

Homeless Advocates Argue More Affordable Housing Needed

ABC22 News

Montpelier, Vermont - A group of lawmakers and advocates rallied outside the Vermont State House Wednesday to end homelessness in the Green Mountain State.

The group agreed, homelessness, especially among Vermont's families, is growing.

"In Chittenden County, we were stunned to find out in October that from all of the school districts there are 141 school age homeless children right now," the Executive Director of the Committee on Temporary Shelter Rita Markley said.

But at a Vermont House Committee meeting, Markley and others presented a solution.

Advocates say the long term solution is to get people who are homeless into affordable housing.

Right now, the State is paying to put some people in hotels for up to 84 days, a method that advocates say does not work.

"In September alone there was \$110,000 dollars spent in Chittenden County on motels. That's a lot of subsidies," Linda Ryan the director of Samaritan House said.

Advocates want to shift that money towards more affordable housing.

[Link to Video News Report](#)