

Help Create Housing in Windham County - Resource Guide

Housing Coalition of Southeastern Vermont

The *Housing Coalition of Southeastern Vermont* is the cross-sector planning body focused on housing and homelessness in the region. The goals of the Coalition are to end homelessness, support a healthy housing ecosystem, and prepare the community for future housing development opportunities.

The Coalition supports these community goals by focusing on the following established strategic priorities:

- Increase and improve housing stock
- Support housing retention
- Advocate for housing resources for the community
- Address gaps in housing services

It is estimated in the 2021 Town of Brattleboro Housing Action Plan that we will need to add AT LEAST 500 units of housing (both rental and owner-occupied) to our inventory to address existing needs. **YOU can help create housing in Windham County!**

* Please consider how you can be a part of the housing **SOLUTION** *

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) – add a unit to your existing property

An ADU is a smaller, independent dwelling unit that is located on the same lot as an existing single-family home. Vermont's law on equal treatment of housing and town bylaws requires municipalities to allow homeowners to add one ADU to their house as a permitted use as long as certain conditions are met. Contact your town's Zoning Administrator to understand the local requirements.

- * Windham & Windsor Housing Trust ADU Funding Program - <https://www.homemattershere.org/adu-program/>
- * VT Housing Improvement Program (VHIP) - <https://accd.vermont.gov/vhip>
The VHIP-ADU program is a low-barrier way for Vermont homeowners to help solve the housing crisis one unit at a time. This program offers grants of up to \$50,000 that can be used for expense related to creating an accessory dwelling unit.

Apartments in Homes Program – add an apartment to your home

Brattleboro Area Affordable Housing (BAAH) -

<https://www.baahvermont.org/our-programs/apartments-in-homes>

Rental Rehab Units

- * Town of Brattleboro Rental Housing Improvement Program -
- * <https://baahvermont.org/our-programs/%20rental-housing-improvement-program/>
- * VT Housing Improvement Program (VHIP) - financial resources to improve rental properties administered by Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) - <https://www.homemattershere.org/rental-rehab/>
- * Rockingham Rental Rehab Program - landlords of multi-family properties are eligible for assistance through Windham & Windsor Housing Trust. <https://homemattersheredev.lmwdesign.com/rockingham-rental-rehab-program/>

Camping on Private Property

Allowing camping on your property is governed by your local ordinances and/or zoning bylaws. Contact your local officials to find out what is possible in your town.

Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) Homeownership Center

Online and in-person courses on how to buy a home, including multi-family properties. One-on-one support from Housing Specialists for households preparing for homeownership or actively engaged in the homebuying process. Visit <https://www.homemattershere.org/how-to-buy-a-home/>

Sharing Housing – guidance for a successful shared housing arrangement

- * Sharing Housing, Inc. - <https://sharinghousing.com/>
- * Shared Housing Incentives for Taking Action (SHIFT) - <https://sharinghousing.com/shift/>
- * Brattleboro Savings & Loan collab - borrow at 'good rate' if need more assistance

Manufactured/Mobile Home Resources

- * Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) - statewide resource. Visit <https://www.cvoeo.org/get-help/mobile-home-park-rights-and-resources>
- * WWHT - Green Mtn Home Repair & purchase (Champlain Housing Trust)
- * BAAH Home Improvement Program - <https://baahvermont.org/our-programs/home-loan-program/>
- * SEVCA Emergency Home Repair (including mobile homes) - <https://sevca.org/emergency-home-repair>

Other Resources:

- * VT Housing Finance Agency (VHFA) - <https://www.housingdata.org/>
- * Agency of Commerce & Community Development (ACCD) - <https://accd.vermont.gov/>
- * Windham Regional Commission (WRC) - <http://www.windhamregional.org/>
 - Town and regional plans, including housing chapters and town committee contacts
 - Support housing development in your town
 - ◇ Familiarize yourself with housing policies in your town, including land use, zoning, etc.
 - ◇ Serve on your town's Development Review Board