



CCEH COVID-19 Response Newsletter

A Letter From CCEH CEO Richard Cho



Dear Friends,

"You don't need a home to vote."

That's the statement we've been repeating over the last several months as we've been doing our part to help ensure that all Americans, including those experiencing homelessness, exercise their right to vote.

And while that statement is legally true, we also know that in practice, it's not always true. The truth is that it can be very hard to vote if you don't have a home. How do you register without a fixed address? In what voting district do you even register? How do you register to vote if you don't have a CT driver's license? And if you want to vote by mail, where can someone without a home receive their ballot?

In partnership with the Office of the Secretary of State and other partners, we've been doing our best to provide some [practical strategies](#) for addressing these challenges. For example, people can provide a shelter as their residential and mailing address. People can register in the town and district where they spend the most time. People don't need photo ID to vote, but can use other forms of ID. But at the end of the day, we know that these answers don't work for everyone.

This is just yet another way that homelessness is our nation's greatest tragedy. As if it was not already a horrible situation, homelessness also infringes on people's ability to exercise their fundamental rights as citizens. And that is just unacceptable.

We are grateful to our members for doing their part to help register their clients to vote and to assist them to vote--whether by mail or in person next week. But we know we need to do more to make sure that no one's right to vote is infringed upon because of their lack of a stable home going forward. And beyond that, to ensure that people experiencing homelessness have the ability to fully participate in democracy and have their voices heard in their town halls, in Hartford, and in Washington. CCEH will be doing all that we can to make sure that as much as we assist our members to help people prevent and resolve their homelessness, we will also be doing our part to help them use their voice at the ballot box and with policymakers.

Please continue to do everything you can to get out and vote and help others to vote. At CCEH, I've given our team a paid day off on November 3 to vote, to volunteer at polling places, and to fully participate in our democracy. I encourage our members to consider doing the same.

So while we keep working to make it practically true as it is legally true that "you don't need a home to vote," let us all vote so that everyone can be home.

Yours Truly,

Richard Cho
CEO

Things to Know for Election Day

Help Clients Vote by Absentee Ballot

November 2nd is the deadline for requesting absentee ballots. Here is some additional information you need to know if you plan to help clients vote by absentee ballot:

- Only clients who are already registered to vote can apply for absentee ballots.
- Your clients can print out an absentee ballot [here](#). You **can** distribute absentee ballots to your clients.
- Your clients can mail their ballots at the town hall where they are registered to vote. A map of Connecticut ballot drop boxes can be found [here](#).
- Absentee ballots must be received (not postmarked) by the Town Clerk via mail or deposited in the Drop Box by **8 P.M.** on **November 3rd**.
- Please note that you cannot distribute more than five ballots without registering first with the town clerk where your facility is located (you can find the contact information for town clerks [here](#)).
- You can find additional information about voting by Absentee Ballot from the Connecticut Secretary of State [here](#).

Helping Clients Register on Election Day

Clients **CAN** register to vote on Election Day. Clients who have not registered by October 27th can still register to vote on Election Day. Here's what you need to know:

- Registering on Election Day is especially encouraged for clients who do not have a photo ID.
- [Election Day Registration](#) may not be available at your polling place, but is available at a designated Election Day Registration location in each town, beginning at **6 A.M.** and ending at **8 P.M.**

- The best time to register to vote on Election Day is between **11 A.M.** and **3 P.M.** on **November 3rd**. Registering between 11 A.M. and 3 P.M. is especially advisable as lower expected crowd volumes in the middle of the day will give volunteers more time to assist with any issues your client may experience.

Please visit our [website](#) for additional information. If you have any questions please contact us at info@cceh.org.

Mattresses Available for Clients Moving into Apartments



Everyone deserves to sleep on a nice cozy bed. 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. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity.

[PLACE YOUR ORDER](#)

Meet Our New Financial Director

Carol Thomas comes to CCEH with more than 15 years of experience in both the non-profit and municipal accounting sectors. Carol was appointed and served two Rhode Island municipalities in the capacity of Deputy Finance Director, as well as the Town of Monterey, Massachusetts, as Town Accountant. Most recently, Carol served as Finance Manager for the Brattleboro Housing Authority in Brattleboro, Vermont.



Carol attended both Howard University in Washington, DC and Johnson & Wales University in her hometown of Providence, RI earning a BS in Accounting. Carol also earned an MBA in Global Business Leadership & Forensic Accounting from Johnson & Wales University. Carol is passionate about community service and social justice and often renders her training and skill sets to organizations and causes that represent her values. Carol has served as Treasurer of the NAACP in Providence, RI, as well as the Springfield Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (a public service organization) and has worked with Crossroads Rhode Island and the Urban League of Rhode Island training staff and volunteers to provide free income tax preparation services through the Internal Revenue Services' Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

Carol is the mom of three amazing children, enjoys traveling, cooking, live music and her fur baby (cat) Cinnamon.

HMIS Update

Although the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has not yet confirmed guidance for the 2021 Point in Time (PIT) unsheltered count, the sheltered count will be conducted. In preparation, we encourage all providers to attend the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) training on 11/4. This webinar will provide a refresher on how to count your bed inventory, including any hotel beds your organization may have leveraged. Please register [here](#).

A Very Concerning Government Response to Homelessness

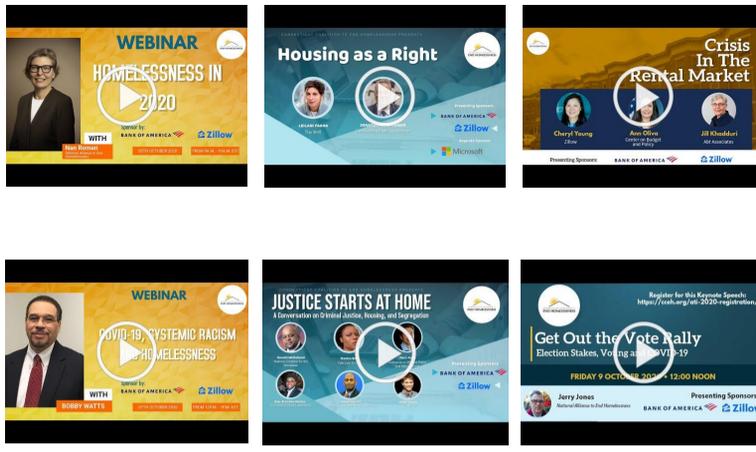
This week the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) released their strategic plan called [Expanding the Toolbox](#). We at CCEH are deeply troubled by the direction USICH has taken in recent months. Please read the whole statement to learn about this concerning development at the federal level.

Our friends at the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) share our concerns and have released a statement in response to USICH strategic vision. Please take some time to read their [response](#) by clicking [here](#).

2020 Annual Training Institute: Presentation Slides

We have created a page with the presentation slides from the ATI. This will allow you to extract information from some of the webinars. Please visit the page by click [here](#).

We hope you are enjoying the many workshop videos. 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.



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](#).

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 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!

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

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

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

[Rights of and Resources for the Most Vulnerable Populations](#)

Tuesday, November 17th, 2020
12 P.M. - 1 P.M.

Previously Recorded Webinars

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

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

CCEH in the News

[Advocates brace for increase in homelessness, and that includes veterans](#)

The Day | October 2020

[The added challenges that come with being a homeless voter](#)

The Daily Campus | October 2020

[Connecticut's housing crisis requires more than an emergency response](#)

CT Mirror | October 2020

[COVID presents fresh challenges for prisoners re-entering society, but also new opportunities](#)

CT Mirror | October 2020

[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



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

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