



**COMMITTEE ON
TEMPORARY SHELTER**

Established 1982

ADULT SERVICES

FAMILY SERVICES

CHAMPLAIN FAMILY SHELTER

THE DAYSTATION

EAGLES' NEST SHELTER

FIREHOUSE FAMILY SHELTER

HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER

MAIN STREET FAMILY SHELTER

ST. JOHN'S HALL

THE SMITH HOUSE

THE WAYSTATION

THE WILSON

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To the Members of the Senate Economic Development
Committee,

As the manager of the Housing Resource Center, I oversee prevention, re-housing, master lease and risk guaranty funds for the Committee on Temporary Shelter. Our programs assist over 500 households annually to retain or to regain housing in Chittenden County. It is in the capacity of administering these programs that I have worked with our colleagues at Pathways Vermont.

The Housing First model is one which bears further investigation within the state of Vermont. Pathways Vermont has been instrumental in bring this model to our state and has proven to be beneficial in housing and stabilizing individuals and families with psychiatric disabilities.

COTS has adopted certain aspects of the Housing First model in our own programs, namely providing a clear delineation between staff who serve clients and staff who deal with public and private landlords. This best practice from Pathways Vermont has been instrumental in the development and success of our internal re-housing programs.

In addition, our community has benefited greatly from the presence of Pathways Vermont and the Housing First Model as they house and support an extremely difficult segment of our homeless population who would otherwise be in our shelters, in our emergency motels or on the streets. We fully support Pathways Vermont and we fully support the formation of the Housing First Study Committee.

Yours,

Jonathan Farrell
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