

CENTRAL VIRGINIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE

Mass Care & Human Services Committee



Thursday, April 6, 2017 1:30 pm | RRPDC | 9211 Forest Hill Avenue Suite 200 Richmond VA 23235

Minutes

In attendance:

TaMisha Bascombe, Richmond HD

Kate Bausman, Richmond MRC Coordinator

Beverley Brandt, Colonial Heights

Gray Corbett, CVHC

Ginny Ferguson, Hanover DSS, Vice Chair

Tracie Giles, Chesterfield

Kelly Horne, Homeward

Paul Hundley, Richmond DSS, Chair

Donald Hunter, Prince George OEM

Jonathan Kiser, Chesterfield HD

Kate McHugh, Richmond Health District

James Moss, VDH Central Region

Kevin Pannell, VDEM Region 1 DRRO

Kathy Robins, RRPDC

1. **Welcome and introductions.** The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm and welcomed all. He invited everyone to introduce themselves.
2. **Approval of Minutes** from the March 2, 2017 meeting. James Moss moved approval of the minutes as presented and Donald Hunter seconded. Motion carried without further discussion. Minutes of past meetings are available at <http://www.richmondregional.org/CVEMA/CVEMA-Meetings.htm> .
3. **Special Presentation: Kelly King Horne, Homeward** (see PowerPoint attached). Highlights:
 - She has worked for Homeward for 14 years, as Executive Director since 2007 and serves on the Governor's Coordinating Council on Homelessness
 - Footprint nearly matches footprint of the RRPDC
 - Collaborative approach to addressing homelessness.
 - Housing First (past 7 years) approach has proven better than any other so far, resulting in significant reductions in homelessness across the country. Transitional housing no longer in widespread use.
 - Governed by a policy-making board, transparent decision-making process. All committees have charters that are available publicly on their [website](http://www.richmondregional.org/CVEMA/CVEMA-Meetings.htm). Other resources at www.endhomelessnessva.org .
 - In January started a diversion phone line meant for people who are within 3 days of becoming homeless. Case manager helps callers to problem solve to *avoid* becoming homeless. Program already showing a 50% to 60% success rate.
 - Rapid Rehousing: short term program to rapidly return people to housing.
 - Permanent Supportive Housing for people with significant obstacles to living independently.
 - Heating/cooling shelters (City of Richmond) are an area of overlap with Emergency Management. Response may need to work with DHCD (under the Secretary of Commerce and Trade) to discuss policies/approaches to rehousing people after a disaster.
 - Richmond Community Development Alliance – network of affordable housing providers.
 - Governor's Housing Conference – this year in Norfolk, mid-November. Many resources there.

- Ms. King-Horne will send list of Continuum of Care contacts
- 25% of homeless population is eligible for Medicaid but are not enrolled.
- 14% of those who end up in homeless shelters spent the night prior in the hospital
- Healthcare is provided through several entities including VCU, Daily Planet, Health Districts, Bon Secours Care-A-Van, Governor's Access Program
- Required to do a count of homeless population every January (last 10 days) for every part of the state. Homeward manages a database for the region. They do a single day count of the homeless population twice a year, winter and summer.
- Localities would benefit from information to share with homeless in Emergency Shelters as they go to close after a disaster. Ms. King Horne will share her contacts for this.
- Matt Lesley, State Department of Veterans Affairs is excellent to work with. Virginia is the first state to reach their goal of 0 homeless veterans.

4. Old Business

- **2017 Virginia Emergency Management Symposium.** (Discussed prior to Special Presentation.) The Chair initiated a discussion of the recent conference. He reported that legislation passed in General Assembly prohibiting localities from prohibiting firearms in emergency shelters was recently vetoed by the Governor and it is not expected to have enough votes for an override. He attended the session on legal concerns where this issue was addressed by Cathie Hutchins, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General of Virginia. Some points to remember:
 - 3rd party shelters are private property and so not subject to same laws, meaning that they *may* forbid firearms on their grounds.
 - Public schools being used as emergency shelters are still schools and firearms usually are prohibited on school grounds.
 - Any other public facility used as an emergency shelter would be subject to the law, if passed.

Tracie Giles reported on the 'How much data is too much data?' presentation by Arlington. Good discussion of limiting the alerts we send out so that the public does not start to ignore them. The Chair reported that the presentation on the Pulse Night Club was good. James Moss pointed out that libraries are being used/considered for use as FACs across the country, but that localities need also to identify larger sites that could accommodate larger incidents.

Another unexpected consequence was that businesses near the Pulse Nightclub suffered significant losses due to their proximity to the incident site, and the investigation that followed. Two of these businesses did not re-open. This is a compelling argument in favor of continuity planning for businesses.

The Chair urged anyone who is not now a member, to become a member of VEMA.

- **FY15 SHSP Grants** This grant period has ended (deadline 3/31/17). Ms. Ferguson asked about purchasing just scanners for shelters and not getting entire fly away kits. The Chair advised that if they wish to purchase scanners only they should talk to Ed Tivol at CyPhySecurity (source of EWA Phoenix system) to confirm which scanners are compatible with the system and the process for connecting. He will send contact information and specifications to Ms. Ferguson. The Chair reported that as long as the funding is encumbered, a locality may request an extension to submit proof of payment and other documentation. Richmond was granted an extension to June 30 due to some personnel transitions.
- **FY16 SHSP Grants:**
 - **Shelter Supplies & Equipment** (\$66,150 | FA: Hanover) Deadline for these grants is 3/31/18.
 - **Shelter Training** (\$57,775 | FA: Richmond) Deadline: March 31, 2018.

- The Chair reported that, on February 24, City of Richmond held its first Red Cross-led Shelter Management class (7-hour class). He reminded all that any classes that last over 5 hours can include feeding attendees. The Chair will share information on their vendor. There were 17 participants.
- 4/10-4/11 City of Richmond – Training to be held at Holton Elementary School and will include EWA Phoenix, dormitory and feeding operations training and an exercise.
- 4/12-4/15 Hanover has scheduled training at Hanover High School. Shelter Fundamentals first day and an exercise the 2nd day. Will try and get 2-hour EWA Phoenix training scheduled for the week before.
- The Chair noted that they tried to customize the Red Cross training to suit the City of Richmond’s particular needs. His experience last Friday demonstrated it is best to leave the Red Cross training as is and extract what is useful for your locality.
- Meredith Snellings reported that there is an effort at Red Cross to offer training that is more focused on localities. At the end of the month, they are anticipating having Shelter Fundamentals & Shelter Management classes available on-line. She reported that if localities do on-line training and have questions, Red Cross can provide a Q & A session. The Chair requested that if you do on-line shelter training in your locality, please send him a roster of participants.
- Shel Bolyard-Douglas reported that their shelter pool includes 24 individuals from 12 different departments. Their training is usually one day of on-line and ½ day of classroom training. They will do these in reverse order this time, while waiting for the on-line courses to be available. She has already developed her roster.
- The Chair invited all to be creative in finding ways to deliver this training to your shelter staff. And don’t forget to submit your expenses for reimbursement.
- City of Richmond has scheduled EWA Phoenix training for 2 additional Jurisdictional Administrators and User Training for a group of 15 staff on March 27.
- Hanover is planning to host a Pet Sheltering class and exercise. Typically, this involves a 2-hour classroom training and a 16-hour exercise. Donnie Embrey, VASART, is the instructor. He has offered to come to localities and provide the 2-hour training in advance and then offer the 16-hour exercise at the regional or sub-regional level later. He would like to end up with some CART teams across the region.
- Joint training Powhatan, Goochland, Amelia, Cumberland. Cathy Pemberton reported that they are working on coordinating this.
- The Chair reminded all requesting training to fill out the form on the CVEMA website and submit to him or Kathy Robins for the calendar. Be sure to confirm with instructor first.
- **FY16 Shelter Supplies and Equipment Grant | Deadline 3/31/18** The Chair reported that Corey Beazley is working on completing the EHP portion of the application package. He reports that he should be ready to start procurement within 30 days or so. Donald Hunter reported a willingness to get quotes and place the order to relieve Mr. Beazley of this part of the project.
- **FY16 Shelter Training Grant | Deadline 3/31/17** The Chair reported that New Kent recently reached out about scheduling shelter management training. The City of Richmond has training coming up on April 10 and 11. Hanover training is scheduled for April 12 to 14. The Chair reminded all that we are not restricted to the curriculum listed, but will cover any training that furthers the goal of a trained and prepared local emergency shelter staff team. Contact the Chair if you have any questions.

The Chair reported that one locality has requested First Aid/CPR/AED training. The Vice Chair, Ginny Ferguson, reported that Hanover planned to do CPR for adults and children, AED, Blood-borne pathogens courses on May 5 and May 11. Slots are available. Contact her if you are interested in participating. The chair reported contacting VDEM Grants to confirm that this training would be covered by the grant. VDEM confirmed that if you are training shelter workers, these courses will be covered. He reached out to Carol Schneider, Red Cross Health and Safety Department to arrange for her to come to the next MCHS meeting and brief the committee on costs and on how best to manage/schedule these classes. Committee is in favor. Could be offered to this committee, DSS, MRC, CERT. Ms. Robins will email the MCHS distribution list and DSS Directors to determine how many they might send to such training.

In re: Pet Sheltering Training. Donnie Embrey/VASART is happy to bring the 2-hour training to any locality that requests it. (This is an 18-hour training with 2 hours of classroom and 2 8-hour days of exercise). We could then arrange for a regional-scale exercise. Richmond and Hanover are working on scheduling the training for their staff. If you wish to do the same, contact Donnie at: dnrembrey@gmail.com (this information is also on the back of the Shelter Training Request Form on the CVEMA website (<http://www.richmondregional.org/CVEMA/CVEMA-Home.htm>)). The Chair will email the PowerPoint presentation given by Mr. Embrey at an earlier MCHS meeting to Donald Hunter to share with Prince George Animal Control.

5. New Business

- **Virginia Mass Care Task Force (VMCTF)** Ms. Robins reported that this group, led by Dawn Brantley, State Sheltering Coordinator at VDEM, is developing a Statewide Sheltering Strategy. The group includes representatives from state agencies, localities, non-profits, and private sector partners. They meet virtually, with their last meeting Thursday, March 30. The Chair reported having attended the Northern Neck Regional Sheltering session at VEMS. The process they propose is to localities open their shelters as normal and transition to a regional shelter as recovery proceeds (3 -5 days' post-impact). Some questions they are working through include site selection, transportation, how to finance, and how to staff. Next meeting of the VMCTF is April 27.
- **FY17 SHSP Grant Applications | Deadline May 5, 2017 (Please note, since this meeting, VDEM has extended the deadline to March 31, 2017)** The Chair proposed that we continue with the 2 existing projects, expanding the Regional Shelter Training project to include exercises. Basic information will need to be submitted to CVEMA by April 17 for their April 20 meeting to request a letter of support.
 - **Shelter Supplies and Equipment** Donald Hunter moved that we include 50 infant shelter kits (at \$60/each) in this project as a resource for all CVEMA localities. Ginny Ferguson seconded. Motion carried without further discussion.
 - **Regional Shelter Training & Exercises**
 - **Peer Reviewers needed.** Please register to be a Peer Reviewer for the FY17 SHSP grants. Application is through a link on VDEM's grants page on their website.

6. Open discussion, comments, announcements

- **Kevin Pannell/VDEM** introduced himself as the new Region 1 Disaster Response and Recovery Officer.
- **James Moss/VDH** reported that the state's Zika IMT has reconvened and expect a particularly bad mosquito season thanks to the unusually warm winter. Due to scarce funding, they will only be testing high risk patients. VDH has revised their state shelter plan to better coordinate with efforts of the VMCTF. The draft is currently out for comment. Hoping to have it finalized before hurricane season starts.

- **Jonathan Kiser/Chesterfield Health District** reported that their NDMS exercise is on Tuesday, 4/25 to Saturday, 4/29, with main exercise on Saturday, April 29 from 0830 to 1300 hours at Chesterfield County Airport (Richmond Executive Airport).
- **Tracie Giles/Chesterfield** continued with information on the NDMS. This is also the regional hospital exercise with the scenario including the reverse of the usual, meaning that rather than transporting people TO hospitals, the exercise will test transporting patients FROM hospitals. Four Chesterfield hospitals are participating: Chippenham, Johnston Willis, St. Francis, and Southside Regional with 10 patients per hospital (may have additional 'paper' patients as well). Using 2 Blackhawk helicopters thanks to the National Guard. They are working on accreditation as air ambulances in the Commonwealth and this will help them to reach that goal. If you would like to observe, please let Tracie know. Only Anchorage, Alaska and Buffalo, New York have done similar exercises. Seattle Washington has developed a toolkit. Next exercise of this type will be in 3 years. Miles Jones is the new EM Coordinator at the V.A. Hospital.

7. The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 2 pm at the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission (**NOTE: This meeting has since been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict with the FY17 SHSP Stakeholder Workshop. The next meeting will be June 1, 2017**)
8. The meeting was adjourned at 2:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Robins

Exploring Collaborative Solutions to Addressing Housing Needs

Kelly King Horne, Homeward
Greater Richmond Continuum of Care

www.homewardva.org

www.endhomelessnessrva.org

Greater Richmond Continuum of Care



Map retrieved from
<http://www.richmondregional.org/>

- Established in 1997
- More than \$70 million in HUD funds targeted to homelessness received in the region since 1997
- State funds for homelessness coordinated through CoC since 2014
- Homeward was created in 1998 to facilitate the CoC funding program

Homeward is a planning and coordinating organization for homeless services in the Richmond region.

We are working to end homelessness through:

1. Research
2. Education
3. Planning

Guiding Legislation: HEARTH Act

HEARTH Act: Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (2009)

- Reauthorization of McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance programs (last reauthorized in 1992)
- Emphasis on ending homelessness (those in shelters and on the streets) & system-wide performance
- Increased community-level coordination required

Continuum of Care



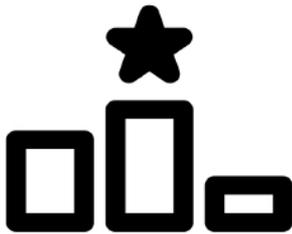
Broad group of stakeholders coming together to end homelessness in a community

- Required by US Housing & Urban Development (HUD) in order to receive funding targeted for homeless services
- Established in 1995
- Not required to be a legal entity

Continuum of Care: Community-wide planning body working to end homelessness



Diverse stakeholders on the GRCoC board set policy across our network of homeless services providers



The Ranking Committee reviews and scores applications for coordinated funding



Performance Measurement reviews scoring matrices, tracks program and system-level outcomes, and will set benchmarks



Coordinated entry work includes committees working to develop system-wide processes and access points to services



Coordination & Sharing Workgroups (HMIS users, Child & Family, Case Managers, etc)
Client Services Workgroups (Veterans, DV Permanent Housing, Housing Specialists, etc)

Members of GRCoC*

- **Emergency shelters:** CARITAS, Daily Planet, Home Again, Housing Families First, Salvation Army, The Healing Place (part of CARITAS), City of Richmond Cold Weather Shelter
- **Permanent supportive housing:** Virginia Supportive Housing, Home Again
- **Rapid Re-housing:** St. Joseph's Villa, Home Again, Housing Families First, YWCA, Hanover Safe Place, CCC
- **Other related services:** Daily Planet, CCC, Liberation Family Services, Safe Harbor, RBHA
- **Governmental partners (local, state, & federal):** DSS, CSB's (incl. RBHA), RPD, McGuire VAMC, Virginia Dept. of Housing & Community Development

Not a comprehensive list. To become a member, go to www.endhomelessnessva.org

Housing First: Key Principles

- Safe and affordable housing
- All people can achieve housing stability in permanent housing; supports may look different
- Everyone is “housing ready”
- Improved quality of life, health, mental health, and employment can be achieved through housing
- Right to determination, dignity and respect
- Configuration of housing and services based on participants needs and preferences

How Continuums of Care define success

- ❖ Length of time homeless
- ❖ Rate of return to homelessness
- ❖ Overall reduction in the number of people experiencing homelessness
- ❖ Thoroughness in reaching those experiencing homelessness (access/ coverage)
- ❖ Increase in jobs and income for people experiencing homelessness
- ❖ Reduction in the number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time

Homelessness Interventions

Shelter

- **Emergency Shelter:** Short-term (30-90 days) shelter for families and individuals experiencing homelessness.
- **Transitional Shelter:** Longer-term shelters (up to 24 months)
Typically only used in recovery programs due to high costs and moderate outcomes

Housing

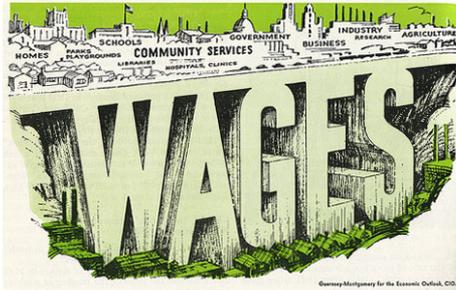
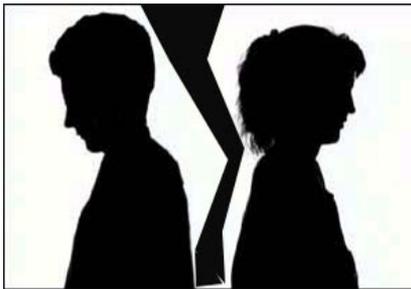
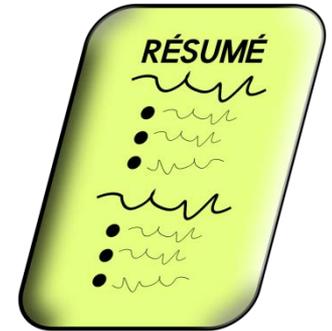
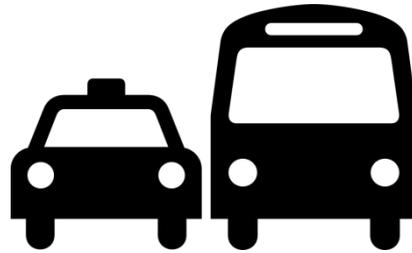
- **Targeted Prevention:** Resources that directly help individuals/families maintain housing. Resources include rental assistance & utility payments.
- **Diversion:** Assistance to help those seeking shelter to stay in current housing.
- **Rapid Rehousing:** Short-term intervention designed to quickly return those who lost their housing back to housing and shorten the length of shelter stays for families/individuals.
- **Permanent Supportive Housing:** Permanent housing for families/ individuals who need long-term housing that is connected to on-going supportive services.

Shelter and Housing Programs

- Shelters:
 - 16 shelters for single adults, families, veterans, households fleeing domestic violence, and substance abuse recovery
- Housing:
 - 5 agencies manage rapid rehousing programs
 - 4 agencies manage permanent supportive housing
 - Partnership with public housing

Barriers

child
care



TRAUMA

Collaboratively overcoming barriers

- Data to understand what's working
- Case management peer exchange to share ideas
- Case management capacity-building to maintain skills
- Pilot programs to creatively address challenges (i.e. phone access system or fund for photo ID's)
- Strategic partnerships with other sectors (i.e. employment & workforce)

Find out more at
www.endhomelessnessrva.org



GREATER RICHMOND CONTINUUM OF CARE

ABOUT US ▾ CALENDAR ▾ GRCCO BOARD ▾ MEMBERSHIP ▾ RESOURCES ▾ WORKING GROUPS ▾

ABOUT US

The Greater Richmond Continuum of Care (CoC) seeks to prevent, reduce, and end homelessness through effective and coordinated community-wide efforts and services.

The Greater Richmond CoC coordinates homeless services and homelessness prevention across the City of Richmond, and the counties of Charles City, Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, New Kent, and Powhatan.

Contact info

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