Supporting Housing for People with Mental Health Challenges

With a shortage of permanent or temporary housing resources and skyrocketing rents, Vermont is an increasingly hard state for people with serious mental illness to successfully find and maintain housing. Network agencies work closely with housing authorities, landlords, and other service providers to support clients in maintaining housing. In addition, agencies provide crisis, transitional, and residential care for hundreds of Vermonters every year using evidence-based practices.

VCP network agencies operated approximately 170 of the 206 adult residential beds available in Vermont’s public mental health system

- Approximately 350 Vermonters benefited from network mental health residential programs in FY22
- Agencies operated 36 of 38 adult mental health crisis beds and all 18 youth crisis beds, meeting the crisis needs of 862 Vermonters in FY22.

Network agencies and other community partners supported over 150 Vermonters in accessing Housing Subsidy and Care through the Vermont Department of Mental Health. 40% of the Vermonters who have been served in the program since its inception in 2011 were chronically homeless prior to receiving the subsidy.

Innovation

Agencies innovate to respond to the housing needs of their clients through:

- tiny home development
- MyPad supported housing
- mental health clinicians in congregate housing sites
- peer-supported housing
- involvement in regional housing coalitions, and
- partnerships with local housing authorities