



The Nuts and Bolts of Housing Retention

*With Michael Ohler Ed.D. & Faith Crocker of the
Burlington Housing Authority Housing Retention Team*

“An ounce of prevention may actually be worth a pound of cure. It is often less expensive to help a person or family avoid homelessness than it is to let them become homeless and then provide them with emergency shelter, other homelessness services, and help getting out of homelessness. Moreover, while people living in near-homeless situations face a wide range of basic problems and challenges, preventing them from becoming homeless can keep the existing problems from escalating and can block a host of new ones (thereby avoiding a corresponding increase in the need and demand for costly public and private assistance).” Lindblom, 1991, p.958. With this goal in mind, the Housing Retention Team will focus on sharing with you the myriad of ways this can be accomplished.

In partnership with the Agency of Human Services Field Services, The Burlington Housing Authority offers a housing retention program that is both free and voluntary. Through strength based goal setting, intensive home visits and access to community and state assistance programs, the Burlington Housing Authority assists both housing providers and tenants, intervening before a tenant is facing eviction and before the situation becomes a crisis.

Michael Ohler , Ed, D. is the Team Lead for the Housing Retention Team at Burlington Housing Authority. He is an over-educated street worker who sees and embraces the complex challenges of maintaining one's home when there are limited resources to do so. He has worked at BHA for almost 15 years. Michael also teaches sociology and social work classes at any college that will have him (currently CCV).

Faith Crocker has worked in the field of human services for over ten years. She is currently the Supportive Housing Service Coordinator for the 30-42 Housing Program. She has worked with individuals experiencing homelessness or recently housed for eight years. She has a passion for providing site-based retention services. Faith's focus is on housing and retaining people in the building located at 30-42 King St. and in other scattered site apartments in the community (if the building is full or client is deemed in need of Faith's assistance but Dettman Place is not an appropriate fit) with Local Preference Section 8 housing vouchers. Most clients are under the age of 62.

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Royalton Academy Building - 4266 VT Route 14, South Royalton, VT 05068

Registration 9:30 am—10:00 am

Training 10:00 am—12:00 pm

Lunch & Networking 12:00-12:30 pm

VRSC Member Meeting 12:30-2:00 pm

Admission is FREE for Vermont Resident Service Coordinators &
Vermont Housing Managers Association members.
Non-Members are invited to attend for \$10 (includes admission & lunch).
RSVP to dhemmings@maloneyproperties.com
2 Continuing Education Units issued by VHFA

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