

State of Vermont
Agency of Human Services
Office of the Secretary
280 State Drive, Center Building
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
www.humanservices.vermont.gov

[phone] 802-241-0440 [fax] 802-241-0450 Al Gobeille, Secretary Martha Maksym, Deputy Secretary

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To Whom It May Concern:

The Vermont Council on Homelessness was created by Executive Order and is comprised of 22 members appointed by the Governor. Members represent state government, persons who have experienced homelessness, housing providers, homeless service providers and at-large members. The responsibilities of the Council include development, monitoring and periodic revision of Vermont's Plan to End Homelessness. The Council makes annual recommendations to the Governor and Administration regarding resource, policy, and regulatory changes necessary to reduce and end homelessness in Vermont.

The Continuum of Care's Youth Homelessness Prevention Plan Committee (YHPPC) has provided regular updates to the Council on researching national models and gathering input from Vermont stakeholders on how to best prevent and address youth homelessness in Vermont. YHPPC recently presented their "Youth Homelessness Prevention Plan" to the Council which was adopted by the Council as Appendix B of Vermont's updated state plan.

As a member of the Council, the Vermont State Housing Authority (VSHA) has participated in the development and implementation of <u>Vermont's Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness</u>. The strategies outlined in Vermont's Plan to End Homelessness are also linked with Vermont's five-year HUD Consolidated Plan, reflected in the housing policies of member agencies and implemented through investments and programming developed since the plan's inception.

The Council is committed to strategies that prevent youth homelessness and supports VSHA's application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) for funding and technical assistance to support the YHPPC's development of a comprehensive community response to prevent and end homelessness among youth and young adults throughout Vermont.

Angus Chaney

Chair, Vermont Council on Homelessness

Director of Housing, Vermont Agency of Human Services