

NEWS REVIEW

july '21 newsletter digest | ri coalition to end homelessness

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Public-private 'Pay for Success' program expected to be more effective, save millions

What's up Newp reported on the five-year pilot program known as "Pay for Success" to create permanent supportive housing for 125 chronically homeless Rhode Islanders! The \$6 million program establishes a public-private partnership model and is expected to save the state between \$1.8 million and \$2.6 million each year.

"In passing Pay for Success, Rhode Island will provide our neighbors most in need with the best possible path to safe and stable housing, while also realizing significant savings," said Senior Policy Analyst Kristina Contreras Fox.

Advocates, state leaders discuss ways to combat RI's ongoing housing crisis

Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos, alongside other state leaders, Senior Policy Analyst Kristina Contreras Fox, and members of the "Voices of Homelessness" advocate group hosted a virtual summit to discuss Rhode Island's ongoing housing crisis.

"Together, we can work towards making homelessness a chapter in a person's story instead of the whole book," Matos said in a statement. "We have an opportunity to change the life of Rhode Islanders. I am willing to go on the journey. Who's with me?"

Will Rhode Island's \$200M for Rent Aid Be Enough?

Earlier this month the Associated Press reported that tomorrow, July 31st, the CDC eviction moratorium will expire. The few protections in place to prevent evictions during the pandemic are coming to an end, as the only protection in Rhode Island against eviction was the federal government's eviction moratorium.

Thankfully, this spring, our state launched RentReliefRI using \$200 million in federal money to provide rent and utility assistance. The program is accepting applications to help renters maintain housing stability.

Housing Isn't Affordable for Minimum Wage Workers Anywhere in the U.S.

The 2021 National Low Income Housing Coalition's (NLIHC) Out of Reach report, published earlier this month, and detailed in an article from the US News & World Report, maintains that on average, renters need to earn \$24.90 per hour nationwide - far exceeding all states' minimum wages - to afford a two-bedroom apartment, a new report says. According to the report, our state is ranked 17th in the nation for its hourly housing wage, at \$22.54 per hour needed to afford a standard one bedroom rental.

You can read the full report here.