



Shelter Capacity & Growth 2025-2026

Lily Sojourner, Director

Vermont Office of Economic Opportunity, Department
for Children & Families

Shelter Capacity Growth (year-round)

County	SFY23 Capacity	SFY24 Capacity	SFY25 Capacity	SFY26 Capacity	Capacity Preserved & Created with Increased SFY26 Funding
Addison	63	62	62	62	0
Bennington	30	30	31	31	0
Caledonia	11	35	35	36	1
Chittenden	180	155	169	190	28
Franklin	25	21	40	40	8
Lamoille	7	28	28	31	3
Orleans	7	7	7	7	0
Rutland	13	18	25	37	18
Washington	70	80	94	115	32
Windham	73	70	68	50	0
Windsor	27	36	43	46	6
Total	506	542	602	645	96

Winter 2025-2026

November-December 2025

- Lamoille Community House opens a family shelter at the Waterbury Armory (10 households)
- Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) opens their seasonal capacity at Champlain Place in Burlington (26 beds)
- Groundworks Collaborative opens their seasonal capacity at the Drop-In Shelter in Brattleboro (6 beds)
- COTS Waystation moves into a new space in Burlington (20 beds)
- Upper Valley Haven opens their seasonal shelter (4 beds)

Winter 2025-2026

January-February 2026

- BROCC Community Action opens a new adult shelter in Rutland (10 beds)
- CVOEO's Foundations Family Shelter moves into a new location in Burlington (able to increase from 7 to 8 households)
- Good Samaritan Haven opens their new adult shelter in Montpelier (17 beds)

Extreme Cold Weather Shelter – A New Approach

- Notice of Funding in spring 2025 for an entity to coordinate and administer a new Extreme Cold Weather Shelter Program
- Shelters operate night by night, weather dependent
- New activation level -10 degrees Fahrenheit (was previously at -20)
- Vermont Interfaith Action
 - Administration
 - Outreach
 - Coordination
 - Training & Technical Assistance

Extreme Cold Weather Shelter – A New Approach

County	Estimated SFY26 Capacity	Notes
Bennington	TBD	One project in Bennington
Chittenden	92	One project in Burlington (<i>only location funded last year</i>)
Orleans	10	One project in Newport
Rutland		TBD – Discussions still underway
Washington	27	Two projects in Barre and Montpelier
Windham	20	One project in Brattleboro
Total	149+	Agreements and plans are still being finalized. Numbers may change as staffing patterns and building inspections are finalized.

Ongoing Shelter Investments

- Northeast Kingdom Community Action & RuralEdge - expand shelter capacity in St. Johnsbury (renovation to current building or acquisition of 2nd property)
- Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity - expand shelter capacity in Burlington (current discussions with AHS)
- Cornerstone Housing Partners and BROOC Community Action – expand shelter capacity in Rutland (acquisition and renovation of property)
- Groundworks – expand shelter capacity in Brattleboro (construction underway)
- Upper Valley Haven – expand shelter capacity in White River Junction (construction underway with funding from VHCB and AHS)

There are ongoing discussions underway regularly to explore options for additional expansion!



Thank you

Lily Sojourner

lily.sojourner@vermont.gov

(802) 585-4365



General Assistance Emergency Housing Program Update

Miranda Gray, Deputy Commissioner, Economic
Services Division, DCF

Monthly Reporting

- In accordance with Act 27, the Department for Children and Families submits a housing report to the legislature monthly. The latest one was posted on 10/1/2025: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/Act-27-Monthly-Housing-Report-9.30.2025.pdf>
- An updated one will likely be posted tomorrow.

Current Program Utilization

10/27/2025				
District	Rooms	Households	Adults	Children
Barre District Office	98	96	131	29
Bennington District Office	116	112	146	36
Brattleboro District Office	52	49	69	35
Burlington District Office	158	151	205	93
Hartford District Office	50	50	67	*
Middlebury District Office	*	*	*	*
Morrisville District Office	*	*	*	*
Newport District Office	26	26	32	12
Rutland District Office	167	163	203	67
Springfield District Office	37	35	47	21
St Albans District Office	48	46	54	17
St Johnsbury District Office	27	27	34	*
Grand Total	796	772	1005	326

*Data is suppressed when less than 12

Approval category of eligible Clients

Approval Category	Count
Age 65+	74
Court Ordered/Constructive Eviction	16
Disabled (201G-VR)	180
Disabled (SSI/SSDI)	278
Domestic Violence	20
Families with Children	196
Pregnant	*
Death of a Spouse, Domestic Partner, or Minor Child	*
Natural Disaster	*
Grand Total	772

*Data is suppressed when less than 12

SFY 2026 Monthly Hotel Authorizations*

Data as of 10/22/2025

Month	Payment Authorizations
July 2025	\$1,577,837
August 2025	\$1,598,557
September 2025	\$1,657,076
October 2025	\$1,684,297
November 2025	
December 2025	
January 2026	
February 2026	
March 2026	
April 2026	
May 2026	
June 2026	
TOTAL	\$6,517,768

*Prior month authorizations will adjust throughout the year as data corrections are made.

**Spending represents the cost of hotel rooms, not including admin and security expenses.

Questions about this presentation can be emailed to:

Miranda Gray: Miranda.Gray@vermont.gov

Lily Sojourner: Lily.Sojourner@vermont.gov

To receive this information in an alternative format or for other accessibility requests, please contact:

Monika Madaras: Monika.Madaras@vermont.gov

Media Inquiries related to this presentation can be emailed to:

AHS.DCFCcommunications@vermont.gov