



FREDERICKSBURG REGIONAL  
CONTINUUM OF CARE

## **System Planning Committee Meeting Agenda**

July 21, 2021

- Introductions
- Approve June 16, 2021 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)
- Emergency Housing Vouchers Update
- Prioritization Plan/Timeline
- Agency Updates

**Next Meeting:** August 18, 2021 at 3PM



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CONTINUUM OF CARE

## System Planning Committee

**Date:** June 16, 2021

**Time:** 3pm

**Location:** Virtual via GoToMeeting

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Aisha Balogun (GWRC)
<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	Monthly
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Liz Heflin (GWRC)
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Empowerhouse – Tammy Torres Loisann’s Hope House - Cait Woodward, Lisa Crittenden, Tara Best Micah Ministries – Jill Clare, Peg Phillips, Lori Yelverton Rappahannock Area Community Services Board – Nancy Price Thurman Brisben Center – Kim Lally GWRC - Aisha Balogun (AmeriCorps VISTA), Liz Heflin Empowerhouse – Kathy Anderson Spotsylvania County Schools – Michelle Swisher
<b>ABSENT</b>	Christian Zammias (Individual) McGuire VA Med Center – Brooke Pendleton

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	
<p><b>Introductions</b></p> <p><b>Approve May 19, 2021 Minutes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tammy Torres motioned to approve the April 21, 2021 minutes and Kim Lally seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</li> </ul> <p><b>EHV Updates and Initial Planning</b></p>	

- Aisha Balogun reviewed the EHV's and the newly introduced changes. EHV's will be accessible beginning July 1 and will come from CVHC and CVRC. MOU's are due July 31<sup>st</sup>. EHV's will be given out through Coordinated Entry, rather than the previous method of individual application. Aisha reviewed the included expenses for the vouchers and introduced key questions for consideration. In the future, the System Planning Committee will assist with prioritization.
- Peg Phillips and Kathy Anderson opened discussion on long term case management and funding.
- Kathy Anderson, Cait Woodward, Tara Best, Tammy Torres, Aisha Balogun, and Dave Cooper will meet to assess needed changes to Coordinated Entry to accommodate EHV's.
- There will be an additional System Planning Meeting on July 8 at 3:30pm to discuss proposed changes Coordinated Entry

**Baseball/Pool Coordination**

- Aisha will reach out to providers about tickets and coordination.

**Introduction of CoC Pride Campaign**

- Liz Heflin shared upcoming plans for CoC social media LGBTQ+

**Agency Updates**

- Kim Lally updated the group on TBC Covid protocol changes.
- Peg Phillips updated the group on the Micah Furniture Bank.
- Aisha announced the new CHERP funding that has been allocated to Micah.

**Next Meeting: July 21, 2021 at 3pm**

<b>CONCLUSION</b>	
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## HUD's Emergency Housing Vouchers Program Prioritization and Referral Guidelines

### Purpose

The prioritization and referral guidelines establish standards and principles for the referral of a household to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) Program. The guidelines seek to support equitable access and utilization of limited resources to meet the permanent housing needs of eligible households. These guidelines will be continuously evaluated for efficacy and impact and may be adjusted based on this evaluation as needed.

### Background

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) has provided approximately 70,000 EHV's for eligible public housing agencies (PHAs) around the United States. EHV's are tenant-based rental assistance under the Housing Choice Voucher Program. EHV's will be available beginning July 1 and all EHV's must be leased up by September 2023.

The following vouchers were made available for the Fredericksburg Regional Continuum of Care area:

Local Housing Authority	Localities Covered	Number of Vouchers
Central Virginia Housing Coalition (CVHC)	Stafford, Spotsylvania, King George, Caroline, City of Fredericksburg	40
Central Virginia Resource Coalition (CVRC)	Caroline	25

### Eligibility

To be eligible for an EHV, an individual or family must meet one of four eligibility categories:

- Homeless
- At risk of homelessness
- Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- Recently homeless and for whom providing rental assistance will prevent the family's homelessness or having high risk of housing instability

\*Detailed information on household eligibility can be found in Section 8 of PIH Notice [2021-15](#).

In general, the verification that the individual or family meets one of these four eligibility categories is conducted by the CoC's coordinated entry process. The CoC must provide supporting documentation to the PHA of the referring agency's verification that the family meets one of the four eligible categories for EHV assistance.

The Fredericksburg Regional Continuum of Care determines and verifies whether a household meets one or more of the four eligibility categories. After verification is completed, the CoC makes direct referrals to the appropriate local housing authority administering the EHV's.

In addition to meeting specific eligibility requirements applicable to each category, a household is considered ineligible, if:

- Any member of the household is subject to a lifetime registration requirement on a state sex offender registration program
- Any member of the household has ever been convicted of manufacturing methamphetamines on the premises of federally assisted housing
- There are no members of the household who are U.S. citizens or noncitizens with eligible immigration status.

### **Prioritization**

Given the limited number of EHV resources and to provide the most strategic use of all housing resources in our community, the Fredericksburg Regional Continuum of Care is prioritizing the following household types:

**Group 1:** Recently homeless and for whom providing rental assistance will prevent the household's homelessness or having high risk of housing instability. This includes, but is not limited to, households for whom a "lease-in-place" strategy could be used. Specifically, the household situations to be prioritized in this category are:

- A. Current PSH participants who no longer need case management or are connected to other community case management, who without current rental assistance would be at high risk of homelessness or housing instability ("Move-on" strategy for PSH)
- B. Households enrolled in time-limited subsidy programs, who no longer need case management or are connected to other community case management, and are at risk of timing out of programming and need a permanent housing resource to achieve or maintain housing stability

### **Group 2: Homeless**

- A. Households in non-congregate emergency shelter whose sites are closing
- B. Unsheltered households
- C. Households with long-term (longer than 45 days) enrollment in congregate emergency shelter housing

### **Group 3: At risk of Homelessness**

- A. Households receiving prevention services that are targeted towards households that have a history of homelessness and are at high risk of homelessness

### **Referral and Selection**

Eligible households will be prioritized and targeted for EHV based on the prioritization listed above subject to resource availability. CoC community providers will submit an EHV application for an eligible household to the CoC Program director via email at [Shoukas@gwregion.org](mailto:Shoukas@gwregion.org).

Applications will then be prioritized using the prioritization listing above as well as the prioritization criteria already adopted by the community (see [FRCoC Prioritization Guidelines](#)) to further prioritize subsets. In addition, those in Group 1 will have length of time in the housing program considered in determining prioritization (with those with a longer length of stay prioritized over shorter stays).

Voucher selection will be provided following the order of prioritization. Priority Group 1.A. will receive priority over all other applications submitted for households within the other priority levels. However, if no Group 1.A applications are present, it shall not delay the matching of households within Group 1.B households.