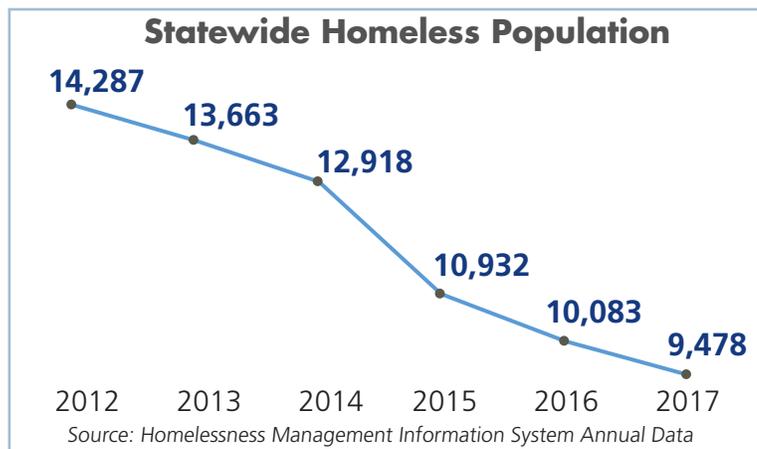


## State Investments Are Working to End Homelessness in CT

Homelessness is an unacceptable and expensive problem, but one we have proven that we can solve. Investments in coordinated access, rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, and affordable housing are paying off, with progress to end homelessness in Connecticut.

**9,478** people experienced homelessness across Connecticut in 2017,  
a decrease of **34%** since 2012.



January 2015 to December 2017

**1,948**

chronically homeless  
people housed

by Connecticut providers,  
saving money and lives.

## Housing Works



Permanent Supportive Housing (housing+services) can **cut system costs by 70%**  
**88%** of rapidly re-housed households do not return to shelter within 3 years

## Invest in Solutions

Targeted investments by the state will maintain our momentum to end homelessness.

- Preserve DOH Housing and Homelessness line item- \$78.6 M**  
Frontline homeless services are essential to moving individuals and families from homelessness to housing.
- Preserve DMHAS Housing Supports and Services line item- \$23.3 M**  
Supportive housing is the most effective housing model to assist people experiencing chronic homelessness.
- Preserve DOH Homeless Youth line item- \$2.3 M**  
Youth outreach services, crisis housing, and permanent housing options transition youth from crisis to stability.
- Preserve DOH resources for Coordinated Access Networks (CANs)**  
Community Investment Act funds support coordination of available resources to maximize impact.



## Homelessness Exists in Every Community Across the State

**916** people experienced homelessness in the Southeastern CT Coordinated Access Network in 2017, including:

**103**

Families



**169**

Children in Families



**623**

Individuals



**336** families and **204** individuals seeking homeless services were diverted from shelter to housing, thus preventing their homelessness.

Source: CT Homeless Management Information System, FFY17 Annual

## Reaching Home Legislative Initiatives

### End Homelessness Among Youth and Families with Children by the End of 2020

#### Reduce Barriers to Child Care for Families with Children Experiencing Homelessness

Families with young children need immediate access to child care to secure housing, find employment, and achieve stability for their children. **Providing a 90-day grace period for child health documentation (i.e., immunizations and health form) required by child care licensing regulations would allow for immediate enrollment of homeless children in a licensed child care setting.**

#### Identify and Educate Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness

Education is a key foundational component to keeping youth out of homelessness and preventing future episodes of homelessness. By improving identification and affirming protections that allow homeless students to stay in school, we can move the needle toward our goal of ending youth homelessness by the end of 2020. Education school staff about these protections is critical. This can be accomplished by **affirming in state law existing requirements for school districts to train staff about the signs of homelessness, the legal protections for homeless students (including immediate enrollment provisions under federal law), and the resources available to help meet the needs of these vulnerable young people.**



*Reaching Home is the campaign to prevent and end homelessness in Connecticut. With more than 200 participating organizations representing a variety of sectors, Reaching Home works to develop public policies, community support, and resources that will bring an end to homelessness in Connecticut.*