



# Housing Opportunity Grant Program – Shelter Focus

**Lily Sojourner, Director**  
**Office of Economic Opportunity**  
**Department for Children & Families**

# Housing Opportunity Grant Program

Provides funding to:

- Operate emergency shelter
- Transitional housing (where appropriate)
- Rapidly re-house individuals and families
- Prevent those experiencing a housing crisis from becoming homeless

# Housing Opportunity Grant Program Continued

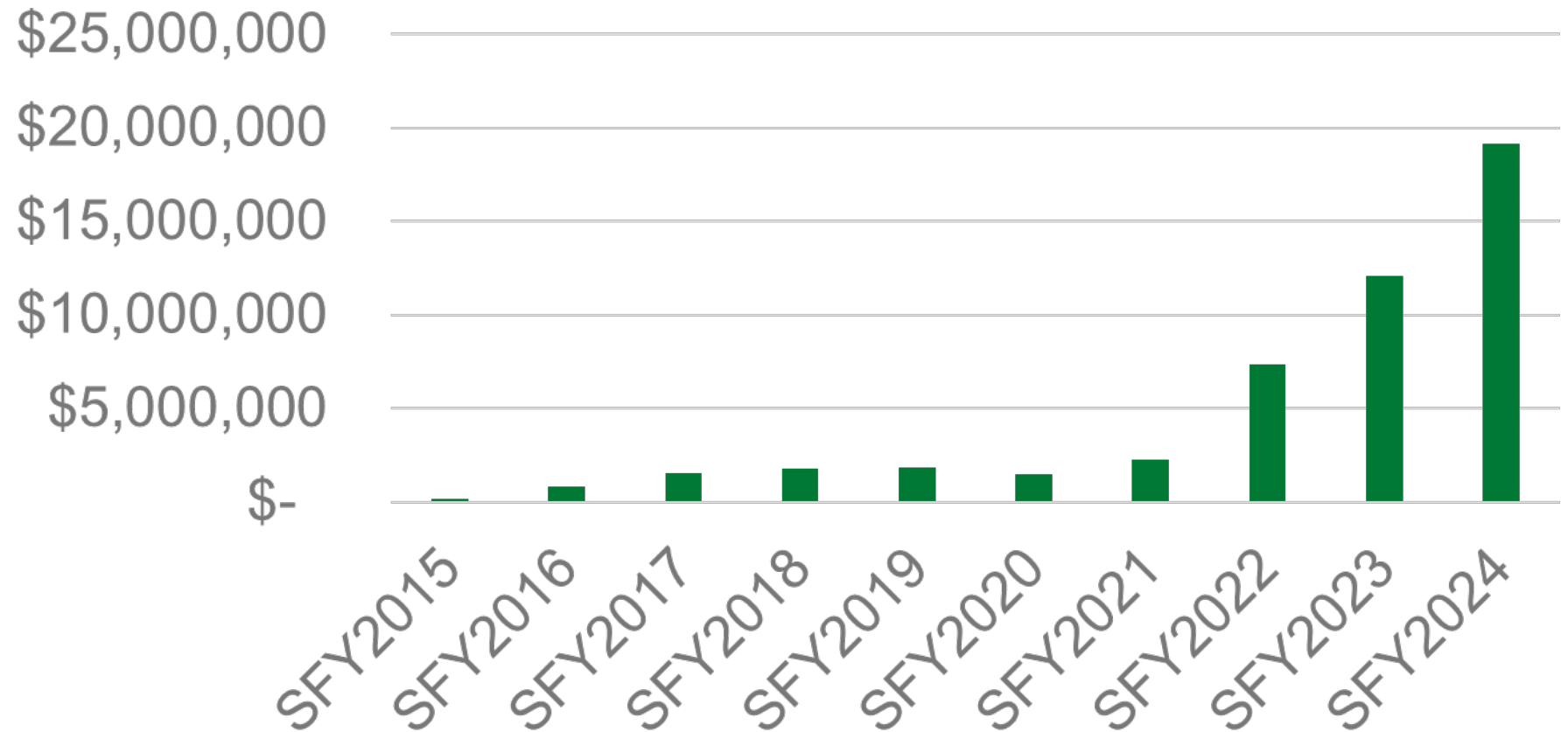
Provides funding to:

- Implement coordinated entry to streamline client access to resources
- Provide flexible financial assistance
- Administer the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

Awards Summary: <https://dcf.vermont.gov/oeo/resources/awards>

# Expense Growth

## Housing Opportunity Program Growth Over Time



# HOP-Funded Shelter Overview

# Purpose

Emergency shelters help people to meet their basic needs, connect to resources and services, and support them on their journey towards stable housing.

# Shelter Funding SFY25

\$17.5 million awarded to partially support shelter operations and basic onsite services.

- *Estimated average cost of a night of shelter is approximately \$125 per household, the full cost of is between \$27.6-31.6 million*
- *Shelters leverage other federal, state, local, and private funding*

Current Shelter Capacity

- 655 households

Awarded Shelter Capacity

- 697 households

And ongoing growth & planning!

# Shelter Breakdown

## Operations:

- 92% operate year-round (4 seasonal shelters)

## Facility type:

- 65% are semi-congregate
- 23% are non congregate
- 12% are congregate

## Special Population:

- 23% are focused on those experiencing domestic violence

## Household Composition:

- Young Adults (18-24) 14%
- Families with Children (<18) 14%
- Adults Only (18+) 35%
- Both Families & Adults 37%



# Shelter Operations & Oversight

## Housing Opportunity Grant Program Standards & Guidance

<https://dcf.vermont.gov/oeo/programs/hop/guidance>

### Ongoing Monitoring

- Annual Habitability Inspection
- Programmatic Monitoring
- Fiscal Monitoring

# Thank you

Lily Sojourner, Director  
VT Office of Economic Opportunity  
(802) 585-4365  
[lily.sojourner@vermont.gov](mailto:lily.sojourner@vermont.gov)