

Barriers

Affordability

The fair market rent for a one-bedroom apartment in the Fairfax-Falls Church community is \$1,328 and for a two-bedroom apartment \$1,506 per month. To afford this, a household would need to earn over \$5,000 per month, and a single parent working full-time would have to earn nearly \$29 per hour.

Disability

Many people who end up homeless have a disability that affects their ability to work and earn a living. Even if a person with a disabling condition receives Supplemental Security Income, their average monthly income is only \$674 or 15 percent of what he or she would need to make to afford a one-bedroom apartment.

Income

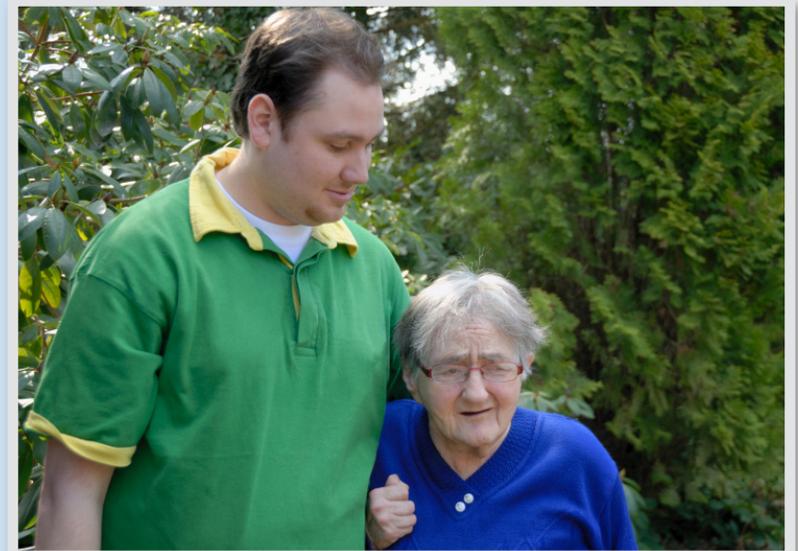
People earning minimum wage, which is \$7.25 per hour, earn only one-quarter of what a person would need to afford a two-bedroom apartment in our community.

Credit

Many apartment complexes, landlords and owners require a renter to have a good credit record. Divorce, medical issues, poor decision-making and other factors can lead to deterioration of credit and prevent people from securing housing.

Transportation

Lack of transportation can hinder one's ability to go to work, take one's children to day care or doctor's appointments or to other essential places that contribute to stability. The result is often catastrophic and can lead to homelessness.



Housing Locator Network



Housing locators are an essential piece in the new Housing Opportunities Support Teams (HOST) model of homeless services delivery. The Housing First philosophy addresses urgent needs of homeless people by: conducting triage and assessment, engaging clients to determine their individual housing and service needs, and then rapidly moving clients into housing as quickly as possible. All activity and services must not only be coordinated but truly integrated. The delivery system must be flexible and focused on client needs — most importantly, housing.

The housing locator is trained to find and secure safe, suitable and stable housing for their clients. Housing locators typically have a professional background in property management, leasing or real estate and are then trained to work with people facing homelessness. Their knowledge of the local housing market is a tremendous asset to their homeless clients. Like a paid rental agent, a housing locator knows where to find housing that is affordable for their client and capable of engaging property owners to secure an apartment successfully. Partnering with housing locators is ideal for landlords who want to manage their property themselves but also want the security of having a vetted tenant with support from HOST staff.

Housing Locators in the Fairfax-Falls Church community are coordinated and supported via the Housing Locator Program through Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services. They coordinate the efforts of shelter staff and other public and nonprofit agencies who are involved in shelter diversion and rapid re-housing. The Housing Locator Program unifies this effort through establishing a systemwide approach, a cohesive marketing strategy, a common housing locator database and ongoing training.

The introduction of the Housing Locators Network has been an important factor behind the increase in the number of homeless people moving to permanent housing.

Improving Our Data

During the past year, our community partnership focused on improving and monitoring our Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data quality. We wanted to ensure that our data was timely, reliable and met Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and our community partnership standards. We introduced a suite of data quality reports that evaluated compliance and helped providers monitor their program data. Currently 88 percent of the programs entering data in HMIS demonstrated a 95 percent plus compliance rate and 12 percent of our providers demonstrated a 90 percent plus compliance rate. Our joint data quality effort resulted in a tremendous reduction of the null values that are reported to HUD with only one category at 3 percent.



Creating Housing

Combining housing and services

The Interagency Housing Options Committee supports our community's effort to create 2,650 new affordable housing units for persons who are literally homeless or at risk of homelessness in the Fairfax-Falls Church community.

The annual housing goals are based on five housing options in two categories (permanent supportive housing and permanent housing). Support services associated with each of these options may include, but are not limited to: case management; housing locator services; medical, mental health, substance abuse treatment; vocational and employment services; money management assistance; and life skills training.

All of the housing units will reflect a variety of housing types including new construction, tenant-based vouchers

and private and public affordable housing resources.

Also, all units:

- Are affordable to homeless households earning less than 30 percent of the area annual median income.
- Will be associated with housing assistance guaranteed for more than two years.
- Were not occupied or designated specifically for homeless households during the previous 12 months.
- Will be counted as meeting a fiscal year target based upon the actual date of occupancy by an eligible homeless household.

Housing Options

Permanent supportive housing includes supportive services for people with disabling conditions. There are three types of permanent supportive housing:

- Housing with 24-hour care.
- Housing with intensive supports (4-7 visits/contacts per week).
- Housing with moderate supports (1-3 visits/contacts per month).

Permanent housing is for persons with no disabling conditions. Some permanent housing units have time-limited support services. There are two types of permanent housing:

- Housing with time-limited supports (short-term, time-limited follow-up between 3-15 months).
- Housing with no supports beyond those typically available to any community member.

10-Year Plan Housing Targets

The FY 2012 ending homelessness housing goals are directly aligned with the communitywide Housing Blueprint, which was endorsed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on Jan. 26, 2010. The Housing Blueprint is a comprehensive affordable housing policy developed by nonprofits, builders, faith-based communities, government agencies and businesses. The 10-Year Plan calls for 2,650 housing units to be made available over the 10-year period in order to end homelessness in our community.

The target for FY 2011 was to secure 228 units; the community was able to secure 196 units that are now occupied. **The shortfall of 32 units** was added to the total for the 10-year cumulative housing targets.

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	
Units for Families	78	147	141	174	174	174	174	174	174	140	1,550
Beds for Single Adults	46	49	106	124	124	124	124	124	124	155	1,100



Of the 228 housing units identified as targets for FY 2011, our community was able to **secure 196 units**. A gap of 32 units remains.

Housing for Families

Housing for Single Adults

Total completed in FY 2011: **147**

- Permanent Supportive Housing.....33
- Permanent Housing.....114

Total completed in FY 2011: **49**

- Permanent Supportive Housing.....20
- Permanent Housing.....29

Bridging Affordability

In June 2011 Fairfax County selected a nonprofit collaborative led by Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) as the provider for the new Bridging Affordability program. The program is an integral component of the county's Housing Blueprint and over a three-year period will provide more than \$3.5 million in long-term rental subsidies to homeless individuals and families in Fairfax County as well as households on the county's affordable housing waiting lists.

The NVFS collaborative includes nine nonprofit organizations: Northern Virginia Family Service; Alternative House; FACETS; Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services; New Hope Housing; Reston Interfaith; Shelter House; United Community Ministries; and Volunteers of America Chesapeake.

Services offered through the collaborative will focus on populations of greatest need in the county with an emphasis on those who are homeless and persons with disabilities, including Community Services Board (CSB)-eligible households.



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Working Together



Serving the most vulnerable.

A network of providers from nonprofits, faith-based communities, businesses and local government agencies actively participate in providing the services and supports that are the life's blood of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness. Without the commitment of these partners, thousands of people in this community would face the hardship of dealing with homelessness alone.

By providing a range of services from homelessness prevention to those that make up the supportive component of permanent supportive housing programs, our community partnership prevents deaths from

hypothermia; helps to increase people's income; stabilizes children in the school system; and affects lives for the better in many other ways each day.

While faced with increased demand for services that help people who are homeless or on the verge of homelessness, the resources that our community works with are rapidly diminishing.

Unless otherwise noted, all of the data on the following several pages depicting the state of homelessness in our community during FY 2011 have been collected from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).



Our community partnership is facing **increased demand** for services to help people who are homeless or on the verge of homelessness while faced with **diminishing resources**.





Of the 2,982 people who experienced homelessness in FY 2011, **714 moved to permanent housing** from emergency shelters, transitional housing programs and permanent supportive housing programs. This is an increase of 232 people who moved to permanent housing, up from 482 last year.

People Who Experienced Homelessness During FY 2011: **2,982**
People Who Experienced Homelessness During FY 2010: **3,076**

People in families: **1,424**

- 415 families: 549 adults, 875 children.

Single adults: **1,558**

People Moved to Permanent Housing During FY 2011: **714**
People Moved to Permanent Housing During FY 2010: **482**