



CCEH COVID-19 Response Newsletter

A Letter From CCEH CEO Richard Cho



Dear Friends,

It was wonderful to see and hear from so many of you at *Housing Equals Justice*, our 18th Annual Training Institute last week. The event was a true labor of love of members of our coalition and we are touched and honored at how we came together once again to both share our knowledge, showcase our programs, and inspire and challenge ourselves for the work ahead!

I am pleased to announce that we have now made all 35 sessions available for viewing on our website. If you were not able to make all of sessions, you now have the chance to go back and see what you missed. Or some of you may even want to review the sessions again or watch them in different combinations to dive deeper on certain topics such as the way that [systemic racism contributes to homelessness](#), how [criminal justice and policing policies contribute to homelessness](#), about the idea of establishing [housing as a human right](#), and on how to [Get Out the Vote](#) among people experiencing homelessness.

I also know that "Winter is Coming" and that many of you are grappling with the dilemma of how to meet homeless assistance needs as cold weather season arrives, recognizing that we neither want to re-crowd shelters nor turn away people to the cold. We attempted to provide some answers to this dilemma throughout the ATI, and if this is of interest to you, I'd suggest you watch the following suggestions that contain a veritable blueprint for how to meet homeless assistance needs this winter:

- Shelter diversion is going to be critical to maintaining shelters at lower census. Watch this [Shelter Diversion Training](#) to determine how your community can increase diversion through problem-solving and the use of flexible financial assistance.
- Reconfiguring shelters, improving HVAC systems, and continuing to practice social distancing and infectious disease controls is critical to keeping shelter settings safe, and allowing shelters to safely admit new clients. This [COVID-19 Guidance](#) roundtable with officials from the Centers for Disease Control, Department of Public Health, and Department of Housing provided great answers to how to ensure the safety of shelters and warming centers during COVID-19.
- Keeping shelters at lower nightly occupancy does not, however, have to mean waitlisting people for shelters, or even building new shelters. Improved "system flow" can ensure that a smaller number of beds can actually serve a greater number of people, thereby reducing or eliminating shelter waitlists. The [Eliminating Shelter Waitlist](#) workshop focused on ways to improve "system flow" by facilitating rapid exit from shelter to permanent housing.
- Of course, increasing system flow presumes that one can identify and connect people to housing. And that entails overcoming barriers to housing access. We heard about many of these barriers in the session on [family homelessness](#) and on the [health needs of people experiencing homelessness](#). We had several sessions relevant to overcoming these barriers including a training on [Critical Time Intervention in Rapid Re-Housing](#), a session on [understanding tenant rights](#), on helping [people move into homes with their pets](#), ensuring that [disability rights \(including to accessible housing\) are upheld, overcoming fears of confronting health challenges](#), and a plenary on the [changes in the housing market and the potential federal resources](#) that may come.
- Our workshops on [homeless outreach](#) and [youth](#) and [minor homelessness](#) remind us to not forget the people who typically don't use shelters, but who may come inside on cold days, but who otherwise sleep outside or couch surf.
- Lastly, let's remember that the work of ending homelessness is not that of homeless services organizations alone, but entails partnerships with [municipalities, police and social worker partnerships](#), and [grassroots organizations](#).

Most importantly, we hope that the ATI wasn't the last time we will hear from you, but that you will continue to stay closely connected to us. Tell us what additional trainings would be most helpful to you. Encourage your mayors and first selectman to partner with us to host a Virtual Town Hall on Homelessness this November. And use social media to tell the world that #HousingEqualsJustice.

If there was one thing that was clear from last week, it was that we are stronger together than we are alone. Together, let us move forward ahead towards justice!

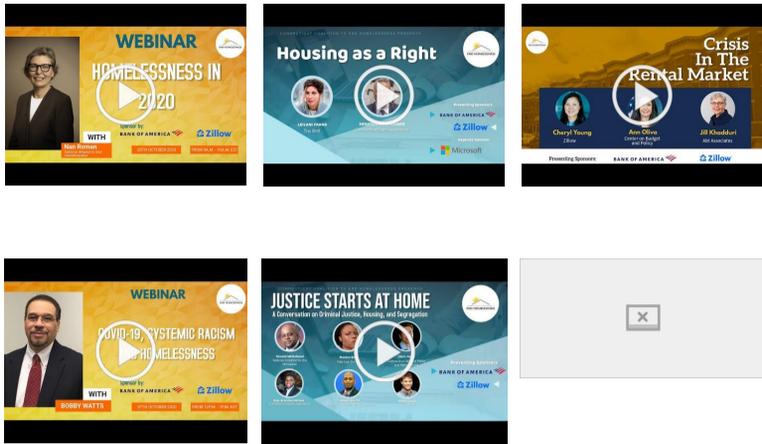
Yours truly,

Richard Cho
CEO

2020 Annual Training Institute: Webinars Now Available On Demand

Due to popular demand, we have made all of the sessions from CCEH's *Housing Equals Justice* conference available on the ATI 2020 webpage. You can

now view all keynotes, workshops, and tours on-demand [here](#). Please share your favorite sessions with anybody you think would be interested. We are delighted that those who missed the conference will still be able to benefit from the information shared by our fabulous presenters.



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.

We Are Hiring! Join Our Team

CCEH is hiring! Please spread the word about the following openings:

Senior Data Analyst

The Senior Data Analyst is member of the CCEH data team, responsible for a wide variety of tasks related to data collection and analysis, including through CT-HMIS, relating to programs that serve people experiencing homelessness in Connecticut. Learn more [here](#).

Capacity Building & Equity Coordinator/Program Manager

The Capacity Building & Equity Program Manager, in partnership with CCEH staff, manages and implements the agency’s training and technical assistance program as well as CCEH’s strategies to end racial inequity in the homeless service system. Learn more [here](#).

Director of Finance and Administration

CCEH is seeking an energetic, mission-driven, strategic, and problem-solving Director of Finance and Administration to oversee all financial and administrative functions, including office and building operations and human resources functions. Learn more [here](#).

Mattresses Available for Clients Moving into Apartments

We still have mattresses available for your clients! CT REALTORS Foundation has generously donated 100 twin mattresses for clients moving out of the shelter system into permanent housing. Please click [here](#) to submit your requests. Mattresses will be available on a first come, first served basis. Mattresses can be shipped directly to your client’s new home.

[PLACE YOUR ORDER](#)

Get Your Housing Equals Justice Merch!

Yes the ATI is over but our work continues. You can still be a part of our movement by visiting the [online store](#)! All proceeds will go towards making homelessness, rare, brief, and non-recurring in Connecticut. Place you 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!

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.

Resources for Providers

[Remote Supervision Tips for Homeless System Providers \(HUD\)](#)

[Rapid Rehousing Ramp up \(HUD\)](#)

[Guide to Using the IRS Non-Filers Tool to Get an Economic Impact Payment \(IRS\)](#)

[Governor Lamont Extends Eviction Moratorium To End of 2020](#)

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

Upcoming Webinars

[Motivational Interviewing Workshop](#)

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

[Housing Inventory Count \(HIC\) Training](#)

Wednesday, November 4th, 2020
1 P.M. - 2 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

[Advocates, State Find Housing for 1,099 People](#)

NBC Connecticut | October 2020

[Connecticut's Hidden Homeless: Motel-dwellers aren't considered 'homeless enough' to warrant state help](#)

CT Mirror | October 2020

[New Haven takes on youth homelessness amid pandemic](#)

Yale Daily News | October 2020



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

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