

WHAT IS COORDINATED ACCESS?

Coordinated Access organizes how homeless services are provided, enabling communities to triage cases, match the type of assistance based on needs and strengths, and help people resolve their homelessness quickly.

The creation of 7 Coordinated Access Networks (CANs) has led to regional cooperation and success. Team members work together to provide quick access to housing and services for those who need them.

HOW ARE THE CANS FUNDED?

CANs lack a stable funding source

For the last three years, CANs have relied on the Department of Housing's discretionary use of Community Investment Act (CIA) proceeds for funding support. CANs have proven to be a vital part of the state's homelessness response system. Therefore, a more stable and permanent funding source is needed to support them.

*In FFY 2018, the CAN system received over **68,000** calls for housing assistance, resolved nearly **41,000** through 2-1-1, assisted nearly **4,300** households from shelter, and provided targeted housing assistance to nearly **1,700** households.*

THE COORDINATED ACCESS APPROACH:

Access - People facing a housing crisis can access community resources through a single "front door" by calling 2-1-1.

Assessment - Individuals are assessed for eligibility and need through standardized approaches across communities.

Assignment - Individuals are assigned or referred to local housing resources based on need and resource availability

Accountability - State and regional monitors track CAN progress/outcomes and modify the program as needed.

WHAT HAPPENS WITHOUT FUNDING?

In FFY 2018, the CANs assessed and assisted over **13,000** households experiencing homelessness.

Without funding, thousands of Connecticut residents would be put at immediate risk of homelessness every year. **Since 2012, shelter use in Connecticut has declined by 40%.** The implementation of Coordinated Access has been crucial to diverting families from shelter and homelessness.

MAINTAIN SUPPORT FOR COORDINATED ACCESS NETWORKS

The state can maintain support for CANs by supporting the DOH Homeless Supports line item in the Governor's proposed biennium budget at \$2.48 million in each year.

The Coordinated Access Network system and 2-1-1 are the linchpins of state and local homelessness response. A stable and reliable funding source for the Coordinated Access Network infrastructure is critical to maintaining our progress in ending homelessness. Creating a line item in the Department of Housing's budget ensures a stable, annualized source of support for the CANs and 2-1-1. Another option is to maintain the Community Investment Account funding and designate it specifically for the CAN infrastructure support, including 2-1-1, cold weather protocol, and additional grants for homelessness/affordable housing. In the absence of a dedicated line item, the homeless system will not be supported without dedicated CIA funds.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: