



PANDEMIC RECOVERY OFFICE

Homelessness Assistance Final Report

Submitted by State of Rhode Island Pandemic Recovery Office

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<https://pandemicrecovery.ri.gov>

This project was supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number SLFRP0136 awarded to the State of Rhode Island by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

Homelessness Assistance

Project Identification Number: 10017

Pandemic Recovery Office Approval Date: May 23, 2022

Project Completion Date: September 30, 2024

Funded Amount: \$1,500,000

Expended Amount: \$1,485,529

Project Expenditure Category: 2.16 Negative Economic Impacts: Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused People

Problem Statement: Homelessness in Rhode Island increased significantly during the pandemic as documented by the Rhode Island Point in Time Count conducted by the Rhode Island Coalition to End Homelessness on January 26, 2021.¹ Findings included:

- 1,267 people experienced homelessness, a 14% increase from 2020.
- 869 people were in emergency shelter, a 17% increase from 2020.
- 181 people were living outdoors, a 67% increase from 2020.

The Point in Time Count conducted on January 26, 2022, indicated that Rhode Island continued to see significant increases in homelessness.² Findings included:

- 1,576 people experienced homelessness, a 24% increase from 2021.
- 1,151 people were in emergency shelter, a 32% increase from 2021.
- 248 people were living outdoors, a 37% increase from 2021.

Project Overview: Through the Consolidated Homeless Fund Program, the Rhode Island Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) issued a request for proposals (RFP) for a range of new housing stabilization services, especially those targeting homeless populations that have traditionally had difficulty accessing services. These services included:

- Increased homelessness prevention, diversion, and rapid rehousing services to help prevent homelessness and secure safe, healthy, and affordable housing for individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Emergency shelter and housing stabilization services for individuals who identify as LGBTQ+ and survivors of domestic violence, with the goal of obtaining permanent housing.

The following is the list of partners selected through the RFP and the services each provided:

- *Rhode Island Coalition to End Homelessness:* Organized and implemented a Housing First and best practices training for organizations serving individuals experiencing homelessness.

¹ [Rhode Island Point in Time Count Data](#)

² [Ibid](#)

- *Community Care Alliance*: Converted its Providence location into a shelter specifically for LGBTQ+ individuals.
- *Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center*: Converted three residential units in Pawtucket into 14 shelter units to serve families as they secure permanent housing.
- *Sojourner House Inc.*: Operated Respect, Inclusion, Safety, and Empowerment (RISE) – a shelter for survivors of abuse who are LGBTQ+ or who identify as male and left an abusive relationship or situation.
- *Community Action Partnership of Providence*: Expanded financial literacy/resiliency training so that clients can make better decisions involving household finances, including securing/retaining secure and affordable housing.
- *Amos House*: Provided resources to clients to prevent or exit homelessness, including connecting individuals with entitlement programs, emergency financial assistance, and other resources to retain or regain permanent housing.

OHCD also developed and implemented a best practices training program for staff of Continuum of Care, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Consolidated Homeless Fund-funded programs to ensure the delivery of effective services.

Financial Overview: All program payments can be found on the [Pandemic Recovery Office’s website](#) by filtering the “Project” box for “Homelessness Assistance.” The table below shows planned expenditures by fiscal quarter and actual expenditures by fiscal quarter:

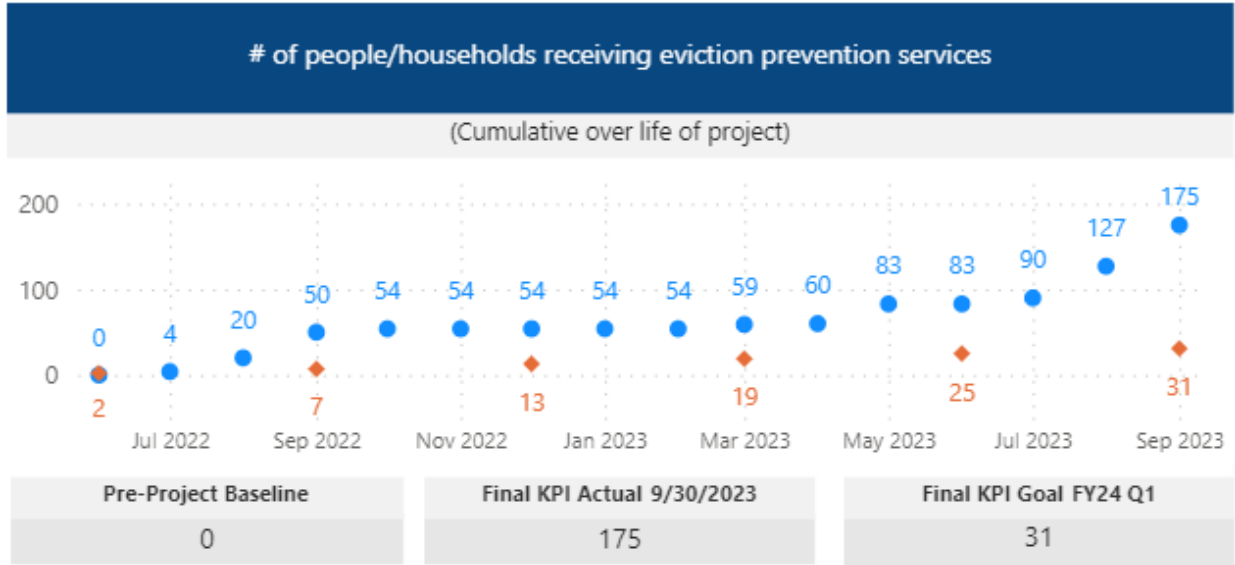
Fiscal Year Quarter	Planned Expenditures	Actual Expenditures
FY 2022 Q4	\$232,060	-
FY 2023 Q1	\$181,711	\$226,531
FY 2023 Q2	\$188,137	\$145,700
FY 2023 Q3	\$218,395	\$290,459
FY 2023 Q4	\$277,980	\$252,909
FY 2024 Q1	\$401,717	\$318,925
FY 2024 Q2	-	\$184,834
FY 2024 Q3	-	\$66,154
FY 2024 Q4	-	\$17
Total	\$1,500,000	\$1,485,529

Note: A single audit fee applies to all State Fiscal Recovery Fund projects and accounts for \$446 of the funds shown in the above table. The \$14,471 of underspend for this project is being used for the Fiscal Year 2024 Homelessness Assistance Phase II project.

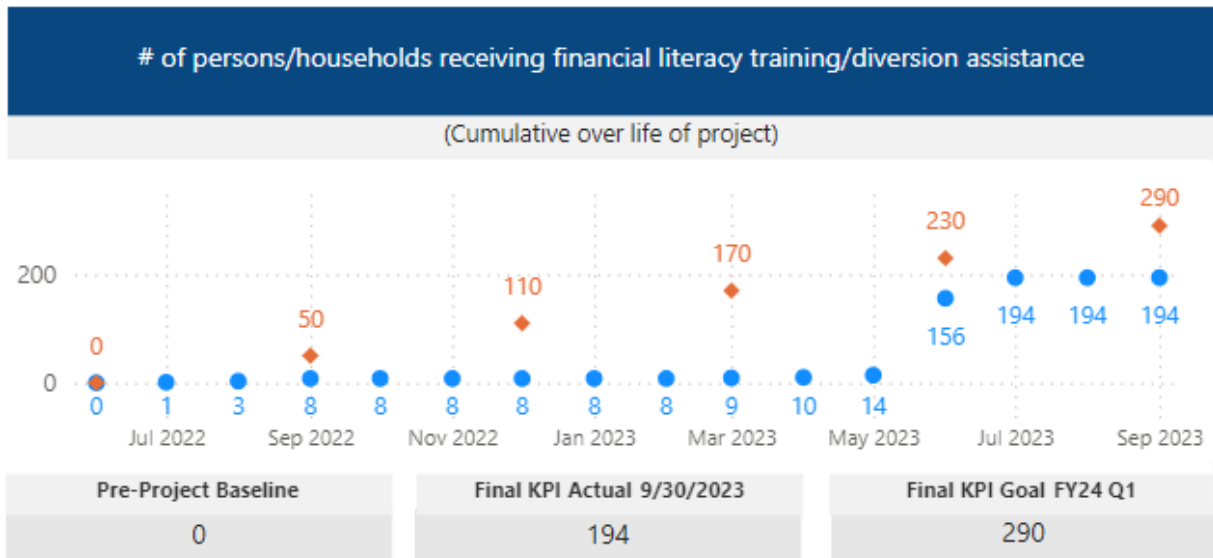
Key Performance Indicators: The following are the key performance indicators based on quarterly goals and monthly data collections.

Legend: ● Actual KPI Value Reported ◆ Quarterly Goals

1. Number of people/households receiving eviction prevention services³



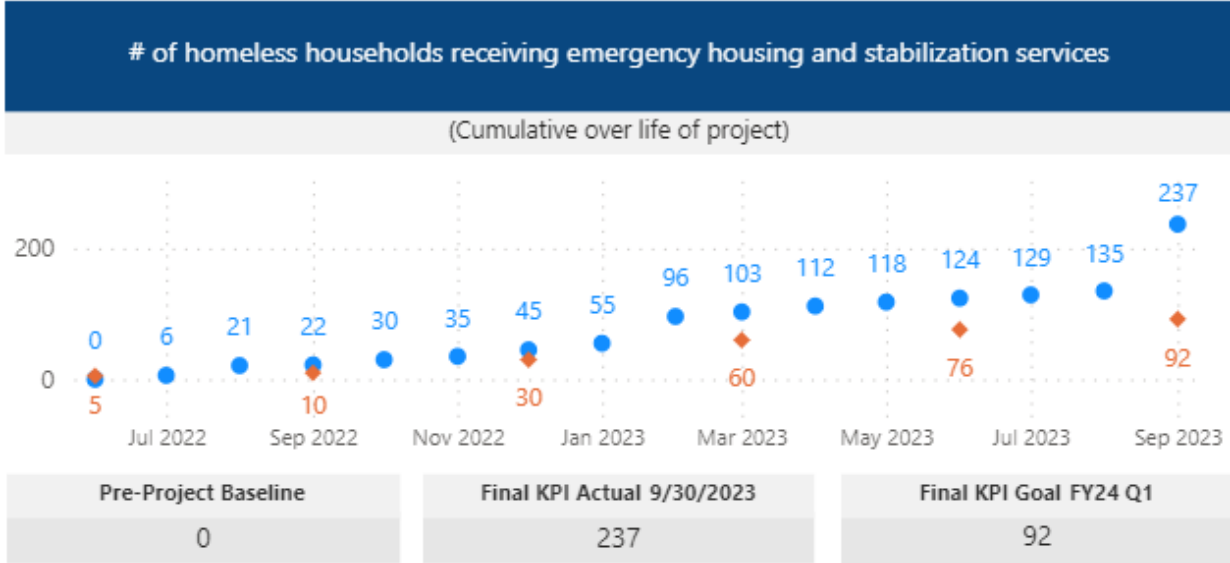
2. Number of people/households receiving financial literacy training/diversion assistance



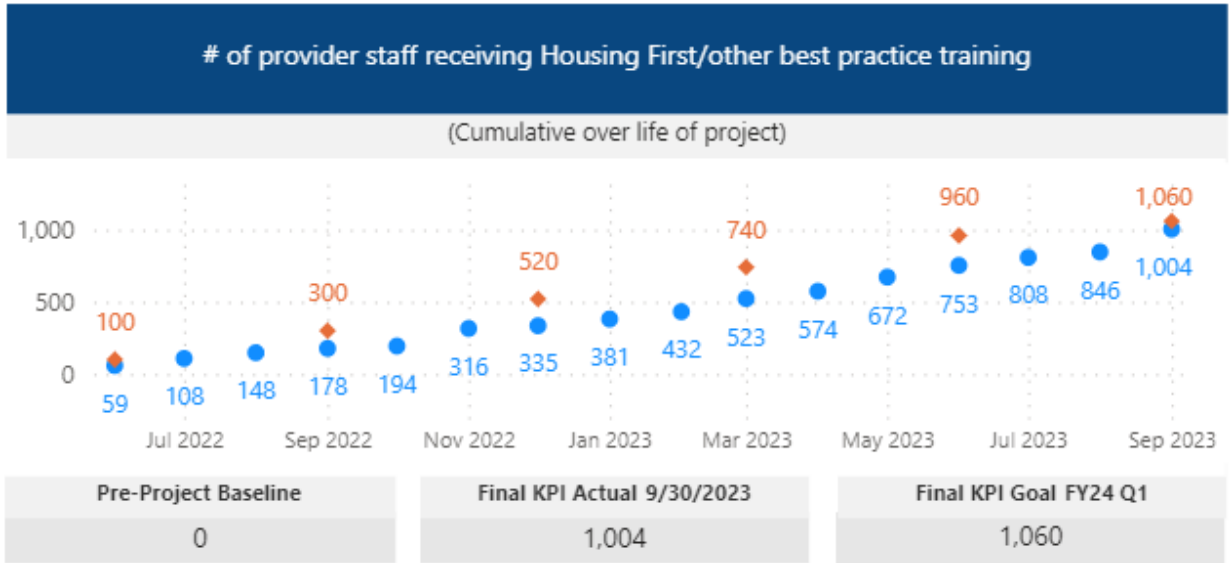
³ Eviction prevention refers to any strategy or program designed to keep individuals and families in their home and prevent them from experiencing homelessness. The two programs that provided these types of services through this project were Amos House and the Community Action Partnership of Providence.

Legend: ● Actual KPI Value Reported ◆ Quarterly Goals

3. Number of homeless households receiving emergency housing and stabilization services

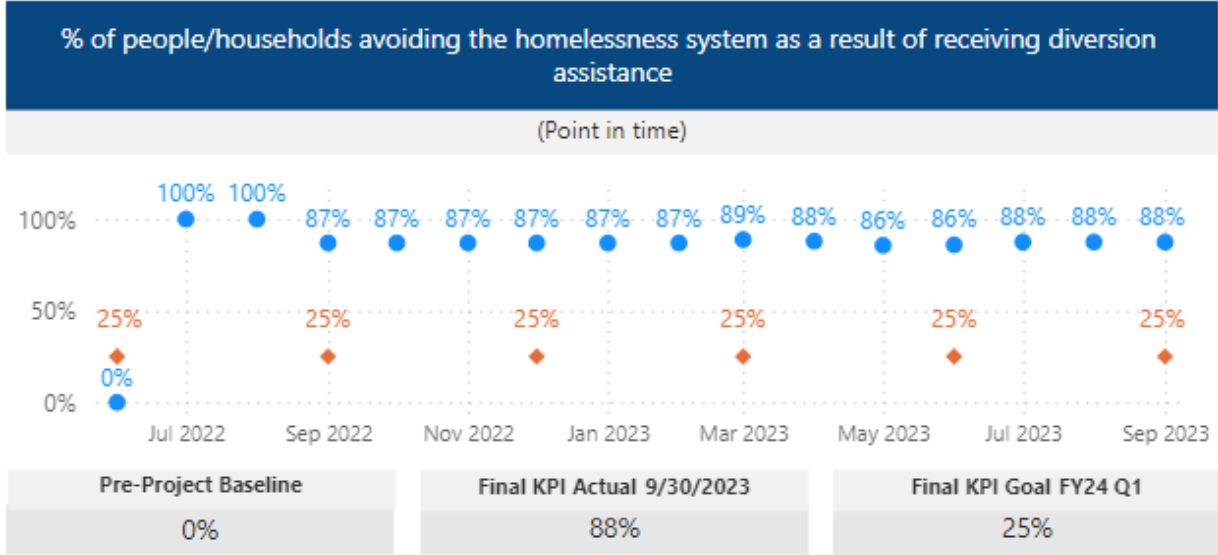


4. Number of provider staff receiving Housing First/other best practice training

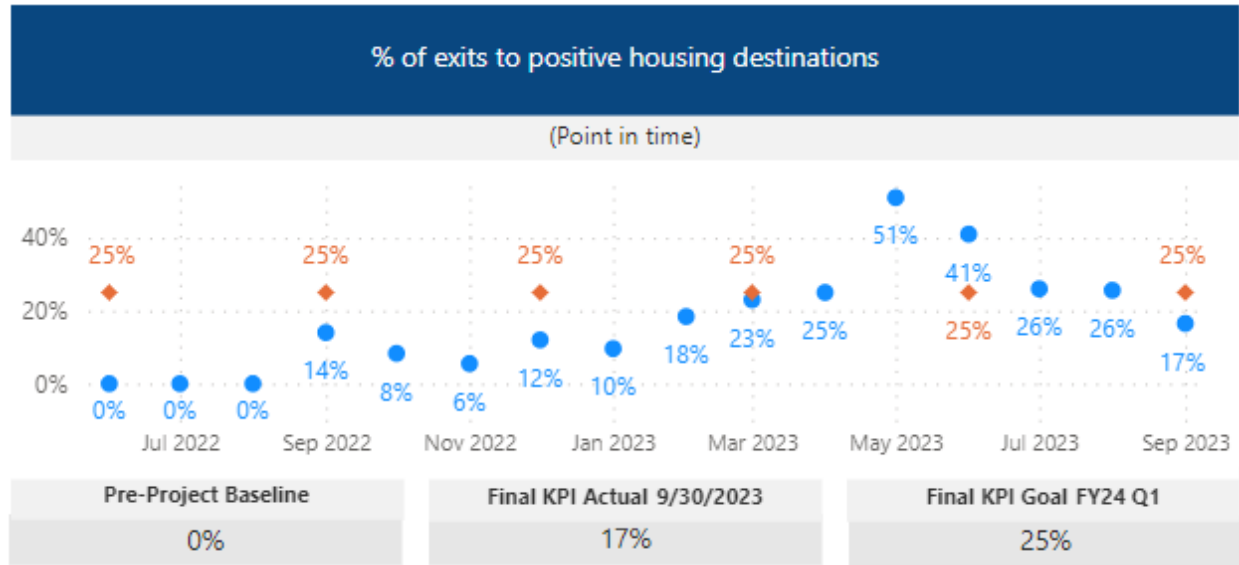


Legend: ● Actual KPI Value Reported ◆ Quarterly Goals

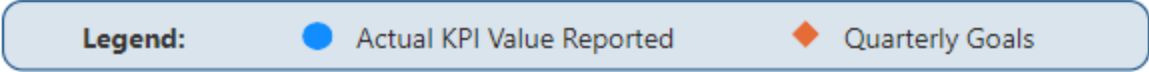
5. Percentage of people/households avoiding the homelessness system because of diversion assistance



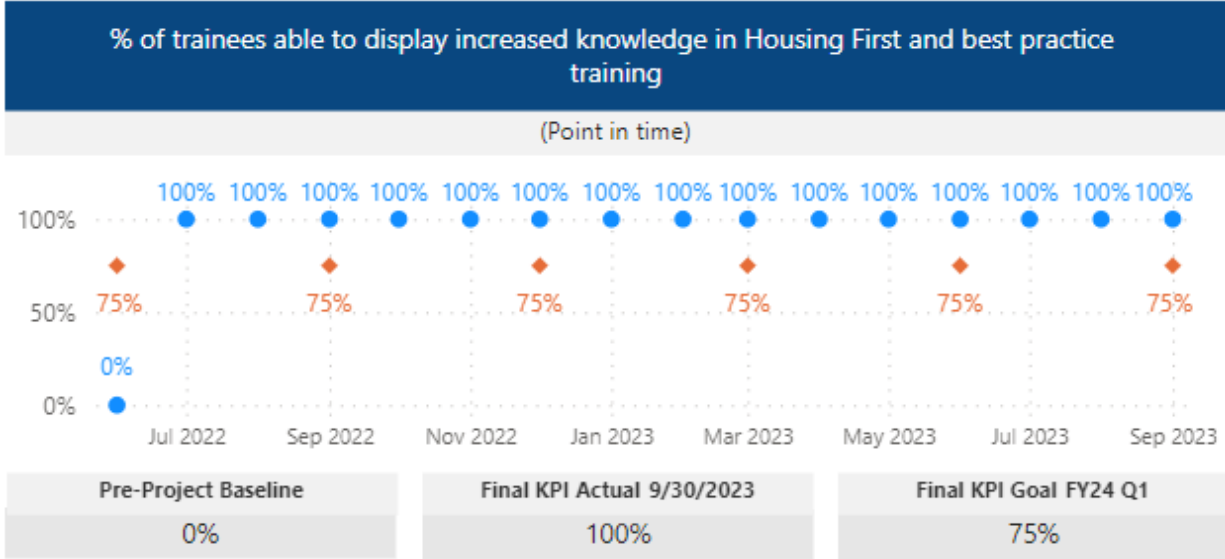
6. Percentage of exits to positive housing destinations⁴



⁴ Positive housing destinations include exiting homelessness to a more stable housing situations, such as permanent housing or living with friends and family members.



7. Percentage of trainees able to display increased knowledge of Housing First and best practice training



Demographics: The table and map below show the distribution of funds to homelessness providers.

Distribution of Homelessness Assistance Funds by Location



Payee	Municipality	Sum of Amount
AMOS HOUSE	PROVIDENCE	\$164,065
BLACKSTONE VALLEY ADVOCACY CENTER	PAWTUCKET	\$410,104
COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP OF PROVIDENCE COUNTY	PROVIDENCE	\$44,348
COMMUNITY CARE ALLIANCE	WOONSOCKET	\$578,430
RHODE ISLAND COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS INC	PAWTUCKET	\$215,450
SOJOURNER HOUSE INC	PROVIDENCE	\$72,686
Total		\$1,485,083