



## CCEH COVID-19 Response Newsletter

### A Letter From Development Advisor Madeline Ravich



Dear Friends,

'Tis the season. Next week is National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, and we want you to think about how you can have an impact in the life of at least one person experiencing homelessness this holiday season!

#### be homeful for the holidays:

Of course, we are thrilled to announce the launch of our fifth annual *be homeful* for the holidays campaign, sponsored by [CT REALTORS](#)

[Foundation](#) and [United Way of Connecticut](#). This important campaign gives people across the state a way to send a little bit of joy to a child in a shelter by sending an adorable Paddington bear in honor of a loved one. If you would like to participate in this heart-warming campaign, you can click [here](#) to make your donation. This year we also have virtual bear-raiser kits that you and your community can use to "raise" bears for children living in shelters in a fun and easy way.

#### Municipal Campaign to End Homelessness:

We are also especially pleased to share the news that this week will mark the official launch of our municipal campaign, which we have launched in collaboration with the [Connecticut Conference of Municipalities](#) and [Sustainable CT](#). We are encouraging towns around Connecticut to kick off the season with a virtual town hall about what services are needed. We will be holding information sessions on how to hold your own town hall similar to [Hamden's Virtual Town Hall](#) at our Annual Training Institute and Conference last month to showcase services for families, youth, and individuals experiencing homelessness. Please join us this Thursday for an information session for those interested in holding a virtual town hall.

A special thanks to all of you for your passion for ending homelessness. If you would like to get involved with us please reach out to us at [info@cceh.org](mailto:info@cceh.org)!

Yours Truly,

Madeline Ravich  
Development Advisor

### It's time to *be homeful* for the holidays!



While the *be homeful* campaign is different this year, the good it can do is still the same. You can get involved this year by starting a Bear-Raiser using the link below. To promote your bear-raiser, we are providing you with social media posts to share along your journey. Thank you for your help in supporting families in need this holiday season! Visit our website to donate a bear today, or start your own virtual bear-raiser by clicking

[here](#).

### Take Action during National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week

In recognition of National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness has announced a partnership with the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities and Sustainable CT to engage towns and cities in efforts to end homelessness. As part of the launch of this campaign, towns and cities will have the



opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to ending homelessness by signing up to hold virtual town halls focused on municipal services currently available to residents experiencing homelessness, committing to passing a resolution to end homelessness, and designating a municipal staff member to serve as a point-person for efforts relating to homelessness. Towns will also be able to participate by designating a high-school age youth to serve as "be homeful" ambassador who will lead local youth in efforts to end homelessness as part of a larger state-wide initiative championed by youth volunteers. If you would like to get involved, click the button.

CCEH

### Global Homelessness Action Video

Our friends from The Shift want to hear from you. They are looking for video testimonials from people experiencing homelessness. This should be easy and simple. The videos should be short about (1-2 min) and they should address:

- Name (if willing to disclose) + where they are living (in a tent, shelter, etc).
- What its like to experience homelessness in the midst of a pandemic.
- An assertion that their governments must respect their human right to housing, that homelessness is governments' failure to implement human rights and it is not about personal failure.
- Any requests they want to make of their government regarding housing during the pandemic and beyond.

You can submit your videos [here](#) or send them to [Kaitlin Schwan](#).

## Helping Homeless Students Succeed During COVID-19

CCEH is actively engaged with the State Department of Education in understanding the unique needs of students facing homelessness during the pandemic and we would like to hear from you about your experiences establishing and maintaining connection to students in your district who may be struggling with housing instability. Please outreach to [Carl Asikainen](#) to share your experiences and let us know how we can assist you. Stay tuned for an educational roundtable during December hosted by CCEH.

## Important Information for Shelter Providers: Point-in-Time Count 2021 Update

We are moving full-steam ahead in preparation for a sheltered count for the annual night of Point-in-Time (PIT) Count on **Tuesday, January 26, 2021**, but have not received official HUD guidance on how (or even whether) to conduct an unsheltered count given the COVID-19 pandemic. We will share information as soon as we receive that guidance from HUD. In the meantime, we are asking any providers who missed the training on how to enter bed counts into the PIT database to review the [webinar](#) and [slides](#) and complete data entry on bed counts by **November 18th**.

## HMIS Update

211 and Coordinated Access Network (CAN) roles have been updated to support a new Eviction Prevention program, including scheduling of appointments, services, and custom assessment questions. For more detail, see the Release Notes [here](#).

## Winter is Coming: Webinars

National Healthcare for the Homeless Council is launching a November webinar series: "Winter is Coming." Topics of interest to providers include the impacts of flu season, evictions, and civil unrest.

To sign-up for the webinars please click [here](#).

## Transparency & Accountability Task Force



The Police Transparency & Accountability Task Force is looking to hear from young adults. The taskforce will be reporting recommendations to the legislature and Governor and want to make sure all Connecticut voices are heard and represented. Come share your testimony! First session starts **today at 12 P.M.**

To register please click [here](#) or visit their [website](#).

## Digest Library

You can now revisit all the information from our previous Weekly Digests. Please click [here](#) to access the full library.

## 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

## We Are Hiring! Join Our Team

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

### 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](https://cceh.org/covid19)

### Upcoming Webinars

[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.



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