






ODFC membership comprises civic, religious, political, business, and not-for-profit leaders, as well as countless other regional stakeholders. The ODFC region includes Bridgeport, Brookfield, Danbury, Darien, Easton, Fairfield, Greenwich, Monroe, Newtown, New Canaan, New Fairfield, Norwalk, Redding, Ridgefield Sherman, Stamford, Stratford, Trumbull, Weston, Westport and Wilton.

Collective Impact: An Approach That Works

ODFC is committed to developing strong cross sector partnerships with groups that support shared interests in ending all forms of homelessness through structured strategies and work plans that encourage a form of collaboration to build a culture of fostering relationships, trust, and respect across all participants.

<u>Common Agenda</u>	All participants have a shared vision for change including a common understanding of issues and joint approaches to creating solutions through agreed upon actions
<u>Shared Measurement</u>	Developing an achievable set of indicators for ending all forms of homelessness on the regional level based upon outcome measures articulated in Opening Doors, the federal framework to end homelessness
<u>Mutually Reinforcing Activities</u>	Participant activities must be differentiated while still being coordinated through a mutually reinforcing plan of action.
<u>Continuous Communication</u>	Consistent and open communication occurs across the many players to build trust, assure mutual objectives, and create common motivation.
<u>Backbone Support</u>	Creating and managing collective impact requires dedicated staff and specific sets of skills to serve as the backbone for the entire initiative and to bring together participating organizations and agencies

Mutually Emphasizing Activities on Regional Initiatives to End Homelessness

 <p>FC- Coordinated Access Network</p> <p><u>Centralized—Front Doors Access to Housing:</u> 211</p> <p><u>Goal:</u> Diversion from emergency shelter when possible; rapid exit from emergency shelter when unavoidable</p> <p><u>Housing Assignments:</u> System navigation/ short term case management; standardized assessments on vulnerability & chronicity; all housing decisions are “Community Decisions”</p>	 <p>ODFC Utilizes a Progressive Engagement & Housing First Approach— Effective Initiatives & Practices in Place:</p> <p>Housing First Collaboratives Rapid Rehousing Team Social Services for Veteran Families Secure Jobs Initiatives for Families Critical Time Intervention</p>	 <p>Integrating Health Care & Housing</p> <p><u>Regional Community Care Teams:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Dedicated staff provide outreach / follow up to highly vulnerable/ high hospital utilizers – Track overuse of hospital emergency departments in efforts to reduce cost – Ongoing targeted case management increases housing stability
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Backbone Support to ODFC & FC-CAN

Provide Strategic Direction & Facilitate Dialogue between Partners
Promote Cross-sector Partnerships, Communication & Resource Mobilization
Dedicated Staff for Committees and Initiatives
Expertise in System Performance Measurement & Identifying Indicators for Improvement

Opening Doors of Fairfield County & Fairfield County Coordinated Access Network (FC-CAN)

The mission of ODFC is to prevent and end homelessness in Fairfield County. In efforts to achieve this goal, ODFC coordinates the strategies of advocacy, prevention, housing, employment, and targeted services to ensure that episodes of homelessness are rare and of short duration and that all citizens within the region have access to safe, affordable housing.

ODFC & FC-CAN have strategically created a collective impact infrastructure to make this vision a reality through the following essential functions:

Backbone Infrastructure Staff Competencies	<p><i>ODFC & FC CAN deliver technical assistance by conducting re-search, providing training, engaging in local planning, & developing leadership with community stakeholders, including those whom have experienced homelessness</i></p>
Providing Data for Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ODFC & FC-CAN staff provide support / training on program evaluation, performance improvement tools & procedural guidance on compliance with local & federal outcome measures</i> • <i>Data tools are broadly shared & utilized in creating solutions on identified concerns & trends</i>
Implementation of Best Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ODFC & FC-CAN replicates nationally proven successes on innovative, results based approaches to end homelessness through joint efforts with providers</i> • <i>Strategies incorporate targeted assessment tools to prioritize resources for the most vulnerable through centralized entry & standardized assignment for all housing resources</i> • <i>Outcome measurement is shared to evaluate program, community and regional level usage, trends, client demographics & characteristics of the system</i>
Collaborative Practices Support the Most Vulnerable	<p><i>ODFC & FC-CAN work to mobilize providers in leveraging existing resources through organized, regional, collaborative efforts that deliver targeted supportive services focused on ending homelessness</i></p>

