

# OPENING DOORS OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY

*A Regional Alliance to Prevent and End Homelessness*

## Secure Jobs Initiative: A Housing Stability Model for Families

### **What is Secure Jobs CT?**

Secure Jobs CT is a two-year demonstration pilot designed to increase the income of families transitioning from homelessness to housing by connecting them to the education, training and supports they need to secure and maintain stable, competitive employment.

- The Melville Charitable Trust initiated a Secure Jobs CT funders collaborative with 10 – 15 foundations across the state who are committed to providing localized investments to support planning and implementation efforts.
- The implementation grant totals \$100,000 per year.

**How will Fairfield County implement the Secure Jobs initiative?** The Economic Security Workgroup will work to integrate and coordinate homeless services, workforce, and child care sectors into a system .

**Who will this project serve?** The target population served will be families participating in Connecticut’s Rapid Re-Housing Program (CTRRP) who are unemployed or underemployed.

### • **What are the expected outcomes of Secure Jobs CT?**

- Stakeholders will work to improve integration and coordination of the efforts of the homeless services, workforce, and child care sectors to effectively serve families participating in the CT Department of Housing (DOH) Rapid Re-housing Program (CTRRP) to effectively create a system to accomplish the goals of the project.
- Linking Rapid Re-Housing with access to mainstream employment supports matches the immediate stability of a home with the longer-term stability of a steady income.
- Identifying the data needed to move forward successfully:
  - # of families served in Fairfield County, length of time participating in RRH
  - # of families receiving TANF benefits, accessing Dept. of Labor programs, etc. – what about those who did not access these benefits?
    - # of those families that have exhausted TANF benefits
  - Data on families exited from RRH—where are they now?

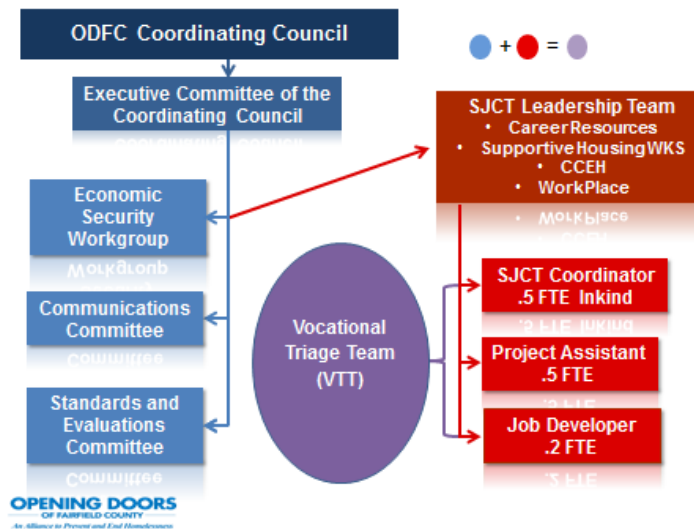
### • **Has this model been tested elsewhere?**

#### **Secure Jobs Fund Massachusetts - Securing Jobs and Helping Families**

- Started as a one-year \$1.5 million demonstration project funded by the Fireman Foundation to build a coordinated service system that links extremely low-income households with the resources required to enter the workforce.
- Year 2, the MA Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and the Fireman Foundation each contributed \$1 million to deepen and expand regional work. DHCD is in the process of awarding an additional \$500,000, bringing its Year 2 total to \$1.5 million.

Regional Partnerships will create the two-year implementation plan for increasing employment among CTRRP families by:

- Developing innovative approaches to improving economic security of families exiting homelessness
- Re-envisioning how service delivery agencies and systems can work together effectively and efficiently
- Building and strengthening regional partnerships between the CTRRP providers and WIBs;
- Engaging each other to conduct business differently and eliminate barriers and disincentives to employment
- Creating operational linkages that produce real and sustainable results.



What are the expected outcomes for the families?

- At least 70% of families participating in CTRRP in each region will enroll in the pilot. Contractually, each regional CTRRP program provides rapid rehousing services to at least 33 families per year.
- Of families enrolled in the pilot, at least 80% will obtain full-time employment (at least 30 hours/week).
- Of pilot enrollees placed in employment, 80% will retain employment for at least one year.
- 90% of families enrolled in the pilot will maintain stable housing for two years