

The Reaching Home Campaign through the Opening Doors-CT framework is committed to ending family homelessness by 2022. To achieve this goal, we are working to build a strong homelessness response system in every community. Our aims are to help families obtain permanent housing as quickly as possible and to coordinate with our federal, state, and local partners to ensure that families have access to services that enable them to remain housed and become self-sufficient.

In 2015, 66% of families in Connecticut's emergency shelters and transitional housing included a young child (0 to 5 years old).

Homelessness Among Families (Adults w/Children) in Connecticut, 2015

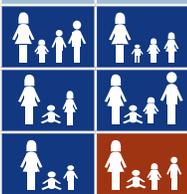
1,125

Families used emergency shelter and transitional housing

380 Families with children age 6+ only



485 Families headed by someone 25+ years old with 0-5 year-old children



260 Families headed by 18-24 year-old with 0-5 year-old children



Source: CT Homeless Management Information System

The Problem:

Families become homeless for a variety of reasons, such as an inability to afford housing, loss of employment, childcare cost, domestic violence, health crises, or other events that cause economic instability.

- More than **68%** of Connecticut's renting households making 30% or less of area median income were severely rent burdened, spending more than 50% of income on housing costs.¹
- **1,125** families experienced homelessness in Connecticut last year.²
- Of those 1,125 families, **22%** were headed by an individual under the age of 25.²
- **2,022** children were part of these homeless families. **86%** of these children were under the age of 12.²

Our Work:

The Reaching Home Campaign is launching a statewide Family Economic Security work group to examine the needs of children and families at risk or experiencing homelessness. The work group will identify strategies and resources to address these needs and improve housing stability – a key to ending family homelessness.

1. National Low Income Housing Coalition, "The Affordable Housing Gap Analysis of 2016."
2. CT Coalition to End Homelessness, CT Homeless Management Information System, FFY15 Annual Data.

April 2016



Opening Doors in Connecticut...

...to a Future Where **Everyone** Has a Home