



[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless)

## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

---

### **On Target Event – True Power of Partnership**

Sponsored by Target, the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness hosted *Giving Back to Get People Home* on Aug. 21 at the Fairfax County Government Center Forum. **Nearly 200 people participated, including elected officials, business leaders, local partner nonprofits, county staff, Target team members and volunteers.** Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Vice Chairman and Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross helped kick off the event by thanking all the volunteers for attending and the nonprofit partners for planning and organizing the event. Supervisor Gross also acknowledged the collaborative progress the community has made in the first year since the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness (OPEH) and the Governing Board were established and began implementing the 10-Year Plan.

**“This event truly showed the power of partnership and collaboration,”** said Dean Klein, director of the Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness. “Amazing attendance, smooth logistics and everything went without a hitch! Best of all, everything was done in such a collaborative manner that it was hard to miss by anyone.”

**Volunteers sorted and packed a total of 214 baskets of cleaning supplies and 248 reusable bags of personal items so that nearly 500 homeless persons and their families will be able to move toward independence.** The day before the event, local nonprofit partners and OPEH staff gathered at four different Target stores in Fairfax County to shop for items to be sorted and assembled in the Forum.

Target’s role and commitment was outstanding and this event was a starting point for future collaborative efforts with many possibilities. Special thanks to Amy Marlow and FACETS for their leadership in making this happen. **Read more and view the photo gallery at** <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless/events/target/aug-21-10/aug-target-event.htm>.

Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless) for up-to-date information on future and past events.

## **902 REAL PEOPLE ~ REAL RESULTS in 197 Days**

---

**As of Sept. 3, the Housing Opportunities Support Teams (HOST) have served 902 people – 370 unique households.**

**During FY 2010, 838 people in 340 households received services and over \$1 million of Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) financial support funds were used to prevent or end their homelessness.**

*Beginning in April, the first families began to receive the financial support and assistance they needed to prevent or end their homelessness using the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Emergency Contingency Fund (TANF ECF). The infusion of these dollars has already impacted many lives. This application, which is a combination of federal and local dollars where every local \$1 is matched with \$4 in federal money, has recently been approved by the state. Stay tuned for more specifics as the program is rolled out.*

### **Teamwork Pays Off for Mom and Four Children**

**A mother with four children was forced out of her townhouse when it became uninhabitable due to vermin and mold infestation that made the resident and her four small children sick.** She was referred to the Embry Rucker shelter by Coordinated Services Planning (CSP) to be interviewed and put on the family shelter emergency waitlist. During the mother's interview with the intake manager, it was revealed that she had been living in her car with her four small children for the past few nights. The intake manager immediately realized that this was a family that was in danger and in need of immediate shelter. However, all family shelters were full at that time. Understanding that there was no other emergency housing opportunity for the resident, the manager put the mom and her four children in the "quiet" room. **Once in the shelter the housing locator met with the resident and intake manager; together, they quickly put together a plan for rapid re-housing for the family.** It was determined during the meeting that the mother had an active housing choice voucher and that she would need help with her first months rent and security deposit. The challenge was finding a large enough home that would accept her voucher, would overlook her damaged credit as a result of job loss, and be able to have the mom move in quickly since the "quiet room" was only intended to be used for temporary emergency shelter only.

**Within a few hours after meeting with the resident, the intake manager and the housing locator had identified two possible housing options.** The manager then contacted another nonprofit agency and obtained the first months rent and security deposit. In addition, the shelter helped the mother with the application and holding deposit. The resident quickly decided on one of the two housing options given to her and applied. **She was accepted by the landlord a few days later and moved into her new home within two weeks of being initially interviewed at the shelter.**

**Thanks to the outstanding teamwork from the shelter's intake manager and housing locator, excellent work from Fairfax County Government staff and several nonprofit organizations, mom and her four small children were rapidly diverted from the family emergency shelter waitlist into a new home.** The children are now eagerly waiting to join their classmates at their new schools!

## **HOST HIGHLIGHTS**

---

*Housing Opportunities Support Teams (HOST) provides flexible and adaptive services needed to help individuals and families obtain or maintain housing. The primary function of HOST is to coordinate and manage prevention, housing placement, and supportive services for those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Members of the HOST team will serve as a liaison to his or her organization/system and will work closely with other HOST members to create a cohesive and seamless system of service delivery.*

***Remember ~ if you are providing services including intake and assessment, case management, disability services, housing location and access to benefits that help people obtain or maintain housing, you are a part of HOST. Working together, huge strides are being made to prevent and end homelessness.***

## Regional Updates

*As the human services regions across the county continue to move us forward with the 10-Year Plan, here are some highlights to showcase their efforts in working with clients, partner organizations and the HOST system.*

- **Northern Region** – This quarter Reston Interfaith along with partner organizations has **served 24 households and 52 persons** since the beginning of this quarter with HPRP funds. Additionally, **3 new homeless households** have been successfully housed.

**The TANF youth employment program has been a great success employing 22 youth** in the Reston-Herndon region. Fifteen of these youth will remain employed part-time through the end of November.

**A Disability Rights and Accessibility symposium is scheduled for Sept. 30, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Reston Association**, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. There will be esteemed speakers and panelists ready to share their ample knowledge in this field and set to answer your questions. **Please RSVP Greg White at [greg.white@restoninterfaith.org](mailto:greg.white@restoninterfaith.org)**. Your response will enable us to plan appropriately for the event. For general information other than to RSVP, contact Ken Fredgren at [fredgren.k@gmail.com](mailto:fredgren.k@gmail.com).

- **Central Region** – Bailey’s Crossroads Community Shelter has formed an alliance with the **Community Service Board (CSB) to provide one emergency bed at the shelter**. This emergency bed is accessed through CSB and is intended to serve individuals who find themselves in urgent need for temporary shelter from one to three nights. The Bailey’s team is excited to work with CSB and their staff to help out in the most difficult of circumstances.
- **Southern Region** – Through the use of TANF funds, **New Hope Housing was able to hire 7 youth apprentices to work side-by-side with New Hope Housing staff in a variety of roles**. Positions included kitchen staff, maintenance and administrative work, but the apprentices learned more than just how to bake a cake, fix a weed wacker and create labels. They learned the soft skills that are needed in the work environment and work ethics that they can take with them wherever their ultimate career choice takes them. While our teens learned many skills from their mentors, we learned just as much from having them around in a capacity other than “resident.” It was a powerful experience for all of us!

## Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Update

**HPRP Data Quality Day** – The next data quality day is scheduled for **Sept. 24, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Fairfax County Government Center, Suite 364**. This time has been designated to review and correct HPRP data in a manner that ensures higher data quality through a group setting with other service providers. At least one representative from each agency is asked to be present. Please confirm your attendance via e-mail to [monica.foote@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:monica.foote@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

---

### Governor Bob McDonnell Visits Local Shelters

**Governor Bob McDonnell visited New Hope Housing’s Mondloch House shelters on Aug. 25**. He was joined by Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay, Senators George Barker and Toddy Puller, Delegate Scott Surovell and former delegate and Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness Governing Board member Kris Amundson. Interestingly, the Governor grew up in the Mount Vernon area and knew the Mondloch family.

**The Governor learned about our 10-Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, and HOST, the changing role of the shelter, the importance of rapid re-housing and Housing First as well as the programs of New Hope Housing.** Among those with whom the Governor spoke were several teens in our apprenticeship program, a family in Mondloch II in which the dad recently lost his job, a resident of Mondloch I who is a veteran and just got her Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) voucher, a chronically homeless man now living in Gartlan House, and a former Eleanor U. Kennedy Community Shelter resident who was incarcerated for many years with a felony and who found a room to rent with the help of our housing locator and is now a manager at a local grocery chain.

During Governor McDonnell's tour, New Hope Housing Executive Director Pam Michell stressed the need for more state focus on permanent supportive housing and other permanent solutions and a greater understanding of the overall issue. **Governor McDonnell expressed surprise that people lived in camps in the woods along Route 1 corridor and that the family shelter waiting list was 105 that day.** He has a strong interest in ex-offenders and second chances and has established a Prisoner Re-Entry Council, a Housing Policy Advisory Committee, and a homelessness outcomes task force.

Visit <http://www.governor.virginia.gov/news/3.cfm> to learn more about the Governor's commitment to the development of a comprehensive housing policy for the Commonwealth.

### **Hypothermia Prevention Program 2010-2011 Planning Underway**

As the summer winds down and we anticipate the fall and winter weather, **plans are underway** for supporting another year of Hypothermia Prevention for Homeless Single Adults in our community. **Devoted faith communities, nonprofit agencies and Fairfax-Falls Church community members will be meeting for the third planning session scheduled for Sept. 22 at 10 a.m. in the Government Center.** In the session, we will be preparing for the needs of the coming Hypothermia season, November 2010 through March 2011. Anyone interested in joining the session and providing input as we plan and prepare for the upcoming season is welcome. For more information, contact Debbie Scaggs at [debbie.scaggs@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:debbie.scaggs@fairfaxcounty.gov).

### **Housing Locator Program**

The Housing Locator Network represents housing specialists from 16 different agencies whose focus is finding stable, affordable housing for homeless people. **Over the next year the network expects to move over 150 low-income families that are homeless back into housing via a new partnership with the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).** By helping homeless clients access both Housing Choice Vouchers and public housing, new housing options will open up to many people that once had none.

**Meanwhile, our online discussion group has grown to over 60 members strong.** If you would like to help find homes for persons who are homeless, please come join the conversation at <http://www.fairfaxhousinglocators.com/group>. You will need to have a Google account and then apply for membership in order to participate. (There is no charge to be a member.) Contact Tom Barnett, Housing Locator Network Coordinator, at [tbarnett@goodhousing.org](mailto:tbarnett@goodhousing.org) with any questions.

## **TRAINING & COMMUNICATIONS**

---

### **Tier Training**

*In order to increase activity and efficiency in the Training and Change Management group, the group has been split into three tiers that each focus on training and communication at different levels. Tier 1 addresses community forums; Tier 2 addresses regional training and communication; and Tier 3 addresses direct service training and communication. A designated*

*training and change management leader will lead the coordination of training and communication at each tier.*

**Tier 2** – The regional offices of the Fairfax County [Department of Neighborhood and Community Services](#) serve as localized entities focused on strengthening our neighborhoods by **connecting individuals and organizations with information and resources, fostering and creating opportunities for collaboration and facilitating communitywide efforts**, such as the 10-Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

**The regional meetings** provide a regional framework for planning activities, active problem solving, capture of feedback and identification of emerging trends. **These meetings feature regular updates on the 10-Year Plan** to Prevent and End Homelessness, as well as updates on a multitude of related human services initiatives and projects. In order to increase communication and collaboration among all service providers involved in the 10-Year Plan, **it is important that the providers participate in these regional planning efforts**. To get linked to the appropriate meeting, project or initiative in your region, please refer to the information below.

**Region 1** – Meetings are the second Monday of **every** month from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at South County Center, 8350 Richmond Hwy, Suite 505, Alexandria. **For more information**, contact [Maria.Franco-Nativi@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Maria.Franco-Nativi@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-704-6354, TTY 711.

**Region 2** – Meetings are the second Monday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon at the DSM offices, 6245 Leesburg Pike, Suite 300, Falls Church. **For more information**, contact [Jackeline.FernandezReyes@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Jackeline.FernandezReyes@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-533-5701, TTY 711.

**Region 3** – *To Be Determined*. **For more information**, contact Denise Taramasco [Isabel.Taramasco@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Isabel.Taramasco@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-787-4962, TTY 711.

**Region 4** – Meetings are the last Friday of each month from 9 to 11a.m. The meeting locations vary. **For more information**, contact [Paulette.Whiteside@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Paulette.Whiteside@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-324-5285, TTY 711

**Tier 3** – **The Training & Communication Tier 3 task group met on Sept. 7 to discuss next steps in training the community and service providers on HOST**. Fairfax County Health Department along with representatives from Inova Health System were present to discuss desired outcomes for training the discharge staff at the hospitals. The National Alliance to End Homelessness was also present to do benchmarking and to complete a system-wide analysis to help determine our progress and figure out what we have left to do in terms of systems change.

## **HMIS Training**

All trainings are held at the Fairfax County Government Center, Suite 364, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. **Training registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, with 12 seats available at each session**. Register via e-mail with [monica.foote@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:monica.foote@fairfaxcounty.gov). Refresher training topics are being solicited; e-mail your suggestions to the same address.

- **Sept. 14** – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ✧ New HMIS User Training.
- **Sept. 15** – 1 to 4 p.m. ✧ HMIS Refresher has been **cancelled**.
- **Nov. 10** – 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. ✧ Hypothermia Refresher.
- **Dec. 7** – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ✧ New HMIS User Training, submit your suggestions via e-mail to [monica.foote@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:monica.foote@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## SIDEBAR

---

### **Continuum of Care**

HUD Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the 2010 Continuum of Care (CoC) grant application has not yet been released. **HUD has advised, however, that the Fairfax-Falls Church CoC will be able to apply for approximately \$300,000 in new project funding.** The new project will need to be for at least two years and provide new permanent supportive housing to an individual or family with a qualified disabling condition. HUD provides additional points in the competition for projects that house individuals who were chronically homeless.

The Governing Board of the Community Partnership decided in July to continue the same priorities as last year for the local process. **Current grantees and potential applicants who have received announcements in prior years should receive an e-mail notification within the next week. If you do not receive the announcement and instructions by Sept. 20, please contact Bill Macmillan at [william.macmillan@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:william.macmillan@fairfaxcounty.gov).**

---

*Sept. 10, 2010 — Prepared by the [Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness](#) and the [Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs](#). To request this information in an alternate format, call 703-324-9492, TTY 711. A Fairfax County, Va., publication.*