



## Supportive Housing & Child Welfare 8 Steps to Partnerships Road Map

This road map is a step-by-step guide to creating housing solutions for high-need families involved in the child welfare system. By improving housing stability and outcomes for parents and children across generations, we can keep families together.

Keeping Families Together supportive housing finds families most in need of housing and supports by identifying children who are: at risk of negative child welfare outcomes (out-of-home placement, long-term open cases, reentry to child welfare systems); inadequately housed (homeless or unstably housed); facing multiple challenges such as mental or physical health needs, substance use, disabilities, etc.

For child welfare agencies, supportive housing can offer an effective way to work with high-needs families and serve as an alternative to out-of-home placements, delayed reunifications, and recurring child welfare involvement. Supportive housing offers a platform to build family success through coordination of services from child welfare and the multiple other agencies involved in the lives of vulnerable families.



Access important background and more detailed information at:  
[www.csh.org/KeepingFamiliesTogether](http://www.csh.org/KeepingFamiliesTogether) & [www.1RoofFamilies.org](http://www.1RoofFamilies.org)

# 8 Steps Road Map

[www.1RoofFamilies.org](http://www.1RoofFamilies.org)

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**Understand the Need through Data.** Partners match & analyze data. Identify target population's characteristics & service needs. Arrive at common definition of high-needs families. Help community determine services available.



**Assemble Permanent Housing Resources & Identify Service Funding Needs.** Partners identify all funding & resource needs for the proposed service model.

**Formalize Cross-System Stakeholder Planning Team.** Partners identify key public, private & non-profit stakeholders, determine collaborative leadership, decision-making, refine goals, & develop project design & timeline.



**Design the Service Model.** Comprehensive services models use evidence-based practices, are family-centered, trauma-informed, support promotive & protective factors for strong families & child development & housing stability.

**Design Multi-Agency Referral System, Engagement Process.** An interdisciplinary team process is created to receive referrals, confirm eligibility based on the target population, & begin the assessment process.



**Engage Families, Secure Housing and Facilitate Move-in.** Providers engage and assist families in housing search, landlord negotiation, and moving into home.

**Develop Evaluation and Dashboard to Monitor Outcomes.** Data dashboard developed to regularly monitor project outputs & outcomes across partner roles to allow for tracking, troubleshooting, & performance improvement.



**Analyze and Communicate Outcomes and System Impacts.** Analysis is used to engage public agencies, policymakers, & other funders to maximize resources and reform public policies to sustain & embed supportive housing for high-need families involved in the child welfare system.

