



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany
REGIONAL
commission

Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

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



Pursuant to the City of Roanoke Emergency Ordinance adopted by the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) Board on April 23, 2020 and 2020 Virginia General Assembly legislation H29 enacted April 24, 2020, the September meeting of the Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness will be held virtually via GoToMeeting on Friday, October 9, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Under the current State of Emergency, and until further notice, it has been deemed unsafe to assemble a quorum of a public body in one place. All materials made available to the members will be made available to the public at the same time by posting on the RVARC website

AGENDA

1. Welcome and introductions – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair
2. Approval of Meeting Notes - September 2020
3. Homeless Data Integration Project Feedback and Discussion – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair
4. Update on Isolation Facility and Hotel Work – Jeanne McCormack, ARCH
5. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Update – Keith Holland, City of Roanoke
6. Transportation Discussion – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair
7. Roanoke City Schools Homeless Students Report – Malora Horn, RCPS
8. Community Outcomes Report – Ben Bristoll, CHRC
9. Announcements
 - Virginia Governor’s Housing Conference: virtual, November 18-20. Scholarships available at: <https://www.vaghc.com/scholarships>
10. Adjourn

In accordance with adopted procedures, the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) Regional Planner III, Bryan Hill will provide public notice of this by posting it on the Commission’s website <https://rvarc.org/community/homelessness>. Matthew Crookshank, Blue Ridge Continuum of Care Coordinator, will be the host for the virtual meeting. Members of the Board and the public will be able to access this meeting through GoToMeeting, either by clicking on the web link below (preferable) or by dialing in using the phone number (for listen-only participation). Access information is as follows:

For computer, tablet or smartphone users:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/344145973>

For dial-in access only:

Phone: (571) 317-3122

Access Code: 344-145-973

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, September 11, 2020

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|------------------------|---|------------------|---|---------------------|---|--------------------|
| ATTENDANCE | - | Amanda Sparks | X | Anne Marie Green | X | Joyce Earl | - | Kathleen Guilliams |
| P = Present | - | Angela Penn | - | Dani Poe | - | Jo Nelson | - | Jaime/Russell Clay |
| - = Absent | - | Annette Lewis | - | Dave Prosser | - | Judy Smith | - | Pamela Hall |
| | - | Lt. Pulley | - | David Bustamante | X | Judy Hough | X | Paula Prince |
| | X | Ben Bristoll | X | Dawn Riddle | X | Keith Holland | - | Sally Putnam |
| | X | Bill Duncan | - | Debbie Brown | - | Kristin Adkins | - | Sherry Stull |
| | - | Brian Geiser | - | Felicia Prescott | - | Leah Gibson | - | Sheryl Walters |
| | - | Bruce Phipps | X | Hope Browning | X | Lee Clark | - | Tanyia Jones |
| | X | Bryan Hill | X | Isabel Thornton | X | Leslie Leedy | - | Jensen Mellnick |
| | - | Carla Wallace | - | Jim Weber | - | Malora Horn | - | Helen Ferguson |
| | - | Chelsea Pardue | - | John Garland | X | Matt Crookshank | X | Reagan White |
| | | | | | | | | |
| GUESTS | X | Jeanne McCormack, ARCH | | | X | Andriea Ukrop, DHCD | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

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

- Today’s meeting was virtual. The agenda was distributed to BRICH members prior to the meeting.

- **Homeless Data Integration Project – Andriea Ukrop, DHCD**

- Andriea Ukrop made a Power Point presentation on the Homeless Data Integration Project that will warehouse data for state policy makers, DHCD, CoC’s and other stakeholders.
- Statewide HMIS data from CoC’s can be uploaded into Green River’s Open Path Software to provide comprehensive data to end homeless in Virginia.
- The integrated system will provide:
 - a. maximized use of data and creation of CoC reports for outcome measures.
 - b. standardized data-sharing policies.
 - c. support statewide efforts to utilize for funding allocations.
 - d. develop training and make it available to CoC’s.
- CoC’s cannot choose exactly what data will go into statewide database. However, if a client does not sign a release of information, their data will not be visible to CoCs.
- If an agency does not want to participate, they can opt out but it may affect future State funding received by the CoC.
- Efforts will be made to address all concerns so agencies are comfortable in the integration project.

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- **Isolation Facility and Hotel Placement Update – Jeanne McCormack, ARCH**
 - Trust House was converted into an isolation facility for the homeless. To date, there has not been a positive test result among the homeless population.
 - There are approximately 90 clients in hotels. Staff are being hired to cover evening hours so a staff member is always available.
 - Staff are well-trained to de-escalate situations and can go into a room and confiscate drug paraphernalia if drug use is suspected. Drug testing will be done twice a day if required.
 - Clients will be given a three-day notice to change their behavior or be dropped from the program if expectations are not met.
 - Jeanne McCormack, Matt Crookshank and Anne Marie Green will be meeting with the Roanoke County Police Department to discuss the increase in 911 calls. Most of the calls are due to fights or are domestic violence related.
 - RAM volunteer has been providing transportation to bus stop which is one mile from hotel. Volunteers from the faith-based community are currently being sought to help with transportation coverage.
 - The Salvation Army is not staffed to continue providing meals. Meal services have been transitioned to the Canteen (vendor used by the LOA for the Meals on Wheels program). The Canteen is providing three meals a day to hotel clients. On Fridays, meals for the entire weekend are distributed.
 - All hotel clients have case managers working to get them housed and out of the hotel. Hotel case conferencing meetings are being held every Friday by the CoC partners coordinating the hotel work.

- **System Performance Report – Ben Bristol, CHRC**

The August performance report was reviewed.

| | <u>YTD 2019</u> | <u>YTD 2020</u> |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Avg length of stay | 45 days | 58 days |
| Total Sheltered Homeless Persons | 2,121 | 1,454 |
| First-Time Homelessness Persons who entered ES, SH, or TH during the period | 1,452 | 859 |
| Persons who exited program(s) | 1,932 | 1,275 |
| Persons prevented from becoming Homeless through financial assistance | 919 | 796 |
| Persons placed in permanent housing | 325 | 286 |

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Through Rapid Rehousing programs

| | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Persons provided permanent Supportive housing services | 224 | 189 |
| Single-Day count of homeless school-Aged children | Aug 31 18 | Aug 31 12 |

- The Covid19 pandemic and moratorium on evictions have affected the outcome numbers.
- The decrease in people receiving permanent supportive housing services is due to clients moved from Healing Haven to Section 8 housing vouchers. Staff are in the community getting paperwork completed to fill openings in ARCH’s permanent supportive housing programs.

• **Other Business**

- The Virginia Governor’s Housing Conference will be virtual on November 18-20. Registration is currently open and can be found on their website.

• **Adjourn - The next meeting of the BRICH will be October 9, 2020.**

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www.rvarc.org/homelessness

ROANOKE CITY SCHOOLS
HOMELESS STUDENT REPORT

For: September Report

Submitted: October 9, 2020

Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Sept 2020= 51 | *School started August 31, 2020* |
| Total for the 2020-21 SY | |
| Students Identified: 295 | |
| Shelter- | 2 |
| Doubled-Up- | 41 |
| Hotel- | 8 |
| Grades: | |
| Pre-K-5= | 28 |
| 6-8= | 10 |
| 9-12= | 13 |
| | |

Submitted/Reported by Malora Horn, McKinney-Vento Program Coordinator

Mhorn@rcps.info 540-400-9787

Community Outcomes Report – October 2020 (covering September 2020)
Blue Ridge Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness – October 9, 2020

System Performance Measure 1: Length of Time Persons Remain Homeless

| | September 2020 Count (Persons) | September 2020 Average LOT | September 2020 Median LOT |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Persons in Emergency Shelter | 260 | 115 days | 64 days |

| | September 2019 Count (Persons) | September 2019 Average LOT | September 2019 Median LOT |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Persons in Emergency Shelter | 434 | 79 days | 37 days |

| | FY 2020 Count (Persons) | FY 2020 Average LOT | FY 2020 Median LOT |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Persons in Emergency Shelter | 1596 | 58 days | 26 days |

| | FY 2019 Count (Persons) | FY 2019 Average LOT | FY 2019 Median LOT |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Persons in Emergency Shelter | 2340 | 45 days | 18 days |

(Source: ART Report 700)

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

| FY 2020 | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | 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 | 631 | 189 | 30.0% |

| FY 2019 | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | 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 | 817 | 208 | 25.5% |

(Source: ART Report 701)

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

| | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | Difference |
|---|---------|---------|---------------|
| Unduplicated Total Sheltered Homeless Persons | 2266 | 1499 | -767 (-33.8%) |
| Emergency Shelter | 2266 | 1499 | -767 (-33.8%) |
| Safe Haven | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Transitional Housing | 0 | 0 | 0 |

(Source: ART Report 702)

Number of school-age children

| Year-To-Date | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | Difference |
|---|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Number of school-age children (5-17) in emergency shelter | 206 | 120 | -86 (-41.7%) |
| Single-Day Count | 9/30/2019 | 9/30/2020 | Difference |
| Number of school-age children (5-17) in emergency shelter | 19 | 13 | -6 (-31.6%) |

(Source: Combined CoC APR)

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

Metric 4.6 – Change in total income for adult system leavers

| | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | Difference |
|---|---------|---------|-------------|
| Number of adults who exited (system leavers) | 14 | 17 | +3 (+21.4%) |
| Number of adults who exited with increased total income | 10 | 10 | 0 (0.0%) |
| Percentage of adults who increased total income | 63.6% | 62.5% | |

(Source: ART Report 703 – metric only pulls in income increases for participants in SH, TH, PH-RRH and PH-PSH project types that are CoC-funded)

System Performance Measure 5: Number of Persons First Time Homeless

| | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | Difference |
|--|---------|---------|---------------|
| Persons with entries into ES, SH, or TH during the reporting period | 2388 | 1590 | -798 (-33.4%) |
| Of persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, or TH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year. | 805 | 697 | -108 (-13.4%) |
| 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.) | 1583 | 893 | -690 (-43.5%) |

(Source: ART Report 704 – Metric 5.1)

System Performance Measure 7: Permanent Housing Placement and Retention

| | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | Difference |
|--|---------|---------|---------------|
| Persons in ES, SH, TH and RRH who exited | 2072 | 1318 | -754 (-36.4%) |
| Exited to permanent housing destinations | 389 | 269 | -120 (-30.8%) |
| Percentage of successful exits/retention | 18.8% | 20.4% | |

(Source: ART Report 706 – Metric 7b.1)

Homelessness Prevention

| | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | Difference |
|--|------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Persons prevented from becoming homeless through financial assistance and homelessness prevention programs <i>Persons served [Persons exited to permanent housing destinations]</i> | 1002 [723] | 860 [484] 3311 [1381] RAM | -142 (-14.2%) |

(Source: Combined APR)

Rapid Re-Housing

| | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | Difference |
|---|---------|---------|--------------|
| Persons placed in permanent housing through rapid re-housing programs | 344 | 303 | -41 (-26.1%) |

(Source: Combined APR)

Permanent Supportive Housing

| | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | Difference |
|--|---------|---------|--------------|
| Persons provided permanent supportive housing services | 225 | 185 | -40 (-17.8%) |

(Source: Combined APR)

Primary reason for returns to homelessness - FY 2019

