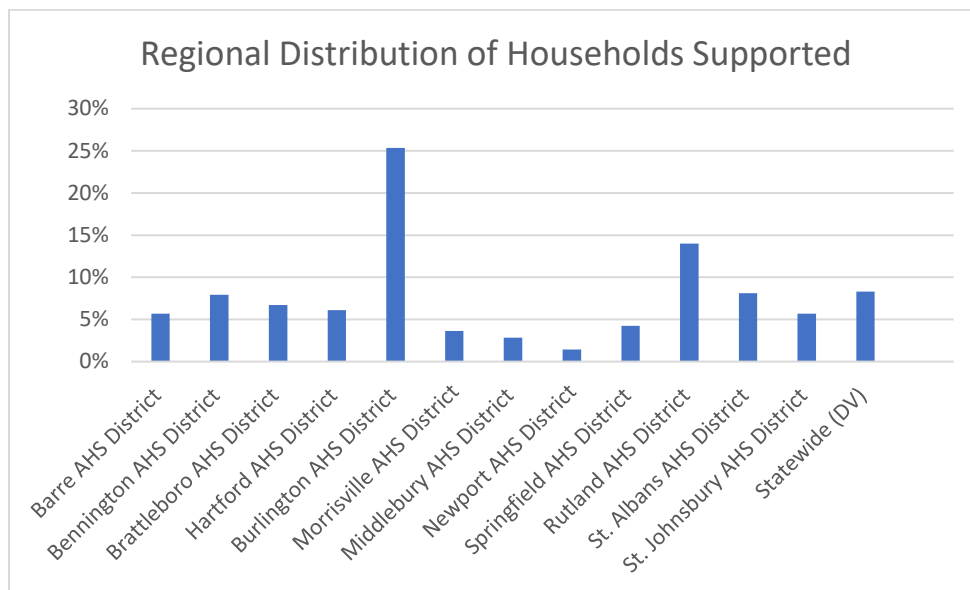


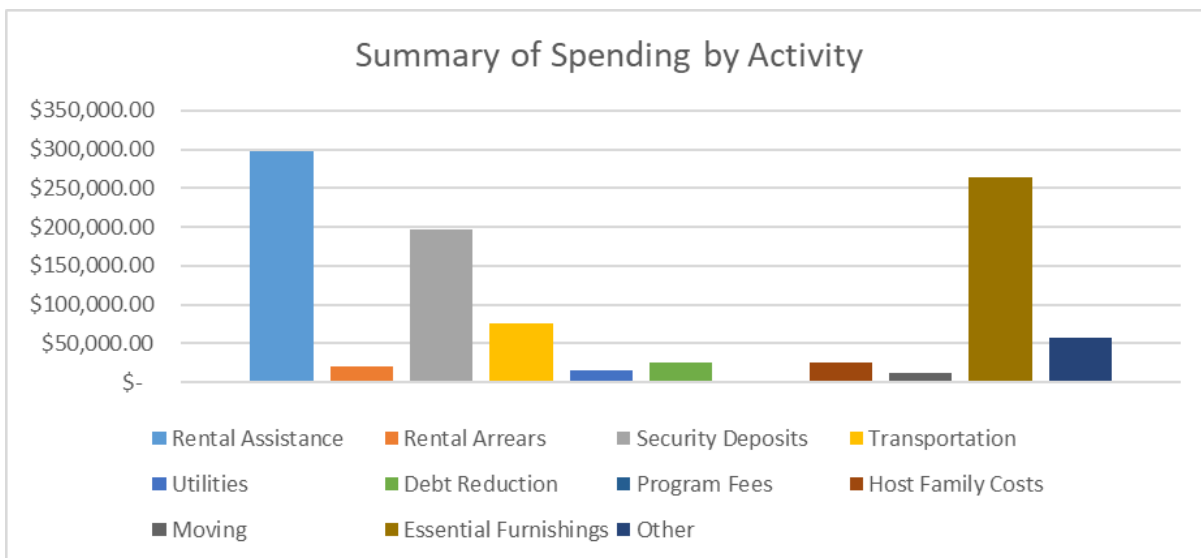
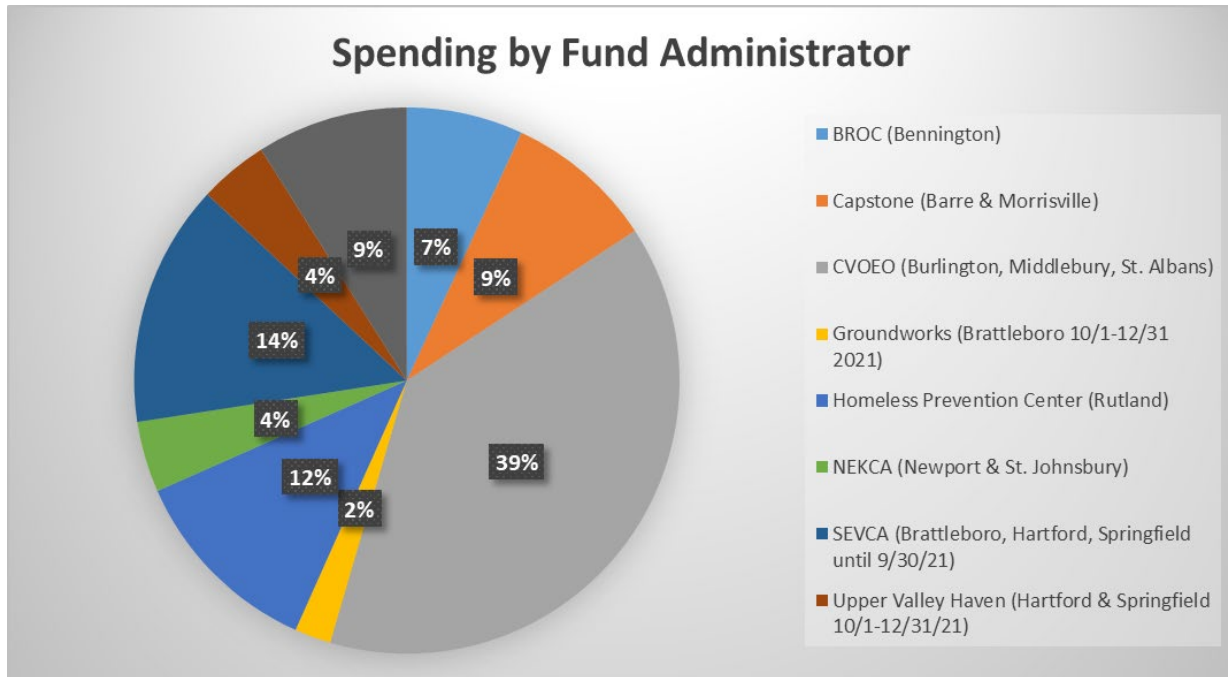
COVID-19 Rapid Resolution Housing Initiative
Round Two – Final Report
February 1, 2021-December 31, 2021

The Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) awarded over \$1.4 million for a second round of the COVID-19 Rapid Resolution Housing Initiative (RRHI) to help local Homeless Continuum of Care partners to reduce homelessness, particularly in motels, by providing one-time/short-term flexible financial assistance to help households exit quickly to safe housing. The Rapid Resolution Housing Initiative focused on meeting the immediate financial need of individuals and families experiencing homelessness due to the COVID-19 public health crisis. Eight non-profit agencies administered funds on behalf of their local Continuum of Care(s) and the VT Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence managed funds statewide for survivors. These funds supported a wide array of housing options for eligible households, so long as the funding was used to meet an identified need in the household’s individualized housing plan.

493 households were served through this program with 65% (318 households) living in motels at time of referral. Referrals came from traditional housing and homelessness providers as well as from Parent Child Centers, Area Agencies on Aging, Restorative Justice Centers, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Designated Agencies, and DCF Economic Services/Reach Up. 91% of households served (450 households) exited to safe housing. The most common safe exits were to rental units with a subsidy (approximately 58%) and rental units without an ongoing housing subsidy (approximately 34%).



Nearly \$1 million of Rapid Resolution Housing Initiative funds were expended to support these households.



Rapid Resolution is a practice promoted by the US Interagency Council on Homelessness to provide client-centered problem solving and flexible financial assistance to aid quick, safe exits from homelessness. Vermont’s CRF-funded RRHI initiative was the first rapid resolution program at statewide scale and remains a significant tool in aiding households as they exit homelessness in Vermont.

OEO awarded \$750,000 for a third round of the Rapid Resolution Housing Initiative, beginning on January 1, 2022, to continue to support homeless individuals and families as they move to safe housing through June 30, 2022. Moving forward, OEO is working with community partners to take lessons learned from the Rapid Resolution Housing Initiatives to inform changes to the Housing Opportunity Grant Program, beginning on July 1, 2022.