



Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness

VCEH

# VIRGINIA COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS

THE COMMONWEALTH'S GO-TO, HOW-TO SOURCE FOR SOLUTIONS

# Continuum of Care and Public Housing Authorities: Working together to end homelessness

2015 Housing and Homelessness  
Symposium  
Charlottesville, VA

Prepared by Jill Fox



# Why should CoCs and PHAs partner?



## Similar missions, shared goals...

CoCs	PHAs
<p>“...promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts to quickly <b>rehouse</b> homeless individuals...;promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs....and <b>optimize self-sufficiency</b> among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.</p>	<p>“...ensure safe, decent, and affordable <b>housing to low income households</b>; create opportunities for residents' <b>self-sufficiency</b> and economic independence.”</p>

# Why should CoCs and PHAs partner?



## Each needs what the other has...

### CoCs need....

- Affordable housing opportunities for extremely low income households
- Flexible tenant screening criteria
- Numerous and strong relationships with landlords
- High scores on NOFA applications

### PHAs have...

- Housing with rental assistance
- Few legal mandates related to admission criteria
- Landlord networks through HCV program
- Improved performance = more competitive

### PHAs need...

- Good utilization rates
- Numerous and strong relationships with landlords
- High scores on NOFA applications
- Reduced administrative burden
- Eviction prevention

### CoCs have...

- People in need = referrals!
- Landlord networks and mediation
- Data!
- Services to assist clients in housing search, paperwork, etc
- Housing focused case management and supportive services

# What are the ways CoCs and PHAs can partner?

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## Goal: Get people into housing...

### Strategies:

1. Partner to screen in most in need and **streamline process**
2. Establish wait list **preferences** for people experiencing homelessness
3. **Project-base vouchers** to create supportive housing with on-site services

# Examples



**Reduce barriers in tenant screening:** Adopt screening criteria that mirrors the federal requirements for the HCV program (Dallas)



**Support Move-Up Strategies:** Establish wait list preference for people currently in Permanent Supportive Housing who no longer need the intensive supportive services, but still need affordable housing (Los Angeles)



**The Crossings at Fourth and Preston! :** Project-base vouchers to create new supportive housing inventory. (Charlottesville)

# What are the ways CoCs and PHAs can partner?

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## Goal: Keep people in housing...

### Strategies:

1. Coordinate access to wrap around **services**, including connections with **mainstream resources**
2. Establish and/or connect to existing **eviction prevention** programs
3. Develop relationships and **mediation** process with property management and private **landlords**

# Examples



**Partner with Health Care Providers:** co-locate health clinics near supportive housing units (Oakland, CA)



**Create a client assistance fund:** provide financial assistance and linkages to community based services (King County, WA)



**Establish direct communication channels between property management and service providers** (lots of places!)



# Questions



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