

FY22 FRCoC Cover Letter for VHSP Funding

A separate cover sheet is required for each project application.

Applicant

Legal Name:

Type of Applicant (select one): 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. Ste 101 Fredericksburg, VA 22408

Application Contact

Name: Kathy Anderson

Title: Executive Director

Phone: 540-373-9372

Email: kathya@empowerhouseva.org

Project Name: Domestic Violence Shelter

Project Type (select one):

- Coordinated Assessment Outreach Emergency Shelter Operations
 Rapid Re-Housing Targeted Prevention Housing Location
 CoC Planning (Only the CoC Lead Agency is eligible to apply for CoC Planning VHSP funding.)

Type of Application (select one):

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

Renewal Amount Requested: \$120,141

Expansion Amount Requested:

Approximate number of people this program will serve: 300

The applicant organization's governing board discussed and/or approved this application for funding at a meeting held on _____ (date). If this application has not yet been discussed, it will be discussed at the next meeting of the governing board, which will be held on May 10, 2021 (date).

The applicant organization named above will act as the responsible fiscal agent for any funds received and will comply with applicable tax laws, regulations, and CoC policies. By signing this application, we agree that we have read and approve of the content of this application.

Board Chair:

Laura Thessin

4/19/2021

Signature

Date

Executive Director:

Signature

4/19/21
Date

FY22 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 Application (select one):

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

Applicant

Applicant Name: **Empowerhouse**

Project Name: **Domestic Violence Rapid Re-Housing**

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 FY21 HMIS and Administration amounts regardless of 5% and 3% caps. HMIS and Administration amounts across all FY22 project applications will not exceed allowable 5% and 3% caps across the community.

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
Rapid Re-Housing		
Housing Search & Placement	\$52,617	
Housing Stabilization Case Management	\$10,000	
Housing Stabilization Financial Assistance		
Housing Stabilization Services		
Rent Arrears		
Rent Assistance	\$52,797	
Service Location Costs		
Veteran Housing Stabilization Financial Assistance		
Veteran Rent Arrears		

Veteran Rent Assistance		
Subtotal	115,414	
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	

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 19 of the Virginia Homeless and Special Needs Housing Funding Guidelines 2020-2022 for full explanation of the match requirement.)

Type	Source	VHSP Category	Amount
Choose an item.	Contributions	Emergency Shelter Operations	\$31,000
Choose an item.		Choose an item.	
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 housing quickly for those least likely to self-resolve and find their own way to permanent housing. DV RRH offers financial assistance and supportive case management to families and individuals homeless from DV in PD16. DV victims come into the program via the Empowerhouse DV shelter or via coordinated entry prioritization process as DV is identified. The DV RRH program will provide no barrier entry to start the path to permanent housing through financial rental, deposit, and utilities housing assistance subsidies at participant chosen rentals, apartments and homes. These DV family households (HH) and individual HH achieve permanent housing stabilization through their efforts with the support of the Empowerhouse RRH stabilization activities provided by the VHSP funded DV Housing Advocate (HA) and the DV Housing Case Manager (HCM), both full-time.

Participants begin with DV shelter and the barriers assessment tool provides insight in creating a housing plan (272 adults and children sheltered in FY20). Households are most highly prioritized based on the most significant barriers to obtaining housing and will speak to the HA who helps prepare the survivor and her family in obtaining housing. The FRCoC shared Housing Locator (HL) works with each of the RRH clients to identify properties that meet their needs. The Empowerhouse HCM and the HL attend lease signings to ensure participants understand all aspects of the process and forms. The HA 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 for a DV trained Employment Specialist (ES) providing voluntary services strictly to DV survivors in housing. The ES works with them on job searches, resume writing and interviewing and also focuses on overcoming barriers to employment. The HCM and ES continue to meet to work on housing stability goals including employment, maintenance, promotion, increasing skills, scholarships, education, and ongoing financial stability. This includes support in resolving barriers such as transportation, childcare, and lack of skills.

DV RRH will pay a 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 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.

NA: If expansion funding is being requested, explain how the additional funds will increase system capacity and justify the community need for additional capacity. Additionally, please use the table below to provide data that supports your response. (Character Limit: 3,000)

If renewal funding is being requested, explain how the project continues to meet a community need.

347 DV survivors benefitted from housing and shelter services in FY20. (In FY 15, Empowerhouse sheltered 24% (272) of PD16 sheltered people.) Renewal funding for Empowerhouse RRH assists individuals and family household DV survivors to re-enter and stabilize in 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. As the only DV services organization serving our 5 localities, Empowerhouse maintains the Victim Services Coordinated Entry line through its existing 24 hour DV hotline (2050 calls 2020).

In FY 20, of the 118 adults and children supported in their own housing through the Empowerhouse housing supports, we supported and subsidized 38 households with 72 children including 7 other adult household members with rental subsidies, case management, employment and education as they entered or stabilized in housing.

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.

	Relevant data, metrics and/or cost analysis
Current Need	Empowerhouse is meeting the current DV RRH need with the VHSP RRH, and remaining funding sources. Pre-COVID, this was 34-40 HH per year with a little more than half families.
How Renewal/Expansion Funding Will Meet Need	The Renewal funding will allow Empowerhouse to continue supporting households as they transition into their second year and add new households prioritized for DV RRH in the coming year as they enter the Victim Coordinated entry.

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

	Renewal	Expansion
Households with Children	65%	N/A
Households without Children	35%	N/A
Total	100%	N/A

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%	N/A

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 FTE	

Ideal Caseload for 1 FTE Case Manager	15
Average Length of Stay for Project Participants	573 days

Average Financial Assistance Cost per Household (RRH/Prevention Only)	6,000
Shelter Beds for Households without Children (Shelter Operations Only)	
Shelter Beds for Households with Children (Shelter Operations Only)	
Shelter Units for Households with Children (Shelter Operations Only)	

Are 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

Organizational Certifications and Assurances (once per agency; template provided)

DV Renewal Projects ONLY: FRCoC Data Form (each project; template provided)