



Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

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



Friday, May 10, 2024

1. Welcome and Introductions – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair
2. Approval of Meeting Notes – April 2024
3. PSH Operations Report – Christine Elwell, Commonwealth Catholic Charities
4. 2024 Winter Point-in-Time Presentation – Matt Crookshank, City of Roanoke & Alison Jorgensen, Council of Community Services
5. Home Safe Report – Hope Browning, City of Roanoke
6. BRICH Chair and Governance Charter Discussion – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair
7. Community Outcomes Report – Brian Burnette, Council of Community Services
8. Homeless Students Report – Malora Horn, Roanoke City Public Schools
9. Announcements
 - Summer PIT Date: Night of July 15, 2024
10. Adjourn

**The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BRICH will be:
June 14, 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, April 12, 2024

ATTENDANCE	-	Angela Penn	-	Dave Prosser	P	Kathleen Talbot	P	Paula Prince
P = Present	-	Anne Marie Green	-	David Bustamante	-	Kristin Adkins	P	Roy Hoza
- = Absent	-	Annette Lewis	P	Emily Jewett	P	Lee Clark	-	Sally Putnam
	-	Bill Duncan	-	Felicia Prescott	P	Leslie Leedy	-	Sherry Stull
	-	Brian Geiser	P	Hope Browning	P	Loretta Freeman	P	Stacey Shepherd
	P	Bryan Hill	-	Jeff Doyle	P	Malora Horn	-	Sue Goad
	P	Christine Elwell	-	Judy Smith	P	Matt Crookshank	-	Machele Huff
	-	Capt M. Trantham	P	Judy Hough	-	Candace Bell		
GUESTS	P	Alison Jorgensen, Council of Comm Services			P	Brian Burnette, CHRC Homeless Services Director		
	P	Wayne Leftwich, Roanoke City						

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

 - Paula Prince opened the meeting at 9:05 am in the Virginia Career Works Center conference room. The agenda and March minutes were distributed to BRICH members prior to the meeting.
 - Lee Clark motioned BRICH approve the minutes; Kathleen Talbot seconded the motion. Those members present approved the minutes as presented.

- Restoration Housing Presentation – Isabel Thornton**

 - The purpose of the presentation was to request a letter of support for Virginia Housing Trust Fund resources from the BRICH for a new Restoration Housing project.
 - The project consists of 15 affordable housing units for those above age 55 and includes several PSH units in the former Trinity United Methodist Church in Old Southwest Roanoke. Three of the units on the ground floor will be handicapped accessible. Many historical features will remain in place.
 - The proposed name is “Trinity Commons” to honor the former congregation of the church. The building is located on Mountain Ave and 3rd Street in Southwest Roanoke City.
 - The original worship hall will have various uses such as meetings, social gatherings, or bible studies. There is a coffee house on the ground floor of the sanctuary that has live music on Fridays.

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- Restoration Housing had positive conversations with Roanoke Redevelopment Housing Authority and other community partners. The surrounding community has consistently provided positive feedback on the project.
 - There is a strong need for affordable, stable housing for older adults exiting homelessness.
 - Restoration Housing anticipates using various funding sources to include historic tax credits, Community Foundation funds, Home Safe, CDBG, Roanoke-Alleghany Regional Commission resources, and even funding from Second Presbyterian Church across the street from the property.
 - Restoration Housing is finalizing their drawings/plans to secure the funding required. Bids will begin in early fall 2024.
 - The Letter of Support will be for the DHCD Housing Trust Fund application.
 - Paula Prince motioned the BRICH provide a letter of support for the project. Bryan Hill second the motion. Those BRICH members present approved. Matt Crookshank will draft the letter.
- **PSH Operations Update – Christine Elwell**
 - Currently, 29 active clients are in the PSH program. Two are expected to move in this coming week. One individual lease was also terminated this week. Catholic Charities is beginning to experience typical challenges associated with PSH projects due to the population being served.
 - Commonwealth Catholic Charities has been building relationships with mental health providers and have connected several of their participants to services.
 - They are finalizing an agreement with Corporation for Supportive Housing for Training and Technical Support. Roanoke City has provided funding to assist for a six-month period through ARPA funding.
 - CCC is currently hiring a Lead Case Manager to provide support for higher level needs and manage things as the program continues to grow.
- **VHSP Application – Matt Crookshank and Hope Browning**
 - The VHSP funding process covers two years. The full application has been posted on the website (www.endhomelessnessblueridge.org). Council of Community Services, Roanoke City and Total Action for Progress applied for funds.
 - It is anticipated that the CoC will receive current level funding but would like to ask BRICH members their thoughts on where to utilize extra funds that may be granted.
 - A budget breakdown was provided in the agenda packet.
 - BRICH members recommended using any additional funds for homelessness prevention, which had the largest need this past year.
 - Lee Clark motioned to approve using extra funds for prevention. Stacy Shepherd seconded the motion. Those BRICH members attended approved.

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- **Zoning Amendments Update – Wayne Leftwich**

- Roanoke City has been successful in adopting zoning text amendments and making modifications to create new opportunities for housing development within the City. They are focusing on “missing middle” types of housing (duplexes, re-purposing of current structures) and re-defining “family” to 8 or less people without discriminating against different household types.
- Roanoke City has received positive response from developers on the zoning changes. There will be balance between zoning, building codes and stormwater development regulations. The building must be safe and environmentally responsible.
- Home Safe has spurred new interest from five developers who were also interested in the zoning changes as they apply for the funding for rental housing development.
- Home Safe funds being used by HAT are flexible to address any financial barriers to getting clients housed through move-in assistance.

- **Community Outcomes Report – Brian Burnette**

- The April Report was distributed with the agenda packet. It shows that more school-age children are in shelters. Some of the category numbers are starting to stabilize and come in line with the previous year.
- In March, 463 individuals were in shelter for approximately 51 days. The previous year had 468 individuals in shelter.
- Single day count (3/31/2024) of children in shelter was 16.
- Coordinated Entry Outcomes shows 558 individuals in the Community Queue. There were 15 referrals to RRH openings and 12 referrals to PSH openings.

- **Homeless Students Report – Malora Horn**

- The March report was distributed with the agenda packet. For March, 35 students were identified. For the 2023-2024 school year, the total has now reached 535 students identified (301 families).
- There are 27 seniors this year and plans are being made for the “Shine and Dine” celebration sponsored by the Roanoke Bar Association. The speaker is a current teacher who was homeless for a period.

- **Announcements**

- Paula Prince announced that she will be retiring soon but will continue to attend BRICH meetings.

- **Adjourn - The next scheduled meeting of the BRICH will be May 10, 2024.**

Commonwealth Catholic Charities
Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness Meeting – May 10, 2024
Permanent Supportive Housing Report
Submitted by Christine Elwell

- CCC has a total of 31 active clients in the program
 - 2 of those are new referrals who have not yet been housed
 - 2 of those have been discharged and are in process of being exited
- We have 1 pending new referral (awaiting some additional documentation)
- We are still in the process of conducting interviews for the lead case manager position
- We are experiencing ongoing challenges with recruiting new landlords who meet FMR requirements; our current landlord partners have paused leasing new units to CCC in order to allow for time to evaluate the success of the program



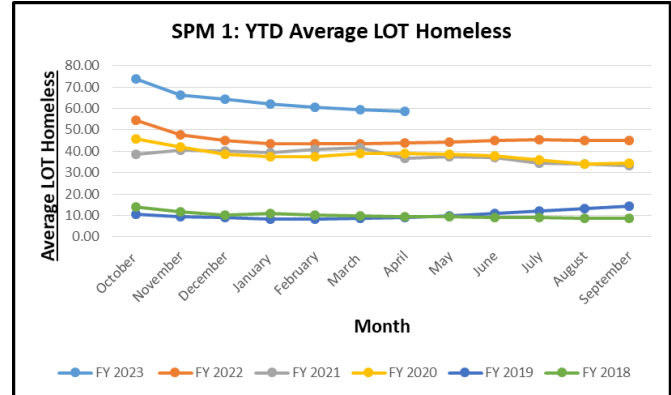
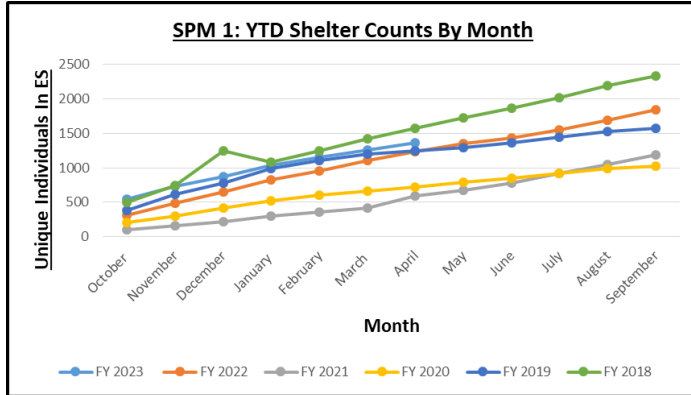
Community Outcomes Report – May 2024 (October 2023-April 2024) Blue Ridge Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness – May 10, 2024

System Performance Measure 1: Length of Time Persons Remain Homeless

	April 2024 Count (Persons)	April 2024 Average LOT	April 2024 Median LOT
Persons in Emergency Shelter	440	96.17 days	52 days
	April 2023 Count (Persons)	April 2023 Average LOT	April 2023 Median LOT
Persons in Emergency Shelter	459	65.51 days	33 days
	YTD FY 2023 Count (Persons)	YTD FY 2023 Average LOT	YTD FY 2023 Median LOT
Persons in Emergency Shelter	1362	58.78 days	20 days
	YTD FY 2022 Count (Persons)	YTD FY 2022 Average LOT	YTD FY 2022 Median LOT
Persons in Emergency Shelter	1231	43.74 days	16 days

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for April 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.



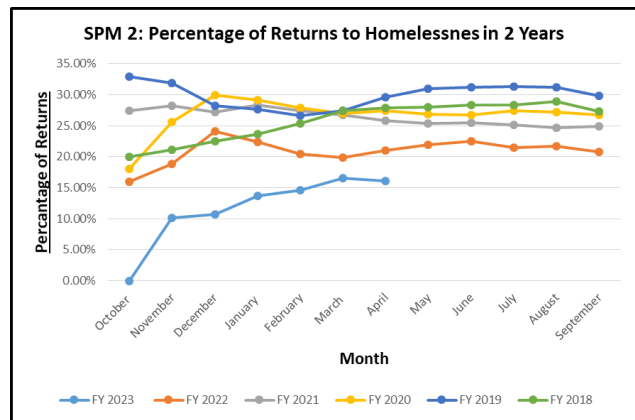
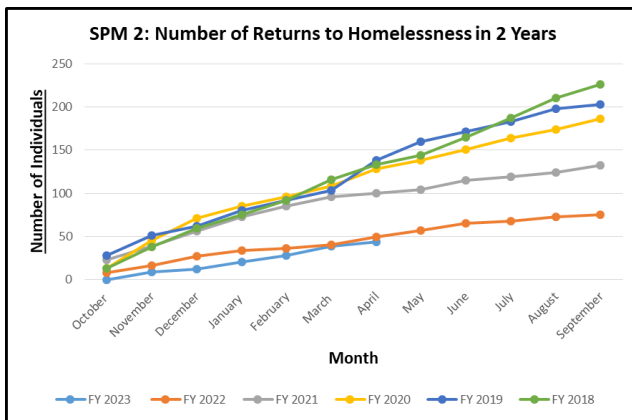
System Performance Measure 2: The Extent to which Persons who Exit Homelessness to Permanent Housing Destinations Return to Homelessness

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	274	44	16.06%

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	232	49	21.12%

(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

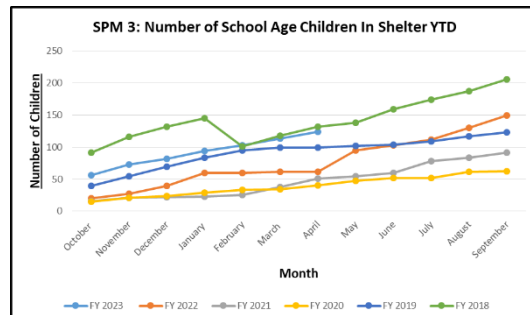
	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Unduplicated Total Sheltered Homeless Persons	1452	1455	-3 (-0.2%)

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

Number of school-age children

Year-To-Date	FY 2023	FY 2022	Difference
Number of school-age children (5-17) in emergency shelter	124	92	+32 (+34.8%)
Single-Day Count	03/31/2024	03/31/2023	Difference
Number of school-age children (5-17) in emergency shelter	26	20	-6 (-30.0%)

(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

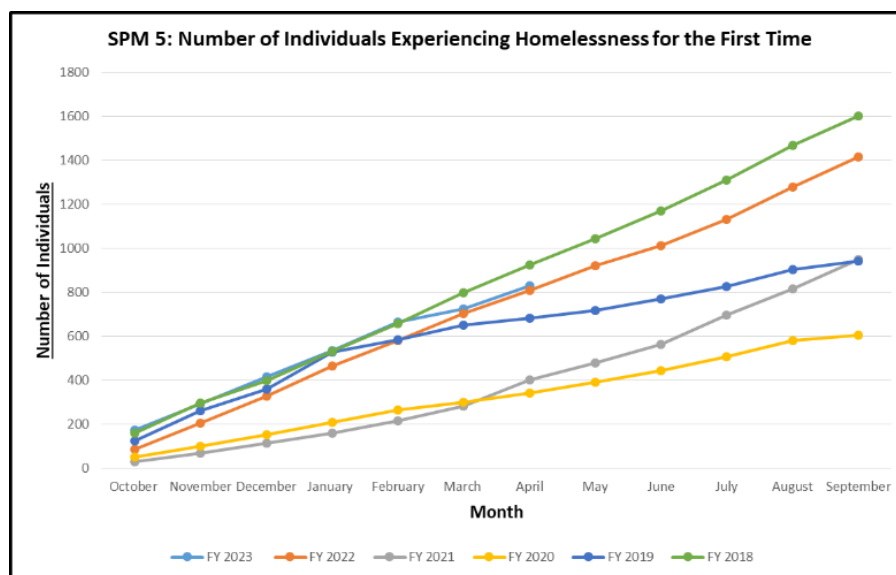
	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Number of adults who exited (system leavers)	0	1	-1
Number of adults who exited with increased total income	0	0	0
Percentage of adults who increased total income	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for Oct-Apr 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	1204	1200	+4 (+0.33%)
Of persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, or TH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year.	376	391	-15 (-3.8%)
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.)	883	901	-18 (-2.0%)

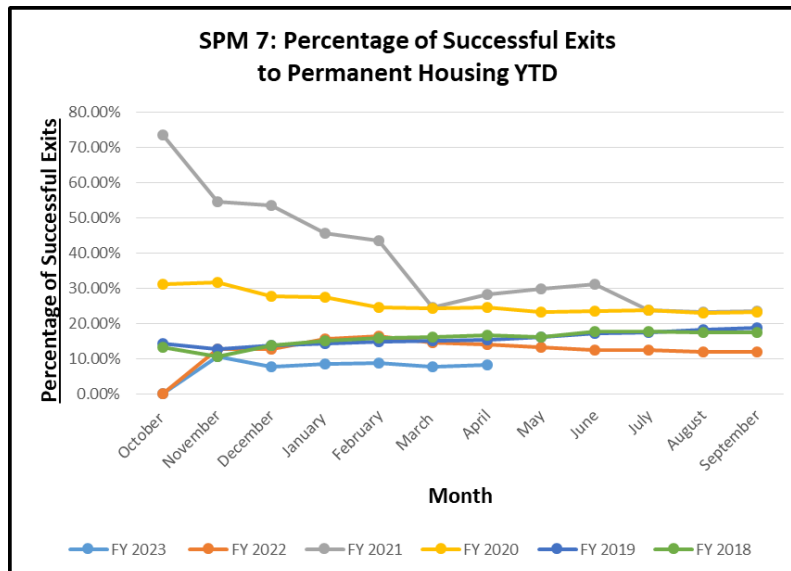
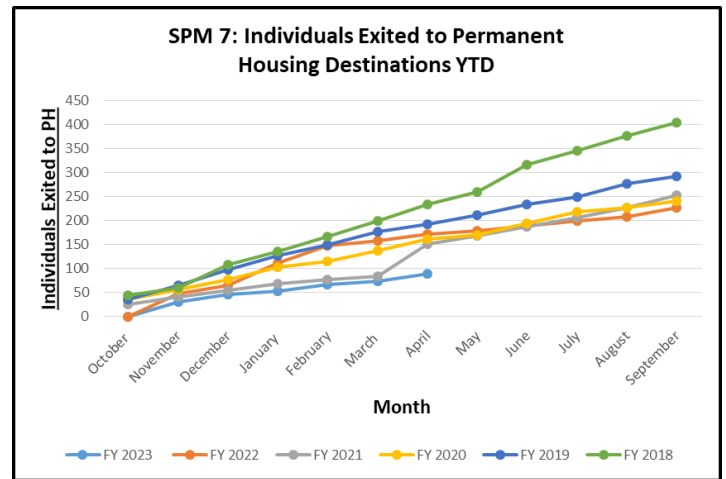
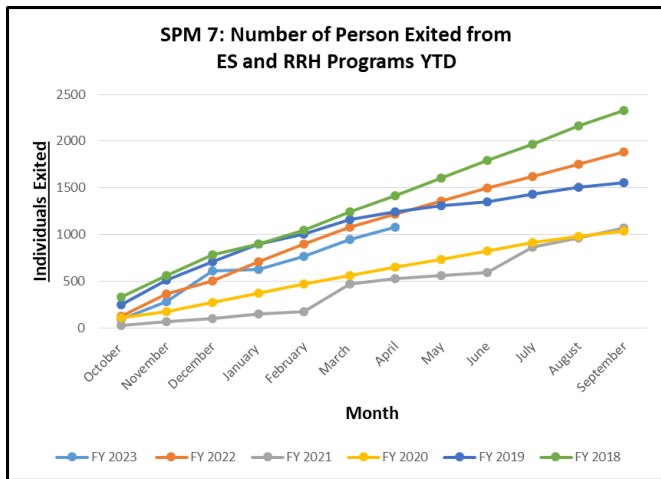
(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for Oct-Apr FY)



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	1083	1219	-136 (-11.2%)
Exited to permanent housing destinations	88	171	-83 (-48.5%)
Percentage of successful exits/retention	8.13%	14.03%	-5.9%

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for Oct-Apr 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 from prevention programs/Exited to permanent housing destinations]</i>	162 [58/52]	358 [227/175]	-196(-54.7%) -123 (-70.3%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD] run for all prevention programs 10/1-04/30 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 from an RRH program/Exited to permanent housing destinations]</i>	198 [86/78]	249 [161/127]	-51 (-20.5%) -49 (-38.6%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD] run for all RRH programs 10/1-04/30 of each fiscal year.)

Permanent Supportive Housing

	YTD FY 2023	YTD FY 2022	Difference
Persons provided permanent supportive housing services	174	157	+17 (+10.8%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD] run for all PSH programs 10/1-04/30 of each fiscal year.)

Selected COORDINATED ENTRY Outcomes (Data as of April 30, 2024)

NOTE: CE-VAT and Community Queue were implemented in June 2023

592 TOTAL INDIVIDUALS ON THE COMMUNITY QUEUE				
	Average	High	Low	Median
CE-VAT Scores (40 possible points)				
All	17.62	30	5	18
Unsheltered	17.55	29	5	18
Sheltered	17.71	30	7	17
LOT on Community Queue				
All	115.47	397	0	89
Unsheltered	109.14	362	8	85
Sheltered	122.41	397	0	91
22 REFERRALS TO RRH PROJECT OPENINGS				
16 REFERRALS TO PSH PROJECT OPENINGS				

ROANOKE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HOMELESS STUDENT REPORT

For: April Report
Submitted: May 10, 2024

BLUE RIDGE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

MONTHLY STUDENTS IDENTIFIED:	
April 2024 = 45	School began August 22, 2023
TOTALS FOR 2023-24 SY:	
Students: 578	Families: 322
TOTAL PERMANENT HOUSED THIS SY:	
Students: 151	Families: 79
ACTIVE AND TEMPORARY STUDENTS THIS SY:	
Students: 357	Families: 204
NUMBER OF OTHER CHILDREN IN THE HOME: 85	

CATEGORY	APRIL	TOTAL THIS SY
Shelter	10	63
Doubled-Up	20	440
Hotel	15	75
Unsheltered	0	0

GRADE	APRIL	TOTAL THIS SY
PK-5	23	330
6-8	9	115
9-12	13	133

Submitted/Reported by Malora Horn, Homeless Student Program Coordinator
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