



Ending Homelessness: Bringing Housing First to Rutland County

Vermonters continue to face a housing and homelessness crisis. **Vermont has seen a 211% increase in persons experiencing homelessness since 2020**

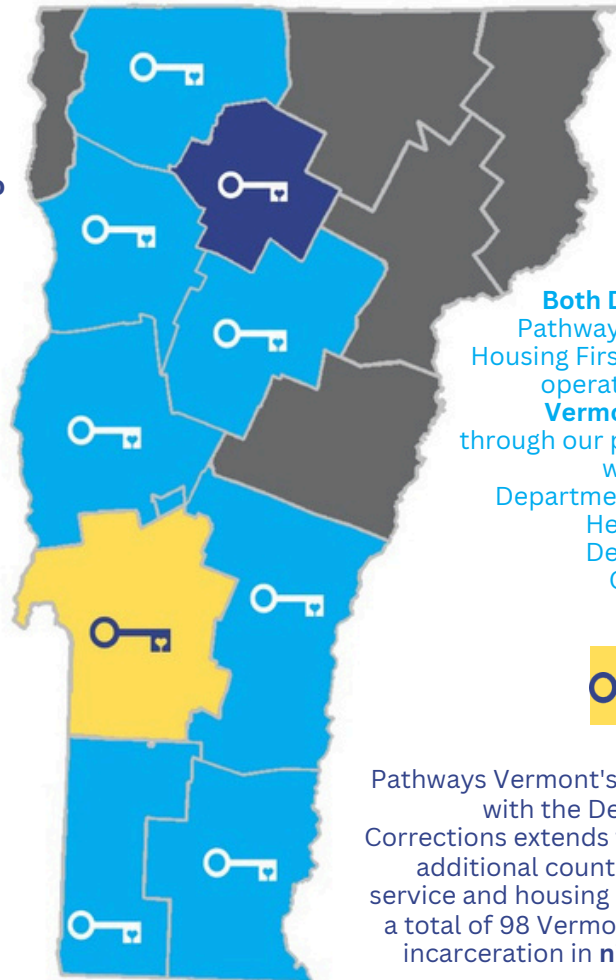
The 2024 point-in-time count identified 3,458 individuals experiencing homelessness in Vermont, including **200 individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in Rutland County.**

An investment of **\$957,100** would enable Pathways Vermont to build on the existing staff and system infrastructure that we have in Rutland County with our Department of Corrections (DOC) partnership.

This funding would support **85 households in Rutland County** experiencing chronic homelessness, mental health and substance use challenges, and disabilities to find and retain permanent and independent housing.

Housing First ends homelessness. It's that simple.

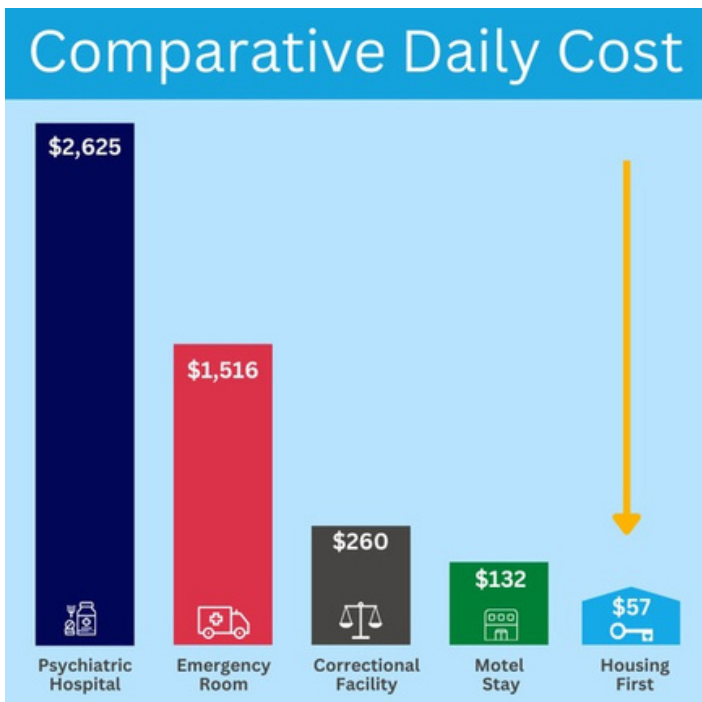
- Pathways Vermont, a Specialized Services Agency, has **ended the cycle of homelessness for 914 Vermonters** through its Housing First program. The program immediately ends homelessness by supporting individuals and families to locate independent apartments in the community.
- Pathways staff meet clients in their homes to provide service coordination, peer support, psychiatry, nursing care, and financial management support.
- **Pathways staff have the experience and expertise to provide stable, permanent housing and services through our Housing First program.**



Both DMH & DOC
Pathways Vermont's Housing First program is operating in **seven Vermont counties** through our partnerships with both the Department of Mental Health and the Department of Corrections.

DOC Only
Pathways Vermont's partnership with the Department of Corrections extends to these two additional counties, ensuring service and housing supports for a total of 98 Vermonters exiting incarceration in **nine Vermont counties.**

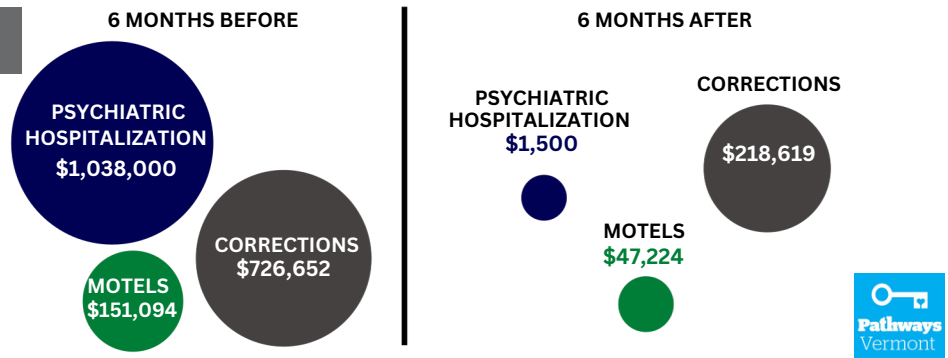
(map as of January 2025)



A Direct Cost Comparison

The graphic to the right illustrates a direct comparison of the combined estimated service costs expended by 129 clients 6 months prior to entering the Housing First program and 6 months after entering the Housing First program.

Service cost estimates were derived using information from relevant agency reports.



About Housing First: An evidence-based approach to ending chronic homelessness

Housing First programs quickly and successfully connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing **without preconditions and barriers to entry**, such as sobriety, treatment or service participation requirements. Supportive services are offered to maximize housing stability and prevent returns to homelessness.

Core Principles of Housing First

- A right to housing without preconditions
- Choice and self-determination
- Wellness-oriented
- Social inclusion and community integration Individualized and service recipient driven supports

Who Does Housing First Serve?

The people served by the Housing First program have experienced long histories of homelessness, involvement with corrections, frequent contact with emergency services, and long periods of institutionalization.

Core Characteristics of a Permanent Supportive Housing First Model



A multi-disciplinary team of professionals that provides wrap-around service.



The program components are informed by service recipient choice, peer support, and harm reduction.



There is a large and growing evidence base demonstrating that Housing First is the most effective solution to homelessness



The team is mobile, often meeting service recipients in their homes.

Pathways Vermont's
Housing First Program

By The Numbers

\$57

Average daily cost of Housing First program

914

Vermonters ended their cycle of chronic homelessness

85%

All Time Housing Retention Rate for Housing First clients