

2019 FRCoC Application for VHSP Funding Outreach; Emergency Shelter Operations; Rapid Re-Housing; Targeted Prevention

Please complete a separate application form for each outreach, emergency shelter operations, rapid re-housing, and targeted prevention project.

Application Information

Type of Project (select one):

- Outreach
- Emergency Shelter Operations
- Rapid Re-Housing
- Targeted Prevention

Type of Application (select one):

- Renewal (requesting level or reduced funding for existing project)
- Renewal with Expansion (requesting increased funding for existing project)

Applicant

Legal Name: Empowerhouse

Type of Applicant: Non-Profit Housing Authority PDC Unit of Local Government

EIN/TIN: 52-1142547

Address: P.O. Box 1007 Fredericksburg, VA 22402 (150 Olde Greenwich Dr., suite 101, Fred, VA 22408)

Application Contact

Name: Kathy Anderson

Title: Executive Director

Phone: 540-373-9372

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Line-Item Budget

Please complete line-item budget below. Budget amounts should reflect the VHSP request only.

Note: Renewal projects can apply for renewal HMIS and Administration amounts up to the grantee's total FY19 HMIS and Administration amounts regardless of 5% and 3% caps. HMIS and Administration amounts across all FY20 project applications shall not exceed total FY19 HMIS and Administration amounts.

Expansion projects can apply for an HMIS expansion up to the amount where the combined renewal/expansion HMIS request is 5% of the combined renewal/expansion project subtotal and an Administration expansion up to the amount where the combined renewal/expansion Administration request is 3% of the combined renewal/expansion project subtotal.

	Renewal Amount	Expansion Amount
Outreach		
Case Management		
Limited Support Services		
Other (specify)		
Subtotal		
HMIS (up to 5% of subtotal)		
Computer Costs		
Fees and Licenses		
HMIS Staffing		
Training		
Other (specify)		
Administration (up to 3% of subtotal)		
Administration		
Total		

	Renewal Amount	Expansion Amount
Emergency Shelter Operations		
Case Management		
Limited Support Services		
Maintenance		
Rent		
Security		
Supplies		
Utilities		
Other (specify)		
Subtotal		
HMIS (up to 5% of subtotal)		
Computer Costs		
Fees and Licenses		
HMIS Staffing		
Training		
Other (specify)		
Administration (up to 3% of subtotal)		
Administration		
Total		

	Renewal Amount	Expansion Amount
Rapid Re-Housing		
Housing Search & Placement		
Housing Stabilization Case Management	\$48,600	
Housing Stabilization Financial Assistance	\$12,200	
Housing Stabilization Services		
Rent Arrears		

Rent Assistance	\$54,614	
Service Location Costs		
Veteran Housing Stabilization Financial Assistance		
Veteran Rent Arrears		
Veteran Rent Assistance		
Subtotal		
HMIS (up to 5% of subtotal)		
Computer Costs		
Fees and Licenses		
HMIS Staffing		
Training		
Other (specify)		
Administration (up to 3% of subtotal)		
Administration	\$4,727	
Total	\$120,141	

	Renewal Amount	Expansion Amount
Targeted Prevention		
Housing Search & Placement		
Housing Stabilization Case Management		
Housing Stabilization Financial Assistance		
Housing Stabilization Services		
Rent Arrears		
Rent Assistance		
Service Location Costs		
Subtotal		
HMIS (up to 5% of subtotal)		
Computer Costs		
Fees and Licenses		
HMIS Staffing		
Training		
Other (specify)		
Administration (up to 3% of subtotal)		
Administration		
Total		

Match

Please indicate sources of match. Match must equal 25% of requested amount and must be spent on eligible VHSP expenses, but does not need to be of the same VHSP Category as the request. Match must be from local or private sources. If the project is requesting partial or full waiver of the match requirement, please explain. (See Page 14 of the Virginia Homeless and Special Needs Housing Funding Guidelines for full explanation of the match requirement.)

Type	Source	VHSP Category	Amount
Choose an item.	Rappahannock United Way	Choose an item.	\$8,000
Choose an item.	Local Contributions	Choose an item.	\$22,035
Choose an item.		Choose an item.	

Narrative Responses

Provide a description that addresses the entire scope of the proposed project. (Character Limit: 3,000)

Empowerhouse Rapid Re-housing (RRH) activities assist homeless victims of domestic violence (DV) in attaining permanent housing quickly and increasing self-sufficiency. RRH services offer financial assistance and supportive case management to individuals and families homeless from DV in PD 16. They may be referred through the FRCoC Coordinated Entry or reach out directly to the Empowerhouse 24 hour hotline (FY18-1,546 calls; 1,202 in person) through the Victim Service Coordinated Entry process for services. RRH will provide rental, deposit, and utilities housing assistance subsidies at participant chosen and rental lease with landlord scattered site apartments and homes.

Participants begin with the Shelter Services Coordinator who implements the prioritization assessment tool and supports them in creating a housing plan (318 people including children were sheltered in FY18). Households most highly prioritized based on the most significant barriers to obtaining housing will speak to the Housing Advocate (HA) who helps prepare the survivor and her family in obtaining housing. The FRCoC shared Housing Locator (HL), Empowerhouse trained in DV, works with each of the RRH clients to identify properties that meet their needs. The Empowerhouse Housing Case Manager (HCM) and the HL attend lease signings to ensure participants understand all aspects of the process and forms. The HA prepares invoices to pay rent and other financial assistance and continues to promote setting short and long term goals to increase independence including measures to strengthen safety and economic well-being related to abuse. Empowerhouse contracts with Rappahannock Goodwill Industries (RGI) for an Employment Specialist (ES) that provides voluntary employment services. The DV trained ES works with survivors on typical employment tasks such as job searches, resume writing and interviewing techniques but also focuses on helping them overcome barriers to employment. The HCM and ES continue to meet with survivors at the residences and other locations to work on housing stability goals and employment including attainment, maintenance, promotion, increasing skills, and ongoing financial stability. This may include solving barriers such as transportation, childcare, and lack of skills.

The Empowerhouse RRH program will pay the security deposit and at least the first two months of rent in full. Each client who needs it will receive a set amount of money monthly for utilities, based on what is included in the rent and the size of the unit. After two months the client's financial status will be reassessed and Empowerhouse will determine if a client is able to start paying a portion of their rent and more utilities. Every 3 months the HA performs recertification to determine their current income and eligibility for rental assistance. Once a client is able to take on full financial responsibility, case management services are still offered and available to ensure stability is maintained.

If renewal funding is being requested, explain how the project continues to meet a community need. If expansion funding is being requested, explain how the additional funds will increase system capacity and justify the community need for additional capacity. (Character Limit: 3,000)

Renewal funding for Empowerhouse RRH assists individuals and family household survivors of domestic violence (DV) (82 people in 28 households FY18) re-enter housing as soon as possible. They become homeless because they fled or are fleeing DV and have no other options for themselves and their children or they have tried other options and were unable to achieve housing stability and as a result seek entrance to the Empowerhouse DV shelter. In FY 15, Empowerhouse sheltered 24% (272) of PD16 sheltered people. 57% of households were unaccompanied individuals. With their unique needs, rapid re-housing case management and financial assistance support their quick journey to housing annually for 20 households with a trauma informed approach despite their many barriers. For these 20 most unlikely to self resolve, we use case management and financial assistance to help them re-house quickly. Barriers include lack of employment and work history, substance use, criminal records, and bad credit, many of which are outcomes of abuse experienced at the hands of their intimate partners. Of 37 households assisted in the past 18 months, most were moms with 2 or more children; 8% were ages 18-24; 20% were Hispanic with limited English proficiency (LEP). For those with many children, they lack income, daycare, family supports, and have LEP. Case management staff support their efforts to find housing and support them entering the unit, ensuring financial capability, and with housing stabilization including ongoing voluntary support with their DV in the form of advocacy and safety planning, and connecting them to mainstream resources as they become independent in their permanent housing. This past year, singles were 35% of our rapidly re-housed population (average caseload of 22) at any given time-65% families. On average, at least 3 households self-resolve to permanent housing each month and two more households enter housing with financial assistance.

DV Survivors experience their own barriers to re-housing as well as those experienced within the general homeless population, sometimes compounded. Many DV survivors in housing experienced victimization by multiple relationships with violence and exploitation. For some this has led to substance use to cope with pain and for others, forced substance use was part of the abuse and coercion used by their abusive partners to control them. Once housed, many are coping with mental health needs, other chronic health conditions, and disabilities as they gain stability in their housing. Most of them are voluntarily working on GEDs or certificate programs, employability skill building, transportation, and continued legal matters related to DV, custody, and support as part of their self driven goals. This subset of homeless individuals and families receive the support to enter housing quickly while receiving critical DV trauma informed services combined with other voluntary supports for their eventual success in housing stability.

Please indicate the breakdown of household types targeted by this project:

	Renewal	Expansion
Households with Children	65%	%
Households without Children	35%	%
Total	100%	100%

Certify that the project will adhere to the *FRCoC Coordinated Entry Policies & Procedures*, including the following requirements of the document:

Follow the Housing First model

Participate in the FRCoC Coordinated Entry Process and/or the Victim Service Coordinated Entry Process (including coordinated assessment for shelter/prevention and prioritization for rapid re-housing)

Adhere to established project standards (including *FRCoC Rapid Re-Housing Policies & Procedures*)

Collect data through HMIS or a comparable database

What percentage of households will be served through the Victim Service Coordinated Entry Process (including coordinated assessment for shelter/prevention and prioritization for rapid re-housing)?

	Renewal	Expansion
Households Served through Victim Service Coordinated Entry Process	100%	%

Provide the following data. These numbers will be used to calculate anticipated number of households served by the project.

	Renewal	Expansion
Number of FTE Case Managers Dedicated to Project (could be fraction)	.9	

Ideal Caseload for 1 FTE Case Manager	14
Average Length of Stay for Project Participants	332
Average Financial Assistance Cost per Household (RRH/Prevention Only)	\$4,276
Shelter Beds for Households without Children (Shelter Operations Only)	N/A
Shelter Beds for Households with Children (Shelter Operations Only)	N/A
Shelter Units for Households with Children (Shelter Operations Only)	N/A

Is there any unresolved monitoring or audit findings for any grants operated by the applicant or potential subrecipients? If yes, please explain. (Character Limit: 1,000)

Yes No

Attachments (once per agency)

Organizational Certifications and Assurances

Board of Director Listing(s)