



2017

***Safe and stable housing is critical to all clients of the Agency of Human Services.***

The Departments of AHS are attuned to the housing needs of clients to ensure that programs promote housing stability for Vermonters. The Agency, and its many state and local partners, support a continuum of housing-related services in the community. The Agency's housing strategy focuses on the following six housing activities.

### Independent Living

#### *Expanding Community Opportunities for all Ages*

Home accessibility modifications, health and wellness activities, or other creative partnerships to help people remain in their community with greater independence, avoiding residential care.

**298** People were matched in housing through the ***Home Share*** program.

**66** People had their homes made accessible through the ***Home & Community Access Program***.

**4,741** People received home-based wellness services through ***SASH***.

**82** Youth received rental assistance through ***Youth Development Program***.

### Affordable Housing

#### *Targeting Financial Assistance to Support Stability*

Financial assistance structured to reduce and stabilize a person's housing costs to not more than 30% of their income.

**148** Homeless families housed through the ***Vermont Rental Subsidy*** program.

**124** People housed through the ***Subsidy and Care*** program.

**16** Homeless families housed through the ***Transitions to Housing*** program.

**7** People with HIV/AIDS housed through the ***HOPWA Bridge*** program.

**198** People's housing stabilized with ***CRT Housing Contingency Funds***.

### Transitional Housing

#### *Opening Paths from Institution to Community*

Time-limited residential programs that help participants to build skills and successfully transition to permanent housing. (Targeted to groups such as Veterans, youth, and people exiting incarceration or residential treatment.)

**890** People housed through the ***DOC Transitional Housing*** program.

**354** Households housed through the ***ADAP Transitional Housing*** program.

**78** People housed through the ***Reach Up Housing*** program.

**62** Youth & Veterans housed through the ***Housing Opportunity Program***.

### Emergency Shelter

#### *Providing a Safe, Emergency Response*

Short-term accommodation designed to connect people to essential services and housing. (Includes seasonal warming shelters, year-round homeless shelters, motels, and shelters for victims of violence.)

**4,135** Households sheltered through the ***General Assistance*** program.

**3,952** Persons sheltered through the ***Housing Opportunity Program***.

**369** Households sheltered through the ***Harbor Place*** partnership.

### Supportive Housing

#### *Customizing Services for Tenants at Higher Risk*

Affordable housing which is non-time-limited combined with on-site supportive services tailored to the tenant's needs. (Targeted to families or individuals who have experienced long-term homelessness and may have more complex or ongoing service needs.)

**147** Formerly homeless families (191 adults and 248 children) were housed through ***Family Supportive Housing***.

**156** People received ***Housing First*** supportive services through the ***Pathways*** program (*no rent assistance*).

### Homelessness Prevention

#### *...and Rapid Re-Housing for people who become Homeless*

Programs with time-limited financial assistance, lower-intensity services and a landlord engagement strategy to help people who are homeless, or at-risk, to rapidly secure and maintain housing.

**4,282** Persons stabilized through the ***Housing Opportunity Program***.

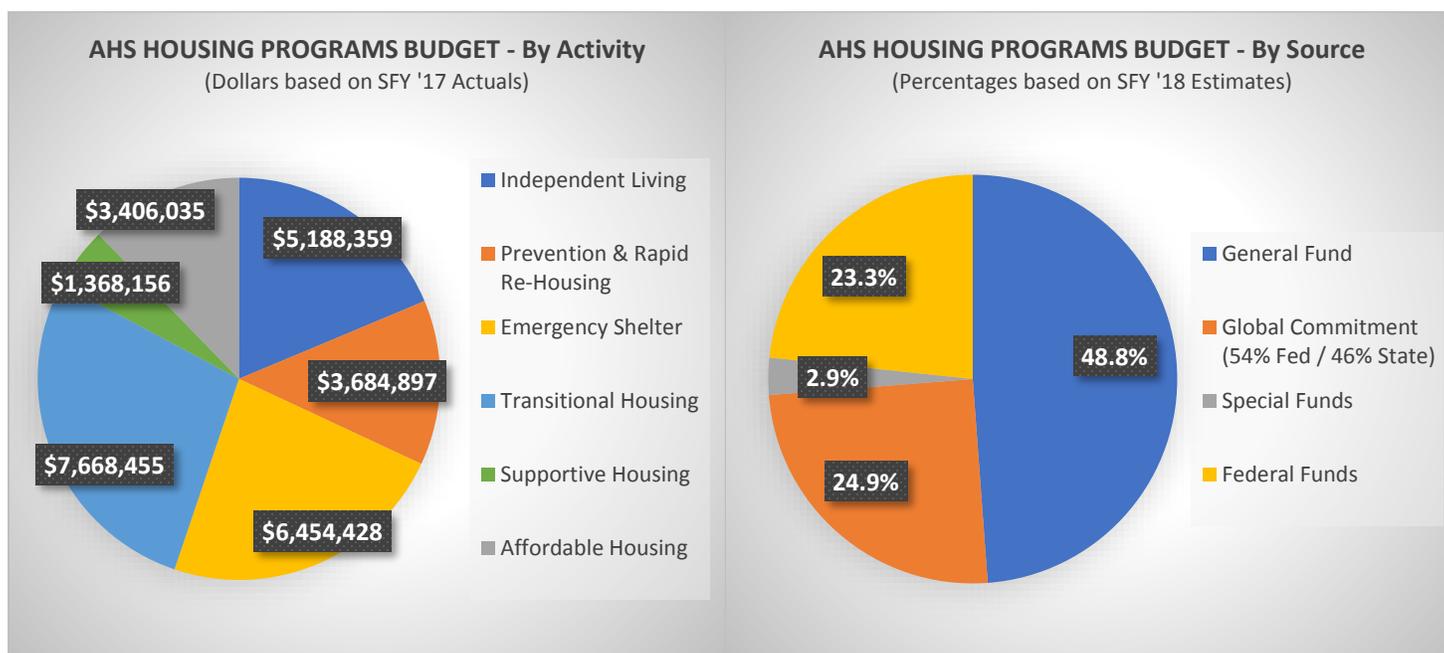
**366** Persons stabilized through the ***Reach Up Housing*** program.

### Overview of Programs and Funding

Vermont’s Agency of Human Services administers 19 statewide housing programs\* through grants to local human service organizations. Many of these programs fund more than one housing activity, such as the *Housing and Opportunity Program* in the Department for Children and Families which combines multiple state and federal funding streams to support a comprehensive response to homelessness through a competitive RFP. In many AHS housing programs, such as the *Transitional Housing* program in the Department of Corrections, the housing activity is one component which is braided with other supportive services.

<b># of Statewide Programs: 19</b>	<b># of Grants in 2017: 144</b>	<b>Dollars Invested: \$28 Million</b>
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In fiscal year 2017, AHS invested approximately \$28 million dollars to support the housing stability of clients, improving health and safety, strengthening family and community connections, and reducing institutionalization and homelessness among Vermonters.



\*Does not include the *Home Weatherization Assistance Program* whose primary goal is thermal efficiency.

### Coordination of AHS Housing Activities

Within AHS, the housing work of the six departments is guided by AHS’ [Policy on Housing Stability](#) and [Vermont’s Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#), as well as cross-agency initiatives such as the [Ending Family Homelessness Framework](#). Housing programs, policy, and partnerships are coordinated through the **AHS Housing Task Force** and the [Vermont Council on Homelessness](#), chaired by the AHS Housing Director.

At the Community Level, access to housing programs for people experiencing a housing crisis is through a [Coordinated Entry & Assessment](#) system. This locally-run, AHS-supported, approach uses standard screening tools and a networked system for referrals to connect people with the most appropriate housing and supportive service in the local **Continuum of Care**.