

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICE SNAPSHOT DURING COVID-19 - SHELTER & HOUSING

(Update #3 - 3.16.20 - 6.30.20)

During COVID-19, all domestic violence organizations in Connecticut are fully operational and offering flexible, creative remote services to meet the needs of victims and survivors. Below is a snapshot of **SHELTER & HOUSING** services provided during COVID-19 by our **18 MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS**.

Shelter services during COVID-19...

During COVID-19, our **18 MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS** continue to provide emergency shelter or safe options to shelter to victims of domestic violence while adhering to social distancing guidelines. Continued adherence to social distancing guidelines has increased usage of hotels as a temporary shelter option. This remains a challenge for providers as they incur the cost of operating the shelter, coupled with substantially more in hotel costs.



Our Members have spent an average of \$3,000 - \$6,000 PER MONTH on HOTELS

Domestic violence rapid re-housing services during COVID-19...

Providers continue to prioritize use of the federal HUD-funded **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RAPID RE-HOUSING (RRH) PROGRAM** to help survivors access safe, stable and longer-term housing options. This program offers families a rent subsidy that decreases over time as the survivor works towards self-sufficiency.



56 FAMILIES enrolled (3/16 - 6/30) of those...



37 FAMILIES housed (3/16 - 6/30)



The majority of rapid re-housing referrals during COVID-19 have come from **SHELTER** in a continued effort to limit communal living where possible and safe.



During COVID-19, families have been housed in an average of **20 DAYS**, which is faster than the program goal of 30 days.

The RRH program provided an INCREASED SUBSIDY during the beginning of COVID-19...

RRH offers families a rent subsidy (a portion paid by the program and a portion paid by the tenant) that decreases over time as the survivor works towards self-sufficiency. During COVID-19, CCADV has been able to provide flexibility with rental assistance. The RRH program paid 100% of RENT for families in April, May and June. For families in the program, this resulted in an average of...



A few KEY COVID-19 WAIVERS facilitated efficient program utilization...

LEASE LENGTH



The RRH program typically requires signing of a one-year lease. However, HUD granted a waiver through 9.30.20 providing flexibility with the use of **SHORT-TERM LEASES**. This has significantly helped **DECOMPRESS SHELTERS** while long-term plans could be developed. We were able to quickly secure temporary, all utilities included, fully furnished safe housing.

VIRTUAL INSPECTIONS

Before signing a lease, we make sure we are renting units that meet health and safety standards. Effective 3.31.20, HUD granted waivers to allow for **VIRTUAL APARTMENT INSPECTIONS** as a special measure to prevent the spread of COVID-19. We were able to house families using appropriate physical distancing while at the same time **SPEEDING UP THE INSPECTION PROCESS**.



OUR MEMBERS

Our members, the state's 18 domestic violence organizations, provide critical services to survivors across the state 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Services include:

- Safety planning and risk assessment
- Emergency shelter, transitional housing & rapid rehousing
- Individual counseling and support groups
- Advocacy to access basic needs

- · Court-based advocacy in criminal and civil court
- Age-appropriate advocacy and support services for children & teens
- Community education







BRIDGEPORT



DANBURY



Creating healthy communities

DAYVILLE/WILLIMANTIC



ENFIELD



GREENWICH







MIDDLETOWN



Providing Comprehensive Services for Victims of Domestic Violence Since 1973.

NEW BRITAIN



NEW LONDON COUNTY





TORRINGTON



SHARON

