

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF CHAMPAIGN AND CUNNINGHAM TOWNSHIP**

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered by and among the County of Champaign, Illinois (“County”) and Cunningham Township (“Township”) (herein after collectively referred to as “the Parties”), effective on the last date signed by a Party hereto.

WHEREAS, Section 10 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 and the Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, 5 ILCS 220/1 et seq. enables the parties to enter into agreements among themselves and provide authority for intergovernmental cooperation; and

WHEREAS, the County is in receipt of funds pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2 (“ARPA Funds”); and

WHEREAS, the County is authorized by Section 603 of the Social Security Act and the United States Department of Treasury Interim and Final Rule 31 CFR Part 35 to transfer ARPA Funds to respond to the pandemic public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including services or programs that support housing assistance; and

WHEREAS, the Township is a municipal corporation in Champaign County; and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to enter into this Agreement to recognize the roles and responsibilities for each Party in providing housing assistance.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

Section 1. Purpose and Scope: The purpose of this Agreement is for the County to provide ARPA Funds to the Township for assistance with operational costs of emergency and transitional housing units in Champaign County.

Section 2. Funding Amount: The County, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, hereby agrees to provide ARPA Funds in amount of up to \$350,000.00 to the Township for operational costs of emergency and transitional housing units.

Section 3. Funding Requirements: Each of the following requirements must be met to utilize ARPA Funds for the purpose specified in this Agreement:

- A. The Township will operate emergency and transitional housing units, as detailed in Attachment 1.
- B. The costs must occur between March 3, 2021 and December 31, 2024.
- C. The maximum amount of assistance from this Agreement shall be \$350,000.
- D. The Township must provide reporting information to the County as required in Section 4.
- E. The County will transfer ARPA Funds to the Township in an amount up to \$350,000 in support of this assistance. The transferred funds shall be provided to the Township based on invoice(s) for related project costs. A Risk Assessment Form, copy of the invoice and documentation of related project costs, and Reporting Form shall be submitted by the Township to the County prior to the first payment. If multiple payments are needed, the Township shall submit a copy of invoice and related documentation, along with submission of a Reporting Form to the County for each payment thereafter, with a maximum amount of \$350,000. The County shall provide the Risk Assessment Form and Reporting Form templates to the Township.

Section 4. Roles and Responsibilities of the Township: The Township agrees to adhere to funding requirements and provide information needed that include the following:

- A. The Township will adhere to the ARPA Funds fiscal, accounting, and audit procedures that conform to the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and the requirements of Federal Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Part 200).
- B. The Township will adhere to all applicable state and federal requirements regarding labor standards for the project(s), including 2 CFR 200, Appendix II; 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704; and 29 CFR Part 5.

- C. The Township will operate emergency and transitional housing units in Champaign County with ARPA Funds in accordance with Section 3.
- D. The Township will submit reporting information to the County as required by the Department of Treasury, upon request of the County. Information will include but is not limited to: Unique Entity ID (UEI) Number, location of project; number of individuals/households served by the project; population categories served by the project; project funding sources and amounts; project expenditure details; project scope and purpose; details regarding how the project responds to public health related or negative economic impacts of the pandemic; project timeline and status; Davis Bacon and Labor Reporting for capital expenditures over \$10 million.
- E. The Township will provide to the County, upon reasonable notice, access to and the right to examine such books and records of the Township. The Township will make reports to the County as the County may reasonably require so that the County may determine whether there has been compliance with this Agreement.
- F. No person shall be excluded from participation in programs the County is funding, be denied the benefits of such program, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with the funds provided under this Agreement on the ground of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, disability, or on any other ground upon which such discrimination is prohibited by law. The Township understands that Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government, applies to the use of ARPA Funds.
- G. The Township will comply with all applicable statutes, ordinances, and regulations. The Township will not use any of these ARPA Funds for lobbying purposes. If it is determined by the County that any expenditure made with ARPA Funds provided under this Agreement is prohibited by law, the Township will reimburse the County any amount that is determined to have been spent in violation.

Section 5. Roles and Responsibilities of the County:

- A. The County shall provide ARPA Funds to the Township in an amount up to \$350,000 in support of this assistance. The transferred funds shall be provided to the Township

based on project invoices and documentation. A Risk Assessment Form, Reporting Form, and project documentation shall be submitted by the Township to the County prior to the first payment; followed by documentation and Reporting Form for remaining payment(s). The County shall provide the Risk Assessment Form and Reporting Form templates to the Township.

- B. The County shall provide oversight as described in this Agreement for the purpose of ensuring that ARPA Funds are spent in compliance with Federal law, and in compliance with the intended purpose of the funds as set forth in this Agreement.

Section 6. Term and Termination: This Agreement shall commence upon its execution between the Parties. This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon a thirty-day notice in writing to the other party. Upon termination, the Township shall provide to the County an accounting of the ARPA Funds and shall remit unspent ARPA Funds to the County. Additionally, if the Township does not spend the ARPA Funds in accordance with the regulations and requirements specified in this Agreement, the Township will be required to repay the County in the amount of ARPA funds that were utilized incorrectly.

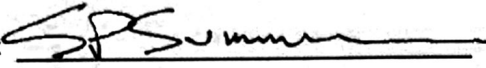
Section 7. Amendments: This Agreement may be amended only by an agreement of the parties executed in the same manner in which this Agreement is executed.


Section 8. Limitation of Liability: Under no circumstances shall either Party be liable to the other Party or any third Party for any damages resulting from any part of this Agreement such as, but not limited to, loss of revenue or anticipated profit or lost business, costs of delay or failure of delivery, which are not related to or the direct result of a Party's negligence or breach.

The Parties agree to the terms and conditions set forth above as demonstrated by their signatures as follows:

THE COUNTY OF CHAMPAIGN,
ILLINOIS

CUNNINGHAM TOWNSHIP

By: 

By: 
DANIELLE CHYNOWETH,
Supervisor

Date: September 22, 2023

Date: 10/6/2023

ATTEST: 

ATTEST: 

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ASA Matt Barnd

ATTACHMENT 1

	Detail	TOTALS
6260 · General Insurance		\$1,500
6411 · Equipment Purchase		\$33,520
	208 Washer/dryer in units + install	
	206 1 & 2 Washer/dryer + washer	
	Furnishings	
	Airfryers for 30 hh in hotels	
	Computer and monitors	
6421 · Bldg Repairs/Maintenance		\$122,500
	206 & 208 Window replacement	
	206 & 208 Lighting	
	Patio door single pane	
	Repairs/maintenance	
	PM	
6429 · Property Acquistion/Rent		\$0
6739 · Program Utilities		\$5,000
6733 · Move-in Assistance		\$90,000
	Move in	
	Rental arrears	
6736 · Street Outreach Supplies		\$22,000
6738 · Food Assistance		\$8,000
6795 · Intern/Volunteer Program		\$30,000
6350 · Printing/Publishing		\$6,780
6520 · Outreach Vehicle Exp		\$3,000

6735 · Emergency Housing Hotels		\$16,700
6797 · Event Expenses		\$6,000
6737 · Program Supplies - Other		\$5,000
TOTAL		\$350,000



Cunningham Township

Danielle Chynoweth, Supervisor

205 WEST GREEN ST • URBANA, IL 61801

(217) 384-4144 • FAX: (217) 367-7063

WWW.CUNNINGHAMTOWNSHIP.ORG

Proposal to Champaign County for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding for Cunningham Township's Bridge to Home Program

April 15, 2023

The Cunningham Township Supervisor's Office (CTSO) seeks \$882,000 in support from Champaign County's ARPA funds to grow the capacity of its Bridge to Home program, which provides a continuum of housing and services for Champaign County residents experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity so they may access and maintain permanent housing.

Funds will be focused on increasing support for homeless families with children and residents with disabilities by adding Emergency/Transitional Housing units and supportive services. A key goal is to provide housing stability for children and young adults – improving their health and safety, preventing community violence, and supporting them in realizing their educational, professional and personal potential.

About Cunningham Township

CTSO is a public agency supporting local low-income residents with housing, income, education, disability, transportation, utilities, food, clothing, communication, and other needs. A key role of township is to fill gaps in the local, state and federal safety net. **In 2022, CTSO served over 10,000 residents throughout Champaign County** through programs funded by municipal, state, and private dollars. Our long term vision is to end homelessness and hunger in Urbana.

The Need

Champaign County residents face significant housing challenges as nearly 6 out of ten renters are rent burdened, higher than the national average. The root cause is clear: Income has not kept up with rents, leading to rent burden, evictions, and risk of homelessness. A full time worker must make at least \$16.69 per hour to avoid housing burden in Champaign County. To afford \$686 monthly rent, a person must work 60 hours

a week at minimum wage in Champaign County (National Low Income Housing Coalition). And yet, only 1 in 5 households who need a housing voucher can access them. For those that do have vouchers, it is difficult to find housing. The ~100 Housing Choice Voucher holders circling looking for a place to live often face a lack of affordable options, credit and other barriers to access, and discrimination. (Housing Authority of Champaign County). As a result, about 40% of all calls for help to 211 are related to housing insecurity.

As other programs grow to fill gaps in services for homeless individuals and connect them with employment, **CTSO seeks to fill remaining gaps for some of the most vulnerable homeless residents: families with children, residents with disabilities, and LGBTQ+ residents with risk factors staying in congregate shelter.**

Nation wide, women and families represent the fastest increasing segment of the homeless population in the United States. Locally, we have family homelessness steadily rise: the number of homeless children in the county rose from 583 in FY 18 to 657 in FY 20 (Regional Office of Education).

Homelessness amongst women and children is largely invisible and yet they face particular risks when homeless or housing insecure. **Women and children often become homeless due to physical and/or sexual assault, and homelessness puts them at risk of further physical and sexual assault.** This spiral of trauma affects their ability to have a safe home, stay healthy, protect their children, earn income, and control their bodies.

Nationally, intimate partner violence is the leading cause of women's homelessness. Of homeless women, 92% have experienced severe physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetimes (Browne & Bassuk, 1997). Of homeless girls, 61% report sexual abuse as their reason for leaving home (Estes & Weiner, 2001).

Locally, CTSO undertook a review of 62 mothers with children experiencing homelessness in our program. The results were stark: **42% of mothers conceived a child or children as a teenager, and 11% conceived a child under the age of consent (17 years) in Illinois.** Of the sample, 10% conceived a child while they were 15 years old or younger; the youngest was sexually assaulted and conceived a child at 12 years old. By comparison, Champaign County's rate of childbirth under the age of consent is consistently less than one tenth of one percent. These facts are alarming and require us to intervene by ensuring all families with children have access to safe housing.

Residents with disabilities or medical fragility who are homeless are also at particular risk as many can not be accommodated in local shelters as they need wheelchair access or specific

medical equipment. They may remain street homeless and are at a much higher risk of mortality due to their disability and lack of shelter. Nationally about 40% of homelessness residents have a disability (National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty). Locally, the number of local residents with disabilities is on the rise as total SSI participants in Champaign county increased by 21.2% between 2008 and 2018 (SSA.gov) To avoid rent burden, a resident on SSI needs to pay no more than \$304 in rent. The lowest available rents in the county are about twice this amount, resulting in extreme housing insecurity for disabled residents who do not have a housing subsidy.

The Opportunity

After five years of intensive research and service provision by CTSO this is clear: **Our community has access to the resources and skills to house all literally homeless individuals and families in our community.** Ending homelessness means that instances of homelessness are rare, brief and one time, and a continuum of coordinated services exists to help homeless residents move into permanent housing and then support them in staying housed.

We created Bridge to Home in 2020 after three years of research, community conversations, and several pilot projects in providing homeless services. Guided by best practices in homeless service provision, Bridge to Home threads together Street and School Outreach, Emergency and Transitional Housing, Rapid Rehousing/Rental assistance, while providing Supportive Case Management throughout from literal homelessness to stabilization in permanent housing.

In just a few years, **CTSO has dramatically changed the landscape of services to homeless residents in Champaign County, preventing or addressing homelessness for 1,260 households** through Bridge to Home's various components. So far, our success story looks like this:

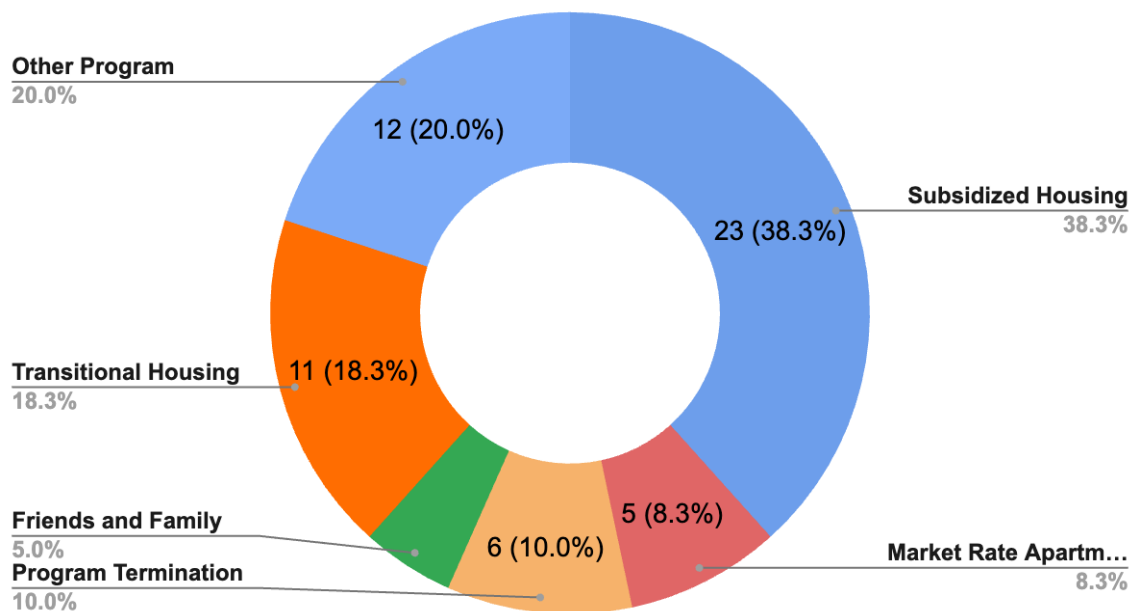
- **School outreach** has supported **63** families including 170 children (April 2022 to present).
- **Street outreach** has supported **96** individuals who are street homeless (September 2021 to present).
- **Emergency Housing for Individuals with Disabilities** has supported **41** literally homeless individuals with disabilities or medical fragility (September 2021 to present).
- **Emergency Housing for Families** has supported **66** families including **124** children from July 2020 to present. 90% of families have exited to more stable housing.
- **Rapid Rehousing** has supported **10** households (March 2021 to present).
- **Subsidized Housing Advocacy** has supported **454** residents representing 271 households with 127 households successfully moving into subsidized housing with 62 households receiving housewarming gifts (July 2020 to present).
- **Rental Assistance** has supported **527** households (January 2018 to present).

Spotlight on Emergency Housing for Families

CTSO's **Emergency Housing for Families** provides 8 apartments of housing in downtown Urbana close to groceries, transportation, and Urbana schools. Households are referred from USD 116 staff or Crisis Nursery to our Housing Case Manager who is physically present in every school every week to connect with families. If a family is housing or food insecure, the case manager works on rental and/or food assistance for them. If the family is literally homeless, the family is referred to CTSO's Emergency Housing.

Once in the program, families receive intensive case management setting weekly goals and receiving support to access all available income and housing options. Although families are allowed to stay for up to one year as long as they are meeting their goals, the average stay is three months. In this program, we have supported **66** families including **124** children from July 2020 to present. 90% of families have exited to more stable housing.

Bridge to Home Exits by Household



29-year-old Destoni, mother of six, lost her job due to the pandemic and became homeless in December 2020. A staff member at the Housing Authority saw Destoni's family sleeping in their car and referred her to Township. After two months in Bridge to Home Emergency Housing, Destoni had a job at a local hospital and moved into her own home in West Champaign with a housing voucher.



*"We were at the state of homelessness. I had six little ones behind me, and I used to think that if I give up, who will take care of them? So I prayed. Township made everything easier. Honestly, without their help, I don't know if I would be in my home today."
- Destoni, Bridge to Home Graduate*



Proposal to Build the Capacity of Bridge to Home

Collaborative local work to end homelessness, spurred on by the pandemic, has reduced gaps in homeless and housing services. But significant pieces remain to eliminate homelessness and ensure affordable housing for all. The Cunningham Township Supervisor presented on Gaps in local Homeless Services to the Cunningham Town Board on October 10, 2022 (See Attachment D). A clear gap identified was that, even with the expansion of shelter, **key vulnerable populations still lack the emergency and transitional housing they need to be safe and supported to move to stable housing.**

Although the growth in shelter is greatly needed, there are particular populations underserved by the current continuum of services namely:

1. **Individuals unable to stay in congregate shelter due to a disability;**

2. Homeless families with children, generally;
3. Homeless families with children with a disabled head of household;
4. Homeless families with children seeking refugee or other immigration status;
5. LGBTQ+ residents experiencing homelessness who are at high risk of violence in the shelter system.

CTSO is leveraging 8 different funding sources and 17 partnerships to expand the capacity of Bridge to Home to better serve these target populations. Please see Attachment A: Bridge to Home Program description for details on the Bridge to Home program - components, staffing, performance metrics, and funding sources – as well as Attachment B: Bridge to Home Partner Organizations.

Since 2021, the following pieces of Bridge to Home have been secured through internal or external funds:

1. 8 units of Emergency/Transitional Family Housing - CTSO secured in 2021 and is upgrading for safety, accessibility, and energy efficiency with Urbana ARPA funds.
2. School Outreach staff member - USD 116 funds as a pass through from IBSE.
3. Emergency Housing Staff - funded by State of Illinois (ESG), Urbana HOME ARPA, USD 116, and CTSO
4. Outreach Vehicle - funded by City of Champaign
5. Rental Assistance - funded by CSTO with a 2.5 year expansion to prevent evictions and house precariously housed families with Urbana ARPA funds
6. School and street outreach supplies - funded by USD 116, State of Illinois (ESG), & CTSO

Funding Request & Justification

CTSO requests funding from Champaign County, adding to the supports listed above, to finish building out the capacity of Bridge to Home. For the period of March 2023 and December 2024 (or December 2026 in the case of property acquisition/renovation), CTSO seeks the following:

1. **\$530,00 Acquisition/Renovation of Emergency/Transitional Housing Units**
~6 units for a total of 14 bricks and mortar units and necessary renovations for safety, accessibility, and energy efficiency.

CTSO currently owns and operates 8 units of emergency/transitional housing in downtown Urbana, put into service in 2021. In addition, we operate 4 hotel units. We seek to replace these hotel units with bricks and mortar units owned by CTSO and expand by 2 units. This would allow us to provide emergency/transitional housing at a fraction of the \$1500 per month currently spent on hotel rooms. For acquisition we are

requesting \$530,000 is based on actual costs of 6 unit apartments plus \$10,000 per unit in anticipated renovation costs including:

1. Making units accessible
2. Installing security and remote access systems
3. Installing hardscape flooring
4. Energy efficiency improvements (leveraging Ameren incentives)
5. Other renovations required upon purchase.

2. \$96,000 for Property Management & Utilities

Including first time setup, maintenance, utilities, cleaning.

Based on actual expenses from CTSO's purchase of 206 and 208 E. California Ave, Urbana, we expect to spend \$8,000 per unit per year (\$667 per month) including utilities, maintenance, insurance, and cleaning. This would cover up to 8 units for 18 months. The other 6 units are supported through other funding sources.

3. \$126,000 for Supportive Services Staff

CTSO is requesting support for ~1.5 FTE staff to case manage emergency/transitional housing for 18 months. CTSO plans to maintain these staff positions with a mixture of reallocation of tax levy along with new grant-funded revenue that will take 12-18 months to cultivate.

4. \$40,000 in Supportive services through partner agencies

CTSO is requesting this support to partner with other agencies to provide specific supportive services to Bridge to Home participants that CTSO is not in a position to provide. This may include Medicare/Medicaid and health insurance navigation, mental health support, language translation, child care and other supports needed for employment, mentoring for homeless children, disability services, support with domestic violence or sexual assault, etc.

5. \$90,000 Direct Assistance

CTSO seeks funding to provide direct assistance such as utility arrears, rent, food, clothing, mental health, health care/prescriptions, transportation, basic phone access, home furnishings (for homeless move-ins), and other assistance needed.

CTSO supports residents who have shut off utilities (power or water) or an imminent shut off who do not qualify for other programs such as LIHEAP. Last year, CTSO paid \$56,000 in utility assistance, entirely through private donations. With the tripling of electricity costs with the end of Urbana's electricity purchase agreement in 2023, CTSO is already seeing a rise in the need for support to keep the power and water on in

households with very low incomes. Of the \$90,000, \$75,000 is expected for utility assistance to fill this direly felt gap in our community. The other \$15,000 is for street and school outreach supplies: coats and warm winter gear, help paying for birth certificates or IDs, food, backpacks, back to school supplies. These have been paid for by COVID related grant funding which we expect to be reduced in the next fiscal year.

TOTAL Request: \$882,000

Sustainability of Operations

CTSO has a plan to fund ongoing operations of Bridge to Home sustainably. Key to ongoing operations of Bridge to Home is the restoration and increase in township's tax levy which passed overwhelmingly in November of 2020, adding about \$600,000 annually to our assistance budget. Also key is our development of annual grant funds primarily from state and federal sources. CTSO has developed a grants management team and secured ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant) funding from the State of Illinois for the past three years, and intends to seek renewal grants. ESG funding amounts depend on recommendations from the Continuum of Service Providers to the Homeless. CTSO's grant in the current fiscal year is \$103,000. ESG grants have a 100% match requirement which may be supported by ARPA and other grant funds listed below.

Sources of ongoing Bridge to Home operational funds are:

1. Cunningham Township Tax Levy (increased secured)
2. Illinois DHS Emergency Solutions Grants (secured, will seek renewal)
3. Urbana School District 116 ISBE funds (secured, will seek renewal)
4. Cunningham Township Angel Donor Funds (secured)
5. Champaign County Housing Authority (secured voucher referral)
6. HUD funds to the Continuum of Service Providers to the Homeless (due Aug 2023)
7. Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) R3 funds (not submitted)

In addition, CTSO is exploring forming a 501c3 not for profit to prospect funds that are not available to government entities.

Attachments:

- A. Bridge to Home Partner Organizations
- B. CTSO Staff Credentials
- C. Bridge to Home Plan FY 24

Attachment B: Bridge to Home Partner Organizations

CTSO's Bridge to Home engages the following 17 partners. [See letters of support \(LOS\) & MOUs here.](#)

1. **County Health Care Consumers**
Provides Medicaid, TANF, SNAP navigation via a contract with CTSO. (See CCHCC MOU)
2. **Urbana School District**
Provides referrals, office space at the schools, and funding. CTSO provides a Housing Case Manager in the schools (See USD 116 MOU & LOS USD 116)
3. **Housing Authority of Champaign County**
Provides Emergency Housing vouchers via referrals from CSPH. CTSO provides supportive case management for residents at Pinewood. (See LOS HACC)
4. **Champaign Urbana Public Health District**
Provides support for emergency winter shelter and resource table at CTSO outreach events (See CUPHD MOU & LOS CUPHD)
5. **Crisis Nursery**
Provides referrals, crisis child care, and support applying for child care. (See MOU CN)
6. **City of Urbana**
Provided fiscal sponsorship for ESG funding for Bridge to Home from 2020-2022, providing HOME ARPA funds for 2023-2024.
7. **City of Champaign**
Providing ARPA funds for homeless street outreach vehicle.
8. **Continuum of Service Providers to the Homeless**
Provides a convening and coordinating body, funding recommendations, and referrals for services. (CTSO's Supervisor serves on the CSPH Executive Committee)
9. **CU at Home**
Provides space for CTSO Outreach staff to connect with participants, homeless certifications, and support accessing IDs. (See LOS CU at Home)
10. **Illinois DHS**
Emergency Solutions Grant provider.
11. **Champaign County Regional Planning Commission**
Provides and receives referrals for emergency housing and rapid rehousing.
12. **City of Champaign Township**
Coordinates in providing emergency housing, referring residents who can not stay in congregate shelter (See LOS COCT)
13. **Channing Murray Foundation**
Provides emergency items for CTSO's Bucket Brigade food delivery services. (See CMF MOU)
14. **Hope Center**
Provides food pantry items for CTSO's Bucket Brigade food delivery service.
15. **CU Trauma and Resiliency Initiative**
Supports families impacted by community violence via contract with CTSO. (See MOU CU TRI)
16. **YMCA - New American Welcome Center**
Provides language, legal, and logistical support for immigrant participants. (See LOS YMCA)
17. **The Refugee Center**
Provides language, legal, and logistical support for refugee participants. (See LOS TRC)

Attachment C: Cunningham Township Supervisor's Office Staff Credentials

CTSO's leadership team has significant grants and program development experience. Supervisor Danielle Chynoweth has over 25 years experience securing and administering grants including from: Ford Foundation, Google, Surdna, McCormick, National Endowment of the Arts, Illinois Arts Council, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Illinois Department of Human Services, and Media Democracy Fund). She has overseen CTSO's grants for 5.5 years. Finance and Operations Director Nicole Philyaw has 4 years experience managing numerous grants at the Eastern Illinois Food Bank, Land Connection, and now CTSO. Program Director Jazmine Hernandez has 2 years experience managing CTSO's ESG grant through DHS as well as CUPHD grants. CTSO has received and successfully managed a number of grants including: DHS Emergency Solutions Grant, City of Urbana pass through ESG grant, CURE COVID funds, Heartland Alliance, and Champaign Urbana Public Health District. CTSO has also administered dozens of grants as a funder. In total, CTSO currently employs 14 staff (12.5 FTE) and 2 full time Social Work interns with the following relevant certifications and trainings:

1. Licensed Social Workers/MA in Social Work (2)
2. MA in Counseling (1)
3. MA in Political Science (1)
4. AA/BA in Social Work (2)
5. De-escalation training - UI Police Training Institute & other sources (14)
6. Trauma informed Care Training Series - by CU Trauma and Resiliency Initiative (14)
7. Opiate Overdose Response Training by CUPHD (14)
8. LGBTQIA+ Cultural Competency Training by the UP Center (14)
9. Domestic Violence 40-hour training (3)
10. Domestic Violence 3 hour training (14)
11. Rape Advocacy, Counseling, & Educational Training 40-hour training (4)
12. Trauma and Resiliency/Building a Trauma-Informed Community 40-hour training (1)
13. Therapeutic Crisis Intervention Training, 40-hour training (1)
14. Social Security Insurance/Social Security Disability Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) course (2)
15. Crisis Prevention Institute's nonviolent crisis intervention training (1)
16. Divorce, Victim/Offender, Family, and School Mediation Training (1)
17. Township Assistance Administration Training (6)
18. Wrap-Around Care Training (1)
19. Mental Health First Aid training (1)
20. Management Center Training (4)
21. SOUL Advanced Facilitation Training 20 hours (1)
22. Digital Organizing School by Wellstone Action (1)
23. Executive Training - Ford Foundation (1)

CTSO Bridge to Home Program Plan

FY 2023-2024

Cunningham Township

The Cunningham Township Supervisor's Office (CTSO) is a public agency that supports local low-income residents with housing, income, education, disability, transportation, utilities, food, clothing, and communication needs. In 2022, CTSO served over 10,000 residents. CTSO cultivates strong, trusted partnerships with other local governments, non profits, and funders to meet its goal of ending homelessness and hunger in Urbana. Unique to Cunningham Township is its mission to fill local gaps in the local, state and federal safety net, and its ability to move nimbly to do so. The Supervisor serves on the Executive Committee of Continuum of Service Providers to the Homeless and as Field Instructor for the University of Illinois School of Social Work.

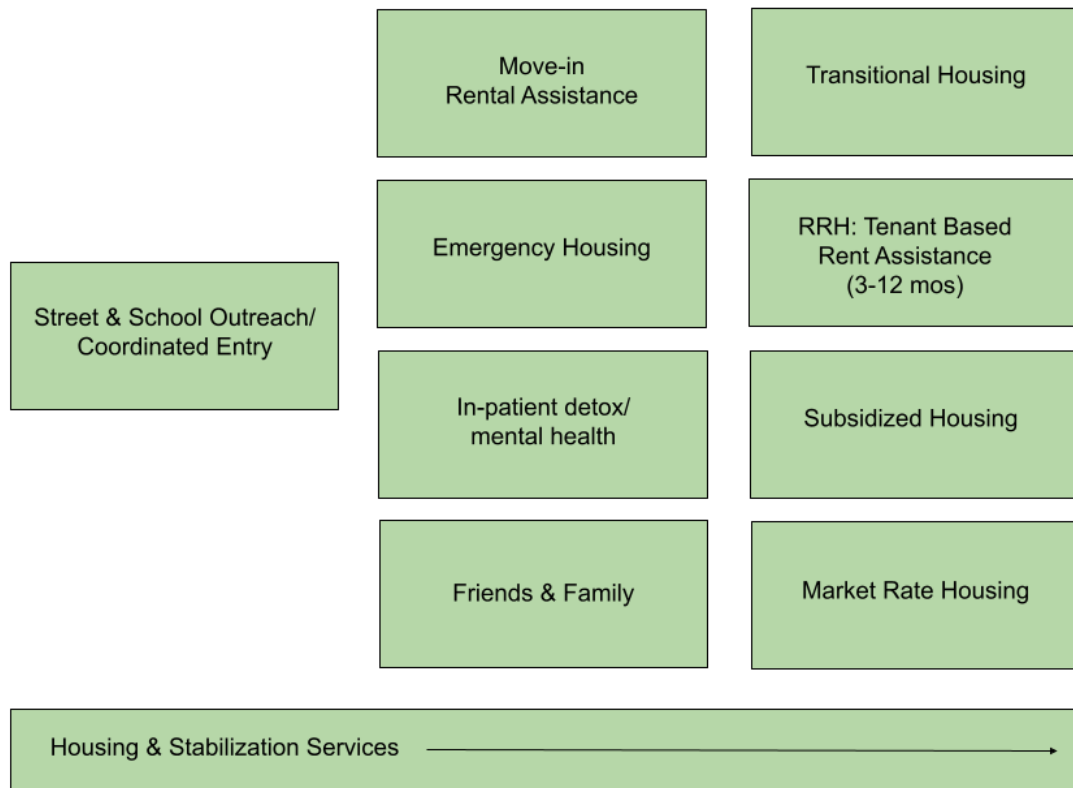
Overview

The purpose of Bridge to Home is to provide a continuum of housing and supportive services for local residents experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity so they may access and maintain permanent housing. Bridge to Home threads together Street and School Outreach, Emergency and Transitional Housing, Rapid Rehousing/Rental assistance, while providing Case Management including Housing Navigation and Supportive Services throughout from literal homelessness to stabilization in permanent housing.

History

After three years of working with and funding partners to fill gaps in homeless services, CTSO launched Bridge to Home in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic with Emergency Housing for those who could not stay in congregate shelter (families, individuals with disabilities, COVID positive or medically fragile residents) and Rapid Rehousing for literally homeless residents. In 2020, voters overwhelmingly approved a referendum to increase Township's tax levy, making long term sustenance possible. In 2021, with shifts in residents served in shelter and the availability of vouchers for homeless residents, CTSO expanded Bridge to Home to include Street Outreach and greater Housing Services. These programs were funded by a mix of private, state (ESG) and township funds. In 2021, CTSO acquired 8 units downtown for Emergency Housing for Families. In 2022, with support from Urbana School District 116, Bridge to Home expanded to include School Outreach – with a Housing Case Manager in Urbana Schools.

Movement Towards Housing



Program Components

Street Outreach

CTSO locates and supports actively unsheltered residents – through contact with concerned residents, health care professionals, emergency responders, school staff, and community businesses and organizations, including visits to areas where unsheltered residents often dwell.

- **# STAFF:** .5 FTE
- **SERVICES:** Street Outreach participants are supported with Immediate Needs: food, blankets, clothing, phones, toiletries; emergency shelter access support; Transportation Help: MTD, bus to family, transport to detox/mental health/medical facility; Housing Services: Link willing residents to go through coordinated entry; Links to Township Emergency Housing, General Assistance, or Move-in Rental Assistance, and/or referrals to other agencies.
- **FUNDING:** CTSO tax levy (secured), IDHS ESG, Private donations.
- **GOALS:** 30/yr served.

School Outreach

CTSO places a Housing Case Manager in Urbana Schools to support families with children who are facing homelessness and housing insecurity.

- **# STAFF:** 1 FTE
- **SERVICES:** receive referrals, make assessments, create plans, process rental assistance, secure food needs, and support families in attaining more stable housing and meeting other material needs.
- **FUNDING:** FY24 Renewal ISBE COVID grant through USD. As this is COVID funding, we are working to ID long term funding sources.
- **GOALS:**
 - 90 Households with ~225 children/yr expected

Emergency Housing (1-3 months)

CTSO offers short term emergency housing, if no other shelter option exists, as long as the resident is meeting with a case manager, pursuing goals, and seeking permanent housing.

- **# STAFF:** 1.5 FTE + intern
- **# UNITS:** 8
- **SERVICES:** Emergency Housing participants receive 1-3 months of housing, case management, food support through Bucket Brigade delivery, transportation support, support applying for General Assistance or Rental Assistance, support applying for and locating permanent housing options, support requesting vital documents, connection to substance abuse, rape crisis, or mental health counseling, referrals to other support such as Medicaid, SNAP and TANF.
- **FUNDING:** CTSO tax levy (secured), HHI (secured), DHS ESG (applying for renewal), Urbana ARPA (secured), County ARPA (applied), Vouchers from HACC (secured).
- **GOALS:**
 - 4 individuals plus 32 families/yr served
 - >80% of all Emergency Housing participants will move into a more stable housing situation at the end of the program term.

Transitional Housing (4-12 months)

PROPOSED PROGRAM

Emergency Shelter participants (individuals or families) who need more time to access independent housing will be considered for transitional housing as long as the resident is meeting with a case manager, pursuing goals, saving towards future housing expenses, and seeking permanent housing.

- **# STAFF:** 1 FTE + intern
- **# UNITS:** 6
- **SERVICES:** Transitional Housing participants receive 4-12 of housing, case management, support applying for and locating permanent housing options, connection to substance abuse recovery services, rape crisis services, or mental health counseling, referrals to other support.

- **FUNDING:** CTSO tax levy (secured), County ARPA (applied). Vouchers from HACC (secured).
- **GOALS:**
 - 6-8 households/yr served
 - >85% of Transitional Housing participants will move into a more stable housing situation at the end of the program term.

Rapid Rehousing (3-12 months)

Rapid Rehousing moves residents from literal homelessness into independent housing with up to 12 months of support with rent, utilities, income enhancement, and supportive services. Household must prepare a plan with their case manager to have sufficient income to live independently within 12 months. Tenant based rental assistance tapers off over time to move participants towards independence at the end of the program.

- **# STAFF:** .5 FTE
- **# UNITS:** 4 privately owned
- **SERVICES:** Housing identification, support paying for rental application fees and security deposit, landlord incentives, TBRA for 3-12 months, utility assistance, support obtaining landlord mediation and credit repair services, case management and referrals to other
- **FUNDING:** DHS ESG (secured FY 22, applying for renewal)
- **GOALS:**
 - 4 households/yr served
 - >80% of households who complete the program move into independent housing and remain in housing one year after support as evidenced by phone surveys at 12 months.

Homeless Prevention Through Rental Assistance (1-4 months)

EXPANDED PROGRAM

Move-In Rental Assistance to stabilize and support households who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or unstably housed (McKinney Vento definition). It is meant to divert from Emergency Housing households with income (including new employment) who need more support up front for success. This program may be combined with Housing Navigation and Supportive Services, as needed (see below).

- **# STAFF:** 1.5 FTE
- **SERVICES:** 1-4 months of deposit/rental assistance.
- **FUNDING:** CTSO tax levy (secured), Urbana ARPA (secured)
- **GOALS:**
 - 100 households/yr served
 - >80% of participants will remain in housing one year after support as evidenced by phone surveys at 12 months.

Housing Navigation and Supportive Services

EXPANDED PROGRAM

Expanded support with housing navigation while homelessness, and supportive services 3-12 months after placement in permanent housing.

- **# STAFF:** 2 FTE
- **SERVICES:** Help gathering documents, applying for housing subsidies, seeking housing options, Housewarming gifts as Salt and Light store credit to purchase housewares, moving in, regular check-ins, support remaining employed or getting help with SSI applications, support with budgeting and staying up to date with rent and utilities, medical navigation, and other supports as needed.
- **FUNDING:** CTSO tax levy (secured), HHI (secured)
- **GOALS:**
 - 68 households/yr served
 - >80% of voucher holders who participate in Housing Navigation services locate and move into housing.
 - >85% of the Supportive Services Program participants remain in housing one year from program start.

Contracted Support

To support housing case managers, CTSO will contract with agencies to layer specific services to support CTSO Bridge to Home participants – such as immigrant legal aid, language translation, disability services, trauma informed wrap around care, and health care navigation services.

- **FUNDING:** CTSO tax levy (secured), HHI (secured), County ARPA (proposed)