



# HOUSING AND HEALTH CARE: Making Connections in Connecticut

In 2015, Connecticut had nearly **11,000 INDIVIDUALS** experiencing homelessness. This is ***DOWN 13%*** since 2007 and a ***4% DECREASE*** since last year.



**40%** of frequent visitors to emergency departments in Connecticut are **homeless or experiencing housing instability**.



**65%** of people in the Emergency Department who experienced homelessness had **more than five ER visits per year**.

## Opening Doors—CT Hospital Initiative



- Launched in 2014 by the Partnership for Strong Communities and the Connecticut Hospital Association.
- Promotes the creation of a network of Community Care Teams (CCT) in hospitals and communities across the state to connect individuals experiencing homelessness with primary health care options, housing and other services.
- Reduces the use of unnecessary emergency department admissions while improving overall health prospects and outcomes.

## Community Care Teams



- Teams of health care, housing and social service providers in Connecticut communities working together with their local hospitals.
- Identify individuals experiencing homelessness, notably those who are frequent users of hospital emergency rooms, and ensure they have access to primary health care, housing, and other social services.
- Help allow providers to create flexible and individualized care plans for clients, and enhance ownership of patient care by hospital staff.

“Through the work of so many community-based organizations and partners like United Health Foundation, we are working to bring more care and support to people who need it most. We’ve set high goals to end homelessness, and it is through programs and partnerships like this that we are delivering real progress.”

CONNECTICUT GOVERNOR DANIEL MALLOY

## JOINING THE FIGHT

United Health Foundation has joined forces with the **Partnership for Strong Communities** and committed a \$300,000 grant to help expand the Initiative.

**Opening Doors—CT Hospital Initiative** began with four CCTs operating in five hospitals across Connecticut. Through UHF’s support, the Initiative will expand its CCT network by partnering with five additional hospitals by the end of 2017.

**The CT Hospital Initiative** will

- Establish a Learning Collaborative with key partners to share best practices
- Develop an online hub of resources
- Provide a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the program