

# CT CAN END HOMELESSNESS

## 2025 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



From 2023 to 2024, the number of people experiencing homelessness in Connecticut **increased 13%**, and 44% were children and adults over 55.<sup>1</sup> Over **5,000 people** are currently experiencing homelessness.<sup>2</sup> The Homeless Response System's ability to continue providing life-saving services is at risk due to **critical funding gaps** and a **lack of annualized funding indexed to inflation**.

We call on the legislature to invest **\$33.5 million** for FY26 in three critical priority areas to create a strategic pathway forward:

### Prevention \$7.8 Million

#### Eviction Prevention Partnership - **\$5.3M** - *New Dollars, Annualize*

- Will ensure statewide access to high-quality legal and social services for individuals and families facing eviction.

#### Flexible Funding - **\$2.5M** - *Annualize*

- Provides short-term financial assistance to individuals on the brink of homelessness, including young people on their own.

### Crisis Response \$19.5 Million

#### Homeless Response Services - **\$9M** - *Adjust & Index to Inflation*

- Will ensure the long-term stability and strength of Connecticut's Homeless Response System.

#### Cold Weather Emergency Services - **\$5M** - *Annualize*

- Funding for cold weather shelter operations to ensure no individual or family is left without a life-saving place to stay during the harsh winter months.

#### CAN Hub & Diversion Services - **\$5.5M** - *Annualize*

- Support for Coordinated Access Network (CAN) Hubs, which provide direct services to prevent homelessness through diversion programs and coordinated entry systems.

### Housing \$6.2 Million

#### Case Management for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) - **\$6.2M** *Annualize*

- Funding for case management services to stabilize individuals in Permanent Supportive Housing through Connecticut's Rental Assistance Program (RAP).

*To ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of these solutions, all annualized investments should be indexed to the rate of inflation.*

1. Point-in-Time Count 2. DOH By Name List Summary - 12/17/24





## Policy Priorities

We call on the legislature to enact the following policy priorities to create a strategic pathway forward:

### **Codify the Connecticut Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH):**

- Establish a permanent ICH to drive cross-agency collaboration, adopt national best practices, and ensure inclusive decision-making that amplifies the voices of those with lived experience, service providers, and state leadership to create equitable, transformative solutions to homelessness.

### **Implement Alternatives to Ticketing, Fines & Arrests:**

- Advance a state-level commitment to invest in proven alternatives to ticketing, fines, and arrests for people experiencing homelessness.

### **Tax Incentives for Landlords:**

- Introduce tax credits for landlords who offer rental units to individuals experiencing homelessness.

Connecticut must act swiftly to secure sustainable investments and policy solutions to address the homelessness crisis. Together, we can build a resilient, compassionate response system that prevents homelessness, responds effectively, and ensures housing stability for all.



*The CT CAN End Homelessness Legislative Agenda reflects a statewide consensus-based decision-making process involving homeless response providers, front-line staff, agency partners and people with lived experience of homelessness from across the state.*

