



State of Vermont
Agency of Human Services
Office of the Secretary
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671
www.humanservices.vermont.gov

Jenney Samuelson, *Secretary*
Todd W. Daloz, *Deputy Secretary*

September 1, 2023

Dear Interested Stakeholder:

The purpose of this communication is to keep you up-to-date on the activities and efforts being undertaken by the Agency of Human Services (AHS) and our subcontractor, the Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc. (TAC) to help design and prepare for implementation of the Medicaid Permanent Supportive Housing Assistance Benefit Program (Program).

The TAC team has been fully engaged in efforts to produce a comprehensive inventory of current supportive housing resources in Vermont and to conduct a statewide stakeholder engagement process to increase visibility and awareness of the initiative and gain valuable feedback from key stakeholders to inform Program design and implementation. TAC's Housing consultants have conducted interviews with State staff and local housing provider agencies, to gain information about the available resources, needs, and challenges for accessing supportive housing resources in Vermont. TAC is in the process of compiling an *Initial Draft* inventory of permanent supportive housing resources. AHS anticipates having a *Final* inventory ready for distribution in the Fall.

TAC's Human Services consultants have also conducted interviews with several key partners, and held eight in-person and virtual stakeholder Listening Sessions with more than 120 participants from communities throughout Vermont. During these sessions, stakeholders shared their experiences and perspectives on how the new benefit can best assist individuals to gain access to, and remain successful in, permanent supportive housing. TAC is also posting an online survey for providers and a survey for people with lived experience (PWLE) and their family members, to gain input from anyone who was unable to participate in a session. The surveys will be available for response from September 5th – 14th at the following links:

Providers Survey – <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T2XXH5Y>

PWLE/Family Members - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/78J2ZRZ>

As a result of stakeholders' participation in the sessions to date, TAC has gained valuable insight into Vermont's current system – our strengths as well as our challenges. However, input from those who will be most impacted by the benefit, people with lived experience, has been sparse. If you know of individuals who have experienced or are at risk of experiencing homelessness or would like to transition from a structured setting to permanent supportive housing, please

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contact Alicia Woodsby at awoodsby@tacinc.org. TAC will consider additional opportunities to engage people with lived experience based on the level of response.

We extend our sincere appreciation to everyone who has contributed to this initial phase of the project. Please see our website for more information and updates:
<https://humanservices.vermont.gov/our-work/programs-services/housing-stability>

Sincerely,

David Riegel, Director of Housing Policy and Planning

Monica Ogelby, Medicaid Director