



Date: April 3, 2026

To: Senate Health & Welfare Committee members

From: Chad Simmons, Executive Director, Housing & Homelessness Alliance of Vermont (HHAV)

HHAV's represents more than 50 organizations (and growing) as well as many individuals across the state supporting our housing and homelessness continuum. We are asking the committee to consider additional funding requests for the FY27 budget as well as encouraging the state to pursue additional funding opportunities to support the Support & Services at Home (SASH). We intent to dive deeper into these requests as the committee begins work on H.938 in the coming week. Thank you for your consideration.

### **H.938**

We appreciate the work completed by House Human Services and the house to craft a budget for VT's homelessness response system. We understand the difficult budget decisions the legislature needs to make. HHAV is concerned that the approximate \$82.6M passed by the house will not be enough to meet the needs of Vermonter's experiencing homelessness and the diverse cohort of providers that support them. While we have many requests for increased investments in our homelessness continuum, we understand all of them may not be possible. We are asking for two specific items in H.938.

- Increase case management expenditure as contemplated in section 14 of the bill by at least \$3,000,000 in base funding for FY27. This minimum case management increase would support critical case management and navigation services across the state and aid in successfully moving people out of homelessness quickly and remain housed.
- The bill currently includes a provision that asks partners to explore the merger of Vermont's two Continua of Care (CoC). If this section of the bill (section 5) remains in the bill, we request \$50,000 to support facilitated discussions, research, technical assistance and reporting related to this work. This body of work is complex and we need resourcing and capacity to do it and do it well. For more context on what the considerations would be for CoC merger, please [read our memo](#) written to House Human Services in February.



### **Support & Services at Home (SASH)**

We understand members of the committee received an update from staff at Cathedral Square regarding SASH. We support their efforts in securing \$5.1M in Gap funding for calendar year 2027, until the primary funding source, AHEAD, begins. We ask the committee to stay in communication with AHS Director of Medicaid and Senate Appropriations committee members to ensure some path forward and solution is identified before the budget is completed.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with the committee over the next several weeks.

Chad Simmons, Executive Director  
Housing & Homelessness Alliance of Vermont  
[csimmons@hhav.org](mailto:csimmons@hhav.org)  
802.451.8627