

**To our valued partners:**

CSH is pleased to be working with *MaineHousing* and the *Statewide Homeless Council* to develop a regional framework for homeless response that breaks down existing silos among systems, promotes efficient use of resources and improves service delivery for the most vulnerable. The Leadership Team is essential to the long-term success of this system re-design and your role as advisors to this process will ensure this initiative collectively addresses all systems in Maine.

Considering that alignment with existing initiatives and previous efforts is critical to creating a systemic response and avoiding duplication; provided below you will find recommendations from the *2019 Gaps and Needs Analysis* commissioned by *MaineHousing* that align with the objectives of this initiative. Our intent is that this initiative will operationalize some of the recommendations and ultimately develop a framework for action. Thank you and we look forward to engaging with this Leadership Team!

**Goals for this first convening:**

- 1) Outline the initiative structure (*deliverables, decision making process, timeline*) and answer any questions.
- 2) Communicate how this initiative aligns with existing efforts in ME and receive feedback to ensure consistent alignment throughout the process.
- 3) Receive feedback on proposed working groups and identify specific deliverables for each.

**LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Stephanie Primm	Chair, Statewide Homeless Council and Executive Director of <i>Knox County Homeless Coalition</i> and <i>Hospitality House</i>
Lauren Bustard	Senior Director of Programs, <i>MaineHousing</i>
Laurie Murray	Director of Homeless Initiatives, <i>MaineHousing</i>
Beth Hamm	Deputy Commissioner, <i>DHHS</i>
Cullen Ryan	Executive Director, <i>Community Housing of Maine</i>
Mark Swann	Executive Director, <i>Preble Street</i>
Jessica Pollard	Director, Office of Behavioral Health, <i>DHHS</i>
Chris Bicknell	Executive Director, <i>New Beginnings</i> and YHDP Lead
Rich Hooks-Wayman	CEO, <i>Volunteers of America</i>
Arwen Agee	Homeless Services Coordinator, <i>Veterans Affairs</i>
Cheryl Harkins	Homeless Voices for Justice and Lived Expertise Advocate
Noelle Coyne	Director of Shelter and Housing Services, <i>Safe Voices</i>
Josh D'Alessio	Associate Director, <i>Penobscot Community Health Care</i> and Vice-Chair of the Maine CoC
Rosanna Spearrin	Certified Peer Recovery Specialist and Lived Expertise Advocate
Susan Gagnon	Director of Adult Community Corrections, <i>ME Dept of Corrections</i> .
Amelia Lyons	State Director, <i>Maine Migrant Education Program</i> and <i>Homeless Education State Coordinator</i>
Aaron Geyer	Director of Social Services, City of Portland

**CSH Team Members**

Sarah Gallagher	Eastern Region Managing Director
Jamie Blackburn	Program Manager, New England
Anna Smith	Program Manager, New England
Sue Augustus	Senior Program Manager, Federal TA
Kim Keaton	Director, Data and Analytics

## Proposed Initiative Timeline

### **June-August 2020**

- ✓ Listening Sessions with Stakeholders.
- ✓ Leadership Team is established and first convening held.
- ✓ Data Gathering continues.

### **August-December 2020**

- ✓ Working Groups are established.
- ✓ Deliverables are set for each group.
- ✓ OneMod Analysis and Mapping is completed and presented to the SHC.

### **January-May 2021**

- ✓ Using the results of the OneMod and working groups, a plan is drafted.
- ✓ Feedback and approval period for the Leadership Team.

### **May - June 2021**

- ✓ Final System Re-design concept is presented to the SHC.

## **Recommendations from the 2019 Gaps and Needs Analysis that align with this initiative.**

2.1 - Identify subgroups or areas of the state for which there are shelter gaps or not enough shelter capacity.

2.2 - Continue to focus on housing Long Term Stayers in shelters and implementing and supporting By-Name efforts throughout the state.

2.3 - Increase shelter flow by increasing the number of RRH units in the community.

2.4 - Adopt similar collaboration and coordination efforts as the Long Term Stayer initiative, such as By-Name list review and case consultation for RRH participants.

2.5 - Create a communitywide initiative to prevent homelessness.

2.6 - Convene a meeting of all agencies and providers regarding potential "prevention resources" including SSVF, ESG-funded initiatives, Legal Aide Providers, faith-based programs, fuel assistance programs, etc.

2.7 - Determine any gaps in prevention resources and identify possible greater efficient use of resources and streamline referrals and access to resources.

3.1 - Through CES, prioritize resources based on vulnerability, length of time homeless, and assessed likelihood the household will not leave homeless system without support.

3.2 - Through CES, ensure that people are connected to vouchers and subsidies that provide the appropriate needs (e.g., short-term vouchers/subsidies more appropriate for some populations like victims of domestic violence, youth, persons with SUD/COD).

3.3 - Maximize existing RRH

- Bridge RRH to PSH if needed
- Review operations of all RRH programs including ESG, SSVF, and CoC funded to create meaningful targeting of resources

4.1 - Increase incentives to develop affordable housing (i.e., low income tax credits)

5.1 - Develop strategies to provide more supportive services within shelters or outreach programs

6.1 - Coordinate and collaborate closely with hospital leadership and the Department of Justice to create a clear and defined pathway for individuals leaving either institution to avoid homelessness