

Program Principles

CT RRP utilizes 4 “Key Principles” to guide program operations. The principles are as follows: Housing Focus; Housing Comes First; Choice and Respect; and Just Enough Assistance. Below the principles are defined.

1. Housing Focus.

Housing focus understands the individual’s or family’s immediate barriers to obtaining and keeping housing and then finds ways to eliminate or compensate for those barriers.

2. Housing Comes First.

The “Housing Comes First” principle believes that the program participant is assisted to obtain permanent housing as quickly as possible and is connected to resources necessary to sustain that housing.

3. Choice and Respect.

The “Choice and Respect” principle believes that families and individuals are empowered to make their own choices about housing and services and to respond to the consequences of those choices.

4. Just Enough Assistance.

*The “Just Enough Assistance” principle believes the **minimum assistance** (financial and/or housing supports) necessary is provided for the **shortest period of time** possible. Barriers are identified at the outset of services and supports are provided to eliminate those barriers and improve the household’s ability to sustain housing.*



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Connecticut Rapid Re-Housing Program in Southwestern CT

An Updated Guide for Shelter Staff, Case Managers, and Program Participants

(Revised for 2016)

*A Regional Collaboration to
Rapidly Rehouse People
Experiencing Homelessness*

What is the CT Rapid Re-Housing Program?

The CT Rapid Re-housing Program (CT RRP) uses a combination of housing relocation and stabilization services combined with financial assistance to help homeless households move as quickly as possible into permanent housing to achieve housing stability.

CT RRP eligible participants are literally homeless households..

The term “homeless”, “homeless individual”, “homeless person” or “homeless household” shall be defined as:

- a household who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and
- a household who has a primary nighttime residence that is
 - ◇ a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations
 - ◇ an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized;
 - ◇ a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
 - ◇ an individual or family who is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence; has no other residence; and lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing

Please note that this definition complies with HUD’s Category 1 definition of homelessness, but for purposes of this program, the target population does not include those in transitional housing or programs that last longer than 90 days.

Is Rapid Re-Housing Right for me?

CT Rapid Re-Housing (CT RRP) is an innovative program combining housing location services, sustainability case management, and limited financial assistance for homeless individuals and families. A housing coordinator will work with you to find an apartment and then a sustainability coordinator will work with you to maintain your housing.

CT RRP will provide assistance with obtaining your security deposit and pay your first month’s rent. You will work with program staff to pay 30% of your income for the next three months. After that, your sustainability coordinator will work with you to reassess your needs to determine if there is anything prohibiting your discharge from the program.

In order to receive this financial assistance, you will need to actively participate in the program. This means meeting with your sustainability coordinator face-to-face in your apartment at least once per month, following up on referrals provided to you, and diligently working on your plan to maintain your apartment after assistance ends.

The CT Rapid Re-Housing program is NOT a subsidized housing program. As a part of this program, the amount of rent you pay WILL increase every month. The intention of this program is that you will work with your Sustainability Coordinator on budgeting and building your ability to pay the entire rent yourself after 3 months.



Our goal is to help you end your housing crisis quickly and to empower you to remain stably housed.

Program Referrals

The Coordinated Access Network (CAN) is the primary source for CT Rapid Re-Housing program referrals. In order to be recommended for Rapid Rehousing, a household must call 211 and be added to the Housing Registry for Fairfield County. The CT RRP will prioritize those households who are most vulnerable first.

Who will CT RRP serve?

- Any person or family experiencing homelessness
- Any homeless person or family willing to actively participate in the program
- Any homeless person or family willing to pay an increasing portion of their rent each month as they continue to stabilize in the program



This program is in high demand in Southwestern CT and there are limited funds available for rental assistance. Because of this and the staff capacity of the program, the CT RRP housing coordinator will attend the CAN housing placement meetings twice a month to indicate the number of new referrals we are able to accommodate. We will only be able to accept new referrals when the program has the capacity to provide all levels of service to our clients.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the housing coordinator, Samantha Stewart at 203-579-3180 ext 14 or samantha@supportivehousingworks.org