



## CCEH Weekly Digest

### A Letter From CEO Richard Cho

Dear Friends,

This past Wednesday, my family and I took a break from work and school to sit and watch the presidential inauguration, to reflect upon the fragility and preciousness of our democracy, and to celebrate the peaceful transition of power that is at the heart of self-government by the people. CCEH congratulates President Biden and Vice President Harris and looks forward to their critical leadership to our nation at this time of unprecedented challenges.



And carrying along the theme of transitions, it is with mixed emotions that I share my own news that I will be ending my time as CCEH's CEO as I have been called on to join the Biden-Harris Administration in a senior role at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. My last day at CCEH will be January 29. More details regarding my new role will be made public soon. For now, I want to say what an incredible honor it has been to serve the homeless services provider community and people experiencing homelessness in Connecticut over the last two years in this capacity, and to work alongside all of you, our Coalition, towards an end to homelessness in our state.

While my time at CCEH has not been long, I leave my role incredibly proud of what we've been able to achieve together over the last two years.

We've increased the amount of both public and private resources for flexible financial assistance to divert or rapidly exit individuals, families, and youth from homelessness.

We've increased the capacity of homeless services providers to apply the Housing First philosophy to help households resolve their homelessness as quickly as possible.

We've expanded the reach of our homeless services system to reach youth, unsheltered persons, as well as people leaving prisons.

We've broadened our coalition and engaged new allies in our work, including our latest effort to enlist municipal leaders around homelessness through My Town Cares.

We've laid the groundwork for confronting and reversing systemic racism and its manifestations in homelessness.

We've both improved our data collection and utilized our data to better understand the needs of people experiencing homelessness. And that data shows continued declines in homelessness over the last two years.

All of this is on top of the incredible work our sector has done to protect people experiencing and at-risk of homelessness from COVID-19. When you look at all that we've accomplished together, two years feels more like a decade.

And as I've said so many times before, so long as there remain people in our state without stable homes, our work is not yet done. I'm so proud of all that CCEH, its coalition, and its amazing staff have accomplished thus far, and look forward to hearing about and cheering on continued great success ahead. Just as the challenges we face are greater and more urgent than ever, so too is CCEH and our coalition stronger than ever. Please stay tuned for further communication from CCEH's Board of Directors regarding our plans for transitioning our leadership.

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this success. Thank you for entrusting me to be the voice for our coalition. Thank you for all that you do to ensure that every person in our state has a safe and stable home!

With humble gratitude,



**Richard Cho**  
CEO

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## Point-in-Time 2021 to Take Place Tuesday

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This Tuesday, January 26th, providers around the state will participate in the 2021 Point-in-Time Count. If you are a provider participating in the PIT who has access to HMIS, please visit the [PIT webpage](#) for trainings on this year's approach and specifics for how to enter data via your phone or computer.

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## CCEH Seeks Municipal Employees to Conduct PIT in Their Towns

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Please help us spread the word! CCEH is seeking municipal employees in towns across the state to participate in this year's Point-in-Time Count which will take place January 26th. Our objective is to make sure that we have feet on the ground in all 169 Connecticut towns in order to ensure that every person experiencing homelessness is surveyed and connected with services.

Please encourage municipal employees and other volunteers from your town to register for Tuesday's Point-in-Time Count. If you are a provider who missed the January 5th training designed for outreach staff with HMIS access, click [here](#) to view the training recording.

To learn more about this year's Point-in-Time Count, please visit our [website](#).

## Announcing *My Town Cares*, a Partnership with CCM and Sustainable CT



We are pleased announce the launch of *My Town Cares*, a campaign CCEH has launched in partnership with the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities and Sustainable CT to engage Connecticut's towns and cities in taking action to address and prevent homelessness in their communities. Connecticut's towns and cities can take steps outlined in Sustainable CT's **Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention** category to end homelessness in their communities, and receive credit for doing so as part of Sustainable CT's 2021 cycle. CCEH will provide technical assistance to participating municipalities, both in taking the actions outlined in the roadmap and in addressing more immediate issues. CCEH, CCM, and Sustainable CT will be holding a special training for municipal employees on February 4th from 11 A.M. -12:30 P.M. Please click [here](#) to register for the training.

Please contact [Carl Asikainen](#) with specific questions about how your town can participate.

## COVID-19 Vaccine for Homeless Shelter Providers

Advocacy from CCEH and our members has helped ensure that the next phase of Connecticut's COVID-19 vaccine distribution include residents and staff of homeless shelters. You can read the news article [here](#).

Homeless services providers should expect to hear from various health care providers to schedule vaccine administration within the next few weeks, and some providers may have already scheduled or received vaccines. If you have not yet heard, CCEH encourages you to monitor communications on the State's [website](#). Please also feel free to contact us at [info@cceh.org](mailto:info@cceh.org) (Subject: COVID-19 vaccines) if you need more information or need any assistance.



## HMIS Update

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A new column has been added to the "Homeless Episodes" view. This will help with the chronic homeless assessment by limiting the tally to the last 3 years. More information can be found [here](#).

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## We Are Hiring!

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CCEH is hiring! Please spread the word about our search for this available positions:

### **Director of Technical Assistance and Capacity Building**

This position leads and manages CCEH's team of professionals that provide technical assistance, training, and program performance improvement to providers within Connecticut's statewide homeless response system. The Director will lead CCEH's effort to improve and ensure the performance, responsiveness, and equitable impact of homeless services; supervise technical assistance and training team members; align efforts with state government, regional entities, homeless services providers, and Connecticut's two Continuums of Care; track and report on the team's deliverables and budget; and serve as part of CCEH's leadership and management team.

### **Policy Analyst / Senior Policy Analyst**

This position is responsible for supporting the Director of Policy in policy analysis, agenda development, and execution of advocacy efforts to advance the mission of the Housing Equals Justice campaign. The Policy Analyst / Senior Policy Analyst examines federal, state and local policy for opportunities to expand the availability of affordable and supportive housing toward the goal of ensuring that homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring.

For full descriptions and links to the job postings, click [here](#).

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## Resources for Providers

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

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

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

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

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## How You Can Help

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

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# Webinars & Additional Guidance

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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

### [My Town Cares: Local Efforts to Address and Prevent Homelessness](#)

**Thursday, February 4th, 2021  
11 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.**

Connecticut's municipalities routinely encounter and provide services to the thousands of individuals who experience homelessness each year. Moreover, data shows that homelessness affects people in every municipality in Connecticut. Join us for an introduction to My Town Cares, an initiative of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness, that provides a roadmap of actions to address and prevent homelessness.

## Previously Recorded Webinars

- [2021 Housing Inventory Count \(HIC\) Training](#)
- [Rights of and Resources for the Most Vulnerable Populations](#)
- [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](#)
- [Having a Harm Reduction Approach During a Pandemic \(Session 2\)](#)
- [Having a Harm Reduction Approach During a Pandemic \(Session 1\)](#)

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

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## CCEH in the News

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### [Activistas abogan por el cierre de "Northern Correctional"](#)

Identidad Latina | January 2021

### [Advocates call for closure of Northern Correctional, reinvestment in community supports](#)

CT Mirror | January 2021

### [Fundraising effort adopts Paddington Bear as mascot](#)

Republican American | January 2021

### [Report: Youth homelessness, housing instability on the decline in CT](#)

CT Post | January 2021

### [Towns, cities called on to help in annual homelessness count](#)

The Day | January 2021

### [Connecticut prepares for COVID-safe Point-in-Time Count](#)

Middletown Press | January 2021

### [Report Finds Thousands Of Connecticut Youth Experienced](#)

**Homelessness In 2020**

WNPR - Where We Live | January 2021

**Radio Interview with CCEH's Carl Asikainen on Youth Homelessness**

WATR - Talk of the Town | January 2021

**For the People Radio Show - Network of Distinction**

WPLR 99.1 FM | January 2021

