

Homelessness comes in many faces (families, children, single adults, diverse populations, people with disabilities and those with mental illnesses) and in many places (shelters, transitional housing, apartments, motels, outdoors).

There also are many reasons people become homeless.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors endorsed the goal to end homelessness within 10 years.

A plan will be finalized later this year and it will provide guidance on what you can do.

Take some time to visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless and learn more about this issue.



What's the Cost?

Ending homelessness is more cost effective than managing it.

The National Alliance to End Homelessness reports:

“Nationally, the average cost of placing the children of a homeless family in foster care is \$47,608, while the average cost for a permanent housing subsidy and supportive services for a family of equal size is \$9,000.”

In addition to restoring dignity and normalcy to the lives of homeless men, women and children, county taxpayers will save significant resources for every person who is no longer homeless.

But transitioning from managing this hidden issue to ending it will require community participation.

Learn more about homelessness at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless.



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To request this information in an alternate format, contact the Fairfax County Department of Systems Management for Human Services at 703-324-5638, TTY 711

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless

More than 2,000 people are homeless in Fairfax County?



www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless

Ending Homelessness in Fairfax County



Anne is a former school teacher with a master's degree. She is also homeless.



Bill is a Vietnam veteran. He's living in the woods with his bags of medicine, battling hepatitis, post-traumatic stress disorder and paranoid schizophrenia.



Then there are the hundreds of children, many of whom ride in taxis to school every day from their shelter, so they have a chance to learn and break the cycle of homelessness.

These are some of the many faces of homelessness in Fairfax County.

Homelessness largely remains a hidden problem in Fairfax County.

Ending homelessness is the right thing to do in one of the wealthiest areas of the United States.

And it will cost you less as a taxpayer to permanently house the homeless instead of providing temporary assistance.

Ending homelessness will require your support and that of a communitywide team of residents, nonprofits, businesses, faith communities, health care organizations, public safety personnel, schools and government.

You are probably not aware that 700 children are homeless or that almost 800 single adults do not have the comfort and security of their own homes.

Some people, including perhaps people you know, are just one paycheck away from being homeless. Too often, the homeless in Fairfax County go unnoticed.

Who knew?

The Fairfax County community has been managing homelessness; now is the time to come together to prevent and end homelessness.

Homelessness by the Numbers ...

55 percent of the homeless population are people in families.

Of families with children, 80 percent have a single head of household; 95 percent of those households are female-headed.

Of all homeless adults, nearly 50 percent are employed.