OFFICE TO PREVENT AND END HOMELESSNESS

Tom Barnett, Deputy Director

Department of Housing and Community Development

Advisory Social Services Board

March 16, 2022

Agenda

- History of the office.

- Overview of services.

- State of homelessness in Fairfax County.

- Questions.

History & Context

History of OPEH

- 2008 – 10 -Year Plan adopted by Board.
- 2009 – First OPEH staff hired.
- 2015 – New consolidated homeless contracts.
- 2018 – End of 10 Year Plan, team expands.
- 2019 – Retrospective, Communitywide Strategic Plan.
- 2020 – Merger with HCD.
- 2021 – New Continuum of Care board.

Preventing and Ending Homelessness
Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless

Community Partnership & OPEH's Mission

"Every person who is homeless or at risk of being homeless will be able to access appropriate housing and the services needed to keep them in their homes."
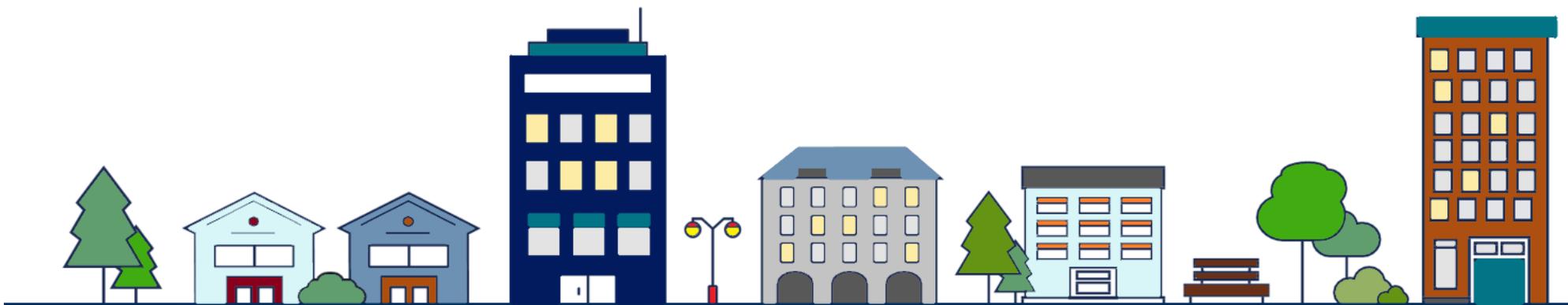
FCRHA MISSION

The mission of the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority is to initiate and provide opportunities for Fairfax County residents to live in safe, affordable housing and to help develop, preserve, and revitalize communities through fiscally responsible and open processes.

Why Housing Matters

Housing is the platform for individual and family health and well-being.

———

Economic self-sufficiency and upward mobility

Student achievement and academic success

Physical and mental health and well-being

Housing is the basis for inclusive and diverse communities.

———

Equitable access to opportunities and services, regardless of race and socioeconomic status

Communities in which everyone can prosper

Housing supports sustainable local economic growth.

———

Encourages people to both live and work in the community

Short commutes, easier to attract and retain workers

World-class places to live, work and play

HCD Executive Leadership

TOM FLEETWOOD
DIRECTOR

AMY GINGER
Deputy Director
Operations

- Rental Assistance
- Rental Housing
- Financial Management and IT
- Policy and Compliance
- Administration

(Vacant)
Deputy Director
Real Estate Finance and Development

- Affordable Housing Development
- Homeownership and Relocation
- Real Estate Finance and Grant Management
- Design, Development and Construction

TOM BARNETT
Deputy Director
Office to Prevent and End Homelessness

- Leasing and Facilities
- Continuum of Care
- Housing and Program Services
- Homeless Management Information System

Office to Prevent and End Homelessness Organization

OFFICE TO PREVENT AND END HOMELESSNESS
Tom Barnett, Deputy Director

Housing & Program Services Division
Diana Pina, Director

Leasing & Facilities Division
Elisa Johnson, Director

Homeless Management Information System
Nikki Thomas-Campbell
Information Systems Manager

Continuum of Care
Jamie Ergas, Manager

Services

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing

- Serving people experiencing, and at-risk of, homelessness

- Housing Stabilization and Relocation Services

  - Case Management

  - Housing Location

  - Financial Assistance

- Short- and Medium-Term Rental Assistance

Emergency Shelter

- Serving literally homeless families and individuals

- Year-round and seasonal

- Includes:
  - Shelters for families with children
  - Shelters for single adults
  - Hypothermia Prevention Program
  - Domestic Violence

Street Outreach

- Serving literally homeless, unsheltered individuals

- Nonprofit contractor helps with basic needs plus housing

- Paired with nurse and mental health worker

- Responds to calls from community members, elected officials, businesses, and other staff

Permanent Supportive Housing

- Serving formerly homeless families and individuals

- Community-based housing without a designated length of stay in which supportive services are provided to assist homeless persons with a disability to live independently

- Prioritized for individuals with the longest lengths of homelessness and greatest vulnerability due to complicated physical and mental health conditions

Current State of Homelessness

Successes: 2008 - 2021

- 33% reduction in homelessness (1,835 to 1,222)

- 495% increase in permanent housing beds (243 to 1,446)

- 82% increase in competitive CoC funding ($5.1m to $9.2m)

Point-in-Time Count Totals (2005-2021)

Use the filter below to explore the Point-in-Time Count data by Year (2005-2021).

POINT IN TIME COUNT

Year

| 2005 | 2021 |

Year	Total Persons in All Project Types	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Safe Haven
2021	1,222	1,004	161	57	0
2020	1,041	763	190	88	0
2019	1,034	774	171	89	0
2018	987	686	215	86	0
2017	964	637	219	108	0
2016	1,059	590	395	74	0
2015	1,204	706	430	68	0
2014	1,225	667	484	66	8
2013	1,350	699	539	104	8
2012	1,534	685	663	178	8
2011	1,549	675	731	135	8
2010	1,552	604	800	140	8
2009	1,730	642	959	129	0
2008	1,835	658	965	212	0
2007	1,593	462	977	154	0
2006	1,565	406	931	228	0
2005	1,458	345	958	155	0
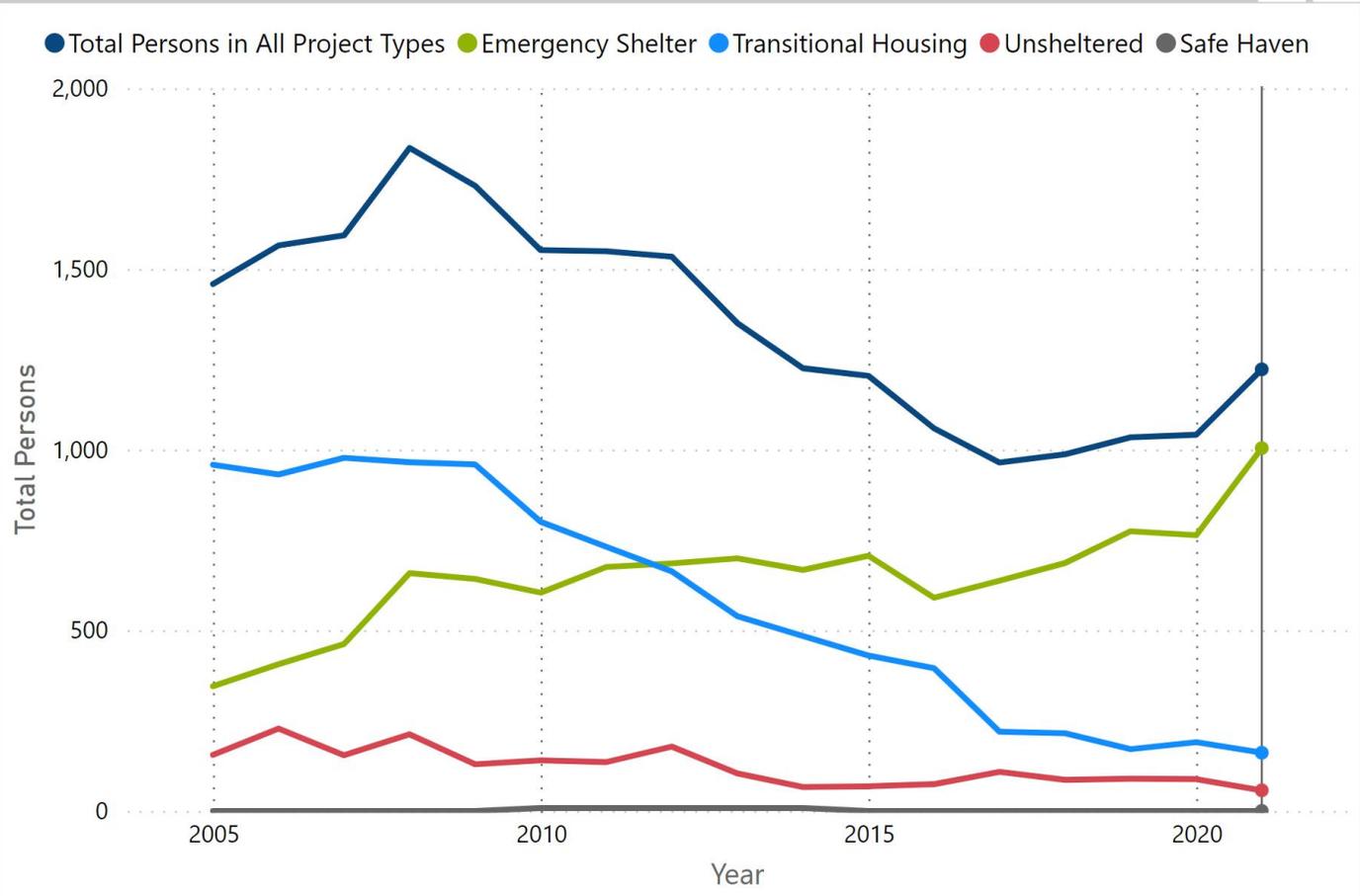
Challenges

- Homelessness up 27% in past four years

- Housing needed for extremely low-income households

- Chronic societal problems: racism, healthcare, income

- Public misunderstanding of causes of homelessness

- Historic crises: Great Recession, COVID-19 pandemic

COVID-19 Pandemic Response

- CDC recommended mitigation efforts

- Non-congregate shelters in hotels

  - Increased social distancing to reduce the spread of the virus

  - Isolation and quarantine

  - Protected high risk adults

  - Reduced crowding in main shelters and Hypothermia Prevention Program

- Vaccination campaign

Ending Homelessness Looks Like

- Preventing homelessness, whenever possible

- When it cannot be prevented, it should be:

  - Rare

  - Brief

  - One-time

SYSTEM PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. LENGTH OF HOMELESSNESS

Average Days in Emergency Shelter

Year	Days
2016	61
2017	63
2018	71
2019	82
2020	89
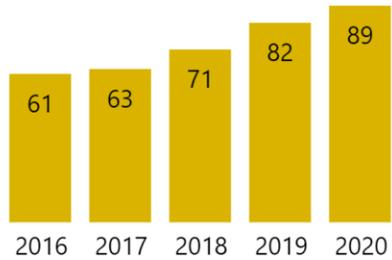
2. RETURNS TO HOMELESSNESS
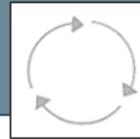
Includes clients who (1) *exited* Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or Permanent Housing *to a Permanent Housing destination* and (2) *returned to homelessness* as measured in the Homeless Management Information System for up to two years after their initial exit.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
% Returns in 24 Months	27%	26%	20%	10%	11%
% Returns in 12 Months	20%				
% Returns in 6 Months	13%	11%	12%	10%	11%

● % Returns in 6 Months ● % Returns in 12 Months ● % Returns in 24 Months

3. NUMBER OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

● Point-in-Time Count
● Annual Count

| YEAR	Point-in-Time Count	Annual Count
2020	1,041	2,856
2019	1,034	2,968
2018	987	2,808
2017	964	3,043
2016	1,059	3,118
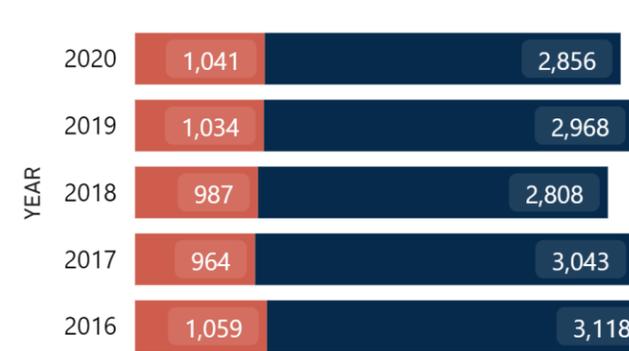
The Point-in-Time (PIT) Count includes people in Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, and Transitional Housing. The Annual Count includes people in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing.

4. INCOME GROWTH

Income growth for households **in HUD CoC Program funded projects**

Year	Stayers	Leavers
2016	33%	
2017	58%	
2018	46%	
2019	49%	
2020	52%	
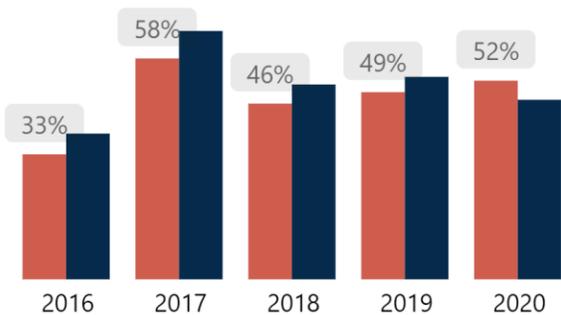
● Stayers: Increased Total Income ● Leavers: Increased Total In…

5. FIRST TIME HOMELESSNESS

Number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time, as measured by the Homelessness Management Information System, in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Permanent Housing.

YEAR	Number
2020	1,698
2019	1,897
2018	1,889
2017	2,166
2016	2,025

7. EXITS TO PERMANENT HOUSING

Exits from Street Outreach to Permanent Housing
Exits from Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Rapid Rehousing to Permanent Housing.
Exits from Permanent Housing (Example: Permanent Supportive Housing) to Permanent Housing.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Permanent Housing	96%	92%	97%	98%	98%
Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Rapid Rehousing	39%	48%	44%	54%	54%
Street Outreach	45%	33%	33%	48%	46%
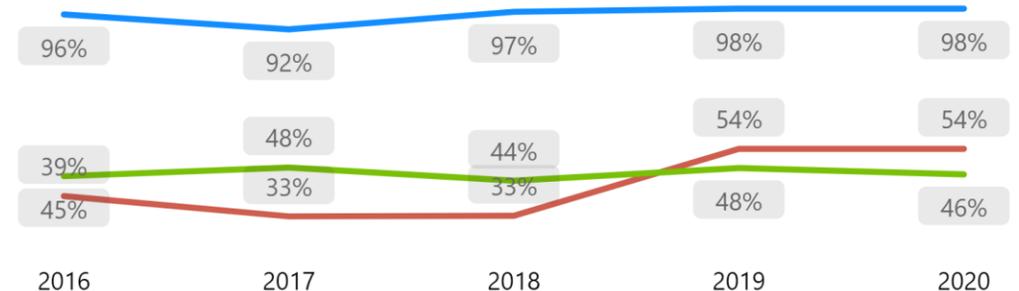
● Street Outreach ● Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Rapid Rehousing ● Permanent Housing

Point-in-Time Count Demographics (2017-2021)

Use the filters below to explore the Point-in-Time Count demographic data by Year (2017-2021), Population, and Project Type.

Year
2021

Population
Multiple selections

Project Type
Multiple selections

1222	868	926	296
Total Persons	Households	Adults	Children

Demographics

ALL PERSONS
Age
Gender
Race
Ethnicity

Legend (Age):
- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-61
- 62+

Age pie chart: 24%, 7%, 16%, 15%, 15%, 12%, 11%

Gender legend: Female, Male, Transgend...
Gender donut: 40%, 0%, 60%

Ethnicity legend: Hispanic/Lati..., Non-Hispa...
Ethnicity donut: 19%, 81%

Race legend:
- American India...
- Asian
- Black or Africa...
- Multiple Races
- Native Hawaiia...
- White

Race pie chart: 1%, 51%, 5%, 37%
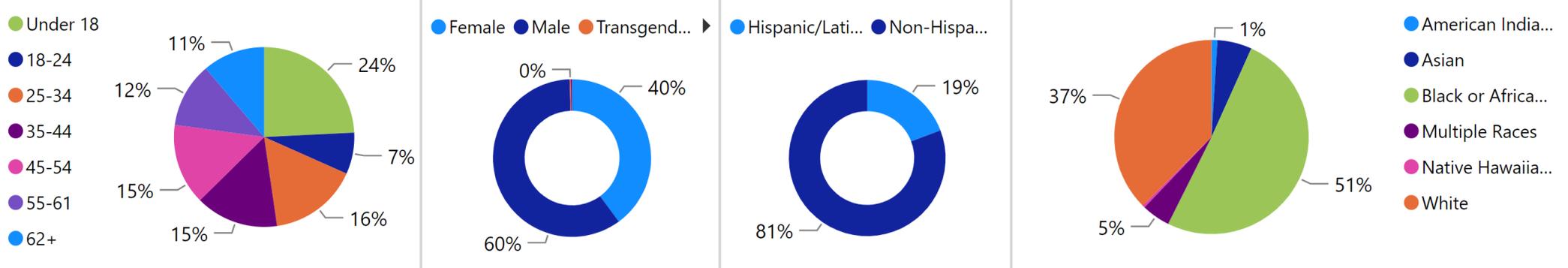
Subpopulations

ADULTS ONLY
Chronically Homeless
Veterans
Domestic Violence: Fleeing
Domestic Violence: History
Transition Aged Youth (18-24)
Limited English Proficiency
Formerly Institutionalized
Formerly in Foster Care

Legend: Chronically Ho..., Veterans, DV: Fleeing, DV: History, TAY: 18-24, Limited Englis..., Formerly Instit..., Formerly in ...

Bar: 327 | 48 | 98 | 184 | 91 | 144 | 66 | 64
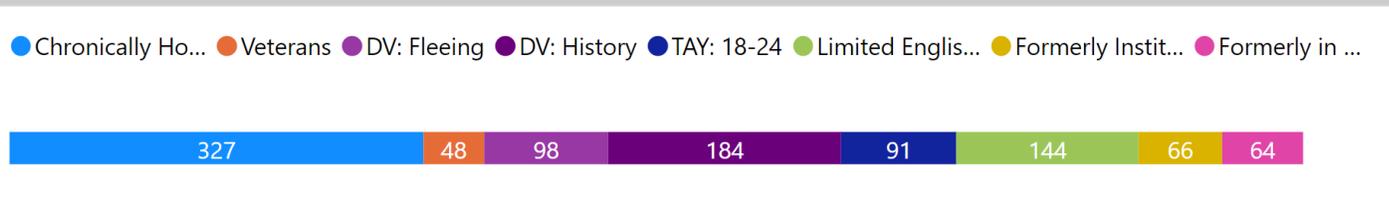
Disabilities

ADULTS ONLY
Serious Mental Illness
Substance Use Disorder
Co-Occurring Disorder
Physical Disability
Chronic Health Condition

Legend:
- Serious Mental Illness
- Substance Use Disor...
- Co-Occuring Disorder
- Physical Disability
- Chronic Health Condi...

Bar values: 284, 174, 86, 149, 266

Employment & Income

ADULTS ONLY

Employment legend: Employment, No Emplo...
Employment bar: 76%, 24%

Income legend: Income, No Income
Income bar: 44%, 56%
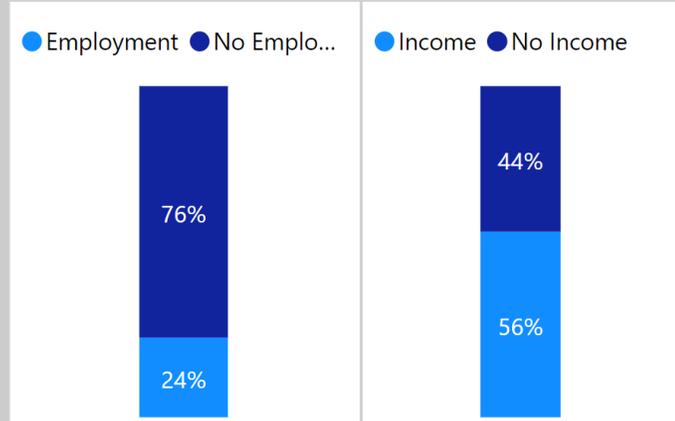
The Future

- HCD merger brings opportunities

- Building on successful strategies

- Aligning approaches and resources

- Four shelters to be replaced, including new housing

Questions