



Vermont Housing &
Conservation Board

Supportive Housing for Vermonters

Senate Health & Welfare Committee

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Title 10: Conservation and Development

Chapter 15: VERMONT HOUSING AND CONSERVATION TRUST FUND

§ 302. Policy, findings, and purpose

(a) The dual goals of creating affordable housing for Vermonters, and conserving and protecting Vermont's agricultural land, forestland, historic properties, important natural areas, and recreational lands are of primary importance to the economic vitality and quality of life of the State.



VHCB Results: FY 2018 and FY 2019

State Investment: \$38M Leverage: \$160M

- 1,029 homes and apartments
- 42 farms; 6,063 acres conserved
- 2 historic preservation projects
- 22 projects conserved 3,220 acres of land for public recreation, natural areas, and forestland
- 167 farm, food, and forest enterprises were provided business planning and technical assistance
- 10 communities were assisted in securing \$1.78 million in grants

VHCB Statewide - Housing

- Create and preserve housing affordable to lower-income Vermonters. Only direct state funding for building affordable housing.
- Provide funding for:
 - Buildings that permanently house the formerly homeless
 - Emergency shelters and transitional housing
- Training and technical assistance for regional housing groups – our local partners
- Participate in policy work – Roadmap to End Homelessness



SASH: Coordinated Health Care at Affordable Housing Sites Reducing Medicare Expenditures

With 5,000 participants statewide, SASH (Support and Services at Home) is a nationally recognized and tested model.

- Average Medicare savings of \$1,227 per person per year.
- 3,300 SASH participants with advance directives could translate into a savings of \$18.4 million in end-of-life care.*

*Journal of the American Medical Association

Housing and Services for Special Populations

More than 100 Properties with 1286 Homes

\$20.9 million Since 1990

People Served	Units or Beds
homeless in shelters and transitional housing	216
homeless in permanent housing	143
victims of domestic violence	45
frail elderly	311*
vulnerable youth and children	106
individuals with mental illness	260
individuals with developmental disabilities	49
released from corrections	97
individuals with physical disabilities	26
veterans	<u>33</u>
Total	1286

*Does not include SASH, now serving 5,000 Vermonters



Heaton Woods: Assisted living for seniors in Montpelier.

Canal Street Housing in Winooski

28 apartments with 47 beds for veterans developed by COTS.
Transitional and permanent housing with support services.





Level III Community Care home at the former Copley Hospital in Morrisville.

Overlook Transitional Housing in Hartford

Ten apartments with support services for formerly homeless individuals and families

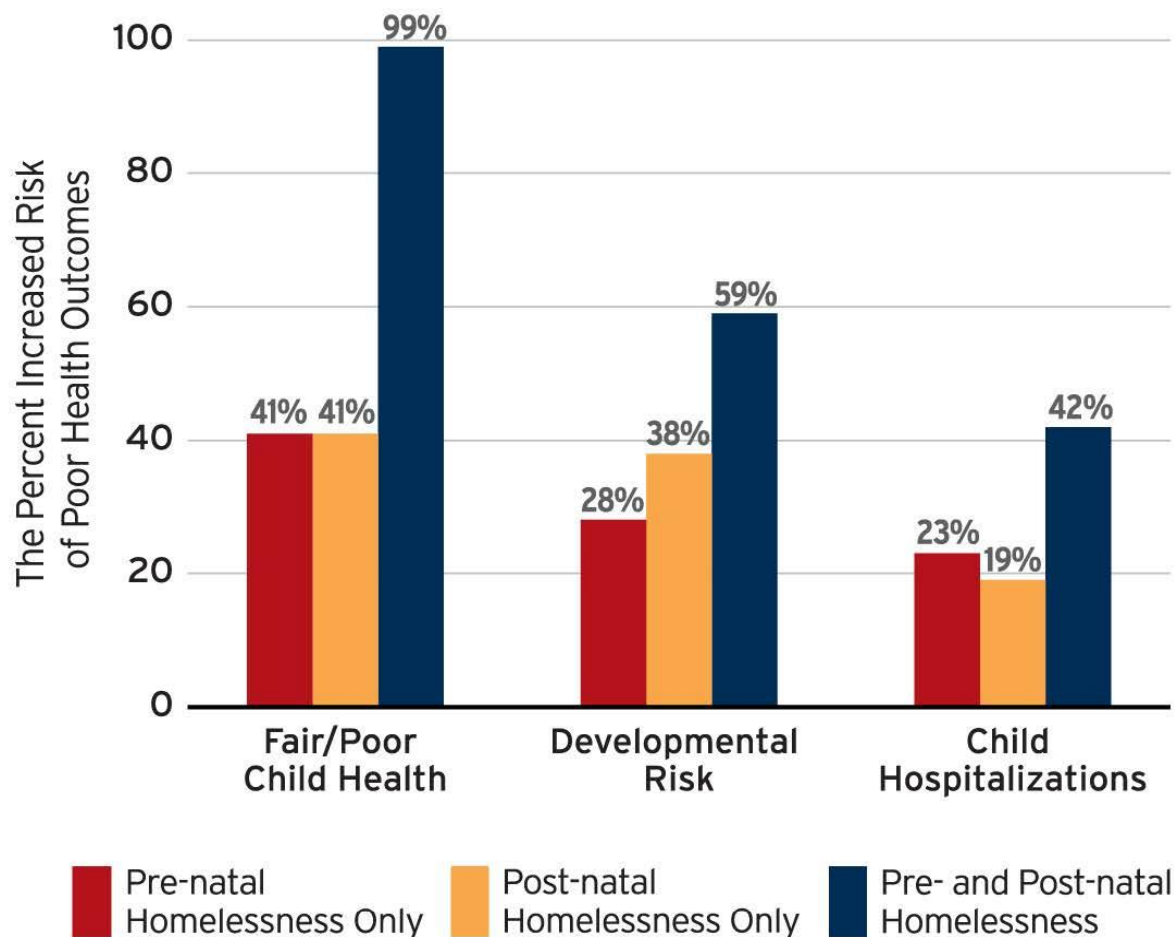


Pearl Street in Burlington

Housing for vulnerable youth and children



FIGURE 1
Compounding Effect of Homelessness on Child Health



The comparison group for these data is children who were never homeless.

All findings statistically significant at $p < .05$.

Source: Children's HealthWatch Data, May 2009-December 2014.



A 2016 Executive Order requires owners of publicly funded housing to make 15% of their apartments available to the homeless.

Homelessness in 2018

Number of nonprofit owners and managers	11
Number of permanent apartments	6,000
Number serving the homeless	1,010
Percent serving the homeless	17%
Apartment turnovers the last year	1,100
Turnover apartments leased to homeless	309
Percent of turnover apartments leased to homeless	28%

Beacon Apartments in South Burlington

Housing for the medically vulnerable, chronically homeless



Safford Commons in Woodstock

28 apartments in a new affordable neighborhood
Three of the new households were formally homeless



Housing Revenue Bond

Thus far, HRB has funded 22 developments with 578 homes in 16 communities across 9 counties plus accessibility improvements and Habitat for Humanity homes statewide.

\$26 million has been committed, leveraging nearly \$140 million. The remaining bond proceeds will be awarded by the end of 2019.



Allard Square, S. Burlington



Woolson Block, Springfield



Great River Terrace

Great River Terrace: Homes Created for the Most Vulnerable

W&WHT used HRB funds to renovate a former Brattleboro motel, creating 22 new rentals affordable at 30% of median and serving the homeless with on-site services.

Homes are completed and filled. Initial residents include 5 women and 16 men including one father and child.

Eleven of the new residents previously lived in tents.

Majority of HRB projects include apartments dedicated to those experiencing homelessness, 86 so far.



Tiny Homes

A demonstration project in Barre, where Downstreet Housing & Community Development is working with Washington County Mental Health to build two tiny homes with support services to house residents that do not thrive in congregate settings. The homes will be designed and built by Norwich University Students.



Community-Based Transitional Housing

VHCB Support Saves the Correctional System \$3.7 Million Annually

Project Name and Location	Units	Gender	VHCB \$\$	DOC \$\$	DOC Beds	Prison Cost	Annual Savings
Dismas House Rutland	11	M/W	70,000	95,952	4	266,552	170,600
Dismas House Burlington	7	M/W	70,000	87,690	5	333,190	245,500
Dismas House Winooski	9	M/W	162,000	158,128	9	599,742	441,614
Covered Bridge	5	M	90,000	87,043	6	387,126	300,083
Phoenix House Burlington	19	M	162,000	204,400	14	903,294	698,894
Dismas House Hartford	9	M	162,000	150,000	10	645,210	495,210
Barre Phoenix House	18	M	170,000	204,400	14	903,294	698,894
Northern Lights, Burlington	9	W	162,000	393,752	11	810,172	416,420
Mandala House, Rutland	10	W	198,000	316,967	8	589,216	272,249
TOTALS:	97 units		\$1,246,000		81 BEDS	SAVINGS:	\$3,739,464

*source: Department of Corrections and VHCB 2018

HOUSING: A CRITICAL LINK TO RECOVERY

An Assessment of the Need for
RECOVERY RESIDENCES In Vermont



Prepared by
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DEVELOPMENT CYCLES
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Prepared for
DOWNSTREET HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
With Funding from the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board

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Recovery Residences for Individuals with Substance Use Disorder

A recent report documents the need for 300 additional beds, particularly for women with children. Downstreet Housing & Community Development is leading an initiative to design and implement a collective statewide response to meet the particular housing needs of Vermonters recovering from a Substance Use Disorder. [Visit the Residences 4 Recovery Initiative web page](#)

Phoenix Houses in Burlington and Barre

Sober Living for Former Inmates Recovering from Addiction





Community dinner at Dismas House in Hartford.

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