

**Testimony to House Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs**  
**Kim Fitzgerald, CEO, Cathedral Square**  
**January 13, 2016**

1. Overview of Cathedral Square (CSC)
  - Owner, manager, and developer of affordable housing with services
  - 30 properties – St. Albans to Middlebury
  - Just under 1,000 apartments
  - Serving elders and special needs population groups
  
2. Population – Level Outcomes & Indicators - Outcome #1: VT Has a Prosperous Economy  
**(B) Median household income**
  - 60% of CSC households are at or below 30% of area median income (AMI) <\$17,200, or extremely low income
  - 27% are at or below 50%, <\$28,700, or very low income
  - 3% are at or below 60%, \$34,440, or low income
  - 3% are at or below 80%, \$45,850, or moderately low income
  
3. Population – Level Outcomes & Indicators - Outcome #2: Vermonters are Healthy  
**(C) Number of adults who are homeless**
  - Qualified Application Plan (QAP), top criteria to have 25% of units for homeless
    - Need more section 8 subsidy
    - Need stable housing and services
  - ANEW (formerly Burlington Emergency Shelter) MOU
  - Prevention
    - Eviction is a last resort
    - Housing Retention Specialist
    - SASH
  
4. Population – Level Outcomes & Indicators - Outcome #2: Vermonters are Healthy  
**(D) % of population living below the federal poverty level**
  - Current poverty level is \$11,770
  - 34% of our residents are at or below this level
  
5. Population – Level Outcomes & Indicators - Outcome #4: VT Communities are Safe and Supportive.  
**(D) % of residents living in affordable housing**
  - Over 800 people on CSCs waiting list
  - Aging demographics
  - Need more tax credit housing
    - Tax Credits are allocated to States based on population and small set aside
    - \$2.7M received last year and this funds 5 projects per yr. or 135 apartments
    - <1% vacancy rate
    - Support continuance of VT State Affordable Tax Credit (\$700K, \$400K for MF rental, and \$300K for ownership projects)
  - Need more section 8 subsidy so housing is actually affordable