

Laying the Groundwork for Action

This document lays out some of the most detailed analysis of homelessness in Connecticut today and outlines ideas for strategies, systems changes, and a new way of thinking about these here-to-for seemingly intractable issues. There is no reason and no excuse to explain why homelessness in the United States continues to be a national shame. Perhaps some would argue that the ‘economic times we live in’ is not the time for an ambitious and far-reaching agenda. There will always be a reason for ‘this is not the time’. We need to be bolder, more engaged, and smarter than we have ever been.

By this “new way” outlined in this document we are reminded of the fact that Connecticut has always been a leader in so many areas throughout the years. The Reaching Home Campaign to create 10,000 units of supportive housing in Connecticut over ten years was a statement of aspiration, inspiration and a call to action. As a State it called to our better nature and State and local governments, the non-profit communities, builders and local citizens responded in-kind. This is a new and refreshed call to action that we must heed. If not now, when?

Through the planning and implementation process, the feasibility of the strategies offered in this *Framework* will be used to assist the Reaching Home 2.0 Working Groups in establishing work plans. The following tables provide a guiding framework for the development of these work plans, and may be helpful in setting priorities for action, including timeframes.

None of the ideas and strategies presented in this Framework should be viewed as limiting. While informed by input and information gathered in the Opening Doors – CT process, they are not intended to exclude different approaches.

**Opening Doors - Connecticut
Objectives and Strategies**

Populations Supported by the Strategies

	5 years	5 years	10 years	10 years	
	Chronically Homeless Adults	Veterans	Families with Children	Youth and Young Adults	Set a path for ending all homelessness

Identify risk factors as a collaborative effort of state agencies, non-profits operating statewide, and local/regional service providers. This would then help establish priorities for funding and alignment of various programs.

Strengthen the capacity of Connecticut's HMIS system to meet the expanded data-matching, reporting and research needs identified in the Opening Doors-CT process

Align state and local activities

Develop a shared set of guiding principles for moving to a coordinated system of response that is centered on homelessness prevention, housing assistance, and housing stabilization

Adopt a set of common outcome benchmarks with the three HEARTH Act outcomes and the Opening Doors goals as the core

Develop a uniform housing needs assessment tool embedded in HMIS.

Design a statewide centralized intake process that links statewide, VA, and regional points of entry.

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INCREASE ECONOMIC SECURITY

Foster housing retention through income growth and employment

Link workforce system resources (skill & job development) with the housing assistance system to create effective pathways to employment for vulnerable populations

Establish collaborative partnerships between housing and service organizations and the workforce system to integrate employment services and housing assistance activities at the local level.

Consider establishing a few initiatives to test, evaluate, and demonstrate collaborative and cross-sector approaches to substantially increase the income of vulnerable populations based on promising practices and lessons learned.

Align public and private sectors to ensure effective systems coordination with shared goals

Develop a common set of outcome benchmarks for measuring progress in income growth and employment among people receiving housing assistance who were formally homeless

At the state level, undertake a review of program eligibility and termination criteria across the range of State benefit programs that people experiencing or at risk of homelessness may access; identify changes that should be made.

Expand income growth for persons with disabilities

Create statewide access to effective programs, including Ticket to Work, HomeWork, and SOAR

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IMPROVE HEALTH AND HOUSING STABILITY

Reduce medical vulnerability and frequent use of health care systems

Align state and local strategies to support the goals of improved access to health care and effective use of appropriate types of health services.

Institute measures to track health access across the systems and agencies that work with vulnerable populations

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Use data to identify high cost users. Consider targeting groups with greater health needs who are more likely to be disengaged from health services or to use health care resources inappropriately, such as frequent users of emergency room care.

Explore health homes as another option for linking services to housing for this population.

Maximize the use of existing and new health sector resources to address both the housing and service needs of extremely vulnerable populations

Develop a financing strategy for new supportive housing that uses Medicaid to pay for support services. Target individuals identified as high users of homeless services and health systems.

Build the administrative capacity of a cohort of supportive housing service providers to utilize Medicaid.

Build collaborations between health, behavioral health, and housing systems in order to ensure an integrated system of care.

Implement housing-based approaches to align with the health reform goals of prevention, greater access, better quality and lower cost

Consider testing a medical respite model linked to supportive housing in one or more communities, in partnership between a major hospital, a homeless service and housing provider, and state government. Target individuals who are chronically homeless and frequent users of hospital systems.

Establish (or expand) partnerships between housing organizations and healthcare agencies (e.g. between a community health center and a housing authority) to integrate the health services at the housing site or make direct linkages to the community health center through the use of agreements.

Expand use of HMIS to support new targeting approaches and to collect and disseminate quality data about use of healthcare systems

Explore the use of data-matching between HMIS and selected health system providers, including community health centers and hospitals (inpatient and ED) to analyze frequent use between the systems.

Support the housing stability of vulnerable families, children and youth

Assess the feasibility of deploying a “systems navigator” function that will align and coordinate services at the individual family level across sectors and at different levels of service delivery.

The assessment would include defining and designing the function and protocol and identifying a set of shared outcomes that can be measured.

Consider how this navigator function would be coupled with prevention, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing efforts in designated communities that are targeted to homeless families most likely to enter and return to homelessness

Incentivize the creation of service-supported affordable housing for families

Develop targeted outreach strategies to identify youth and young adults without permanent housing and connect them to the housing and support they need; develop partnerships with school systems in this effort.

Expand the range of housing options for youth and young adults facing housing loss.

Consider the development of a “transition in place” housing model through a collaborative of agencies, providers, intermediaries and consumers.

Encourage alliances with providers of housing and housing subsidies, Job Corps, and Youth Build programs.

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Resource Opportunities

Prepared July 2011 (subject to change as programs and resources change)

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
Capital Funding Sources for Housing			
Connecticut Housing Finance Authority			
CT Supportive Housing Initiative funding	Combined RFP for capital financing, project-based rental assistance, and support service funding for permanent supportive housing development projects (alternatively, RFP may be for rental assistance and support service funding only for scattered site leasing of existing rental units). RFPs are issued periodically by CHFA on behalf of collaborating State agencies, including DMHAS, DSS, DCF, DECD, OPM, CHFA and others. Last RFP was issued August 2011.	Application requirements are laid out in the RFPs that are issued.	Projects must serve, at least in part, persons who are homeless and have special needs. Specific priority populations laid out in the RFP.
Federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC - 9%)	Allocation of federal tax credit which provides a dollar for dollar reduction in federal tax liability for eligible applicants/owners who develop qualified low income rental housing projects. Available to project owners who acquire, construct, and/or rehab rental housing reserved for low-income households. LIHTC application rounds held annually.	See annual Qualified Allocation Plan for rating and ranking criteria	Projects must contain a minimum number of low income units (20% at 50% of area median income (AMI) or below or 40% at 60% AMI or below)
Federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC - 4%)	As-of-right tax credits used in conjunction with tax-exempt bond financing. See description under 9% credits above.	See annual Qualified Allocation Plan for rating and ranking criteria.	Projects must contain a minimum number of low income units (20% at 50% of AMI or below or 40% at 60% AMI or below)
State Housing Tax Credit Contribution Program	Funding for housing sponsored by non-profit developers in CT. Awardees receive tax credits which can then be sold to state business firms in return for cash contributions to the housing program. Annual funding rounds held by CHFA.	No more than \$500,000 in tax credits per nonprofit applicant per year. Total funding pool in 2011: \$10 million	Projects must benefit very low, low and moderate-income families.

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
CHFA Multi-Family Mortgage Loans	Mortgage financing to assist in obtaining financial feasibility for affordable multifamily rental housing developments. Finances new construction and/or moderate or substantial rehab of existing structures. Interest rates based on CHFA source of funds, which are either tax exempt bond proceeds, taxable bond proceeds, or non-bond proceeds.	For-profit and non-profit developers and owners of housing development that have established a qualified development team may apply.	Developments must provide at least 20% affordable housing for people with low incomes.
Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development			
Affordable Housing Program (aka "Flexible Housing Program")	Loans, loan guarantees, deferred loans or any combination thereof for the development and preservation of affordable housing. Source of funding is State general obligation bonds. Open application process; eligible applicants can apply for funding at any time of year. DECD's ability to make awards is subject to availability of funds and bond commission approval.	Eligible applicants are municipalities, nonprofit organizations, local housing authorities, and for-profit developers. New construction and rehabilitation are eligible, as are multifamily rental and homeownership.	Projects must serve households with incomes at or below 100% AMI.
Housing Trust Fund Program	Gap financing, grants, loan guarantees, low- and no-interest loans for the creation of affordable housing for low and moderate-income households. Primary source of funds is State general obligation bonds. Competitive application process; DECD solicits applicants up to twice each year. DECD's ability to make awards is subject to availability of funds as allocated to the program by the State bond commission.	Eligible applicants are municipalities, nonprofit organizations, local housing authorities, for-profit developers, community development financial institutions, and CHFA. New construction and rehabilitation are eligible, as are multifamily rental and homeownership.	Projects must serve households with incomes at or below 120% AMI
State of Connecticut HOME Program	Federally funded program administered by DECD. Loans and/or grants to eligible applicants to undertake acquisition, new construction or rehabilitation of rental or homeownership housing serving low income households.	Eligible applicants are municipalities, non-profit organizations, community housing development organizations, for-profit developers, individuals. HOME subsidy cost per unit for project location applies.	Must serve households at or below 80% of AMI; rental projects must primarily serve households at or below 50% and 60% AMI.
Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)	See Municipalities.		
Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	Federally-funded grants to support capital, community development, economic development, and housing services for the benefit of low and moderate income persons.	Restricted to the 147 Connecticut communities that do not receive a direct allocation of CDBG funds directly from HUD. New construction of permanent housing not eligible (rehabilitation is eligible).	Must benefit low or moderate income persons or areas

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
Municipalities			
HOME Program	Federally funded program allocated to and administered by six cities: Bridgeport, Hartford, New Britain, New Haven, Stamford and Waterbury. Loans and/or grants to eligible applicants to undertake acquisition, new construction or rehabilitation of rental or homeownership housing serving low income households. Applications taken on a rolling basis; awards subject to availability of funds.	Applicant eligibility may vary depending on community. See local consolidated housing plan submitted to HUD.HOME subsidy cost per unit for project location applies.	Must serve households at or below 80% of AMI; rental projects must primarily serve households at or below 50% and 60% AMI.
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	Federally-funded grants to support capital, community development, economic development, and housing services for the benefit of low and moderate income persons.	Applicant eligibility may vary depending on community. See local consolidated housing plan submitted to HUD. New construction of permanent housing not eligible (rehabilitation is eligible).	Must benefit low or moderate income persons or areas
Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)	Authorized by the US Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, NSP was established to provide emergency assistance to state and local governments to assist in the redevelopment of foreclosed and abandoned properties that might otherwise become sources of abandonment and blight. NSP funds in Connecticut flow through DECD and are awarded to ten CT communities based on need formula: Bridgeport, Waterbury, New Haven, Stamford, Hartford, Meriden, New Britain, Danbury, New London and Norwich.	Funds for purchase and redevelopment of foreclosed homes and residential properties; establishing land banks for foreclosed homes; demolishing blighted structures; and redeveloping demolished or vacant properties. NSP has been used to rehabilitate foreclosed multifamily properties for supportive housing.	At least 25% of NSP funds must serve households with incomes at 50% or less of AMI; preference given to these projects.
US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)			
Supportive Housing Program	Capital funding for property acquisition, rehab, or new construction for supportive housing serving homeless persons.	\$400,000 maximum for capital	homeless persons with disabilities

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
<p>Section 811 (as amended by Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act of 2010)</p>	<p>Section 811 provides interest-free capital advances to nonprofit sponsors to help them finance the development of rental housing with the availability of supportive services for persons with disabilities. The capital advance can finance the construction, rehabilitation, or acquisition with or without rehabilitation of supportive housing. The capital advance is linked to a project rental assistance contract that runs for 20 years (30 in the case of LIHTC projects). Annual funding rounds.</p> <p>The Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act of 2010 made important changes to the Section 811 program in order to provide incentives to leverage other sources of capital for 811 units. This means that nonprofits can now use Section 811 funding to create small set-asides of permanent supportive housing units within rental developments that provide housing for households without disabilities.</p> <p>Under the new law, no more than 25% of the units in any Section 811 multifamily project may have an occupancy preference for people with disabilities. Processing of 811 assistance may be delegated to state or local housing agencies.</p> <p>The program also now provides for project based rental assistance not linked to a HUD capital advance. This is described in the section on Operating Funding for Housing.</p>	<p>Program regulations are expected to be issued in late 2011.</p> <p>HOME program cost limits apply unless waived.</p>	<p>Assisted units must serve only very low income (at or below 50%AMI) households with at least one non-elderly adult with disabilities between the ages of 18-61.</p> <p>Specific disability targeting is not allowed, but projects can restrict (with HUD permission) occupancy to people with disabilities who can benefit from the supportive services offered in connection with the housing.</p>
<p>Choice Neighborhoods</p>	<p>Competitive grants to assist in the transformation, rehabilitation, and preservation of public housing and privately owned HUD-assisted housing. HUD's new <i>Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CN)</i> is "designed to promote a comprehensive approach to transforming distressed areas of concentrated poverty into viable and sustainable mixed-income neighborhoods". Building on the HOPE VI Program, Choice Neighborhoods will link housing improvements with a wider variety of public services including schools, public transit and employment opportunities.</p> <p>The Norwalk Housing Authority was one of the first PHAs nationwide to receive a Choice Neighborhoods planning grant.</p>	<p>public housing authorities, local governments, nonprofit organizations and for-profit developers (who apply jointly with a public entity)</p>	<p>Households with low incomes and others</p>
<p>Federal Home Loan Bank</p>			
<p>FHLB Affordable Housing Program</p>	<p>Gap financing via a subsidized loan and/or direct subsidy (grant) for projects serving low income households. Funding rounds held 1-2 times per year.</p>	<p>Annual caps on the amount of direct subsidy/project (typically \$400,000); maximum \$800,000 total request/project. 1-2 funding cycles per year specify application and ranking criteria. Applications are made in partnership with a FHLB member financial institution.</p>	<p>At least 20% of rental units must be for households earning 50% or less of AMI. Developments serving homeless, special needs receive additional points in scoring process.</p>

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
Operating Funding Sources for Housing			
Connecticut Department of Social Services			
Rental Assistance Program (RAP)	RAP is the major state-funded program for assisting very low income families to afford decent, safe, sanitary housing in the private market. RAP certificates are funded by DSS and administered statewide by DSS and its agent, J. D'Amelia & Associates (JDA). Subsidy recipients pay 40% of income toward housing costs.	Individual households can apply for tenant-based certificates when DSS waiting lists are opened. Demand for RAPs exceeds supply; long waiting lists are common. Close to half of DSS's RAPs are allocated to specific collaborative State programs serving specific target populations. These programs include the Supportive Housing Initiative (see CHFA), Money Follows the Person, and DCF's Supportive Housing for Families program. As in the Supportive Housing Initiative, RAPs can be used for project-based operating assistance at the discretion of DSS.	Households with incomes at or below 50% AMI
Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) (includes CT Department of Social Services)			
HUD Section 8 vouchers	The Section 8 Rental Voucher Program increases affordable housing choices for very low-income households by allowing families to choose privately owned rental housing. The PHA pays the landlord the difference between 30 percent of household income and the fair market rent (FMR).	HUD allows housing authorities the discretion to project-base up to 20% of their Section 8 vouchers for affordable housing projects. Provision of these vouchers is at the discretion of the housing authority. To date, some CT PHAs (including DSS) have project-based a limited number of Section 8 vouchers for permanent supportive housing.	Households with incomes at or below 50% of AMI

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development			
State of Connecticut HOME Program	<p>Federally funded program administered by DECD primarily used for capital (see Capital section).</p> <p>However, HUD allows participating jurisdictions the discretion to use HOME funds to provide financial assistance to individual households in order to enable them to rent market-rate units. These rental subsidies are known as "tenant-based rental assistance" or TBRA. Eligible TBRA activities include rental assistance programs, self-sufficiency programs, homebuyer programs, targeted population programs, anti-displacement assistance programs, and security deposit programs.</p>	HOME TBRA contracts with individual households may not exceed two years but are renewable.	Must serve households at or below 80% of AMI
US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)			
Shelter Plus Care	Rental subsidies for housing serving persons who are homeless and disabled. Subsidies can be tenant-based, sponsor-based, or project-based. HUD issues annual NOFAs; applications are through local Continuums of Care.	Eligible applicants are units of government and housing authorities. DMHAS is the largest administrator of Shelter Plus Care subsidies in Connecticut.	Homeless disabled, with preference for chronically homeless households
Supportive Housing Program	See Supportive Housing Program under Services Funding.		
Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH)	The HUD-VASH voucher program combines HUD housing choice voucher rental assistance for homeless veterans with case management and clinical services provided by Veterans Affairs at its medical centers and in the community.	<p>VASH vouchers are administered by local housing authorities. The designation of housing authorities in CT that administer VASH vouchers can change annually.</p> <p>VASH vouchers can be project-based similar to the Section 8 program. Project-basing must be approved by the administering housing authority, the local VA, and by HUD.</p>	Homeless Veterans referred by the VA
Family Unification Program (FUP)	<p>The HUD Family Unification Program provides Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers for families involved with the child welfare system and youth transitioning from foster care. Supportive services must be provided by the Public Child Welfare Agency to FUP youths for the entire 18 months in which the youth participates in the program.</p> <p>DSS (as the State's PHA) and DCF (as the Public Child Welfare Agency) currently use FUP vouchers in tandem with DCF's Supportive Housing for Families program.</p>	Eligible applicants are public housing authorities. PHAs must administer the FUP in partnership the Public Child Welfare Agency (DCF) who would be responsible for referring FUP families and youths to the PHA for determination of eligibility for rental assistance.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Families for whom the lack of housing is a primary factor in the imminent placement of the family's children in out-of-home care or the delay in the discharge of the children to the family from out of home care. 2. Youth 18-21 who left foster care at age 16 or older and who lack adequate housing. (vouchers limited to 18 months)

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
<p>Section 8 Section 811 (as amended by Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act of 2010)</p>	<p>Traditionally a program providing capital linked to rental assistance for the creation of supportive housing exclusively for people with disabilities, the program is changing due to the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act of 2010. In addition to the changes described in the Capital section above, the program will provide for project based rental assistance not linked to a HUD capital advance. This will allow for the integration of supportive housing units within larger multifamily housing projects (new or existing) where the development costs are paid for from other public or private sources. Assisted units must be operated as supportive housing for not less than 30 years.</p>	<p>Eligible applicants are state housing finance agencies and "other appropriate entities" as will be laid out in program regulations to be issued in late 2011.</p> <p>Requires a partnership be established between the housing agency applying for the rental assistance and the state Medicaid agency.</p> <p>No more than 25% of total dwelling units in assisted projects may be used for supportive housing or have an occupancy preference for people with disabilities.</p> <p>Program regulations are expected to be issued in late 2011.</p>	<p>Households with extremely low incomes at or below 30% of AMI</p>
<p>HUD/HHS Families initiative</p>	<p>Under a new initiative in the planning stages, HUD and HHS would combine housing vouchers with funding from mainstream programs to serve homeless or at-risk families with children. HUD will provide Section 8 vouchers targeted to communities with high concentrations of families experiencing homelessness. Applicants will need to demonstrate how they are coordinating these vouchers with assistance and services administered by the State and available through TANF and other HHS-funded programs. Local homeless liaisons in schools would help identify families.</p>	<p>This is a Signature Initiative outlined in the federal Opening Doors plan. Program guidelines have not been issued as of this date.</p>	<p>Homeless and at-risk families</p>
<p>HUD/HHS Chronic Homelessness initiative</p>	<p>Under a new initiative in the planning stages, HUD and HHS would connect housing vouchers with health and social services provided through Medicaid and wraparound services funding through SAMHSA. The goal is to help 4,000 people experiencing chronic homelessness move off the streets and out of shelter, and to test and evaluate replicable models for using Medicaid to finance health care and related services for those in permanent supportive housing.</p>	<p>This is a Signature Initiative outlined in the federal Opening Doors plan. Program guidelines have not been issued as of this date.</p>	<p>People experiencing chronic homelessness</p>
<p>Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Funding Sources</p>			
<p>CT Department of Social Services</p>			

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)	A Federal stimulus act program administered by DSS and by the five ESG entitlement communities. DSS HPRP funds are used by six regional programs to provide temporary financial assistance and housing stabilization supports to homeless and at-risk households. The program is due to expire in 2012.		Households with incomes at or below 50% of AMI who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	Formerly known as the Emergency Shelter Grant Program, the Emergency Solutions Grant is a HUD-funded program administered by DSS and five entitlement communities in CT (Bridgeport, Hartford, New Britain, New Haven, and Waterbury). Under the HEARTH Act, at least 40% of ESG funds must be dedicated to prevention and rehousing activities, including short/medium term rental assistance and housing relocation/stabilization assistance to homeless or at risk households. No more than 60% of ESG funding can be used to support shelter activities. Previously, up to 20% of ESG funds could be used for shelter. A greater portion of HUD homelessness assistance funds will be going into ESG (20%, up from 10%).	Watch for HEARTH Act regulations to be issued by HUD. ESG must be matched dollar for dollar with state or local funds.	Persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)	A Federal stimulus act program administered by DSS and by the five ESG entitlement communities. DSS HPRP funds are used by six regional programs to provide temporary financial assistance and housing stabilization supports to homeless and at-risk households. The program is due to expire in 2012.		Households with incomes at or below 50% of AMI who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
State-funded programs: Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention Program (EFPP), Security Deposit Guarantee Program (SDGP), Beyond Shelter, Housing First for Families	DSS funds a variety of nonprofits to deliver prevention and rapid re-housing services through the Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention Program (rent bank, conflict resolution, mediation); Beyond Shelter (housing search, mediation, and outreach to property owners), and Housing First for Families (housing search and re-housing assistance for reunifying families). DSS also funds the Security Deposit Guarantee Program, which guarantees up to 2 months of security deposit for eligible households.		Eligibility requirements vary by program
CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services			
Housing Assistance Fund Program	A state-funded rental assistance program which provides for a monthly housing subsidy payment to persons with a psychiatric disorder on a temporary basis while an individual/family is on a waiting list for permanent state and/or federal subsidy.		Persons with a psychiatric disorder on subsidy waiting list

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
Municipalities			
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	See narrative under CT Dept. of Social Services, above.		
US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)			
Supportive Housing Program (SHP)	Under the HEARTH Act, SHP funds will now be able to be used in part to provide rehousing services for homeless households, including housing search, mediation, outreach to property owners, credit repair, providing security or utility deposits, rental assistance for a final month at a location, assistance with moving costs or other activities that are effective in moving people immediately into housing or who have moved into permanent housing in the prior 6 months. SHP funds are awarded through annual competitive NOFAs issued by HUD.	Watch for HEARTH Act regulations to be issued by HUD, possibly late 2011.	Homeless households
US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)			
Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program	Under this new (2011) program, VA awards grants to private nonprofit organizations and consumer cooperatives who will provide supportive services to very low income Veteran families residing in or transitioning to permanent housing. Grantees provide outreach and case management services and assist participants to obtain VA benefits and other public benefits, including services relating to health care, financial planning, transportation, legal services, housing counseling, temporary financial assistance, and daily living services.	Eligible applicants are nonprofit organizations and consumer cooperatives.	Single veteran or a family in which the head of household or spouse is a Veteran; incomes at or below 50% AMI
Transitional Housing			
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Family and Youth Services Bureau			
FYSB Transitional Living Program	Supports projects that provide long-term residential services to homeless youth ages 16-22. The services offered are designed to help them make a successful transition to self-sufficient living. Living accommodations may include host-family homes, group homes, maternity group homes, or supervised apartments owned or rented in the community. Grants are via NOFA and run for 5 years.		Homeless youth ages 16-22

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of Violence Against Women			
Transitional Housing Assistance Program Grants for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking	Grant funds may be used to provide transitional housing, rental assistance, and/or supportive services only to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking who are homeless or in need of transitional housing or other housing assistance as a result of fleeing a situation of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, and for whom emergency shelter services or other crisis services are unavailable or insufficient. Programs may offer individualized services such as counseling, support groups, safety planning, and advocacy services, as well as practical services such as licensed child care, employment services, transportation vouchers, telephones, and d referrals. Grants are awarded via NOFA and run for 36 months.	Eligible applicants are states, units of local government, Indian tribes, and nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations that have a documented history of effective work concerning sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking.	Victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking and their children and dependents
US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)			
Grant and Per Diem Program	Offered annually by the VA Health Care for Homeless Veterans Programs to fund community agencies providing services to homeless Veterans. Funds transitional housing (up to 24 months) or service centers. The grant component funds up to 65% of the cost of construction, renovation, or acquisition of a building for use as service centers or transitional housing for homeless Veterans. Grant recipients are the priority for receipt of Per Diem funds, which cover operational costs up to a maximum per diem amount per day per Veteran housed. Watch for annual NOFAs.	Eligible applicants are community agencies serving homeless Veterans.	Homeless Veterans
Service Funding Sources for Supportive Housing and Housing Sustainability			
Targeted Programs (programs specifically targeting persons who are homeless)			
CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services CT Department of Social Services			
CT Supportive Housing Initiative funding	See Capital section under CHFA.		

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)			
Supportive Housing Program	Services and operating funds for supportive housing serving homeless persons.	Watch for HEARTH Act regulations to be issued by HUD.	Homeless persons with disabilities
US Department of Veterans Affairs			
Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH)	The HUD-VASH voucher program combines HUD housing choice voucher rental assistance for homeless veterans with case management and clinical services provided by Veterans Affairs at its medical centers and in the community.	VASH vouchers are administered by local housing authorities. The designation of housing authorities in CT that administer VASH vouchers can change annually	Homeless Veterans referred by the VA
US Department of Labor			
Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP)	Purpose of HVRP is to provide services to assist in reintegrating homeless veterans into meaningful employment within the labor force. Grantees provide an array of services utilizing a case management approach that directly assists homeless veterans as well as provide critical linkages for a variety of supportive services available in their local communities. The program is "employment focused" and veterans receive the employment and training services they need in order to re-enter the labor force. Job placement, training, job development, career counseling, resume preparation, are among the services that are provided.	Awarded on a competitive basis to state and local workforce investment boards, local public agencies, and nonprofit organizations, including faith-based and community-based organizations. Watch for annual NOFAs.	Homeless Veterans
US Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)			
Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI)	Through CABHI, SAMHSA seeks to increase the number of individuals who are chronically homeless placed in permanent housing that supports recovery through comprehensive treatment and recovery services for behavioral health. It also seeks to increase capacity for community-based providers to enroll individuals who are chronically homeless in mainstream programs and obtain reimbursement for behavioral health. To achieve this goal, SAMHSA funds will support three primary types of activities: 1) behavioral health, housing support, and other recovery-oriented services not covered under a State's Medicaid plan; 2) coordination of housing and services for chronically homeless individuals and families at the State and local level which support the implementation and/or enhance the long-term sustainability of integrated community systems that provide permanent housing and supportive services; and 3) efforts to engage and enroll eligible persons who are chronically homeless in Medicaid and other mainstream benefit programs (e.g., SSI/SSDI, TANF, SNAP). Watch for annual NOFAs.	Eligible applicants are community-based public and nonprofit entities. States and for-profit agencies are not eligible to apply. Applicant teams must include a provider of direct behavioral health services and be qualified to receive Medicaid reimbursements or have established links to organizations with such reimbursement systems.	Chronically homeless individuals

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
<p><i>Selected Mainstream Programs (programs not tied to homelessness or housing status)</i></p>			
<p>CT Department of Social Services</p>			
<p>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)</p>	<p>The Federal TANF program provides block grants to states to fund programs that provide services and benefits to "needy" families (defined as financially deprived according to income and related criteria). In addition to the basic time-limited income support program called Temporary Family Assistance, DSS uses TANF funds and required State "maintenance of effort" funds for a variety of programs, including case management services through the DCF Supportive Housing for Families program and the Next Steps Supportive Housing Initiative, child care assistance, energy assistance, and employment services.</p>		<p>Low-income families who meet the state's guidelines (i.e., "needy" families with children.) Former recipients of TANF cash assistance or non-custodial parents of TANF-eligible families (for certain TANF activities) Non-needy families or individuals for activities related to prevention of out-of-wedlock pregnancy and encouragement of the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.</p>
<p>Medicaid</p>	<p>Medicaid is a state administered health insurance program combining federal and state dollars and available only to certain low-income individuals and families who fit into an eligibility group that is recognized by federal and state law. Each state sets its own guidelines regarding eligibility and services.</p> <p>Medicaid is a potential funding source for services in supportive housing.</p>	<p>In 2010, Connecticut expanded Medicaid eligibility to all low income adults. In 2014, the federal share of Medicaid for new enrollees is scheduled to increase to 100%.</p>	
<p>Money Follows the Person (MFP)</p>	<p>The MFP program is a program of the federal (HHS) Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services designed to assist States in rebalancing their long-term care systems and help Medicaid enrollees transition from institutions to the community. The intent is to increase Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) through Medicaid and reduce the use of institutionally-based services; eliminate barriers in State law, Medicaid plans, or budgets that prevent or restrict the flexible use of Medicaid funds to enable Medicaid-eligible individuals to receive long-term care in the settings of their choice; strengthen the ability of Medicaid programs to assure continued provision of HCBS to those individuals who choose to transition from institutions; and ensure that procedures are in place to provide quality assurance and continuous quality improvement of HCBS.</p> <p>43 states, including CT, are currently implementing MFP Demonstration Programs. Connecticut is using the program to transition 700 Medicaid-eligible elderly and people with disabilities from nursing facilities or other institutions back into the community to receive support and services at home. The State is matching the program with Rental Assistance Program (RAP) certificates to ensure housing affordability.</p>		<p>Individuals who reside in an institution for more than 90 consecutive days.</p>

Program	Purpose	Application Limits	Population
Vocational Rehabilitation and Supported Employment	The Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) of DSS administers the federal Dept. of Education's Vocational Rehabilitation and Supported Employment programs. The programs are designed to create opportunities that enable individuals with significant disabilities to work competitively and live independently.		People with disabilities
CT Department of Labor			
Workforce Investment Act (WIA)	The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) reformed federal employment, training, adult education, and vocational rehabilitation programs by creating an integrated "one-stop" system of workforce investment and education services for adults, dislocated workers, and youth. The purpose is to promote an increase in the employment, job retention, earnings, and occupational skills improvement by participants. Funds are allocated by the US Department of Labor to the State, which allocates the funds to regional workforce development boards.		<p>Adult programs for people ages 18+ who need help gaining employment, have disabilities, or are veterans, dislocated workers, displaced homeowners, or ex-offenders.</p> <p>WIA Youth programs for youth ages 14 through 21 who are low income and have at least one barrier to employment.</p>
CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services			
Community Mental Health Services Block Grant and Substance Abuse and Prevention Treatment Block Grant	During federal fiscal years 2012 and 2013, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will work with states to plan for an transition their federal block grants toward four purposes. Two of these are: 1) to fund priority treatment and support services for individuals without insurance or who cycle in and out of health insurance coverage; 2) to fund priority treatment and support services not covered by Medicaid, Medicare or private insurance and that demonstrate success in improving outcomes and/or supporting recovery. This may present an opportunity to target a portion of block grant funds for interventions to address the needs of persons experiencing chronic homelessness.		
U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)			
Second Chance Act	Signed into law in 2008, the Second Chance Act was designed to improve outcomes for people returning to communities from prisons and jails. The act authorizes federal grants to government agencies and nonprofit organizations to provide employment assistance, substance abuse treatment, housing, family programming, mentoring, victims support, and other services that can reduce recidivism. Since its passage, DOJ has issued a number of solicitations for grants in various areas, including juvenile offender reentry, adult offender reentry, reentry courts, family-based offender substance abuse treatment, and others. Watch for periodic NOFAs, usually listed at the website for the National Reentry Resource Center.		Persons reentering community from incarceration