

City of Cambridge Homeless Services Continuum of Care

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

PREVENTION AND RAPID REHOUSING SERVICES

The Multi-Service Center (MSC) offers a range of prevention-related assistance, including on-site case management, referral for free legal assistance or free/low cost mediation services prevent eviction, and help accessing special funds that can pay rent arrearages to prevent eviction, or help cover the up-front costs of moving to a new apartment. Rapid Rehousing assistance includes financial assistance and stabilization services for people moving out of emergency shelters into permanent housing.

STREET OUTREACH AND DROP-IN SERVICES

CASPAR's First Step Street Outreach program and Eliot Community Human Services' First Step Mental Health Expansion program provide 80 hours of dedicated street outreach focused on identifying and engaging with unsheltered persons, encouraging acceptance of services, and assisting in accessing those services. On the Rise and Youth on Fire operate low threshold drop-in programs that target unsheltered persons, offer clinical and case management services, and access to basic needs including food, clothing, phones and showers.

CASE MANAGEMENT AND OTHER SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

The Cambridge Continuum includes a variety of McKinney-Vento funded supportive services programs to assist persons experiencing homelessness address their income, employment, education, money-management, legal, housing and other related needs, so that they can obtain and retain housing.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

EMERGENCY SHELTERS

242 beds for individuals; 33 units for families

For Individuals:	Beds:
First Church Shelter	14
Salvation Army Emergency Shelter	60
CASPAR – Emergency Services Center	107
Heading Home Shelter	21
Harvard Square Homeless Shelter (HSHS)	28*
Harvard Square Summer Shelter	12*
For Families:	Units:
Hildebrand – DHCD	15
YWCA DHCD shelter	10
For Individuals and Families:	Units:
Transition House DV Shelter	8

*HSHS is a seasonal shelter that is open from November to April each year. Harvard Square Summer Shelter is a seasonal shelter open from June to August.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

83 beds for individuals; 30 units for families

For Individuals:	Beds:
AAC YMCA ETP	5
AAC YWCA ETP	5
North Charles Bridge	5
Carey Program	22
Salvation Army Umoja	20
CASPAR GROW House	7
CASPAR WomanPlace	10
Heading Home YWCA	9
For Families:	Units:
Heading Home - CHA PPH	6
Heading Home - CHA United Way 15	
For Individuals and Families:	Units:
Transition House TLP (DV)	9

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

311 beds for individuals; 45 units for families

For Individuals:	Beds:	For Families:	Units:
Heading Home My Place	6	HomeStart Key	41
Heading Home Solid Ground	6	Vinfen 5 Condos PSH	5
Heading Home Midpoint	5	Heading Home TRA	9
Heading Home Duley House	14	SRO PRA @ YMCA	30
Heading Home PSH Expansion	5	YMCA Sec. 8 SRO	35
CASCAP Cambridge St. PSH	3	YWCA Sec. 8 SRO	29
CHA St. Paul's PSH	8	Ruah House Sec. 8 SRO	7
New Communities – 116 Norfolk	8	Cornerstone Sec. 8 SRO	10
HomeStart Open Door	28	205 Green St. Sec. 8 SRO	10
HomeStart Going Home	5	Heading Home Stepping Stone	11
Heading Home H2H	21	Vinfen CBFS	3
AAC Youth Housing Program	12		
For Individuals and Families:	Units:	For Families:	Units:
Transition House PSH, Safe Place	8	AAC TRA for Families	7
HomeStart Safe Home	6	Heading Home FAST	13
Heading Home Welcome Home	11		

As an entity, a CoC serves two main purposes. First, to develop a long-term strategic plan and manage a year-round planning effort that addresses: identifying needs of homeless individuals and households; availability and accessibility of existing housing and services; and opportunities for linkages with mainstream housing and services. Second, the CoC prepares the annual application for McKinney-Vento competitive grants. The Homeless Services Planning Committee (HSPC) is the main committee of the Cambridge Continuum of Care that meets on the second Thursday of each month at 9 am.