Danish Authority of Social Services and Housing

Building bridges across different levels of government – cities and national governments

The Danish Experiences

October 29th 2027

Knowledge for mutual benefit

The Danish Context

A 15-year journey towards Housing First

- **Governance:** National government sets the legal and financial framework; 98 municipalities organise local services. Non-profit social housing organisations are key partners in providing homes.
- **2009–2021: National programmes** promoted Housing First and supported *municipalities* and *homeless shelters* in adopting the approach and the specialised support methods.
- **Results:** Implementation varied, uptake remained limited, and homelessness did not decline sustainably.

The Danish Homelessness Reform

The reform sought to bridge social and housing policy by addressing three essential preconditions:



From Legislation to Implementation of Housing First

Number of individuals receiving Housing First-based support by support type, 2024–2025	2024	2025
Total people receiving Housing First-based support	**1.790**	**2.890**
CTI	843	1.110
ICM	959	1.755
ACT	125	204

Note:The total is based on unique individuals. However, an individual may have received more than one type of support (CTI, ICM and ACT). Therefore, the number of individuals who received the different types of Housing First-based support does not necessarily sum to the total.

Source: Own calculations based on register data from Statistics Denmark

From Shared Commitment to Lasting Change

Homelessness in Denmark in week 6

5.989
People in homelessness 2024



6.028
People in homelessness 2026

Source: Benjaminsen, L. (2026) Hjemløshed i Danmark 2026: National kortlægning [Homelessness in Denmark 2026: National Mapping]. Copenhagen: VIVE.

Three priorities ahead:

- **Prevention** Prevent homelessness before it occurs.
- **Housing supply**: ensuring access to enough, permanent homes.
- **Affordability:** ensuring that people can afford to sustain their tenancies.