



PANDEMIC RECOVERY OFFICE

Homelessness Infrastructure Final Report

Submitted by State of Rhode Island Pandemic Recovery Office

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<https://pandemicrecovery.ri.gov>

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Homelessness Infrastructure

Project Identification Number: 10017

Pandemic Recovery Office Approval Date: October 26, 2022

Project Completion Date: November 30, 2024

Funded Amount: \$5,000,000

Expended Amount: \$4,855,476

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: The Rhode Island Department of Housing (Department) expanded the shelter system's capacity to provide temporary emergency shelter to individuals. The Department added temporary (i.e., seasonal) and permanent shelter beds through contracts with providers, who reconfigured or expanded their shelter space to serve additional people or rented hotel/motel rooms and other suitable accommodations to house people. Some of these emergency shelter bed additions were only for the winter of 2022-2023, and others are permanent.

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

- *Amos House:* Operated the Charlesgate Family Center shelter.
- *Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center:* Converted its administrative offices into shelter space with 12 beds and purchased an office building for its new administrative offices.
- *Catholic Social Services of Rhode Island:* Paid increased food and staffing costs for increased capacity of 30 to 35 individuals at the Emmanuel House Shelter.
- *Community Care Alliance:* Provided emergency shelter and services at the Sure Stay motel.

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

² [Ibid](#)

- *Sojourner House*: Created five, new units of crisis housing and extended the availability of five existing units.
- *Thrive Behavioral Health*: Rented 40 hotel rooms in Kent County for additional shelter capacity.
- *Westerly Area Rest Meals*: Secured 10 hotel rooms for additional shelter capacity and provided transportation seven days a week for meals, social service programs, and appointments.

As the Department prepared to launch the *Homelessness Infrastructure* project in fall 2022, there were a reported 259 permanent beds and 647 temporary beds in Rhode Island’s homelessness system. The project added a cumulative 62 permanent beds and 296 temporary beds.

Financial Overview: All program payments can be found on the [Pandemic Recovery Office’s website](#) by filtering the “Project” box for “Homelessness Infrastructure.” The project did not utilize its full appropriation of \$5.0 million, with \$144,524 of unexpended funds remaining at the conclusion of the project. These funds were allocated to the *Homelessness Infrastructure Phase II* project. The table below shows planned expenditures by fiscal quarter and actual expenditures by fiscal quarter:

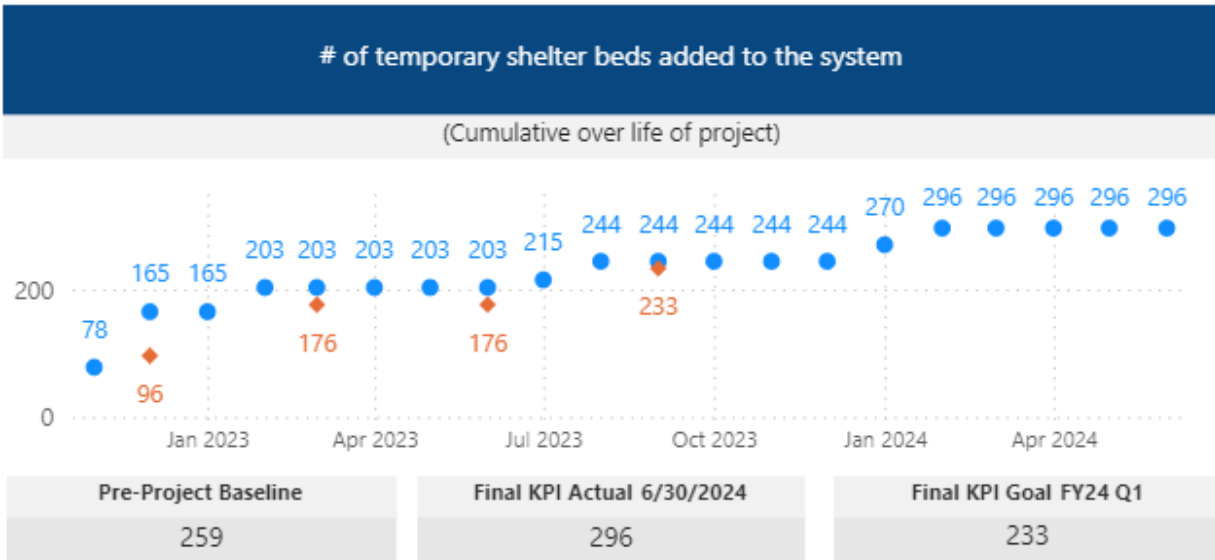
Fiscal Year Quarter	Planned Expenditures	Actual Expenditures
FY 2023 Q2	\$754,510	-
FY 2023 Q3	\$1,465,609	\$688,914
FY 2023 Q4	\$1,013,554	\$1,658,380
FY 2024 Q1	\$873,614	\$793,817
FY 2024 Q2	\$334,767	\$920,028
FY 2024 Q3	\$334,767	\$547,071
FY 2024 Q4	\$223,179	\$164,334
FY 2025 Q1	-	\$82,932
Total	\$5,000,000	\$4,855,476

Note: A single audit fee applies to all State Fiscal Recovery Fund projects and accounts for \$1,457 of the \$4,855,476 of actual expenditures.

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 temporary shelter beds added to the system

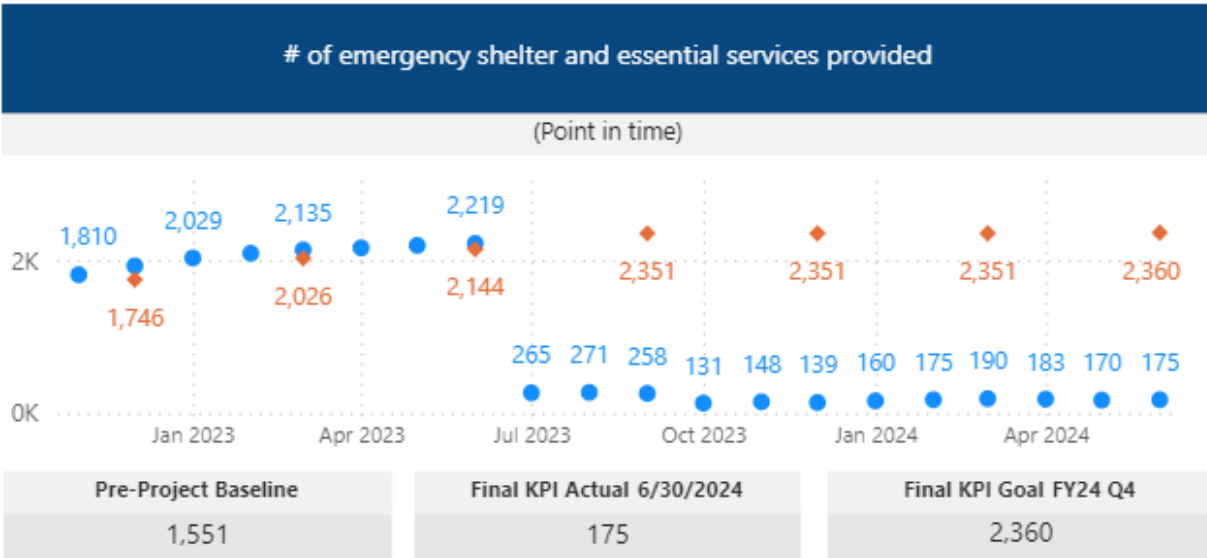


2. Number of permanent shelter beds added to the system





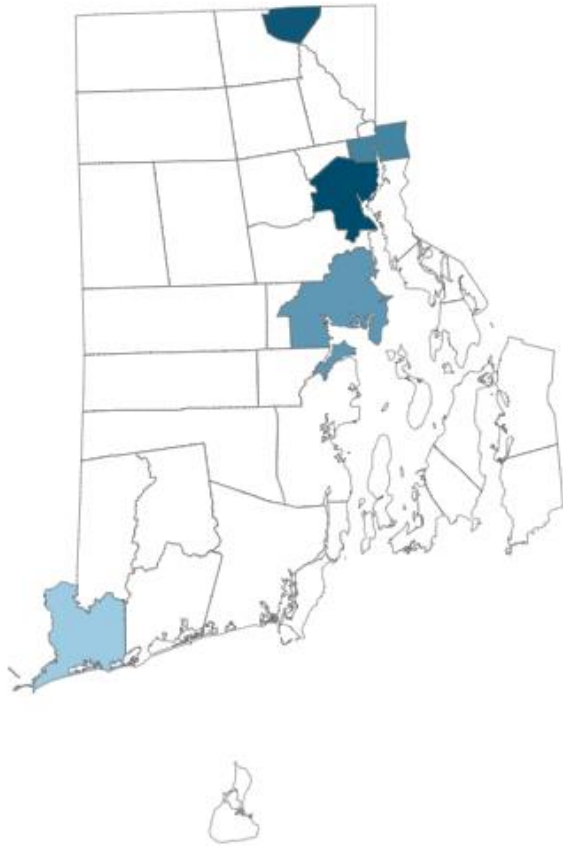
3. Number of emergency shelter and essential services provided³



³ The decline from June to July 2023 is a result of some providers having exhausted their *Homelessness Infrastructure* funding at that time, meaning the number of services they provided were no longer tracked for the purpose of this key performance indicator.

Auxiliary Information: The map below shows the distribution of payments to homelessness providers by municipality.

Distribution of Homelessness Infrastructure Grants by Location



Payee	Municipality	Sum of Grant
AMOS HOUSE	PROVIDENCE	\$1,373,665
BLACKSTONE VALLEY ADVOCACY CENTER	PAWTUCKET	\$945,991
CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES OF RHODE ISLAND	PROVIDENCE	\$43,348
COMMUNITY CARE ALLIANCE	WOONSOCKET	\$1,383,920
SOJOURNER HOUSE INC	PROVIDENCE	\$72,429
THRIVE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INC	WARWICK	\$760,233
WESTERLY AREA REST AND MEALS WARM INC	WESTERLY	\$274,434
Total		\$4,854,020

The table below shows a breakdown of individuals served by race and ethnicity.

Race and Ethnicity	Percentage
Black, African American, or African	21%
Hispanic/Latino	6%
Multiracial	29%
Other	1%
White	42%
Total	100%