



Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 |



Friday, February 9, 2024

1. Welcome and Introductions – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair
2. Approval of Meeting Notes – January 2024
3. PSH Operations Report – Christine Elwell, Commonwealth Catholic Charities
4. City of Roanoke Zoning Reform – City of Roanoke Planning Staff
5. Point-in-Time Count & Empowerment Fair Update – Brian Burnette & Alison Jorgensen, Council of Community Services
6. Community Outcomes Report – Brian Burnette, Council of Community Services
7. Homeless Students Report – Malora Horn, Roanoke City Public Schools
8. Announcements
9. Adjourn

**The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BRICH will be:
March 8, 2024**

Serving the Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem and the Counties of Alleghany,
Botetourt, Craig, and Roanoke

**www.rvarc.org/homelessness
www.endhomelessnessblueridge.org**



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Friday, January 12, 2024

ATTENDANCE	-	Angela Penn	-	Dave Prosser	P	Kathleen Talbot	P	Paula Prince
P = Present	-	Anne Marie Green	-	David Bustamante	-	Kristin Adkins	-	Sally Putnam
- = Absent	-	Annette Lewis	-	Emily Jewett	P	Lee Clark	-	Sherry Stull
	-	Bill Duncan	-	Felicia Prescott	P	Leslie Leedy	P	Stacey Shepherd
	-	Brian Geiser	-	Hope Browning	P	Loretta Freeman	-	Sue Goad
	P	Bryan Hill	-	Judy Smith	P	Malora Horn	-	Machele Huff
	P	Christine Elwell	P	Judy Hough	P	Matt Crookshank	-	Toni McLawhorn
	P	Capt M. Trantham			-	Candace Bell		
GUESTS	P	Alison Jorgensen, Council of Comm Services			P	Brian Burnette, CHRC Homeless Services Director		
	P	Wayne Leftwich, City of Roanoke Planning			P	Jamie Goodman, Salvation Army		
	P	Kaitlyn Collins, Salvation Army			P	Katie Kennedy, City of Roanoke (for Hope Browning)		
	P	Courtney Fields, CCC						

- **Welcome and Introductions – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair**

- Paula opened the meeting at 9:05 am. The agenda and November minutes were distributed to BRICH members prior to the meeting.
- Kathleen Talbot motioned BRICH approve the minutes; Judy Hough second the motion. Those members present approved the minutes as presented.

- **PSH Operations Update – Christine Elwell**

- Christine was glad to announce CCC is fully staffed and spending down the Arch funds so they can begin the current grant cycle.
- Currently, 22 clients are in the PSH program with no vacant units. CCC accepted three referrals. One has been housed, one housed soon and another pending.
- Two clients are having issues that are being addressed.

- **HOME-ARP/ARPA – Katie Kennedy**

- The City’s Community Resources department has hired an Affordable Housing Program Manager who will be leading the HOME-ARP/ARPA implementation work, including the development of affordable rental housing.
- The Homeless Assistance Team (HAT) has developed a MOU with the City of Roanoke’s Community Resources department for \$300,000 in ARPA funds to be used for move-in assistance. The funds will be available through Calendar Year 2024.
- These funds will be used for utility and security deposits.

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- **PIT Count & Empowerment Fair Update – Matt Crookshank, Alison Jorgensen**

- The Winter Point-in-Time Count is scheduled for the night of January 24th. Outreach teams will begin conducting the unsheltered count at 4am the morning of January 25th. Radford University-Carilion Physician Assistant students will be assisting again this year.
- Survey teams will be conducting surveys at shelters in the evening of January 24th.
- The survey has been revised to emphasize where the homeless slept the night before and more specific information on the location of camp sites.
- Pizza incentives will be given at the Rescue Mission to encourage participation in surveys.
- Resource Fair (Empowerment Fair) will be held on January 25th at the Berglund Center from 9am – 1pm. Flyers will be distributed during the street count and have been posted at service sites throughout the community.
- 41 organizations have registered to attend the Empowerment Fair. Angels of Assisi will provide pet check-ups, lunch will be provided, HIV testing, haircuts and several art activities are planned.
- Loretta Freeman stated the Church Women have \$1,400 in donations to support this year's event.
- Shuttle services will be provided from the Rescue Mission, Samaritan Inn, Ram House and the main branch library. Capt. Trantham, Salvation Army, offered to drive a bus if needed.
- The Fair is open to anyone homeless and provides resources for many people.

- **Community Outcomes Report – Brian Burnette**

- The report was provided to BRICH members with the agenda packet prior to the meeting.
- During November, there were 539 people visiting emergency shelters, for approximately 39 days. Our community continues to see an increasing number of homeless in shelters but returns to homelessness are decreasing.
- Permanent Housing Placement is serving a larger volume of people without housing destinations, with the same resources for the past several years.
- 102 people open to Prevention Services. 128 open to RRH with 20 exiting to permanent housing. We are serving a larger number of people with no income and keeping them in programs as long as possible.

- **Homeless Students Report – Malora Horn**

- The Homeless Students Report for December was distributed with the agenda packet.
- There were 21 homeless students identified during the month of December; 438 students for FY2023-2024 school year.
- There were 32 families permanently housed during this FY2023-2024 school year.
- Breakfast with Santa raised \$11,000 for the homeless program.



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- A limit has been placed on the amount of funds the program uses to pay client utility bills.
- An event hosted by the BAR Association will be held for graduating seniors (working with the homeless program) and family members to have a catered meal, receive iPad with case, hear special presentations and gain a support system from other attendees.
- **Announcements**
 - RAM House and the Rescue Mission have partnered to provide bus passes for the homeless to move from day shelter to the Rescue Mission. They have also noted an increase in people who are mobility challenged.
 - A suggestion was made to see if a Medicaid Transportation Provider would be able to provide trips three times a week to save on the expense of purchasing passes.
 - The City of Roanoke has been working on a text amendment to the zoning code regarding affordable housing and asked to be placed on BRICH meeting agenda next month.
 - Brian Burnette and Anne Marie Green made a presentation on homelessness in December to the Regional Commission to encourage other localities to participate in our regional homelessness response.
- **Adjourn - The next scheduled meeting of the BRICH will be February 9, 2024.**

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Commonwealth Catholic Charities
Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness Meeting – February 9, 2024
Permanent Supportive Housing Report
Submitted by Christine Elwell

We currently have 24 clients in the program, and 21 units.

- 3 of those are new referrals who have not yet been housed. Of those, one person has identified a unit; the other 2 have been hospitalized and as a result, we haven't yet completed intake
- 1 participant has been terminated and we're working through the legal system. This is due to non-payment of rent (we were unsuccessful in working out a payment plan with this client)
- We have 2 other potentially serious tenant issues that may result in legal action (significant lease violation and a hoarding situation)
- We have several other Coordinated Entry matches that are close to submitting their referral paperwork.

Landlord recruitment continues to be a challenge. The team has met with several prospective property owners in the last two weeks in hopes of building connections. Our leadership team (Christine, Erin and Courtney) continue to provide intensive support to the case managers and Christine continues to visit the program at least monthly.

Community Outcomes Report – January 2024 (covering December 2023)
Blue Ridge Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness – February 9, 2024

System Performance Measure 1: Length of Time Persons Remain Homeless

	December 2023 Count (Persons)	December 2023 Average LOT	December 2023 Median LOT
Persons in Emergency Shelter	502	80.35 days	42 days
	December 2022 Count (Persons)	December 2022 Average LOT	December 2022 Median LOT
Persons in Emergency Shelter	399	54.56 days	27 days
	YTD FY 2023 Count (Persons)	YTD FY 2023 Average LOT	YTD FY 2023 Median LOT
Persons in Emergency Shelter	875	64.49 days	26 days
	YTD FY 2022 Count (Persons)	YTD FY 2022 Average LOT	YTD FY 2022 Median LOT
Persons in Emergency Shelter	648	45.23 days	20 days

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for December 2023)

HPC Standard: *Mean length of homelessness.* Either the mean length of episode of homelessness within the Continuum's geographic area is fewer than 20 days, or the mean length of episodes of homelessness for individuals or families in similar circumstances was reduced by at least 10 percent from the preceding federal fiscal year.

System Performance Measure 2: The Extent to which Persons who Exit Homelessness to Permanent Housing Destinations Return to Homelessness

YTD FY 2023			
	Total Number of Persons who Exited to Permanent Housing Destination (2 Years Prior)	Number of Returns in 2 Years	Percentage of Returns in 2 Years
Totals from all SO, ES and PH Projects	112	12	10.71%

YTD FY 2022			
	Total Number of Persons who Exited to Permanent Housing Destination (2 Years Prior)	Number of Returns in 2 Years	Percentage of Returns in 2 Years
Totals from all SO, ES and PH Projects	112	27	24.11%

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Reports [HUDX-223-AD])

HPC Standard: *Reduced recidivism.* Of individuals and families who leave homelessness, less than 5 percent become homeless again at any time within the next 2 years; or the percentage of individuals and families in similar circumstances who become homeless again within 2 years after leaving homelessness was decreased by at least 20 percent from the preceding federal fiscal year.

System Performance Measure 3: Change in Annual Counts

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Unduplicated Total Sheltered Homeless Persons	929	857	+72 (+8.4%)

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for Oct-Dec FY)

Number of school-age children

Year-To-Date	FY 2023	FY 2022	Difference
Number of school-age children (5-17) in emergency shelter	115	63	+52 (+82.5%)
Single-Day Count	12/31/2023	12/31/2022	Difference
Number of school-age children (5-17) in emergency shelter	30	10	+20 (+200.0%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD])

System Performance Measure 4: Employment and Income Growth for CoC Funded Projects

Metric 4.6 – Change in total income for adult system leavers

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Number of adults who exited (system leavers)	0	0	N/A
Number of adults who exited with increased total income	0	0	N/A
Percentage of adults who increased total income	0.00%	0.00%	N/A

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for Oct-Dec FY. NOTE: This metric will only begin to populate when case management programs begin to fill out the “Status Update Assessment” or “Annual Assessment” found within the clients’ program enrollments that record changes in income that differ from income recorded at enrollment)

System Performance Measure 5: Number of Persons First Time Homeless

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Persons with entries into ES, SH, or TH during the reporting period	624	558	+66 (+11.8%)
Of persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, or TH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year.	210	231	-21 (-9.1%)
Of the persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, or TH in the previous 24 months. (Number of persons experiencing homelessness for the first time.)	414	327	+87 (+26.6%)

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for Oct-Dec FY)

System Performance Measure 7: Permanent Housing Placement and Retention

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Persons in ES, SH, TH and RRH who exited	610	508	+102 (+20.1%)
Exited to permanent housing destinations	46	65	-17 (-29.2%)
Percentage of successful exits/retention	7.54%	12.80%	-5.26%

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for Oct-Dec FY)

Homelessness Prevention

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Persons prevented from becoming homeless through financial assistance and homelessness prevention programs <i>Persons served/currently open in a Prev Program [Persons exited to permanent housing destinations]</i>	107 [11]	270 [90]	-163(-60.4%) -79 (-87.8%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD] run for all prevention programs 10/1-12/31 of each fiscal year.)

Rapid Re-Housing

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Persons placed in permanent housing through rapid re-housing programs <i>Persons served [Persons exited to permanent housing destinations]</i>	139 [36]	204 [48]	-65 (-31.9%) -12 (-25.0%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD] run for all RRH programs 10/1-12/31 of each fiscal year.)

Permanent Supportive Housing

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Persons provided permanent supportive housing services	131	136	-5 (-3.7%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD] run for all PSH programs 10/1-12/31 of each fiscal year.)

Community Outcomes Report – February 2024 (covering January 2024)
Blue Ridge Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness – February 9, 2024

System Performance Measure 1: Length of Time Persons Remain Homeless

	January 2024 Count (Persons)	January 2024 Average LOT	January 2024 Median LOT
Persons in Emergency Shelter	502	80.35 days	42 days
	January 2023 Count (Persons)	January 2023 Average LOT	January 2023 Median LOT
Persons in Emergency Shelter	478	59.70 days	30 days
	YTD FY 2023 Count (Persons)	YTD FY 2023 Average LOT	YTD FY 2023 Median LOT
Persons in Emergency Shelter	1032	61.90 days	20 days
	YTD FY 2022 Count (Persons)	YTD FY 2022 Average LOT	YTD FY 2022 Median LOT
Persons in Emergency Shelter	831	45.03 days	18 days

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for January 2024)

HPC Standard: *Mean length of homelessness.* Either the mean length of episode of homelessness within the Continuum's geographic area is fewer than 20 days, or the mean length of episodes of homelessness for individuals or families in similar circumstances was reduced by at least 10 percent from the preceding federal fiscal year.

System Performance Measure 2: The Extent to which Persons who Exit Homelessness to Permanent Housing Destinations Return to Homelessness

YTD FY 2023			
	Total Number of Persons who Exited to Permanent Housing Destination (2 Years Prior)	Number of Returns in 2 Years	Percentage of Returns in 2 Years
Totals from all SO, ES and PH Projects	146	20	13.70%

YTD FY 2022			
	Total Number of Persons who Exited to Permanent Housing Destination (2 Years Prior)	Number of Returns in 2 Years	Percentage of Returns in 2 Years
Totals from all SO, ES and PH Projects	152	34	22.37%

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Reports [HUDX-223-AD])

HPC Standard: *Reduced recidivism.* Of individuals and families who leave homelessness, less than 5 percent become homeless again at any time within the next 2 years; or the percentage of individuals and families in similar circumstances who become homeless again within 2 years after leaving homelessness was decreased by at least 20 percent from the preceding federal fiscal year.

System Performance Measure 3: Change in Annual Counts

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Unduplicated Total Sheltered Homeless Persons	1087	1032	+55 (+5.3%)

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for Oct-Jan FY)

Number of school-age children

Year-To-Date	FY 2023	FY 2022	Difference
Number of school-age children (5-17) in emergency shelter	131	89	+42 (+47.2%)
Single-Day Count	01/31/2024	01/31/2023	Difference
Number of school-age children (5-17) in emergency shelter	37	26	+11 (+42.3%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD])

System Performance Measure 4: Employment and Income Growth for CoC Funded Projects

Metric 4.6 – Change in total income for adult system leavers

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Number of adults who exited (system leavers)	0	0	N/A
Number of adults who exited with increased total income	0	0	N/A
Percentage of adults who increased total income	0.00%	0.00%	N/A

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for Oct-Jan FY. NOTE: This metric will only begin to populate when case management programs begin to fill out the “Status Update Assessment” or “Annual Assessment” found within the clients’ program enrollments that record changes in income that differ from income recorded at enrollment)

System Performance Measure 5: Number of Persons First Time Homeless

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Persons with entries into ES, SH, or TH during the reporting period	806	745	+61 (+8.2%)
Of persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, or TH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year.	272	282	-10 (-3.%)
Of the persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, or TH in the previous 24 months. (Number of persons experiencing homelessness for the first time.)	534	463	+71 (+15.3%)

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for Oct-Jan FY)

System Performance Measure 7: Permanent Housing Placement and Retention

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Persons in ES, SH, TH and RRH who exited	633	715	-82 (-11.5%)
Exited to permanent housing destinations	53	112	-59 (-52.7%)
Percentage of successful exits/retention	8.37%	15.66%	-7.29%

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for Oct-Jan FY)

Homelessness Prevention

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Persons prevented from becoming homeless through financial assistance and homelessness prevention programs <i>Persons served/currently open in a Prev Program [Persons exited to permanent housing destinations]</i>	135 [16]	303 [118]	-168(-55.4%) -102 (-86.4%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD] run for all prevention programs 10/1-01/31 of each fiscal year.)

Rapid Re-Housing

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Persons placed in permanent housing through rapid re-housing programs <i>Persons served [Persons exited to permanent housing destinations]</i>	141 [36]	227 [87]	-86 (-37.9%) -51 (-58.6%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD] run for all RRH programs 10/1-01/31 of each fiscal year.)

Permanent Supportive Housing

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Persons provided permanent supportive housing services	131	136	-5 (-3.7%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD] run for all PSH programs 10/1-01/31 of each fiscal year.)

ROANOKE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HOMELESS STUDENT REPORT

For: January Report
Submitted: February 9, 2024

BLUE RIDGE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

MONTHLY STUDENTS IDENTIFIED:	
January 2023 = 35	School began August 22, 2023
TOTALS FOR 2023-24 SY:	
Students: 473	Families: 266
TOTAL PERMANENT HOUSED THIS SY:	
Students: 79	Families: 41
ACTIVE AND TEMPORARY STUDENTS THIS SY:	
Students: 344	Families: 200
NUMBER OF OTHER CHILDREN IN THE HOME: 70	

CATEGORY	JANUARY	TOTAL THIS SY
Shelter	4	51
Doubled-Up	21	374
Hotel	10	48
Unsheltered	0	0

GRADE	JANUARY	TOTAL THIS SY
PK-5	14	275
6-8	8	90
9-12	13	108

Submitted/Reported by Malora Horn, Homeless Student Program Coordinator
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