



## CCEH Weekly Digest

### A Letter From Our Interim CEO

Dear Friends,

Thank you all for the warm welcome this week! It is wonderful to be working with so many familiar faces and meet new ones as well.



As I write this newsletter, I think back to my days as Commissioner of the Department of Housing. I am so proud of what we accomplished during my time partnering with CCEH in that role. We were in uncharted territory as we mapped out a path to end veteran and chronic homelessness in the state. And look at how far we have come since then! We are on the brink of ending family homelessness in our state, have the strongest network of youth providers we have ever had, and have municipalities from all around the state coming to the table to figure out how they can plug into efforts to end homelessness.

Of course, these successes are a tribute to the CCEH staff and the many CAN providers who make up our system. To all of you, I would like to extend my deepest thanks to you for your commitment to ending homelessness in Connecticut, and share how much I look forward to working with all of you.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Evonne Klein".

**Evonne Klein**  
Interim CEO

### CCEH Celebrates Black History Month

#### Nominations Wanted!

Help Us Honor Black Leaders and Unsung Heroes from our Field.



In honor of Black History Month, CCEH will be featuring the contributions that Black leaders make to our field every day. We know that leadership is at times recognized and honored but more than often unheralded, particularly for people of color. That is why we are asking you to reflect upon Black individuals whose actions to prevent and end homelessness for people in Connecticut are worthy of recognition. Leadership can be formal or informal, operating from any position within an organization, and can include individual acts that have changed lives for the better by applying their expertise, compassion, and

action to influence individual clients, peers, organizations, or the homeless response system as a whole.

During the month of February, we will be featuring nominees weekly in the CCEH newsletter and on social media and are excited to hear from you about Black Leaders and Unsung Heroes of the homeless response sector. To make your nomination please visit our [page](#) to make your nominations.

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## 2021 Legislative Priorities

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We believe that housing is a human right and everyone should be guaranteed a safe, stable place to call home. Our legislative agenda calls for policy change to advance housing justice and is rooted in our belief that homelessness is unacceptable and the result of income inequality, broken public systems, and institutional racism.

Click [here](#) to review our 2021 legislative agenda and be on the lookout for ways to join us in making your voice heard this legislative session.

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## Become a CCEH Member!

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CCEH is a coalition organization, and we could not do the work we do without a strong and varied group of members.

Last year we were honored to provide our members with support in the face of an unprecedented pandemic, including supplies and financial reimbursement. We also established a Members Advocacy Roundtable, to ensure that our members are actively involved as we craft our legislative agenda. Finally, we continue to offer significant discounts to our members on trainings throughout the year.

We aim to keep member dues affordable, and the 2021 price will remain **\$225**. We also kindly ask our members to Sponsor the Annual Training Institute for an additional \$100 if possible.

To renew your membership, or become a member for the first time, visit [CCEH.org/joinus](http://CCEH.org/joinus).

If you have any questions, please contact Ryan Beach at [rbeach@cceh.org](mailto:rbeach@cceh.org).

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## My Town Cares Updates

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My Town Cares is moving along and we wanted to share some exciting updates with you. Yesterday, the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities hosted *My Town Cares: Local Efforts to Address and Prevent Homelessness* training, to the homeless response system designed for municipalities. Please note that CCEH will be holding technical assistance office hours for municipalities during the month of February from 1-2 PM on Tuesdays for municipal employees and from 2:30-3:30 PM on Tuesdays for providers seeking assistance in connecting with municipalities in their regions. We will also be offering trainings leading up to the April 6th Sustainable CT submissions deadline.

For background information on this campaign visit our [website](#).

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## *be homeful* Ambassadors

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Our advocacy season is in full swing, and our *be homeful* Ambassadors are leading the way. Our *be homeful* statewide youth advocates met with CCEH Policy Director Sarah Fox to explore how youth throughout Connecticut can join together to advocate for legislation that would establish housing as a right.

If you are a high school student interested in joining the *be homeful* ambassadors in their advocacy, click [here](#) to learn more about the *be homeful* ambassadors and fill out the form to sign up.



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## COVID-19 Vaccine Resources for Homeless Shelter Providers

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CCEH and our members has helped ensure that the current phase of Connecticut's COVID-19 vaccine

distribution include residents and staff of homeless shelters.

Connecticut shelters have begun receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, as part of the Governor's plan to serve congregate settings through Phase 1b. Several shelters have been served with many more scheduled in the coming weeks. CCEH continues to coordinate with DOH to monitor progress in reaching this key population. Please click [here](#) if you want more information on vaccine access for congregate settings.



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.

Please utilize the following resources from HUD for your organization:

- [How to Build Staff Confidence in COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [Preparing Staff for the COVID-19 Vaccine: Communication and Confidence Checklist](#)
- [Preparing Staff for the COVID-19 Vaccine: Meeting Template](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Conversation Tips for Homeless Service Providers](#)

We also encourage shelter providers to check the [CDC's toolkit](#) for additional valuable resources.

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## 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-Fileers Tool to Get an Economic Impact Payment \(IRS\)](#)

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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).

### This Week's Feature Webinar:



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

### 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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### [Single-Digit Temps And Homeless](#)

NBC Connecticut | January 2021

