



## CCEH COVID-19 Response Newsletter

### A Letter From CEO Richard Cho



Dear Friends,

Our Housing Equals Justice virtual conference begins in three days and the response (not to mention the planning) has been overwhelming. As of this morning, than 800 people have registered, and we couldn't be more excited.

We are glad to make this week-long event free to the public for the first time ever. And as our conference web pages show, the schedule includes an incredible range of speakers, content, and topics.

We are thrilled by the growing interest from towns and cities across the state. To date, we have seen more than 35 towns sign up to participate in workshops specially designed to support municipalities in exploring how they can serve community members struggling with homelessness. There will be many workshops of interest to those on the frontline of Connecticut's towns and cities and we are looking forward to a stimulating discussion.

And of course, there's COVID-19. Although ending homelessness has become even harder due to the COVID-19 pandemic emergency, achieving this goal has never been more urgent as a public health emergency layers upon the long-standing crisis of homelessness and the even longer-standing crisis of systemic racism.

At the same time, I am sad to not be with all of you in person. For me, my favorite part of the ATI is to look out at a room of 500+ people who are dedicated to ending homelessness and to feel connected to this amazing coalition. And while there was not a way this year to safely be physically together, the planning for this event has been a collective labor of love and I feel as connected to all of you as ever.

It's not lost on me that we are holding this event amidst a lot of chaos and division in our public discourse. It's hard to not feel like our country, our state, and our communities are more divided than ever. And I initially worried about whether those divisions will manifest themselves in our discussions on systemic racism, on policing and the criminalization of homelessness, and on the right to housing.

But as we worked with you in planning this event, I was reminded of these words from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: "But the end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the beloved community. It is this type of spirit and this type of love that can transform opposers into friends."

It struck me that all of you, our coalition members, are the very beloved community that Dr. King was speaking about and hoping we'd create. Together, we can create reconciliation. Together, we can create redemption. Together, we can transform opposers into friends. Together, we can achieve justice. See you next week!

Yours truly,

Richard Cho  
CEO

### Video Message From Nan Roman

Check out this video message from Keynote speaker Nan Roman from The National Alliance to End Homelessness. Nan will kick off our conference on Oct. 5th at 9 A.M. Don't miss it!



**Register for the ATI Today!**

## Digital Program is Now Available

Register now for this year's [Annual Training Institute and Conference!](#) The schedule is now available on our website so check out all of the amazing keynotes and sessions and sign-up today.

The Annual Training Institute and Conference Digital Program is now available to all who register. Click [here](#) and register for the ATI to receive your program, including invites to all ATI keynotes and workshops.

This year's ATI will be a week-long virtual forum for presenters to share cutting-edge thinking on racial justice, criminal justice, and economic justice now in the face of COVID-19.

**HOUSING = JUSTICE**  
18th Annual Training Institute & Conference

**FREE CONFERENCE**

OCTOBER 5TH - 9TH 2020 • REGISTER AT: [WWW.CCEH.ORG/ATI-2020](http://WWW.CCEH.ORG/ATI-2020)

Speakers: Leilani Farha (The Shift), Rep. Jahana Hayes (U.S. Congress), Nan Roman (National Alliance to End Homelessness), Bobby Watts (National Healthcare for Homeless Council), Donald Whitehead (National Coalition for the Homeless), Cheryl Young (Zillow)

Presenting Sponsors: **BANK OF AMERICA** **Zillow**

Below is our schedule for the week with many exciting workshops and panelists. [Register](#) today for your exclusive access to the Digital ATI Program, which will include individual workshop registration.

	Monday October 5	Tuesday October 6	Wednesday October 7	Thursday October 8	Friday October 9
9:00	Welcome Keynote: Homelessness in 2020	CCEH Members Showcase	CCEH Members Showcase	CCEH Members Showcase	CCEH Members Showcase
10:00	Can They Do That?: Understanding and Protecting Human Rights in Connecticut	Youth Homelessness	Housing Plus Services: Understanding and Meeting Health and Support Needs	Colleges and Universities	COVID-19 Guidance
11:00	Eliminating Shelter Waitlists	Family Homelessness	TRAINING: Critical Time Intervention in Rapid Re-Housing Programs	TRAINING: Shelter Diversion	ROUNDTABLE: The Changing Landscape of Homeless Outreach During COVID-19
12:00	KEYNOTE: Housing as a Right	KEYNOTE: Crisis in the Rental Market	KEYNOTE: COVID-19, Systemic Racism, and Homelessness	KEYNOTE: Justice Starts at Home: A Conversation on Criminal Justice, Housing, and Segregation	KEYNOTE: Get Out The Vote Rally
1:00	Using the Past to Drive Today's Change	What You Don't Know CAN Hurt You: Helping Clients Face Their Health Fears	TRAINING: The Homeless Students' Bill of Rights (McKinney-Vento Training Hour 1 of 2)	Shutting the Revolving Door	Building Our Movement
2:00	Police - Social Worker Partnerships in Homeless Outreach	MUNICIPAL WORKSHOP: Sustainable CT Homeless Certification	TRAINING: The Homeless Students' Bill of Rights (McKinney-Vento Training Hour 2 of 2)	MUNICIPAL WORKSHOP: Mayor's Homelessness Prevention Task Force	Hamden Virtual Town Hall on Homelessness
3:00	A Tour of the Homeless Response System	Changing the Narrative that Pets are a Barrier to Housing	When Kids Experience Homelessness	Building Community for People With Disabilities Experiencing Homelessness	Help, Not Handcuffs: Improving and Reducing Police Responses to Homelessness and Behavioral Health Crises
4:00	Happy Hour	Happy Hour	Happy Hour	Ice Cream Social	Happy Hour

And see below for a very special message about the conference from keynote speaker Leilani Farha of The Shift!

[Register Now!](#)

Presenting Sponsors

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## CCEH Store is Now Open. Order Now!

We are thrilled to announce our very first [online store](#)! All proceeds will go towards making homelessness, rare, brief, and non-recurring in Connecticut. Place your order right away!



Wear it proud! Available in many styles including t-shirts, hoodies, and baseball tees.

Warm up your body and soul! Start each day right drinking from a mug that says it all.

What better way to send a message than wearing a Housing Equals Justice mask!

### Feature your Organization during the Member Spotlight at the ATI



CCEH is inviting current members to showcase their agencies during short virtual tours during the ATI. Tours should be 5-10 minutes and will follow a selfie video format of you providing the public a tour of your agency. If you would like to participate, please sign up below using our [Sign-up Genius](#). Please make sure to select one slot.

If you are not a current member organization but would like to participate, you can sign up for membership [here](#).

### Thank You For Your Advocacy

The Comment Period for HUD’s Anti-Transgender Rule ended this past Tuesday and we wanted to take a moment to thank you all for your advocacy on this critical issue. Now that the Comment Period has closed, HUD must review all public comments and consider concerns and contradictory evidence about the proposal before publishing its final rule. This harmful proposal would remove protections against discrimination for transgender and gender-nonconforming people experiencing homelessness, severely limiting their ability to access shelters and emergency housing services. And while we are thankful to have very strong gender identity and inclusion laws in Connecticut, we know that there are many states across the country that do not.

CCEH would like to say a special thanks to Attorney General William Tong joining a coalition of 22 attorneys general led by Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul in opposing the U.S. Department of Housing and Development’s (HUD) new proposed rule that would weaken protections for transgender and gender nonconforming individuals in HUD-funded shelters. “Discrimination on the basis of gender identity and expression is wrong. Banning transgender people from using facilities consistent with their gender identity causes unnecessary stigma, isolation and harm,” Attorney General Tong said. “One in five transgender people in the United States has experienced homelessness at some point during their lives and this rule would make it more difficult for them to seek safe emergency housing. We will continue to fight the Trump Administration’s baseless and unlawful attacks against the LGBTQ community.”

Please click [here](#) to read the entire letter.

### GOTV 2020- Are You Registered to Vote?

With only a few weeks left leading up to the 2020 Election, we at CCEH want to make sure that you have all of the tools necessary to help register your clients to vote. Below is a flier for you to share with you clients for GOTV. More information on voting resources can be found [here](#).



Click on the image to download the flyer.



Presione la imagen para descarga el folleto.

### HMIS New Assessment to Record Clients

A new assessment has been added to record clients who have been confirmed by the CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) and have been enrolled into a traditional Emergency Shelter program. This will allow for these clients to appear on the CCADV-specific BNL for consideration for CCADV-specific housing placement. Click [here](#) for more details are in the Release Notes.

### Opportunities For Our Provider Members

Please look closely at the following Requests for Applications.

The [HUD application for Mainstream Housing Vouchers](#) is a chance for Housing Authorities to acquire subsidies that can serve people experiencing homelessness. And the [CT Department of Housing](#) RFP for Street Outreach is a new program, funded by the CARES Act, to create surge capacity in homeless outreach across the state.

If you or your community partners are interested in pursuing these opportunities, you may reach out to CCEH Senior Program Manager David Gonzalez Rice for some additional background and guidance: [dgrice@cceh.org](mailto:dgrice@cceh.org)

## Mattresses Available for 1000 Homes Clients

Thanks to the generosity of the CT REALTORS® Foundation, we now have 100 new twin mattresses in a box available to be shipped directly to clients. Mattresses are available to any client housed through 1000 Homes with one per household member. Please click [here](#) to submit your requests. Mattresses will be available on a first come, first served basis.

[PLACE YOUR ORDER](#)

## How You Can Help

Our providers need your help! This [site](#) includes ways you can join Connecticut's homeless response.

## Webinars & Additional Guidance

With information about COVID rapidly evolving, keeping up-to-date is more important than ever. Stay up-to-date by visiting CCEH's COVID Guidance Page, located at [cceh.org/covid19](https://cceh.org/covid19)

### Upcoming Webinars

#### [Housing Stability for People and their Pets](#)

Tuesday, October 13th, 2020  
12 P.M. - 1 P.M.

#### [APR Bootcamp](#)

Wednesday, October 14th, 2020  
11 A.M. - 12 P.M.

#### [Motivational Interviewing Workshop](#)

Thursday, October 29th & Friday, October 30th, 2020  
9 A.M.-12 P.M.

### Previously Recorded Webinars

- [Components of an Effective Outreach System](#)
- [How Vulnerable is the Homeless Population to COVID-19? Results from a National Study](#)
- [Addressing Racialized Trauma and Actively Engaging in Anti-Racism](#)
- [Having a Harm Reduction Approach During a Pandemic \(Session 2\)](#)
- [Having a Harm Reduction Approach During a Pandemic \(Session 1\)](#)
- [Update on the Status of Evictions in CT During the COVID-19 Crisis](#)
- [Working with Landlords to Rapidly House Successfully: Recruiting, Engaging and Retaining](#)

Please [click here](#) to access our entire webinar catalog.

## CCEH in the News

#### [EDITORIAL: Help for youth and veterans in Meriden](#)

My Record Journal - September 2020



Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness | 257 Lawrence Street, Hartford, CT 06106

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