



# Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

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



Friday, May 12, 2023

1. Welcome and Introductions – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair
2. Approval of Meeting Notes – April 2023
3. 2023 Winter Point-in-Time Presentation – Matt Crookshank, City of Roanoke and Alison Jorgensen, Council of Community Services
4. Update on PSH Operations and Grant Transition – Brian Burnette, Council of Community Services and Matt Crookshank, City of Roanoke
5. Committee Updates – Alison Jorgensen, Council of Community Services and Hope Browning, City of Roanoke
6. Community Outcomes Report – Brian Burnette, Council of Community Services
7. Homeless Students Report – Malora Horn, Roanoke City Public Schools
8. Summer Meetings – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair
9. Announcements
10. Adjourn

**The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BRICH will be:  
TBD**

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

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**[www.rvarc.org/homelessness](http://www.rvarc.org/homelessness)  
[www.endhomelessnessblueridge.org](http://www.endhomelessnessblueridge.org)**



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## Friday, April 14, 2023

<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	-	Amanda Sparks	-	Dave Prosser	-	Judy Smith	-	Captain Russell Clay
<b>P = Present</b>	-	Angela Penn	-	David Bustamante	<b>P</b>	Judy Hough	-	Captain Jamie Clay
<b>- = Absent</b>	<b>P</b>	Anne Marie Green	-	Dawn Riddle	<b>P</b>	Kathleen Talbot	<b>P</b>	Paula Prince
	<b>P</b>	Annette Lewis	-	Debbie Brown	-	Keith Holland	-	Sally Putnam
	-	Sgt Martin	-	Felicia Prescott	-	Kristin Adkins	-	Sherry Stull
	-	Bill Duncan	<b>P</b>	Hope Browning	<b>P</b>	Lee Clark	-	Stacy Shepherd
	-	Brian Geiser	-	Helen Ferguson	<b>P</b>	Leslie Leedy	-	Steve Martin
	<b>P</b>	Bryan Hill	-	Jeffery Doyle	<b>P</b>	Loretta Freeman	<b>P</b>	Sue Goad
	-	Chelsea Pardue	-	John Garland	<b>P</b>	Malora Horn	<b>P</b>	Tanyia Jones
	-	Dani Poe	-	Joyce Earl	<b>P</b>	Matt Crookshank	<b>P</b>	Toni McLawhorn
			-	Jo Nelson	-	Ashleigh Bowman	<b>P</b>	Melissa Woodson
<b>GUESTS</b>	<b>P</b>	Alison Jorgensen, Council of Community Serv			<b>P</b>	Brian Burnette, Director CHRC		
	<b>P</b>	Joe Cobb, Roanoke City Council			<b>P</b>	Emily Jewett, Legal Aid		
	<b>P</b>	Mathew Wasikewitz, Va Department Health			<b>P</b>	Chris Chittum, City of Roanoke		
	<b>P</b>	Jillian Moore, City of Roanoke			<b>P</b>	Ben Bristoll, Council of Community Services		

- Welcome and Introductions – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair**
  - Paula opened the meeting at 9:00 am. The agenda and March minutes were distributed to BRICH members prior to meeting.
  - Judy Hough motioned BRICH approve the minutes as written; Anne Marie Green second the motion. Those members present approved the minutes.
- New PSH Recipient Recommendation – Matt Crookshank**
  - Two organizations applied for the PSH Programs. The Funding Review Committee scored the applicants: Commonwealth Catholic Charities (CCC) (816 points; 102 average out of 110 total possible points) and Project Support (550 points; 69 average out of 110 total possible points).
  - CCC has no local leadership but have PSH programs in Richmond and Petersburg. CCC also has experience managing HUD-funded PSH grants.
  - One noteworthy fact is CCC retained 94% of their clients during the COVID pandemic.
  - CCC will need adequate client support to stabilize Roanoke’s PSH Program. CCC plans on hiring two full-time case managers.
  - Leadership will hopefully participate in BRICH meetings. Supervisors from either Richmond or Petersburg will virtually participate in CoC meetings. Their local case managers will be in monthly BNL case conferencing meetings.

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- A suggestion was to have a written report provided to BRICH each month to monitor the progress of the program and avoid having another situation like with ARCH.
- Through an MOU, ARPA funds may be used to support a local supervisor position for six months or longer.
- Anne Marie Green motioned BRICH approve Commonwealth Catholic Charities as the new PSH Provider; Tanyia Jones second the motion. Those members present approved the motion unanimously.
- **PSH Update – Brian Burnette**
  - Brian provided a written detailed report on the recent progress made with the PSH program. There are currently 25 clients in the programs, with 2 recent discharges.
  - One residence containing two apartments has approximately \$25,000 in damages. Brian reviewed various barriers the case managers are experiencing with clients.
  - Council of Community Services is asking for partner agency assistance in relocating clients who are losing their residence due to landlords not renewing leases. There is a possibility of 5 to 7 clients needing to relocate.
  - One landlord placed 10-day vacate notices on apartment doors and attached a note from Roanoke City Police stating they will seize the property due to numerous emergency calls regarding drug activity.
  - It was suggested that a Landlord Outreach Program be initiated to introduce CCC to landlords and open the line of communication for future meetings, address current issues, and discuss the support available from other agencies.
- **Coordinated Entry Refinement – Alison Jorgensen**
  - The committee initiated a soft launch with HAT and found several areas that need attention.
  - The new system should be fully implemented in the next few months.
- **Capacity-Building Grant Opportunity – Matt Crookshank**
  - Matt spoke with Virginia Housing and expressed our interest in applying for up to \$25,000 in Capacity-Building Grant for the next round that begins July 1.
  - Half of the grant funds can be spent on consultants and half is for the actual implementation.
  - Going to send a list of consultants with Capacity-Building experience for us to choose from.
  - The next step will be to speak with consultants and to complete Virginia Housing's online application for grant funds.

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- **FY2022 HUD CoC Award Announcements – Matt Crookshank**
  - A handout that listed the CoC awards was provided to BRICH members prior to today's meeting. Due to time constraints, it was not reviewed during the meeting.
- **HOME-ARP – Hope Browning**
  - Hope confirmed that City of Roanoke was receiving \$6.6 million in ARP funds.
  - Plans are to build 50 units for low income rental housing; several of them for PSH clients from the Veterans, Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare and/or CCC PSH programs.
  - They are currently defining what supportive services will look like and plan on releasing a RFP in the coming months.
- **Community Outcomes Report – Brian Burnette**
  - The March report was distributed with the agenda prior to discussion. Due to time constraints, discussion was not held during the meeting today.
  - In March, there were 469 persons in emergency shelter compared to 181 March 2022.
  - Returns to Homelessness is down again from the previous year in March.
- **Homeless Students Report – Malora Horn**
  - The Homeless Students Report for March was distributed with the agenda.
  - In March, there were 42 students identified as homeless which brings the total for FY2022-2023 school year to 569 (314 families).
  - This school year, 150 students have been permanently housed (75) families.
- **Announcements**
  - The RRHN Symposium, "The War on Housing", will be May 10 at the Vinton War Memorial. Registration is open; cost is \$40. Refer to CCS Facebook page for more details.
  - Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare has a new program, "Fathers Initiative", that provides parent training to current fathers, incarcerated fathers, or even those with no children. Contact Kathleen Talbot for more information.
  - RAM House is going through a capital campaign for their new building and is currently working on a commercial with some well-known individuals.

**Adjourn - The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BRICH will be May 12, 2023**

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## **BRICH PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING REPORT – May 12, 2023**

### **Current Program Status (as of May 5, 2023)**

#### *Healing Haven – 19 active clients*

- 1 client eviction process was completed on 05/04/2023.
- 1 client in good standing has been given a notice to vacate by 05/15/2023.
- 1 client who will not stay in his unit (has already been moved multiple times) – This unit may need to be vacated because the landlord is planning to raise the rent above FMR limits.
- 1 client in good standing whose lease will not be renewed after 5/31/2023 & will need to be relocated (needs accessible or first floor unit). UPDATE: Client has been referred for a mainstream voucher.
- Added 1 client who is a household member of an existing client.

#### *Heroes Haven – 6 active clients*

- 2 clients who were given a notice to vacate by 05/31/2023, but has been extended to 06/30/2023.
- 1 client in good standing whose lease will not be renewed (Date TBD) & will need to be relocated.

Two open units at 540 Jefferson Ave #1, Vinton 24179 (repairs are unfinished) and 1410 Westside Blvd NW #2 24017 (clean-out completed on 05/05/2023, ready for new occupant).

### **Program Transition**

New Grantee - Commonwealth Catholic Charities takes over the program on June 1, 2023

We met with Christine Elwell, Director of Supportive Housing and Homeless Services, on April 26, for an introductory meeting. We met again in person on May 2 to beginning planning the transition process. She is aware of the program challenges, but we are committing to support them throughout the transition with case conferencing, landlord introductions, and administration. CCC will keep the current PT case managers on staff for 1-2 months during the transition, but the staffing will transfer to 2 FT positions asap to support the needs of the program. A transition later has been drafted and will be sent out to landlords around May 10. We are also seeking to set up landlord meetings asap to begin signing new master leases.

**Continued...**

### **Program Updates**

**CDBG-CV Funding** – The City of Roanoke awarded us funding to cover some of our initial administration costs that were not covered by the HUD funding.

**Landlord Non-Renewals** – Several landlords are initiating non-renewals of leases either to raise rents or to exit the PSH partnership altogether. We currently have 4 clients who have been issued vacate notices. CCC has been notified of the issues and will work on re-housing them after the grant transition process is completed and they can begin signing master lease agreements. We also continue to troubleshoot the non-renewals in a bi-weekly case conference with CCS, the City, BRBH, and CCC staff represented. Anyone else who can contribute to housing plans is welcome to attend.

**Community Outcomes Report – May 2023 (covering April 2023)**  
**Blue Ridge Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness – May 12, 2023**

**System Performance Measure 1: Length of Time Persons Remain Homeless**

	<b>April 2023 Count (Persons)</b>	<b>April 2023 Average LOT</b>	<b>April 2023 Median LOT</b>
Persons in Emergency Shelter	455	65.85 days	33 days
	<b>April 2022 Count (Persons)</b>	<b>April 2022 Average LOT</b>	<b>April 2022 Median LOT</b>
Persons in Emergency Shelter	335	40.96 days	17 days
	<b>YTD FY 2022 Count (Persons)</b>	<b>YTD FY 2022 Average LOT</b>	<b>YTD FY 2022 Median LOT</b>
Persons in Emergency Shelter	1,228	43.63 days	16 days
	<b>YTD FY 2021 Count (Persons)</b>	<b>YTD FY 2021 Average LOT</b>	<b>YTD FY 2021 Median LOT</b>
Persons in Emergency Shelter	580	36.89 days	16 days

(Source: HMIS System Performance Measures Report [HUDX-223-AD] for Apr 2023 & Oct 2022-Apr 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**

<b>YTD FY 2022</b>			
	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	233	49	21.03%

<b>YTD FY 2021</b>			
	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	359	97	27.02%

(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 2022	YTD FY 2021	Difference
Unduplicated Total Sheltered Homeless Persons	1,451	724	+727(+100.4%)
Emergency Shelter	1,451	724	+727(+100.4%)
Safe Haven	0	0	0
Transitional Housing	0	0	0

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

#### Number of school-age children

Year-To-Date	FY 2022	FY 2021	Difference
Number of school-age children (5-17) in emergency shelter	144	79	+73 (+121.7%)
Single-Day Count	04/30/2023	04/30/2022	Difference
Number of school-age children (5-17) in emergency shelter	26	5	+23 (+209.1%)

(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 2022	YTD FY 2021	Difference
Number of adults who exited (system leavers)	1	5	-4 (-80.0%)
Number of adults who exited with increased total income	0	2	-2 (-100.0%)
Percentage of adults who increased total income	0.00%	40.00%	-40.00%

(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 2022	YTD FY 2021	Difference
Persons with entries into ES, SH, or TH during the reporting period	1,200	613	+587 (+95.8%)
Of persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, or TH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year.	386	217	+169 (+77.9%)
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.)	814	396	+418 (+105.6%)

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

### System Performance Measure 7: Permanent Housing Placement and Retention

	YTD FY 2022	YTD FY 2021	Difference
Persons in ES, SH, TH and RRH who exited	1,076	530	+546(+103.0%)
Exited to permanent housing destinations	153	156	-3 (-1.9%)
Percentage of successful exits/retention	14.22%	29.43%	-15.21%

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

### Homelessness Prevention

	YTD FY 2022	YTD FY 2021	Difference
Persons prevented from becoming homeless through financial assistance and homelessness prevention programs <i>Persons served [Persons exited to permanent housing destinations]</i>	1,009 [367]	837 [243]	+172(+20.5%) +124 (+51.0%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD] run for all prevention programs 7/1-04/30 of each fiscal year)

### Rapid Re-Housing

	YTD FY 2022	YTD FY 2021	Difference
Persons placed in permanent housing through rapid re-housing programs <i>Persons served [Persons exited to permanent housing destinations]</i>	300 [162]	261 [172]	+39 (+14.9%) -10 (-5.8%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD] run for all RRH programs 7/1-04/30 of each fiscal year)

### Permanent Supportive Housing

	YTD FY 2022	YTD FY 2021	Difference
Persons provided permanent supportive housing services	147	156	-9 (-5.8%)

(Source: Combined CoC APR [HUDX-227-AD] run for all PSH programs 7/1-04/30 of each fiscal year)

ROANOKE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
HOMELESS STUDENT REPORT

**For: April Report**  
**Submitted: May 12, 2023**

BLUE RIDGE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

<b>MONTHLY STUDENTS IDENTIFIED:</b>	
April 2023 = 21	School began August 23, 2022
<b>TOTALS FOR 2022-23 SY:</b>	
Students: 590	Families: 327
<b>TOTAL PERMANENT HOUSED THIS SY:</b>	
Students: 171	Families: 85
<b>ACTIVE AND TEMPORARY STUDENTS THIS SY:</b>	
Students: 348	Families: 205
<b>NUMBER OF OTHER CHILDREN IN THE HOME: 66</b>	

CATEGORY	APRIL	TOTAL THIS SY
Shelter	3	60
Doubled-Up	16	436
Hotel	2	94
Unsheltered	0	0

GRADE	APRIL	TOTAL THIS SY
PK-5	12	330
6-8	6	121
9-12	3	139

Submitted/Reported by Malora Horn, Homeless Student Program Coordinator  
[mhorn@rcps.info](mailto:mhorn@rcps.info) 540-400-9797