

Helping people become more self-sufficient in meeting their basic needs

Vision: All Greater Waterbury residents have adequate healthcare, housing and food.

Outcomes for People #A: Greater Waterbury residents have timely equitable access to appropriate, affordable physical, dental & behavioral healthcare, incl. prevention & intervention services.

Outcomes for People #B: Greater Waterbury residents have expanded equitable access to safe and affordable housing - temporary and permanent.

Outcomes for People #C: Greater Waterbury residents have equitable access to affordable, nutritious food, and other basic needs.

Community Change #1: Greater Waterbury residents have improved access to coordinated comprehensive services appropriate to their needs.

Community Change #1: Greater Waterbury individuals and families have improved equitable access to support services that enhance their likelihood of acquiring and retaining safe, affordable housing.

Comm. Change #2: Greater Waterbury stakeholders increase investment in public-private partnerships that create opportunities for permanent affordable housing.

Community Change #3: Greater Waterbury has increased equitable safe emergency housing (shelter) and support services for homeless individuals and families.

Comm. Change #1: Greater Waterbury eligible residents increase participation in federal food assistance programs.

Comm. Change #2: Greater Waterbury emergency food providers have increased resources to obtain nutritious food.

Community Change #3: Greater Waterbury emergency food providers collaborate to provide an equitable coordinated delivery system that improves efficiency.

Community Change #4: Greater Waterbury has an equitable system in place that seamlessly links residents seeking food assistance and basic needs to other services that helps reduce barriers to meet basic needs.

Strategies:

- A. Maintain or expand programs' capacity to equitably provide basic physical, dental, and behavioral healthcare services, including related prevention and intervention services, through adequate funding.
- B. Improve coordination of the current system for providing services, including for special populations.
- C. Educate providers about 2-1-1 Navigator or other linkages for services.
- D. Facilitate 2-1-1 and providers to work together more effectively.
- E. Support multi-lingual educational campaigns to help residents know how to access existing services and obtain medical insurance using conventional & unconventional methods appropriate to specific special populations.

Strategies:

- A. Fund agencies that help people have the necessary resources (financial resources, knowledge, skills, etc.) to obtain and maintain homes. (including support services for home owners & potential home owners and support services for tenants)
- B. Promotion of broad scope of 2-1-1
- C. Promote/support greater coordination & coordination to provide a continuum of services related to affordable housing.
- D. Support training/education about existing programs for various provider groups (e.g. faith-based, medical & public school communities)

Strategies:

- A. Convene or support others to convene a public forum on affordable housing issues, including city and other housing plans; and support efforts to identify profitable investment options for investors and educate potential investors.
- B. Support expansion of permanent affordable housing options.
- C. Support the Waterbury Coordinated Access Network community plan to end homelessness.

Strategies:

- A. Fund emergency shelters.
- B. Support shelter life skills programs that promote self-sufficiency.
- C. Support coordinated access to continuum of services including diversion and prevention.

Strategies:

- A. Support increase in capacity of programs that provide support to applicants.
- B. Support efforts for special multi-lingual, unconventional types of outreach and education (faith based, peer-to-peer) to educate residents about availability and how to access programs.

Strategies:

- A. Fund emergency food programs.
- B. Continue efforts to educate the public and funders.
- C. Continue efforts in Food Resource Committee to obtain increased cooperation and coordination of efforts to obtain resources equitably.

Strategies:

- A. Facilitate and support efforts by Food Resource Committee to identify and address gaps in the food delivery system in an inclusive manner.
- B. Support efforts to identify special funding for offsetting infrastructure costs.

Strategy:

- A. Support efforts by Food Resource Committee to provide training for staff/volunteers of food assistance programs so that they can identify needs and connect clients to services including culturally appropriate and dietary appropriate choices.
- B. Residents have access to a basic needs fund.