

Opening Doors...

...to a Future Where **Everyone** Has a Home

Guided by the Reaching Home Campaign, Connecticut has made impressive strides in preventing and ending homelessness. A national leader, CT has created more than 5,500 units of permanent supportive housing in over half its communities. The state's emergency room, Medicaid, mental health, social service and local government costs have been reduced as a result.

We can finish the job.

Homelessness in Connecticut can be erased. *Opening Doors - Connecticut*, the strategic statewide framework kicked off in January 2012, is inspired by the vision that **no one should experience homelessness – no one should be without a safe, stable place to call home.**

Modeled after the federal Opening Doors initiative, *Opening Doors – Connecticut* will take us to next level by fostering:

- Integrated solutions, with a targeted focus on the most vulnerable populations.
- A comprehensive approach that fosters connections between housing, healthcare, employment, prevention, education, veterans, criminal justice, behavioral health and child welfare systems.
- Collaboration among community leaders, state government, business executives and human services specialists, among others.

The framework of *Opening Doors-Connecticut* is focused on the same key strategies as the federal plan:

- Increase access to stable and affordable housing
- Retool the homeless crisis response system
- Increase economic security
- Improve health and housing stability
- Increase leadership, collaboration, and civic engagement

It takes everyone to end homelessness.

Opening Doors - Connecticut includes a broad range of partners and is focused on getting results – ensuring housing, healthcare, education, job training and rapid response – and measuring outcomes to continually gauge effectiveness.

The Goal:

Prevent and end homelessness among veterans by 2015.

Finish the job of ending chronic homelessness by 2017.

Prevent and end homelessness among families, children and youth by 2022.

Set a path for ending all types of homelessness.

The Result:

Stable, healthy families and individuals, less use of expensive crisis services, veterans receiving the care they deserve, and children on a positive road to opportunity.



Homelessness is unacceptable. Homelessness is solvable and preventable.
Homelessness is expensive. Invest in solutions.

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