

## Seeking 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
- Advocate for housing resources for the community
- Support housing retention
- Address gaps in housing services

***Understanding that Vermont is in a housing crisis, this resource highlights existing resources/partners in Windham County that can assist individuals and families who are seeking housing (emergency, rental, or homeownership).***

#### Emergency Shelter

- \* State of VT General Assistance (GA) Emergency Shelter application:
  - Call 800.775.0506
  - Go to the Economic Services Division (ESD) office at 232 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Brattleboro from 7:45am - 4:30pm, Monday - Friday
  - Visit <https://dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/crisis-housing>
  - Vermont 211 - call 211 (866.652.46360) from anywhere in VT after 4:30pm to access General Assistance emergency housing
- \* Groundworks Drop-in Center - 54 S. Main Street, Brattleboro, 802.257.5415
- \* Women's Freedom Center - 802.254.6954
- \* Youth Services, Inc. - 866.888-4498; provides support with identifying emergency housing
- \* Faith communities - discretionary funds; varies by town/faith community

#### Natural Disaster Relief

When the region experiences a natural disaster such as a major flood, storm, or wildfire, the State and local municipalities activate their Emergency Operations Plans to potentially provide safe shelter to affected residents. If you need assistance after a natural disaster, please call Vermont 2-1-1.

#### Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) Homeownership Center

Online and in-person courses on how to buy a home & access to down payment assistance grants. Visit <https://www.homemattershere.org/how-to-buy-a-home/>

#### VT State Housing Authority (VSHA) Section 8 Homeownership Program

Visit <https://www.vsha.org/vsha-programs/section-8-home-ownership-program/>

#### Housing Navigation - rental listings, assistance with rental applications, etc.

- \* Southeastern VT Community Action (SEVCA)'s Housing Resource Center
  - 15 Grove Street, Brattleboro, 800.464.9951
  - Walk-in hours: Monday 1:30-4:00, Wednesday 1:30-4:00, Friday 9:00-11:00
- \* U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Programs (VA)
  - The National Call Center for Homeless Veterans - 877.424.3838
  - Supportive Services for Veteran Families at the University of Vermont (SSVF at UVM) - 802.656.3232
  - Veterans Inc. SSVF Program - 800.482.2565
- \* Early Education Services (EES), Parent Child Center - 130 Birge Street, Brattleboro, 802.246.2060

## Housing Inventory

- \* Brattleboro Housing Partnerships (BHP) - Subsidized Housing & Shelter Plus Care for homeless/disabled residents ~ Main Office - 224 Melrose Terrace, 802.254.6071
- \* VT Housing Finance Agency (VHFA)'s database of affordable housing units statewide ~ <https://housingdata.org/>
- \* Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) - Affordable housing provider; apartment rentals and shared equity homeownership program ~ <https://www.homemattershere.org/>
- \* Realtors - keep current rental and for sale listings
- \* Private Property Owners that accept rental assistance vouchers - The Landlord Liaison, Dan Handy, can assist in connecting - 802.490.0247 or [dhandy@groundworksvt.org](mailto:dhandy@groundworksvt.org)

## Rental Assistance

For low-income, disabled, veterans, families with children, others who may be eligible

- \* SEVCA - 800.464.9951
- \* U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Programs:
  - The National Call Center for Homeless Veterans - 877.424.3838
  - Supportive Services for Veteran Families at the University of Vermont (SSVF at UVM) - 802.656.3232
  - Veterans Inc. SSVF Program - 800.482.2565

## Shared Housing

Guidance for a successful shared housing arrangement and Resources for learning how to find a housemate situation: books, workbooks, online classes. Sharing Housing, Inc. - <https://sharinghousing.com/>

## Other Resources:

- \* Housing Case Management Partner Organizations - AIDS Project, Brattleboro Housing Partnerships (BHP), Easter Seals, ECDC (refugee resettlement), ESD-Reach Up, Groundworks Collaborative, Health Care & Rehabilitation Services (HCRS), Pathways VT, Senior Solutions, SEVCA, VA, Windham & Windsor Housing Trust, Winston Prouty, Women's Freedom Center, Youth Services
- \* Tenancy Information
- \* Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) - statewide resources <https://www.cvoeo.org/get-help/vermont-tenants-rights-and-resources>
- \* VT Legal Aid - <https://www.vtlegalaid.org/legal-projects/housing-discrimination-law>
- \* Private Lending Institutions - Banks, Credit Unions, etc.