

COLLECTIVE IMPACT TO END HOMELESSNESS IN RICHMOND

Updates from
Homeward and the
Greater Richmond
Continuum of Care



Coordinated Efforts to End Homelessness

- Background on Greater Richmond Continuum of Care
- Community governance
- Regional data on homelessness
- Emerging trends
- How to find out more



Continuum of Care

Broad group of stakeholders coming together to end homelessness in a community

- Required by US Housing & Urban Development (HUD) in order to receive funding targeted for homeless services
- Established in 1995
- Not required to be a legal entity



Greater Richmond Continuum of Care



Map retrieved from
<http://www.richmondregional.org/>

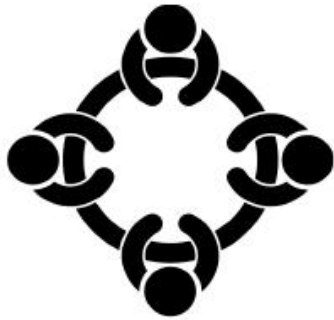
- Established in 1997
- More than \$70 million in HUD funds targeted to homelessness received in the region since 1997
- State funds for homelessness coordinated through CoC since 2014
- Homeward was created in 1998 to facilitate the CoC funding program

Guiding Legislation: HEARTH Act

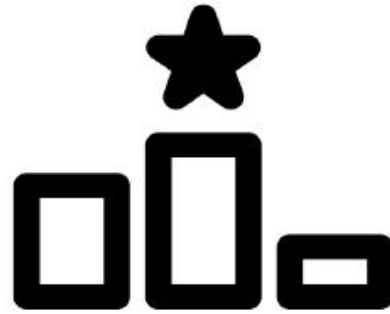
HEARTH Act: Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (2009)

- Reauthorization of McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance programs (last reauthorized in 1992)
- Emphasis on ending homelessness (those in shelters and on the streets) & system-wide performance
- Increased community-level coordination required

Continuum of Care: Community-wide planning body working to end homelessness



Diverse stakeholders on the GRCoC board set policy across our network of homeless services providers



The Ranking Committee reviews and scores applications for coordinated funding



Performance Measurement reviews scoring matrices, tracks program and system-level outcomes, and will set benchmarks



Coordinated entry work includes committees working to develop system-wide processes and access points to services



Coordination & Sharing Workgroups
(HMIS users, Child & Family, Case Managers, etc)

Client Services Workgroups
(Veterans, DV Permanent Housing, Housing Specialists, etc)

GRCoC Members

- **Prevention & Diversion (Including Access)** CCC, YWCA Shelter Diversion Line, Greater Richmond Regional Hotline (sexual & domestic violence), Coordinated Outreach team, Hanover Safe Place
- **Emergency shelters:** CARITAS, Daily Planet, Home Again, Housing Families First, Salvation Army, The Healing Place, City of Richmond Cold Weather Shelter, YWCA, Hanover Safe Place, Safe Harbor, Liberation Veteran Services
- **Permanent supportive housing:** Virginia Supportive Housing, Home Again, Richmond Behavioral Health Authority
- **Rapid Re-housing:** St. Joseph's Villa, Home Again, Housing Families First, YWCA, Hanover Safe Place
- **Governmental partners (local, state, & federal):** Departments of Social Services, Community Services Boards, Police departments, McGuire VAMC, Virginia Dept. of Housing & Community Development

Not a comprehensive list. To become a member, go to www.endhomelessnessrva.org



Homeless Services in the Richmond Region

Revised April 2017

Homeless Outreach

Identifying those who are homeless, at risk-of-homelessness, and those in need of shelter.

- Commonwealth Catholic Charities
- Daily Planet
- McGuire VA Hospital
- RBHA
- Richmond DSS
- YWCA
- Virginia Supportive Housing

Connected Agencies and Groups

Mainstream resource provider serving community members including people experiencing homelessness.

- Departments of Social Services
- Public School Systems
- Community Services Boards
- Police Departments
- Community Meal Programs/Congregations

Shelter

Emergency shelter for families and individuals experiencing homelessness.

- CARITAS (men, women, family)
- Cold Weather Overflow Shelter
- Daily Planet (Medical, Mental Health)
- Good Samaritan (recovery)
- Hanover Safe Place (domestic violence)
- HomeAgain (men, family, vets)
- Housing Families First (family)
- Goochland Free Clinic & Family Services
- Liberation Veteran Services
- Safe Harbor (domestic violence)
- RBHA Transitional Units
- Salvation Army (men, family)
- The Healing Place (men, sober up, recovery)
- YWCA (domestic violence)

Rapid Rehousing

Permanent housing for families/individuals who have lower barriers to maintaining housing stability

- Hanover Safe Place
- HomeAgain
- Housing Families First
- St. Joseph's Villa
- Virginia Supportive Housing (for veterans)

Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent housing for families/individuals who need long-term housing that is connected to on-going supportive services

- HomeAgain
- HUD-VASH (for veterans)
- Richmond Behavioral Health Authority
- Virginia Supportive Housing

Homeward

Lead agency for Greater Richmond Continuum of Care

- Coordinates 15+ regional workgroups and committees
- Collaborative applicant for regional federal & state funding
- Manages Homeward Community Information System (HCIS) database
- Coordinates bi-annual Point-in-Time Counts
- Hosts Best Practices Conference & Project Homeless Connect
- Performance monitoring



National Alliance to
END HOMELESSNESS

ENDING HOMELESSNESS IN RICHMOND: Stakeholder map and key functions

Federal government and partners

- Funding to end homelessness aligned with data and best practices
- National capacity building network
- Technical assistance



State government & agencies

- Funding to end homelessness aligned with data and best practices
- Governor's Coordinating Council on Homelessness and committees

Local governments

- Facilitate regional conversations on homelessness through GRCoC
- Provide data needed by HUD for federal funds (Consolidated plans, CDBG, etc.)
- Coordinate federal funding (ESG)

GREATER RICHMOND CONTINUUM OF CARE

- 15+ committees and board
- Share information through website and list-servs
- Capacity-building for homelessness
- Networking with other communities
- Apply for state & federal funding for coordinated services
- Develop policies and program coordination
- Leader in Systems Planning & Rapid Re-Housing

www.endhomelessnessrva.org



Service providers

- Public or private direct services (emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, outreach and intake, and other supportive services)
- Receive state & federal funding through coordinated processes
- Meeting performance measurement
- Service coordinations and peer networking with other service providers

Private Funders

- Support agencies to provide services
- Participate in Continuum of Care workgroups
- Provides matching funds needed by programs to access public dollars
- Facilitate cross-sector partnerships



- Collective Impact: backbone organization supporting more than 15 committees
- Designated Collaborative Applicant for \$6.5 million coordinated federal & state funding to end homelessness
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) lead and other data on homelessness in the region
- Develop strategic partnerships among providers and across sectors
- Nonprofit with diverse board of directors including local government representatives
- Data matching projects: Medicaid, criminal justice, and education

www.homewardva.org

Community Governance: Next Steps

Proposed: City of Richmond Homeless Advisory Council

Purposes:

Collaborate with the Greater Richmond Continuum of Care

Align programming and funding to increase the housing stability of residents of the City who experience homelessness

Coordinate with City departments and agencies serving individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness

HOMELESS DEFINITIONS FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

www.endhomelessnessrva.org

Department of Education (DOE)

DEFINITION OF HOMELESSNESS:

Homeless children and youth are individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

WHO USES THIS STANDARD:

McKinney-Vento Liaisons within the local public school systems

ANY OF HUD's criteria as well as

- children living in motels, hotels, camping grounds
- children living in substandard housing
- children sharing the housing of other persons (i.e., "doubled up")

WHAT SERVICES ARE OFFERED:
Transportation to the school of origin, school supplies, fee waivers for academic needs, case management, tutoring, parenting classes, and technical assistance

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

DEFINITION OF HOMELESSNESS:

- people living in a place not meant for human habitation
- people living in an emergency shelter
- people living in transitional housing
- people exiting an institution where they temporarily resided for at least 90 days and were homeless prior to entering the institution

WHO USES THIS STANDARD:

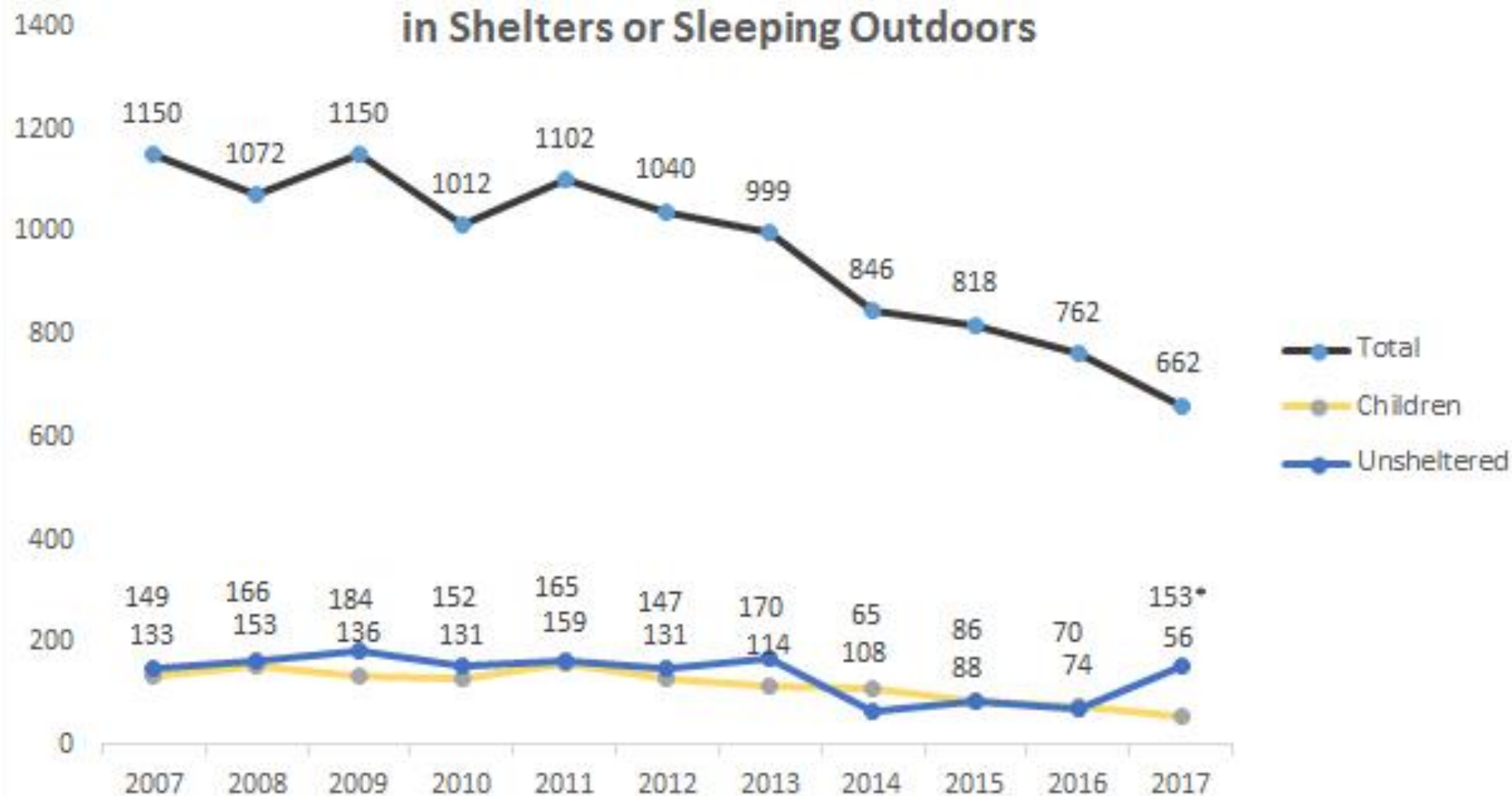
Rapid rehousing, emergency shelters, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing

WHAT SERVICES ARE OFFERED:

Shelter, housing, data, collaboration among programs, supportive services, and case management



Greater Richmond Single Day Count of People in Shelters or Sleeping Outdoors



* Unsheltered numbers in 2017 were statistically adjusted to account for closure of the cold weather overflow shelter on the night of the count.

Homelessness is a Regional Issue

“Where did you have your last housing?”



Richmond 49.2%

Henrico 9.8%

Chesterfield 6.4%

Hanover 1.4%

Elsewhere in Virginia 18.9%

Homelessness Interventions

Shelter

- **Emergency Shelter:** Short-term (30-90 days) shelter for families and individuals experiencing homelessness.
- **Transitional Shelter:** Longer-term shelters (up to 24 months)
Typically only used in recovery programs due to high costs and moderate outcomes

Housing

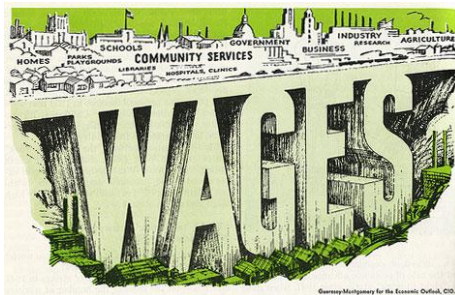
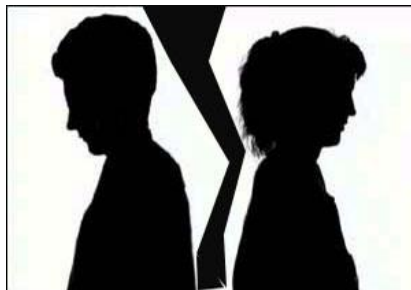
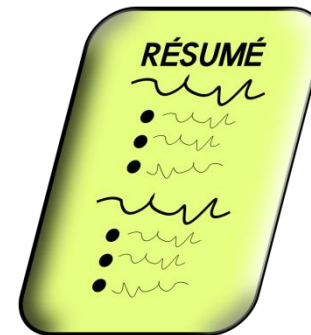
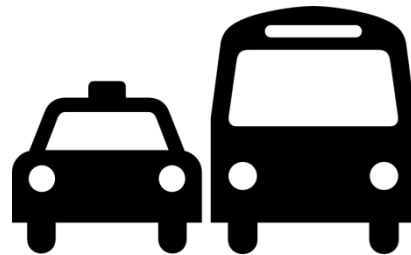
- **Targeted Prevention:** Resources that directly help individuals/families maintain housing. Resources include rental assistance & utility payments.
- **Diversion:** Assistance to help those seeking shelter to stay in current housing.
- **Rapid Rehousing:** Short-term intervention designed to quickly return those who lost their housing back to housing and shorten the length of shelter stays for families/individuals.
- **Permanent Supportive Housing:** Permanent housing for families/ individuals who need long-term housing that is connected to on-going supportive services.

Shelter and Housing Programs

- Shelters:
 - 16 shelters for single adults, families, veterans, households fleeing domestic violence, and substance abuse recovery
- Housing:
 - 5 agencies manage rapid rehousing programs
 - 4 agencies manage permanent supportive housing
 - Partnership with public housing

Barriers

child
care



TRAUMA

Collaboratively overcoming barriers

- Data to understand what's working
- Case management peer exchange to share ideas
- Case management capacity-building to maintain skills
- Pilot programs to creatively address challenges (i.e. phone access system or fund for photo ID's)
- Strategic partnerships with other sectors (i.e. employment & workforce, education, DMAS, hospitals, criminal justice)

Emerging Trends

Shelter Diversion Line: phone access for those within 3 days of losing their housing (804-972-0813)

Increasing outreach to youth experiencing homelessness

Coordination with healthcare systems to meet the housing and healthcare needs of our most vulnerable individuals

Exploring ways to reduce the overlap between homelessness and incarceration

Find out more at
www.endhomelessnessrva.org



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