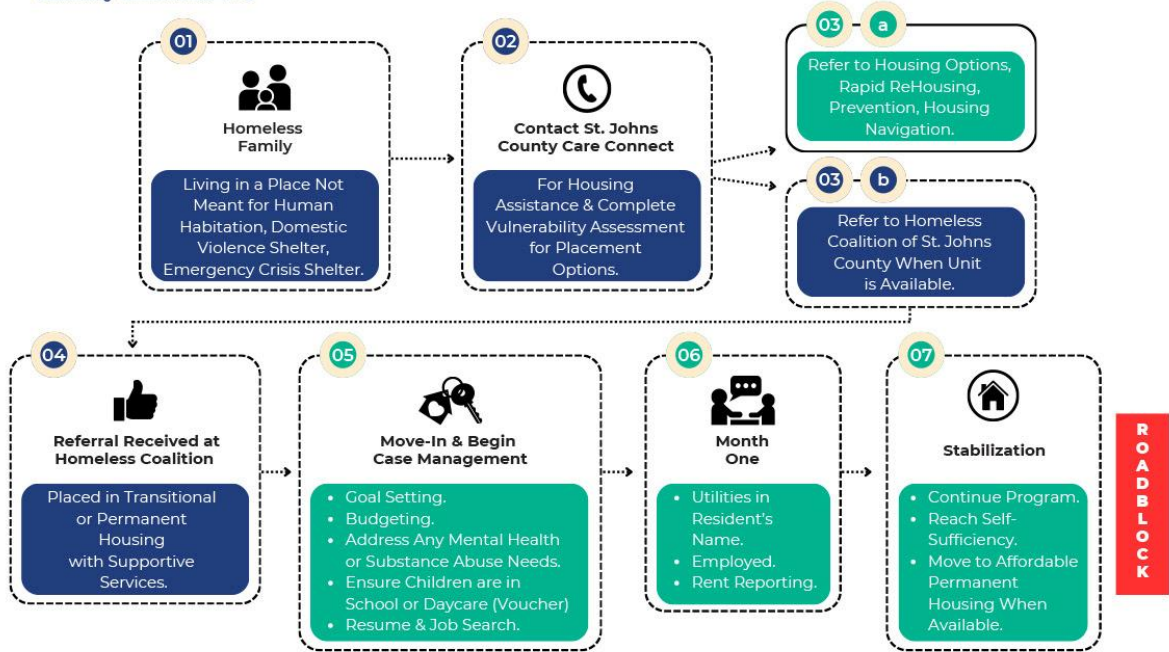




# Homeless to Self-Sufficient Journey Map



Each step depicted on this map marks a significant milestone for a family. From the initial recognition of the need for change to the triumph over barriers hindering self-sufficiency, it's a journey brimming with a range of emotions – from apprehension and uncertainty to relief and empowerment.

Each step is made possible by a collaboration of agencies, case managers, volunteers, and donors.

Let's explore each step together.

## Step 1: Family Experiencing Homelessness

01



## Homeless Family

Living in a Place Not  
Meant for Human  
Habitation, Domestic  
Violence Shelter,  
Emergency Crisis Shelter.

Families with children can find themselves homeless due to various reasons, often stemming from economic hardships such as low-income or unaffordable housing. Additionally, domestic violence can abruptly force mothers and their children into homelessness.

Regardless of the cause, homeless families may resort to living in cars, tents in the woods, domestic violence shelters, or emergency crisis centers.

The harsh reality of homelessness plunges these families into a relentless struggle for survival. They grapple with constant concerns about safety and where their next meal will come from.

The overwhelming emotional and mental toll of day-to-day survival leaves them with little energy to envision a brighter future for themselves and their children.

## Step 2: Contact St. Johns County Care Connect+

02

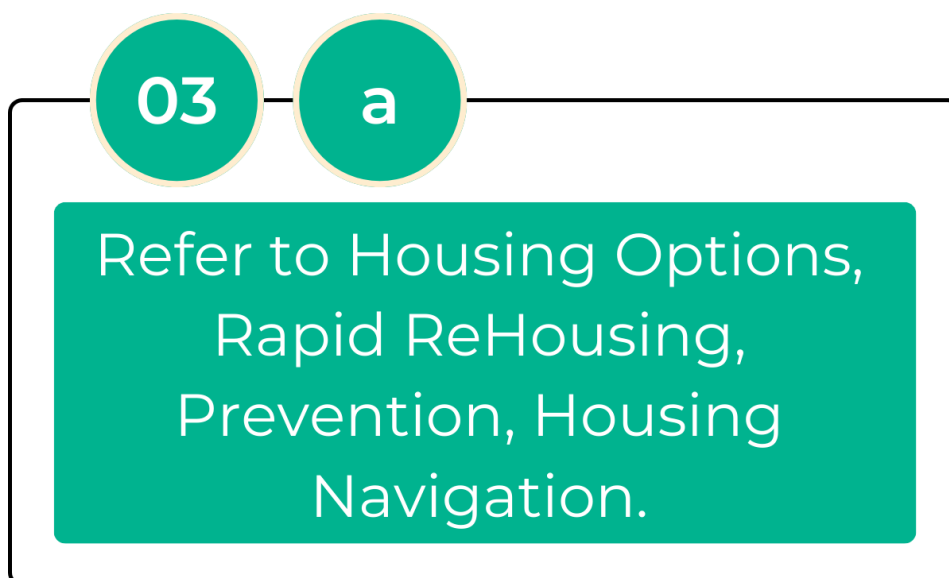


### **Contact St. Johns County Care Connect**

For Housing  
Assistance & Complete  
Vulnerability Assessment  
for Placement  
Options.

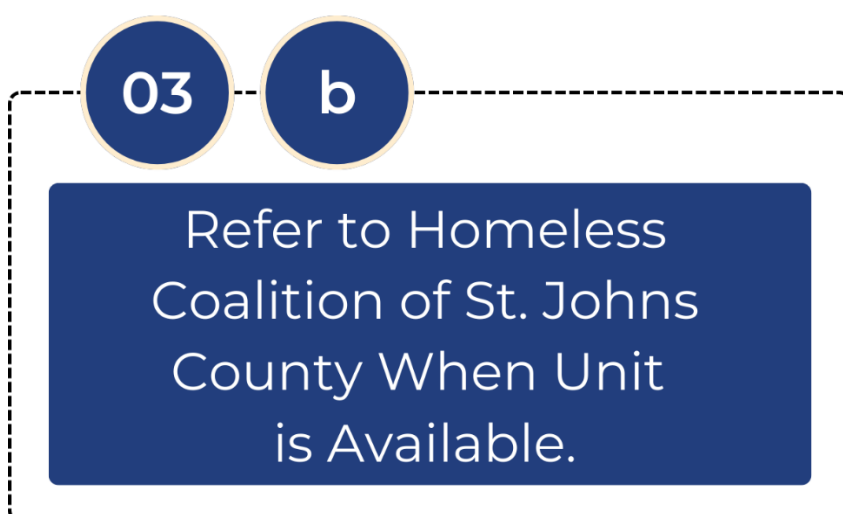
A major step toward resolving a family's homeless situation in St. Johns County is engaging Care Connect+ online or via phone.

### Step 3a: Referred to Housing Options



Depending on the family's situation Care Connect+ may refer them to housing assistance options, Rapid Rehousing, prevention, or housing navigation.

### Step 3b: Referred to Homeless Coalition of St. Johns County



If none of the options in 3a are suitable for the family, a referral is made for housing and supportive services at the Homeless Coalition.

## Step 4: Referral Received

04



### Referral Received at Homeless Coalition

Placed in Transitional  
or Permanent  
Housing  
with Supportive  
Services.

After connecting with us, we sit down with the family to introduce our program, and supportive services and kickstart the intake process.

This marks a turning point for families, as they begin to feel a sense of relief knowing that a safe and decent home awaits their children.

## Step 5: Move-In and Begin Case Management

05



### **Move-In & Begin Case Management**

- Goal Setting.
- Budgeting.
- Address Any Mental Health or Substance Abuse Needs.
- Ensure Children are in School or Daycare (Voucher)
- Resume & Job Search.

This is where the journey toward self-sufficiency truly begins. With the family housing situation stabilized, they can finally start looking ahead.

Our dedicated Case Managers take the time to truly understand the family's unique challenges that led to homelessness.


Together, they craft a personalized plan focused on:

- **Setting Goals:** Helping the family envision a brighter future.
- **Budgeting:** Guiding them to understand their finances.
- **Addressing Mental Health or Substance Abuse:** Connecting them with vital resources.
- **Enrolling Children in School or Daycare.**
- **Securing Employment:** Providing support with resumes and job searches.

This step is about empowering families to take those crucial steps toward stability and independence.

## Step 6: Month One

06



**Month One**

- Utilities in Resident's Name.
- Employed.
- Rent Reporting.

The first month at the Homeless Coalition is a pivotal time, filled with potential for life-changing transformations. It's when families begin to take ownership of their journey, striving to provide for their children and shape their futures.

During this crucial period, families take on responsibilities such as putting utilities in their names and actively pursuing employment opportunities. They also start making utility and rent payments, learning the importance of timely financial commitments to avoid extra fees.

As a supportive measure, we participate in rent reporting, ensuring that families' timely payments are recognized by major credit agencies. This not only helps them meet immediate needs but also lays the groundwork for long-term financial stability and improved credit scores.

## Step 7: Stabilization

07



## Stabilization

- Continue Program.
- Reach Self-Sufficiency.
- Move to Affordable Permanent Housing When Available.

Stabilization is the key to progress on the path to self-sufficiency. Every family moves at their own pace, focusing on boosting their income, improving their credit, and overcoming barriers along the way.

Whether it's a sudden crisis like a car breaking down or a setback such as job loss or illness, the Homeless Coalition stands ready to offer guidance and resources to help them overcome these challenges.

Our ultimate aim is to instill families with the confidence and resources they need to achieve self-sufficiency and even realize the dream of homeownership.



# ROADBLOCK

Ever-increasing rent payments in the community jeopardize a family's housing stability. At the Homeless Coalition, we prioritize preparing for homeownership for our families. A stable mortgage aligns better with a consistent income, fostering long-term security.

Despite their remarkable progress and achievements, our families often face the daunting challenge of finding affordable and sustainable housing options. This is a roadblock that exists in our community.