

**Vermont Interagency Council on Homelessness
10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness**

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4/13/2007**

Category	Strategy/Task	Action Step/Details	Manager	Due Date	Progress to Date	High, Medium or Low	Additional comments- details to be added/taken out
Complete and ongoing (2.2.3)	Develop scattered site rehab and renovation	Using existing models to provide funding and incentives for regional housing rehabilitation programs.	N/A		The state has complete coverage through the VT Community Development Program for rehab subsidy programs	N/A	
Completed and Ongoing (2.2.6)	Support VT initiative for responsible lending	Predatory lending can lead to homelessness if potential homeowners fall victim.	N/A	N/A	Developed a coalition on predatory lending, held a one-day conference in the fall of 2003, launched a new educational and awareness campaign, and created a consumer assistance hotline 1-800-649-2424	N/A	
Completed and Ongoing (2.2.9)	Investigate expansion of employer assisted housing program	Collect and disseminate information on employer assisted housing programs. Encourage and facilitate employers to provide housing assistance to employees. The goal is to expand housing resources, increase the supply of housing and help prevent foreclosures and evictions.	N/A	N/A	VHFA created a memo to employers with 20 specific recommendations on ways they can offer housing benefits to employees, ranging from no cost to high-investment. DHCA presented a workshop to business executives as a part of the VT Businesses for Social Responsibility annual conference. VHFA partnered with Fannie Mae to do a similar presentation to companies in Chittenden and Addison counties. Invitations for similar presentations were sent to every Chamber of Commerce in the state. In 2006 several members of the VICH testified to the the State Legislature on legislation to provide a tax credit to employees who offer housing benefits.	N/A	
Completed and Ongoing (2.3.3)	Develop strategies to prevent mobile home park closures	A task force will be convened to research this issue, formulate policy and make recommendations to the administration and legislature as may be appropriate. New strategies would be considered, programs conceived and legislation prepared to discourage MHP closures and provide assistance for their improvement.	N/A	N/A	DHCA convened the Manufactured Housing and Mobile Home Commission during 2005. A summary of their work and recommendations is available at www.dhca.state.vt.us/Housing/advisory_commission_docs .	N/A	

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Completed and Ongoing (2.4.1)	Implement McKinney Vento law as amended under No Child Left Behind	Establish and support statewide network of Homeless Education Liaisons in SU/School Districts. Develop and disseminate McKinney Vento informational materials to education and social service agencies, including a VHCYP brochure). Establish and maintain website on Homeless Education. Establish and maintain listserv of Homeless Education Liaisons and McKinney Vento sub grants. Provide funding for technical assistance network for schools, families, and communities (Vermont Homeless Children and Youth Project. Provide ongoing training and technical assistance to schools and agencies. Establish an enrollment dispute process for Vermont. Develop an interstate protocol to address enrollment disputes. Fund projects that support school/community services to homeless children and youth in areas of high need. Establish a state accountability system for sub grant services to homeless children and youth. Address Vermont statute compliance with McKinney Vento requirements for school enrollment.	N/A	N/A	Statewide network of Homeless Education Liaisons established; FY05 Liaisons designated in Consolidated Federal Applications from SU/SDs to Vermont Department of Education. Updated VT Homeless Children and Youth Project brochure developed and posted to DOE Homeless Education website. Updated McKinney Vento information packet, including the law, summary of law, enrollment dispute process, VHCYP brochure, website information, contacts for shelters and youth programs; packet distributed fall 2004 to all Homeless Education Liaisons, Special Education Coordinators, Superintendents, Principals. Website updated with new VHCYP brochure, updated list of Homeless Education Liaisons, and Federal McKinney Vento Guidance. Homeless Liaison Listserv updated August 2004; information out fall 2004 on Liaison responsibilities and federal reporting requirements, national Homeless Education conference, resources and website. Funding allocated to support technical assistance work of Vermont Homeless Children and Youth Project for FY2005. Enrollment dispute process established. Interstate protocol established for enr	N/A	
Completed and Ongoing (3.5.1)	Encourage joint meeting day of VT Affordable Housing Coalition (VAHC) and VT Coalition to End Homelessness (VCEH) in time overlap	Currently, the Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness – primarily a group of homeless service providers – and the Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition – primarily housing providers – meet once a month on different days. To complete this action step the two groups would discuss the possibility (including the pros and cons) of switching one of those organizations’ meeting days to coincide with the other’s regularly scheduled meetings. This would create increased communication between housing developers and service providers on a regular basis and would make it easier for more overlap between these coalitions’ membership and priorities.	N/A	N/A	1) This joint meeting was held in 2004 and 2005. 2) 2006, VCEH and VAHC shared legislative priorities. Voted on each priority.		

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Completed and Ongoing (4.1.1)	Identify data sources, integrate collection efforts, determine what we want to learn from the data and then analyze the data to guide statewide decision making	We will utilize the work of the statewide housing needs assessment, coordinated as a part of the state's Consolidated Plan rewrite. VHFA helped draft the Scope of Work for the contractor as well as serve on a working group meeting with the contractor monthly to monitor progress. VHFA's role will be to advocate for as much data collection and analysis for homeless and/or chronically homeless households as possible. Once the data collection and regional analysis is completed we will review the entire findings with a specific focus on the section relating to people who are homeless and/or chronically homeless. A synopsis of the data will be provided to the VICH and this process may be expanded to include new avenues of data collection or analysis not covered through the original assessment. Vermont's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is in the process of being implemented.	N/A	N/A	The statewide housing needs assessment was completed in January 2005 (available online at www.dhca.state.vt.us/Housing/ConPlan/index.htm#vol1). There is a chapter on Special Needs Vermonters, and as a part of that a series of 13 focus groups were held across the state to determine the needs for homeless and special needs housing that can't be captured through traditional data collection efforts. All providers who receive HUD funding through the McKinney-Vento funding are participating in an HMIS. ADDITIONAL NEED: There is no statewide count on homelessness, so we are unable to anticipate need without a statewide unduplicated-aggregated total. Need direction for implementation.		

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Completed and Ongoing (4.5.2 & 4.5.3))	Use funding mechanisms to ensure viable partnerships among housing and service providers. Provide policy statement to ConPlan Advisory Group.	1) Identify the key sources of funding for housing development. For each source (CDBG, HOME, VHCB, etc.) we will develop a strategy to establish a funding preference for housing proposals that include either designated slots for chronically homeless families/individuals or partnership agreements with homeless shelter/service providers. 2) Research models in other states (Ohio) where TANF funds are used to provide supportive housing and make recommendations based on that research. 3) Rewriting the HUD Consolidated Plan next year to ensure that there is a clearly defined bonus or preference for housing proposals that target chronically homeless individuals/families. 4) VHFA will propose a change to its Low Income Housing Tax Credit Qualified Allocation Plan where housing developers who prioritize units for chronically homeless individuals being served by a homeless support agency may receive higher scoring in the development's application.	N/A	N/A	1) The ConPlan controlled funding (ESG, HOME and CDBG) now will be allocated based on a proposed statement submitted to the Consolidated Plan by the VICH for adoption in the 2006 Action Plan. The statement reads: "To better implement the 10 year plan to end homelessness, the agreed upon priority need as determined and voted on by the regional Continuum of Care will be a determining factor in awarding Consolidated Plan housing resources that are targeted to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness." Similarly, the LIHTC's QAP was revised in 2004 to strengthen the emphasis on housing created for people who are homeless as well as some mechanisms to ensure homeless service providers are aware of all housing developments prior to construction.		
Completed and Ongoing (4.7.1)	Affirm VICH organizational structure, leadership, and staffing	Need to include policy level executives to achieve success on ending chronic homelessness in Vermont.	N/A	N/A	Completed in December 2006. See new Executive Order at http://www.vermont.gov/governor/orders/executive-orders.shtml . Structure of VICH also revised at this time.		
Completed and Ongoing (4.7.2)	Create contact list of interested parties and develop website	Correlate all stakeholders within the homeless and at risk of being homeless community. Create a contact list to keep people informed and educated along the process. Keep stakeholders informed and educated on the process in which we are moving forward and also to educate the general public on what we are doing. To increase services in areas not yet addressed.	N/A	N/A	1) List is available online at www.vhfa.org/rental/shelters.php . 2) Website created with www.helpingtohouse.org 3) 10 year plan and minutes now available on www.ahs.state.vt.us		

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Completed and Ongoing (5.3.2)	Improve and simplify application process and forms across programs to create regional equity	Continue to work with the Agency of Human Services in developing and implementing the "common intake" enabling consistent application of eligibility criteria. Provide services to those who need it on their time, provide flexible hours for working poor and prevent chronic homelessness.	N/A	N/A	AHS created a web-based application for the clients we serve at http://screendoor.vermont.gov . This will simplify and make the process more efficient and effective. This creates an ability for our clients to be served from most anywhere in the state.		
Completed and Ongoing (5.3.3)	Train staff on customer service skills	Develop customer service workshops for District Office employees thereby ending chronic homelessness with better coordinated and customer oriented services.	N/A	N/A	Presently, there is cross-training within the Agency of Human Services. Will be an ongoing progress. Position created in Human Resources for coordinated training within the Agency of Human Services.		
Completed and Ongoing (5.3.4)	Draft AHS policy for Secretary's signature to coordinate and provide services to chronically homeless	Develop policy and make recommendations to the Secretary of the Agency of Human Services which would better coordinate services for chronically homeless, such as housing policies, supportive services, and transportation.	N/A	N/A	AHS has created an agency-wide position which deals specifically with policy and priorities for housing and transportation. This position will coordinate and implement changes throughout the agency of housing and transportation with the continued support of department staff within the agency. This position has already coordinated services for implementation on HMIS statewide.		
Completed and Ongoing (5.5.2)	Include information on SSI and chronic homelessness in next issue of "Between a Rock and a Hard Place -- Housing and Wages in Vermont"	Collect data showing the effects of Vermont's housing affordability crisis and how it affects those on SSI and the chronically homeless by including information in the annual Housing and Wages report that is used as an advocacy tool with the state legislature and media.	N/A	N/A	This is produced annually and homelessness is a highlighted aspect of the report each year.		
Tier 1 (1.1.1)	Respond to Section 8 cuts	Prevent an increase in homelessness due to loss of subsidy.		Ongoing	2004-Composed a letter with NH ICH and ME ICH to federal ICH. Also commented on detrimental changes to Fair Market Rents causing HUD to reverse its course.		

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Tier 1 (1.2.1)	Create needed units by 2015. Increase new housing stock and prioritize subsidies and procure new subsidies	Group will identify high need areas in the state and work with funding sources to create new or rehabilitate existing units. The goal is to have adequate housing stock to meet the needs of all people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness through increasing the number of supportive housing units.		Current	2006-Agency of Human Services (AHS) is clearly stating its priorities as they relate to housing. At the same time, AHS Field Directors will be participating in the existing Continuums of Care (CoC) to help those groups create their housing priorities locally. Those priorities will be considered by state housing funding agencies when allocating resources. More work on serving the hardest to house is ongoing.		
Tier 1 (2.1.1)	Meet with discharge entities to determine their discharge policy and educate them about our charge, explore strategy of recuperative beds, health care cost avoidance, and develop recommendations such that discharge plans include healthcare, employment, and housing coverage.	1. Describe and review the various institutional systems' discharge policies. 2. Review the written descriptions created in this process to learn where there is opportunity to capitalize on strengths or recognize need to change or re-direct those who may have no policy in place to address the housing and supportive service needs of homeless consumers. 3. Work to develop individual plans with each institutional provider with input from the statewide homeless housing, service and shelter providers. These plans will strive to insure that no homeless Vermonter will be discharged without a plan to address their housing and service needs 4. Review and analyze existing policies. 5. Development of core requirements for a uniform approach. 6. Development of institutional system plans. 7. Development of a statewide comprehensive plan.		Current	Created teams within correctional facilities throughout the state which coordinates services prior to exiting system.		

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Tier 1 (2.2.1)	Create fund to support individuals and couples to prevent chronic homelessness	DCF and OEO have assisted in funding pilots for housing retention programs with community partners who administer them. There is a need to assess how to expand these pilot programs statewide and how to secure stable funding for them. To do this we will conduct an analysis and dialogue with designated stakeholders including landlords. The expected outcome would be a statewide network of housing retention programs through community partners and timely access to dollars, flexible eligibility and innovative uses.		2006	In FY'07 Budget, the State legislature created PILOT projects within the GA/EA funding.		
Tier 1 (2.2.7)	Increase SSI application success rate; expedite appeals process; utilize presumptive eligibility to reduce chronic homelessness	Possibly train staff to become experts in assisting clients to successfully apply and be approved by SSI; to expedite the appeals process and to explore with the state's SSA offices to set aside targeted resources to expedite the processing of such applications, and to obtain approval to allow for presumptive SSI eligibility.		2006	Training plans are in effect with two separate SSI/SSDI trainings in the northern and the southern parts of the State for spring 2007.		
Tier 1 (3.4.1)	Encourage new approaches to ending chronic homelessness through use of "hold harmless" pilot programs	Advocate for and support funding of innovative program grants to combat chronic homelessness. These grants would feature hold harmless provisions to encourage a wide variety of new strategies without compliance to strict program standards. Through these grants new strategies could be tried and tested without fear reprisals if projects or programs were not entirely successful.		2006			
Tier 1 (4.1.2)	Create aggregated point-in-time analysis statewide and report results to VICH and other partners (municipalities, etc.)	Development of a statewide-unduplicated and aggregated at a specific point-in-time to obtain an unduplicated, aggregated homeless count on a statewide level as well as a regional level. Reporting these numbers to municipalities will be educational on chronic homelessness in their areas. This will lead to an increased awareness of homelessness.	N/A		Jan. 25, 2007 will be the first statewide, all inclusive count. Totals will be tallied soon.		

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Tier 1 (3.2.1 & 4.2.1)	Process, evaluate, and implement homeless management tools. Create executive summary of results conclusions.	Participate in decision making on what we want to learn from data and outcomes, inventory existing systems, and create an evaluation method and tool. Implement an assessment for effectiveness. Present findings to the Interagency Council for action as warranted. Have a Homeless Management Information System statewide which measures our success and documents our challenges. Knowledge of what we want to learn from data, an up to date inventory of existing systems. Report to Interagency Council with recommendations.		2006	Challenges in achieving this goal due to providers concerns over clients personal identification		
Tier 1 (4.4.4)	Confirm range of Medicaid services, SSI, and explore other related possible services	While Vermont has a comprehensive health care program that includes medical and pharmacy benefits for families, children, and single adults, and has exercised options and waivers to expand coverage, a process needs to be undertaken to review whether Vermont has exercised all options that it wants to under Medicaid's Rehabilitation Option, Targeted Case Management Option, and/or the Waiver Option as they relate to supportive housing for the chronically homeless. This includes looking at what other states have done compared to Vermont and see if Vermont wants to explore any other option related to ending chronic homelessness it isn't currently using. SSI will be explored in the same way with one of the three SSA District Managers located in Vermont.		2006			
Tier 1 (4.4.5)	Confirm range of TANF services	TANF funds can be used for a variety of supportive housing needs including subsidies. One possibility is to use such funds as incentives in the form of short term housing vouchers to have people obtain and/or sustain employment.		2006	TANF report in progress through the AHS division of Economic Services.		
Tier 1 (4.5.1)	Conduct statewide conference of housing and service providers	Help mediate and form partnerships between homeless service and shelter providers with permanent housing managers so that more people who are homeless can access existing housing stock.		2006	There was a statewide housing conference in the fall of 2006 which included housing providers, service providers, state and federal agencies and other community providers. A session was held on homelessness with housing and services providers present.		

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Tier 2 (2.2.4)	Promote and enhance credit repair and maintenance services	Develop or expand programs concerned with personal and household financial management being offered through AHS community partners. The expected outcomes would be to increase homeowner financial literacy and general prevention. Better use of available income and available programs. Improve and stabilize housing stock.		2008			
Tier 2 (2.2.8)	Open back rent program to single adults with catastrophic illness or disability	Analyze and explore the need and expenditure impact for opening up the back rent program to this targeted population. This action will prevent the chronic homelessness for individuals and families without children through a dedicated fund.		2008	A workgroup through the Economic Services Division within AHS have been working on this issue.		
Tier 2 (3.6.1)	Create strategies to increase capacity for chronic homelessness services by capturing savings from unnecessary use of high cost resources	Lessen visits to hospital emergency rooms by providing health care, counseling, and social services in shelters, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC's), and/or other program locations. We want to explore the use of Medicaid funds to pay for non clinical staff to provide counseling, training and assistance to chronically homeless populations in shelters and other program or provider locations and/or who could be under the direct or indirect supervision of clinical staff. This will also include information on the creation of respite beds. This will include analysis and dialogue with Agency of Human Services, homelessness and medical providers, Vermont Medical Society.		2008			

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Tier 2 (4.4.1)	Pursue presumptive eligibility	Explore the use of funds to grant short term coverage of medically necessary health services to two categorically needy groups: pregnant women and children who appear to meet income standards for Medicaid or VT's SCHIP program (Dr Dynasaur) by "qualified entities" (doctors offices and emergency room personnel) while their eligibility is being determined. Also, do the same for medically verified pregnant women so they can be eligible for prenatal services for up to 45 days in the first trimester, pending eligibility determination. Although Vermont turns around Medicaid applications in under 30 days and can do retroactive reimbursement upon request in some cases, some health care programs begin coverage only on the date of application while others go back to the first of the month. This option would provide coverage from date of service.		2008			
Tier 2 (4.6.2)	Investigate and track Medicaid premium payments and benefit loss	DCF division of Economic Services is currently transitioning into its new premium payment program. A continuous management effort will oversee the impact of this approach on its clients in an effort to keep all qualified clients insured while the program shifts away from co pays and deductibles. We plan to use every source of possible data, including Ombudsmen, staff, providers, advocates, clients, DCF Division of Economic Services data systems and workers to be vigilant in making necessary adjustments to keep clients insured and pay the necessary premiums.		2008			

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Tier 2 (5.1.2)	Develop policy brief to educate legislators to include future recommendations	Get input from service providers and housing providers on best practices and develop a marketing tool for education purposes. Review it with the team to finalize format and information. Create an increased awareness of chronic homelessness with the policy makers of the state to guide their decisions when allocating resources for chronically homeless.		2008			
Tier 3 (2.2.5 & 5.3.1))	Expand on existing out-post models. Work with AHS reorganization to expand out posting including non traditional hours.	Advocate and educate housing and support service providers on the benefits of supportive housing in all locations. Continue to work with reorganization to expand office hours and to "outpost" positions in different locations. Bring services to the clients, vs. clients going to get services in several locations.		2010			
Tier 3 (2.3.1)	Develop further strategies for street-to-home counseling for securing and maintaining a home	Research models such as the Housing First model as it's being implemented in Ohio and Maryland (Barbara Poppe) and identify any regions where this model has been successful in a rural area. If there are rural applications for the Housing First programs, identify what components were modified to bring about that success. Capture more of the data from the ROC program at COTS to better quantify which approaches were most successful in the housing retention strategies. Increased number of successful housing placements for chronically homeless individuals and families. Success is defined here as tenancy that is maintained for at least two years.		2010	Created a one-year funding stream to Brattleboro housing to fund "Pathways to Housing". Program provides housing with services within the housing that meets clients needs.		

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Tier 3 (2.34.2)	Build capacity to expand opportunities for youth to be educated on chronic homelessness and to be involved in policy development and decision making	Plan: 1. Identify current educational resources and programs addressing life skills training. 2. Identify curricula resources that address life skills training. 3. Identify potential programs/sites to offer life skills training. 4. Advocate for membership on agency and school advisory committees and boards for youth experiencing homelessness. 5. Establish peer education models. Expected outcomes include: Life skills curricula identified; training in use of curricula for implementing agencies; and shelters, youth programs, and school committees/boards include youth who have experienced homelessness.		2010			
Tier 3 (3.1.1)	Identify corporate and foundation funding sources	Compile a listing of all foundations, philanthropists, and corporations that fund homeless shelter/services. This directory will include both state and national sources and provide contact information along with application deadlines.		2010			
Tier 3 (3.1.2)	Ask VT Alliance of Non Profit Organizations (VANPO) and 211 to provide information for homeless assistance agencies	Request that VANPO create a streamlined educational product specifically for non-profit homeless service and affordable housing agencies that includes information on management, administrative support, grant writing, board development, cost control, accounting principals, human resources, etc. Work with 211 to utilize existing data and resources		2010			
Tier 3 (3.2.2)	Create annual best practices award process, including monetary prize	Research what states and programs are considered best practices, present to the board and present award to the most innovative project of the year. Create incentive for Best practices and awareness of chronic homelessness. Create a catalogue of best practices for Vermont, showcasing of practices in statewide conferences and other forums; also, a possible online library and/or linking capacity.		2010			
Tier 3 (4.3.1)	Canvas cabinet-level agency planning efforts	Work with cabinet members to provide VICH with a description of any program, activity or plans that may materially affect chronic homelessness.		2010			

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Tier 3 (4.3.2)	Canvas Regional Planning Partnerships (AHS)	Compile information on current efforts. Attend State team meetings to talk about the Interagency Council Plan. Comprehensive picture of planning efforts at the local level. Identification of strategies consistent with the Council strategies.		2010	Continuing to attend state meetings and work with the field directors in developing priorities within the region for housing. Plans to present 10 year plan to regions are starting in the summer of 2007 and ongoing through the summer of 2008.		
Tier 3 (4.4.2)	Create matrix inventory of existing housing funding sources	An existing matrix will be updated as required. The update will be more specific to funding sources that are intended to impact chronic homelessness.		2010	Vermont Housing Budget and Investment Report, January 2007 lists resources for housing; bricks and mortar and services		
Tier 3 (4.6.1)	Create summary of existing data	Examine socio-economic data sources to determine the macro issues that pertain to and maybe cause chronic homelessness. These issues may include housing vacancy rates, rents, unemployment information, wage rates, etc. Data that explains and describes root causes of chronic homelessness will be available to help focus on precipitous conditions that may be prevented. A baseline for subsequent measuring of performance will be established.		2010			
Tier 3 (5.1.1)	Develop marketing piece to supplement housing awareness campaign and fair housing work	Develop the message that housing and chronic homelessness is not just a housing issue, but also an economic development in an effort to create more stakeholders and support to eradicate chronic homelessness as a problem related to only the poorest people. We would do this by exploring marketing strategies and by getting some pro bono work from some advertising and marketing companies. We also want to explore public service announcements. The goal is to create an increased awareness of chronic homelessness, the causes of and possible solutions to chronic homelessness. By building off a proven successful campaign, such as the Housing Awareness Campaign, this message of showing that lack of affordable housing has dire consequences on our state, will be strong.		2010			

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Tier 3 (5.2.1)	Identify additional funding and volunteerism sources including corporate service clubs, colleges, and faith based organizations	COTS will compile a resource list of volunteer and internship contacts. This listing will include colleges, youth clubs, social organizations (animal clubs), and mission committee contacts within the faith community. COTS will flag/footnote the organizations that also provide funding opportunities. Identify websites that are willing to include this information so that there is the broadest possible access to this resource. An ancillary outcome is easier access to volunteers through a single resource list of volunteer and Internship contacts. This list will also include funding information whenever applicable.		2010			
Tier 3 (5.3.5)	Identify and develop models for day labor	Develop a viable job information and referral system between DET and temporary shelter providers and drop-in centers. Coordination and cooperation with public transportation systems, ride shares, and car pooling would be required. The goal is for many part-time, temporary work offers to become full-time, long term job opportunities. A coordinated effort will provide additional access for the chronically homeless to job seeking and job keeping workshops, labor market and training information, work experience and reintegration into the workforce.		2010			
Tier 3 (5.5.1)	Make chronic homelessness an economic development issue	A paper would be researched and written regarding the "economic impact of chronic homelessness in Vermont." The paper would not only address the cost to society, but the impacts on business and tourism. The executive summary of the paper could be used as an educational tool for economic developers, chambers of commerce and other business advocacy organizations.		2010			
Good Idea To Promote (2.2.2)	Provide post-purchase counseling	Strengthen existing counseling efforts and expand to areas and agencies that provide homeownership incentive programs to low income Vermonters. This will provide for fewer evictions and foreclosures, as well as existing housing stock will be maintained.	N/A				

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Good Idea To Promote (2.3.2)	Develop tenant/landlord mediation policy and strategies	Strengthen and broaden successful intervention programs such as the Family Housing Project of Central Vermont and the Rutland Housing Coalition. This creates a consistent process for tenants and earlier intervention pre-eviction.	N/A				
Good Idea To Promote (4.4.3)	Maximize grant writing efforts and opportunities	Have discussions with the agencies that first applied for the original HUD/HHS/VA NOFA to end chronic homelessness to discuss possible re-application if funding is available. De-brief the original application and learn strengths and weaknesses of that approach and effort. Write up and circulate findings and recommendations for future similar efforts to develop an ACT team in Chittenden County or elsewhere in Vermont. Follow the FY 05 budget process and HUD Clips to monitor availability of funding. Utilize existing components of the original application to secure funding from all other grant sources.	N/A				
Good Idea To Promote (5.2.2)	Conduct fundraisers	Contact new leads for Hearts for the Homeless. Seek additional dollars from the State of Vermont for prevention of chronic homelessness activities. The goal is to create a new funding source to help prevent chronic homelessness.	N/A				
Good Idea To Promote (5.4.1)	Identify consumer "story tellers" for testimonials	Approach both the Chittenden County and statewide continuum of care groups requesting them to identify people who are willing to publicly share their experience of being chronically homeless. Compile a statewide listing of those who can be called upon to function as an informal speaker's bureau.	N/A				
Good Idea To Promote (5.4.2)	Create forums for testimonials	Formalize an annual speaker's event for National Homeless Awareness week in November. Invite legislators, business leaders and community members to participate. On a smaller scale, encourage local shelter providers to organize speakers' presentations throughout the year at community clubs, religious groups and libraries.	N/A				

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Good Idea To Promote (5.4.3)	Partner with other stakeholders and advocacy agencies around public information events	Coordinate activities and participants to maximize the effectiveness of education and public information efforts.	N/A				
ADD NEW PRIORITIES HERE							

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