

# SHARE YOUR STORY



## Community Action Month



Thanks to CSET's Permanent Supportive Housing program, Johnny beat the odds of housing instability, strained relationships, substance abuse, and health issues.

## JOHNNY'S STORY

From a young age, Johnny was involved in the criminal justice system. As a teenage father with a toddler and another child on the way, survival became his sole priority, a need he thought could be met through gang affiliation. Tragedy and revenge led to a life sentence for Johnny. He obtained early release in 2011 after serving 28 years in prison. Johnny began his struggle with homelessness and substance abuse. In 2015, a near-death experience motivated Johnny to seek drug recovery services, and he was referred to CSET for Permanent Supportive housing. Johnny received a pet friendly housing placement

for him and his dog Mamas. While Johnny's essential need for a stable living environment had been met, he still struggled with chronic health barriers making it difficult for him to maintain his housing placement. With CSET's assistance, he received access to medical care and mental health treatment, including obtaining Social Security Disability Income (SSDI). SSDI allowed Johnny to purchase a vehicle that has helped him get to his appointments, obtain groceries, and reconnect with his children. He now has a steady income, a place to live, and reliable transportation.