

Vermont  
State  
Housing  
Authority



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TO: Richard Williams, Executive Director  
FROM: Kathleen R. Berk, Director of Housing Programs for VSHA  
DATE: January 28, 2019

The purpose of this memo is to share information relating to Vermont State Housing Authority's (VSHA) service-enriched housing programs and the impact that case management services has on a family's success to find and maintain safe, stable housing.

The lack of case management services is resulting in VSHA-assisted families losing their rental assistance (resulting in eviction and in many cases, a return to homelessness), rental assistance dollars sitting on the shelf (unused), **and** precious rental assistance subsidy being lost (returned to federal government).

VSHA serves over 4637 families with rental assistance statewide – 1723 of these families are participating in programs with requirements / agreements for supportive services.

The matrix below illustrates the programs we offer and agency providing the service commitment.

Program	Service Commitment
Family Unification	AHS (DCF/FC/YDP)
Veterans Supportive Housing	VA Medical Center
Non-Elderly Disabled / Mainstream	Designated Agencies
Housing Subsidy + Care	Pathways VT and Designated Agencies
Bridge to HOPWA	ASOs
HOPWA	ASO's
Continuum of Care Shelter plus Care and Rapid Rehousing	Designated Agencies, Pathways VT, Community Action agencies, homeless shelters

Some programs, like VSHA's Continuum of Care Shelter+ Care program has returned unspent rental assistance dollars to HUD (\$336, 648 this past year and a total of \$1,194,497 since 2012).

Other programs, like Family Unification (FUP) and Veterans Administration Supportive Housing Program (VASH), have had a hard time "leasing-up"<sup>1</sup> families, resulting in subsidies being unused.

The attached chart illustrates the status of rental assistance resources (available/returned) from Vermont State Housing Authority and Burlington Housing Authority inventories.

<sup>1</sup> The search time for families participating in the FUP and VASH programs are higher, housing retention is less – (resulting in more turnover of subsidies) as compared to other assisted-families.

