC HMIS; ESG coordination; other homeless planning activities.

**Homeless Management Information System [HMIS]:** [www.hudexchange.info/hmis/](http://www.hudexchange.info/hmis/)

- Each HUD CoC must select & use only one HMIS software to record and store client-level data.
- The following need to use a CoC's HMIS (except domestic violence providers): **HHS-PATH and Runaway/Homeless Youth Programs; HUD- COC/ESG/HOPWA; Veteran Affairs-Homeless Programs.**
- HMIS can also be utilized in the Point-in-Time Count of the Homeless; Annual Performance Reports, project performance evaluation; CoC outcomes; community needs/gaps analysis; Annual Homeless Assessment Report to HUD/Congress; Coordinated Entry; and other activities.

<http://www.icalliances.org/vermont>

Federal Homeless Programs:

**HUD-CONTINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM (COC) - Competitive Grants.** [www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc](http://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc)

- **Permanent Supportive Housing** = serves literally homeless person with disabling condition (and family if applicable); long-term rent subsidy & matching provider services (i.e. Shelter+Care).
- **Rapid Rehousing** = literally homeless; tenant-based/medium-term rent subsidy (<18 mos.) & services.
- **Transitional Housing** = imminent or literal homeless; medium-term project stay (<24 mos.) & services.
- **Safe Haven** = low-barrier housing for literal homeless individuals with mental health needs.
- **HMIS** = Homeless Management Information System. **Supportive Services Only** = case management.

**HUD-EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS (ESG) - Formula Grants.** <https://www.hudexchange.info/esg>

- Prevention, Rapid Rehousing (short-term or medium-term), Shelter Operations, Services.
- VT DHCD & City of Burlington-CEDO each submit their areas' HUD Consolidated Plan submission.
- VT AHS/DCF-Office of Economic Opportunity distributes ESG funds+ (HUD & VT State match) as HOP.

**HUD-HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH AIDS (HOPWA) -** <https://www.hudexchange.info/hopwa/>

- VHCB = grant recipient: VSHA rental assistance subrecipient & AIDS Service Providers; BHA = recipient

**HHS-RUNAWAY & HOMELESS YOUTH PROGRAM (RHYP) – Vermont Coalition of Runaway & Homeless Youth**  
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/programs/runaway-homeless-youth>

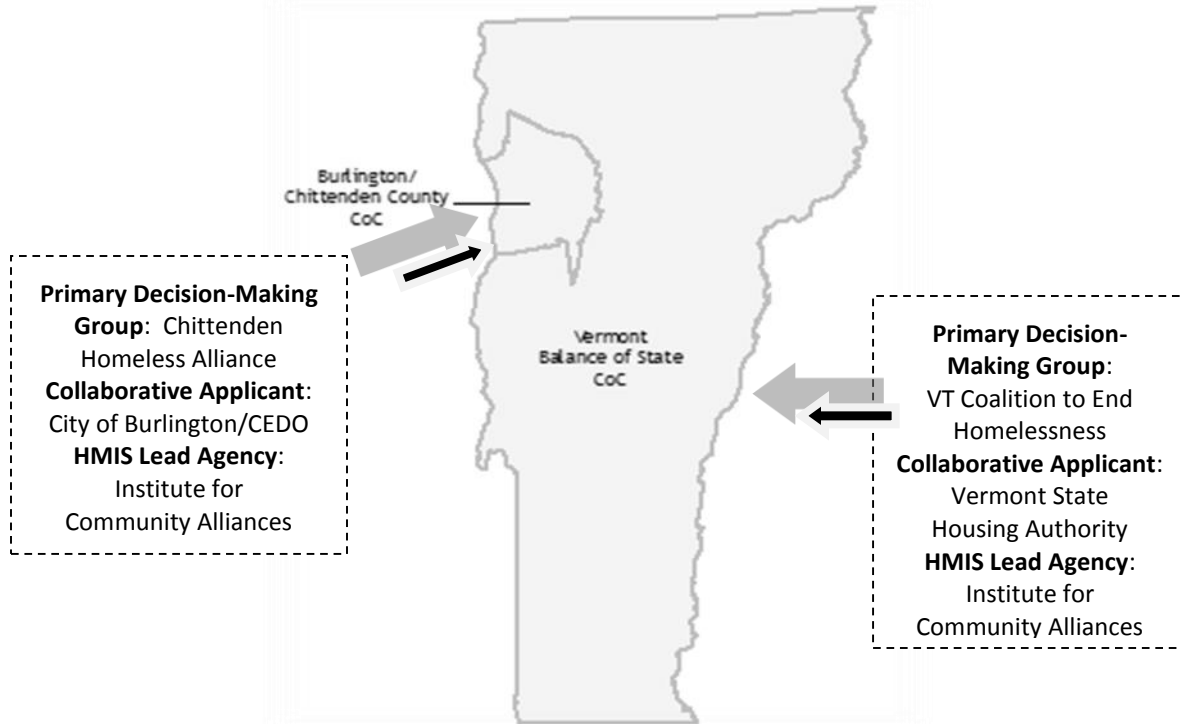
**HHS/SAMHSA-PROJECTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN TRANSITION FROM HOMELESSNESS PROGRAM (PATH)**

<http://pathprogram.samhsa.gov/super/path/about.aspx>; VT Department of Mental Health

**VETERANS AFFAIRS-HOMELESS PROGRAMS (SSVF, HCHV, GPD, HUD-VASH) -** <http://www.va.gov/homeless/>

## HUD CONTINUA of CARE in VERMONT

**CoC Members & Interested Parties** = Current/Former Homeless Persons; Service Providers [Low-Income/ Employment/Health Care/Mental Health/Substance Abuse/Domestic Violence/Veterans/Others]; For-Profit/Non-Profit Landlords; Public Housing Authorities; Funders & Businesses; Housing Developers; Law Enforcement/Corrections/Legal Services; Faith-Based organizations; Colleges/Universities; Homeless Education Liaisons/Schools; Parent-Child Centers; Local/State/Federal Governments; and Other Partners.



### VERMONT BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE

**Primary Decision-Making Group** = VT COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS [www.helpingtohousevt.org](http://www.helpingtohousevt.org)

- Steering Committee = Co-Chairs, Secretary, Treasurer, and Members-at-Large
- Local CoC's = County/Regional Coalitions that make up the VT Balance of State CoC (see list).
- HMIS Committee & PIT Committee
- Legislative/Advocacy Committee
- Coordinated Entry Workgroup
- CoC NOFA Application Committee

**CoC Collaborative Applicant** = VT State Housing Authority; Contact: Daniel Blankenship; [www.vsha.org](http://www.vsha.org)

**HMIS Lead/Data Administrator** = ICA; VT-HMIS = Meghan Morrow; Contact: [vthmis@icalliances.org](mailto:vthmis@icalliances.org)

**HMIS Software** = ServicePoint \* **HMIS Software Vendor** = Bowman Systems; [www.bowmansystems.com](http://www.bowmansystems.com)

### BURLINGTON/CHITTENDEN COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE

**Primary Decision-Making Body** = CHITTENDEN HOMELESS ALLIANCE

- Steering Committee = Co-Chairs, Secretary, Members-at-Large
- Membership/Outreach Committee
- Strategic Planning Committee
- Coordinated Entry Committee
- HUD Application Committee

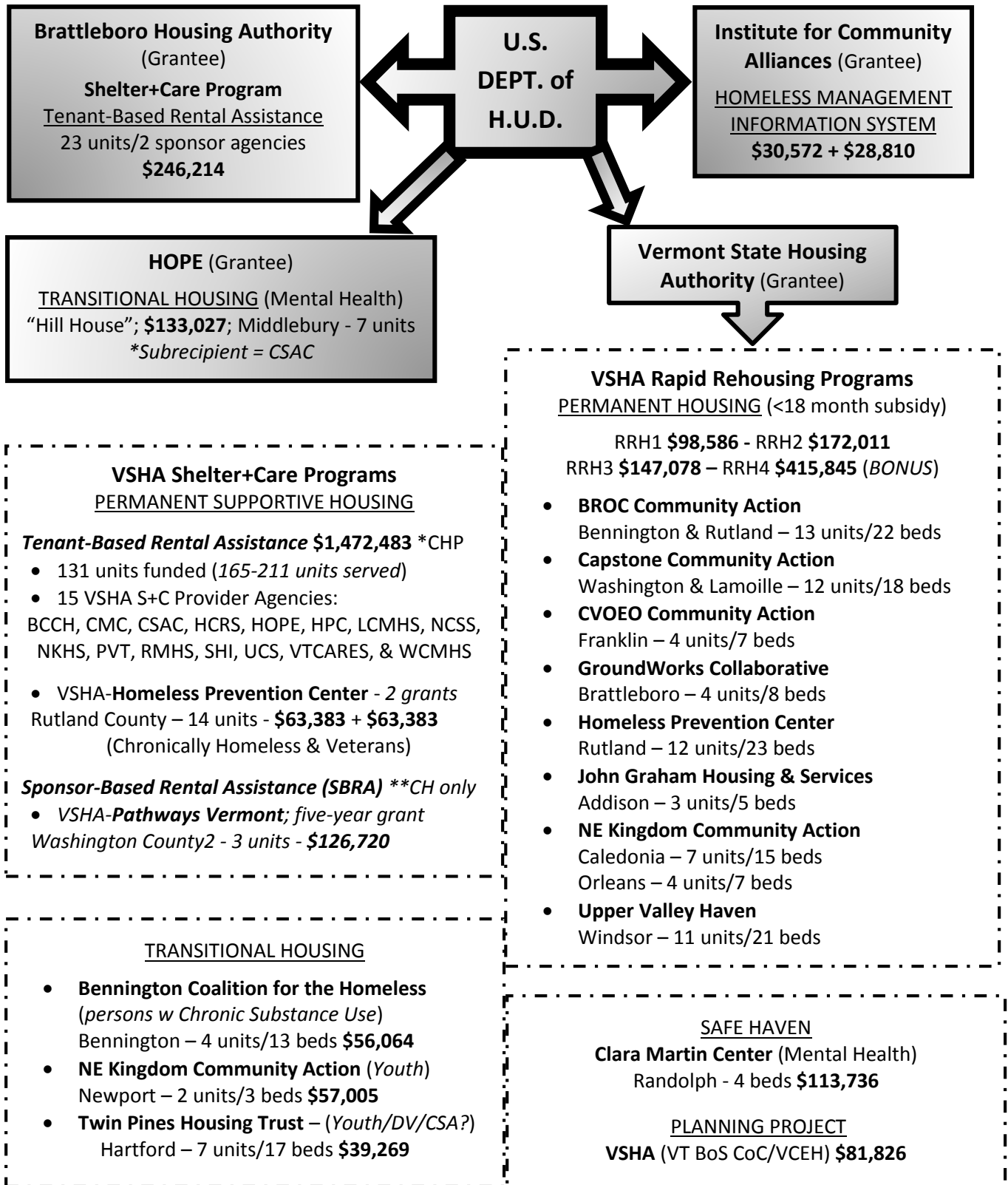
**CoC Collaborative Applicant** = City of Burlington/CEDO; Marcy Esbjerg; [mesbjerg@burlingtonvt.gov](mailto:mesbjerg@burlingtonvt.gov)

**HMIS Lead/Data Administrator** = ICA; VT-HMIS = Meghan Morrow; Contact: [vthmis@icalliances.org](mailto:vthmis@icalliances.org)

**HMIS Software** = ServicePoint \* **HMIS Software Vendor** = Bowman Systems; [www.bowmansystems.com](http://www.bowmansystems.com)

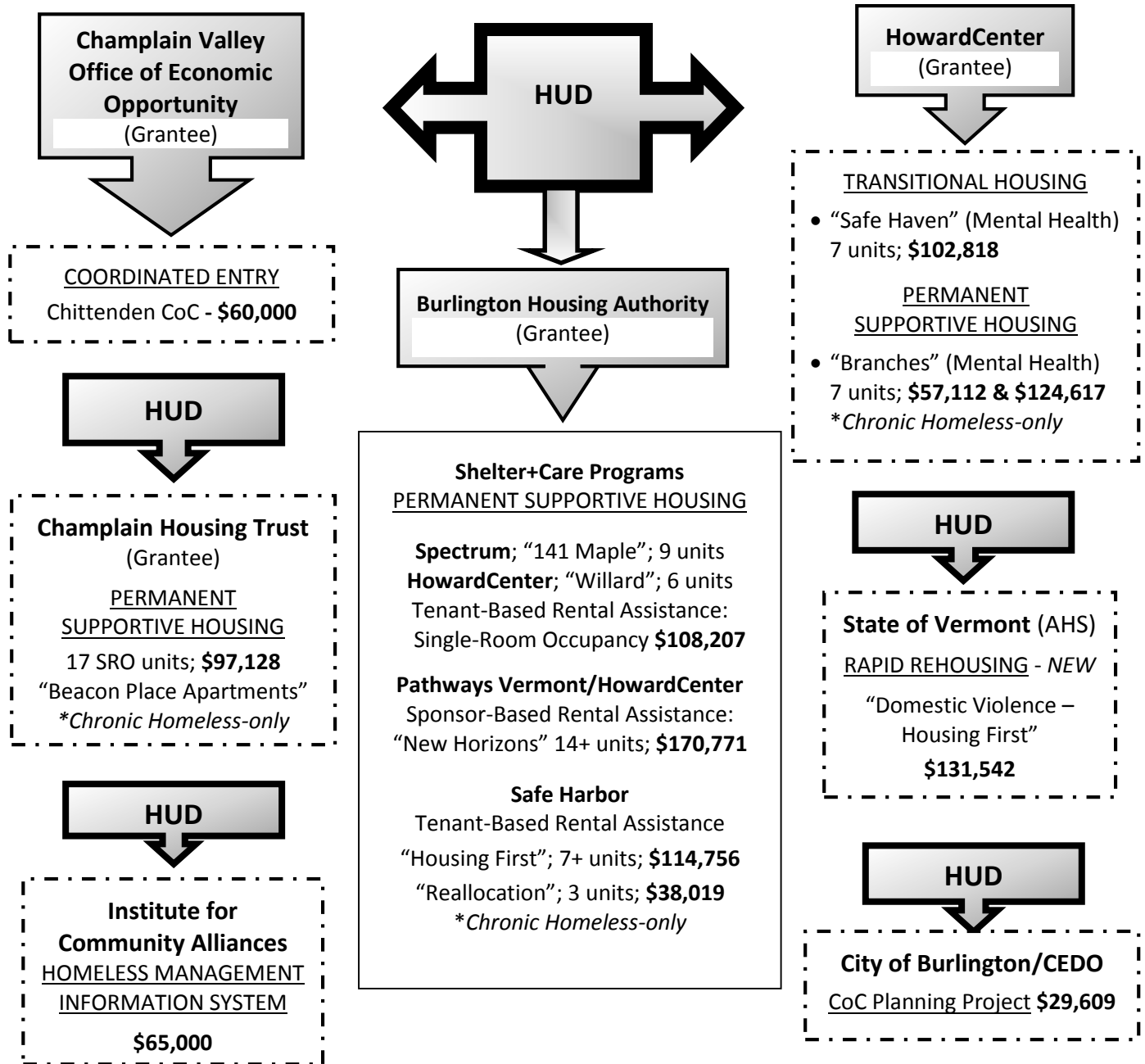
## VT BALANCE OF STATE COC HOMELESS PROGRAMS (FFY2015)

Grantees oversee: Exhibit 2 application, grant renewal/sponsor agreement, grant management, subrecipient/contractor/sponsor relations, eligibility, HMIS, APRs, Reimbursements, Match, etc.



# BURLINGTON/CHITTENDEN COC HOMELESS PROGRAMS (HUD FFY2015)

Grantees oversee grant management including: submit annual project renewal application, sponsor or subrecipient partnerships, sponsor agreement, Annual Performance Reports, Reimbursement Requests, etc. Projects also need to leverage other funding [match] from public, private and participant sources.



# Ten Essentials

The Ten Essentials is a guide to help communities identify effective permanent solutions to homelessness. Supported by research and grounded in practical experience, the Ten Essentials serve as a blueprint for communities to follow.

In order to effectively approach homelessness, a community needs a clear, deliberate, and comprehensive strategy. In The Ten Essentials, the Alliance outlines the ten components necessary in a successful plan to end homelessness. The Ten Essentials covers the most important strategies for success: prevention, re-housing options, access to housing and services, and efficient use of data, among others.

- **Plan**

Devise a plan of action. The Alliance's [Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness](#) is a good place to start – a comprehensive, systematic approach to addressing the different facets of homelessness. While planning, it is important to have representatives and input from all the groups affected by this social issue: government officials, business leaders, community activists, and the like. Every solution starts with a plan.

- **Data**

Before moving forward, it's imperative to fully understand the problem. With homelessness, that can be a tall order, as the social problem is influenced by the economy, geography, transportation, and a host of other elements. Luckily, most communities conduct a biannual point in time census and have a Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS), required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HMIS collects data about those who interact with the homeless assistance system, and this information can be helpful in understanding the homeless population better and addressing their specific needs.

- **Emergency Prevention**

As with most things, the most economical and efficient way to end homelessness is to prevent it from happening in the first place. Consider enacting programs and policies that will do just that. Many existing social programs connect vulnerable populations with emergency services, temporary cash assistance, and case management. Consider ways to integrate with these existing systems or adopt your own.

- **Systems Prevention**

Many people who fall into homelessness do so after release from state-run institutions, including jail and the foster care system. Still others come to homelessness from mental health programs and other medical care facilities. By creating a clear path to housing from those institutions—in the form of case management, access to services, or housing assistance programs—we can reduce the role that state-run institutions play in creating homelessness.

- **Outreach**

An important role in ending homelessness is outreach to people experiencing homelessness. A key ingredient to this outreach is the ability to connect the homeless population to housing and services. When considering outreach efforts, it's important to understand that many people living on the streets exhibit mental illness, substance addiction, and other negative behavior patterns. As such, it's important to consider low-demand housing that does not mandate sobriety or treatment.

- **Shorten Homelessness**

A successful homeless assistance program not only works to end homelessness, but minimizes the length of stay in shelter and reduces repeat homeless episodes. In order to do this, assistance programs must align resources to ensure that families and individuals have access to the services necessary to achieve independence as quickly as possible. This often requires immediate access to housing, home-based case management, and incentives embedded into the homeless assistance system to promote these outcomes.

- **Rapid Re-Housing**

Navigating the housing market, especially on behalf of clients with lower incomes and higher needs, is a difficult task. A successful homeless assistance program has housing staff that help with just that. Housing locators search local housing markets and build relationships with landlords. Successful program components include incentives to landlords to rent to homeless households, creative uses of housing vouchers and subsidies to help homeless individuals and families afford their rental unit, and links to resources to help clients maintain their housing.

- **Services**

Services are actually more accessible than they sound – many of them already exist in the community. By and large, homeless individuals can access mainstream programs, including Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicaid, and other existing federal assistance programs. Connecting families and individuals exiting homelessness to these programs is imperative to ensuring their continued independence.

- **Permanent Housing**

At its root, homelessness is the result of the inability to afford and maintain housing. Remember that any plan to end homelessness must incorporate an investment in creating affordable housing. This includes supportive housing, which is permanent housing coupled with supportive services. This is often used for the chronically homeless population - that is, people experiencing long-term or repeated homelessness who also have mental or physical disabilities.

- **Income**

In order to maintain housing, people exiting homelessness must have income. Cash assistance programs are available through federal and state government, and career-based employment services can help formerly homeless people build the skills necessary to increase their income. Mainstream services, including the Workforce Investment Act, should be used for this purpose.