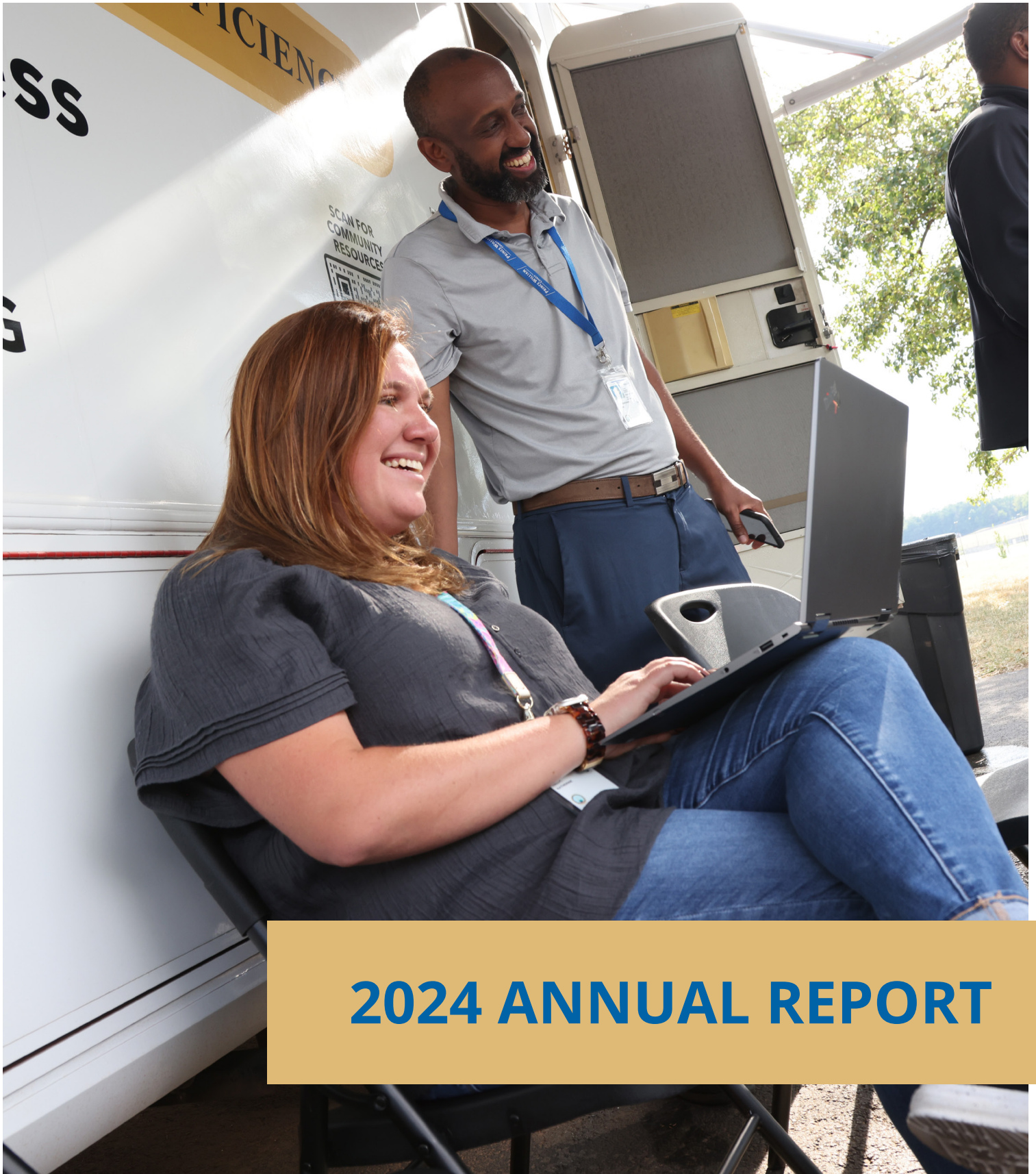




Prince William County and the  
Cities of Manassas & Manassas Park



## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



# PRINCE WILLIAM AREA CONTINUUM OF CARE (COC) TIMELINE

2015	Board of County Supervisors adopts a plan to reduce homelessness as part of the County's Strategic Plan.
2016	The CoC, as we know it today, begins operating in June with an established Governance Committee, adopted by-laws and CoC committees.
2017	The CoC adopts an HMIS Governance Charter.
2018	The Prince William County Department of Social Services establishes the Homeless Services Division in January.  The Coordinated Entry System (CES) goes live in March with a unified hotline number to prevent homelessness when possible.
2019	The CoC establishes program measures for emergency shelter, rapid re-housing (RRH) and permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs.
2020	Ferlazzo overnight shelter becomes "year-round" shelter.  COVID (CHERP) funding increases inventory and services.
2021	Supportive Shelter begins operations.
2022	Partnership with APS/CPS for hotel/motel shelter increases shelter inventory.
2023	CoC HUD-Funded Domestic Violence Bonus RRH launches
2024	Prince William Area CoC Strategic Plan is officially adopted and Built for Zero initiative to help end homelessness for veterans.

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*Ending homelessness requires more than isolated programs—it takes a coordinated system. The PWA CoC collaboration ensures that every partner’s strengths are aligned, gaps are bridged and people experiencing homelessness are supported with a seamless network of care.*

Dana Carey  
Prince William County  
Department of Social Services





# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

October 1, 2025

Dear Prince William Area Residents,

This annual report provides an overview of homelessness in the Prince William Area (PWA), including the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park, and Prince William County based on the most recent data and initiatives led by the PWA Continuum of Care (CoC).

According to the 2025 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, the number of individuals and families experiencing literal homelessness in our region increased by 14% compared to 2024. While the number of people sheltered in emergency or transitional housing rose by 8%, the number of those experiencing unsheltered homelessness increased significantly, by 29%. These figures underscore the continuing challenges our community faces and the urgent need for sustained, coordinated efforts.

In response, the CoC continues to align local actions with federal priorities through the Strategic Plan adopted in 2024. This plan serves as a blueprint for targeted, results-driven interventions aimed at reducing and ultimately ending homelessness in our region. One major advancement has been the CoC’s participation in the Built for Zero initiative, with a focus on reaching functional zero for veteran homelessness, one of our key priority populations.

Housing affordability remains one of the most significant barriers to progress. Rising costs across Northern Virginia have made it increasingly difficult for low-income and vulnerable households to maintain stable housing. To address this, the CoC is collaborating with partners to expand job training, employment opportunities, and income support, recognizing that economic stability is foundational to long-term housing success.

Several new initiatives mark critical steps forward. The establishment of an Affordable Housing Office within the Prince William County Office of Housing and Community Development will help advance affordable housing strategies that support households in need. Additionally, the Board of County Supervisors adopted the Affordable Dwelling Unit (AFDU) Ordinance on June 3, 2025. The amendment, which takes effect on December 1, 2025, further strengthens the county’s commitment to expanding affordable housing opportunities.

Direct outreach has also been enhanced through the relaunch of the Prince William County Homeless Mobile Unit this spring. By restoring vital services to the unsheltered community in the western part of the county, the mobile unit plays a critical role in addressing immediate needs and connecting individuals experiencing homelessness with pathways to stability.

As we move forward, the strength of our community partnerships, the dedication of our service providers, and the resilience of those we serve remain the foundation of our progress. Thank you to our many community stakeholders, partner organizations, and residents who support this important work. Together, we will continue striving for a future where homelessness is rare, brief, and nonrecurring in the Prince William Area.

*Elijah Johnson*  
Elijah Johnson  
Prince William County Deputy County Executive  
Chair, PWA CoC Governance Committee

1. Literally Homeless: Persons sleeping in emergency shelters, transitional housing or places not meant for human habitation.

# WHAT IS A CONTINUUM OF CARE?



**OUR MISSION**  
The Prince William Area Continuum of Care (PWA CoC) promotes community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness.

**OUR GOAL**  
The goal of the PWA CoC is to quickly re-house homeless households to minimize trauma and dislocation.

A Continuum of Care (CoC) is a local planning body that coordinates housing, services and funding for persons experiencing homelessness within a specific geographic region.

Our CoC’s region includes the county as well as the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park and is comprised of a wide array of community partners to include local governments, non-profit organizations, faith-based organizations, crisis intervention services, and persons with lived homelessness experience.





# COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM

Anyone in the community that is homeless or at risk of homelessness can connect with the Coordinated Entry System (CES) to be linked with local services and resources that may be able to assist them. They can contact them by phone at 703-792-3366 or by email at [DSSCE@pwcgov.org](mailto:DSSCE@pwcgov.org). The CES is a streamlined process that promptly identifies, assesses, refers and connects those in a housing crisis with appropriate services.

It is important to know that because there are many more people in need of housing assistance than there is assistance available, not all households will receive a referral for direct housing assistance. However, case managers and program staff will work with households to identify any available resources or support to resolve the housing crisis.

### Referral Process

Referrals are being made so that PWA constituents can access services that include eviction prevention services, emergency shelters and street outreach. Through the CES referral process, we aim to streamline access to housing resources, reduce homelessness and empower individuals and families to achieve long-term housing stability.

957

CES Referrals

832

Households Served

Referral Count of Final Need Type for 2024	
Diversion	34
Emergency Shelter	621
Homelessness Prevention Programs	129
Rent Payment Assistance	87
Utility Assistance	86
Grand Total	957



# HOW WE TELL OUR STORY

### Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

HMIS is a software application used to record and store client-level information on the characteristics and needs of persons experiencing a housing crisis. The use of HMIS was first mandated by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 2004 for programs they funded directly but has since grown to include other federal partners as well as partners at the state and local level. Although the use of HMIS is a requirement for our CoC, it is a dynamic and effective tool that helps us ensure those we serve are achieving their housing goals as quickly and efficiently as possible. It is our primary data repository and is essential to measuring performance outcomes and service gaps in our system.

16

Participating Agencies  
(that contribute data to the HMIS)

32

Participating Projects  
(that collect data on persons experiencing homelessness)

### CoC Data Page

The CoC has created the “CoC Data Page” to provide an in-depth look into our homeless response system and the experiences of those we serve. This page is open to the public includes annual system-level reports over the past five years and four separate dashboards that allow for further exploration. These dashboards contain a plethora of data to include demographics, counts of persons served, performance measures, and outcomes for our Coordinated Entry System. Visit the CoC Data Page at [pwcva.gov/coc-data](https://pwcva.gov/coc-data).





## POINT IN TIME COUNT

During the last 10 days of January each year, communities nation-wide participate in the HUD-mandated Point in Time (PIT) Count to capture a snapshot of homelessness in the United States. Community agencies and volunteers join the CoC to survey sheltered, and unsheltered, individuals experiencing homelessness within our jurisdiction.

**2025 PIT Count Date: 1/22/2025**



**278**

### Persons Experiencing Sheltered Homelessness



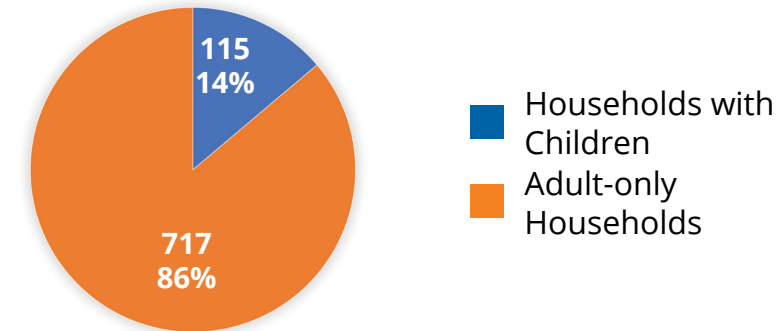
**115**

### Persons Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness

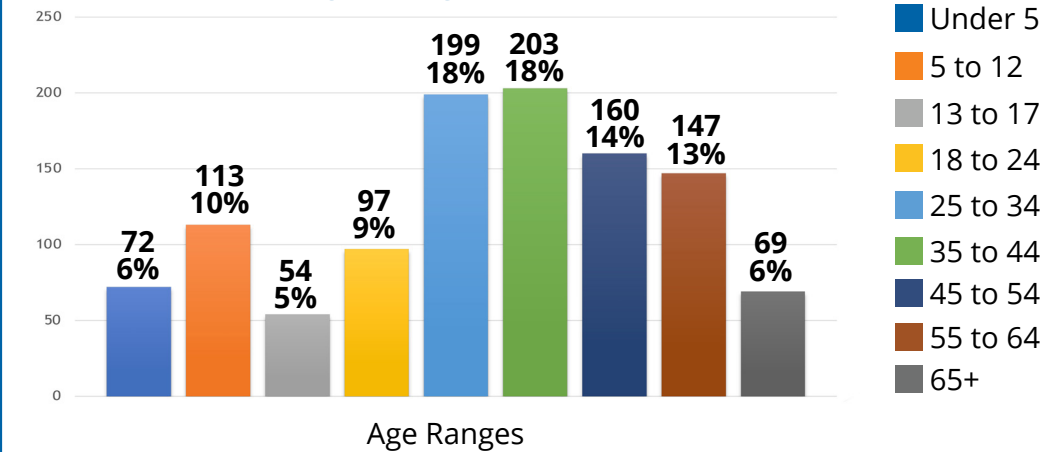
*29% increase since last year (highest increase in past 5 years)*

## WHO IS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN OUR COMMUNITY?

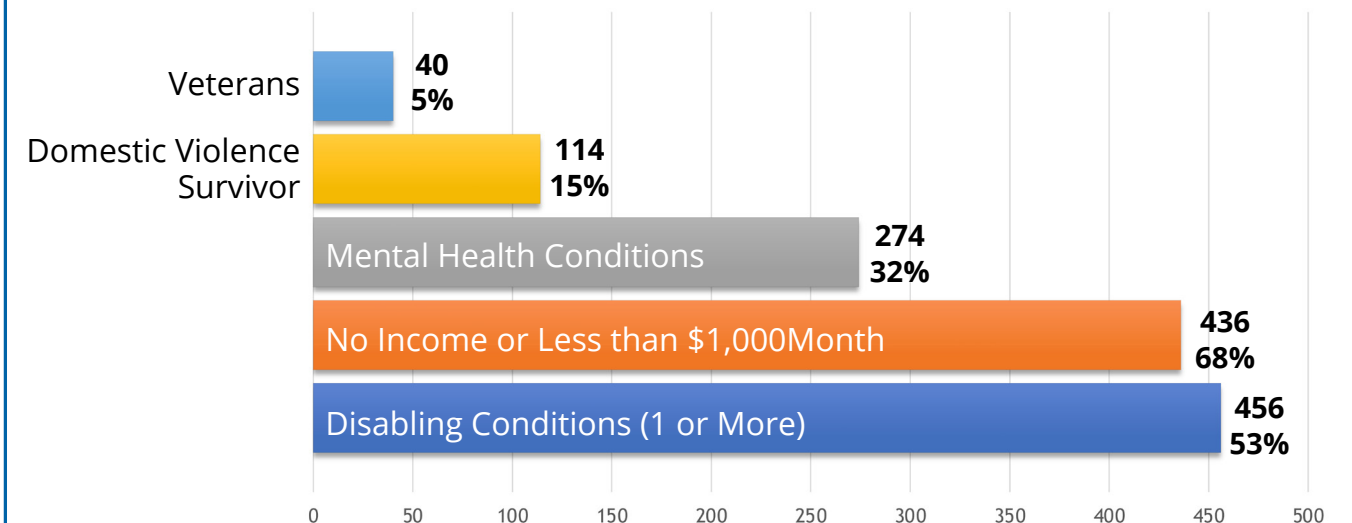
**Total Households Served**



**Age Ranges (Adults & Children)**



**Additional Demographics (Adults Only)**





# OUR RESPONSE

## Homeless Response System

The goals of an effective Homeless Response System are to identify those experiencing homelessness, prevent homelessness when possible, connect people with housing quickly and provide services when needed.

An effective Homeless Response System achieves these goals through the following:

	<b>OUTREACH</b> Meeting the immediate needs of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
	<b>COORDINATED ENTRY</b> A streamlined process that promptly identifies, assesses, refers and connects those in a housing crisis with appropriate services.
	<b>DIVERSION &amp; PREVENTION</b> Initiatives to support at-risk individuals in retaining their current housing or finding new stable housing.
	<b>EMERGENCY SHELTER &amp; INTERIM HOUSING</b> Providing low-barrier temporary living arrangements for people experiencing homelessness.
	<b>PERMANENT HOUSING</b> Long-term housing solutions combined with ongoing support services for individuals with chronic homelessness and multiple barriers.



# AN INSPIRATIONAL JOURNEY

## Zoey Jones' Path to Stability and Hope

In the fall of 2024, Zoey Jones entered the Action in Community Through Service (ACTS) HUD Rapid Re-housing (RRH) Program in search of stable housing. At the time, Zoey was six months pregnant and navigating life as a single mother-to-be. Despite her challenging circumstances, including a previously crushed ankle that had healed improperly and severely limited her mobility, Zoey remained hopeful.

Thanks to the support of the RRH program, Zoey was housed immediately. Still, the physical limitations from her injury, combined with the emotional weight of her pregnancy, led to a period of depression. In the winter of 2024, she welcomed her baby into the world—an event that brought both joy and renewed purpose.

While still unemployed, Zoey's RRH Case Manager reviewed with her the Caregiver to Breadwinner Program. This free, online program provided participants with all necessary equipment (laptop, headphones and Wi-Fi access) and offered training to become a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), with guaranteed job placement upon completion.

Zoey applied and was accepted into the program. Her determination to build a better life for herself and her child only grew. She underwent successful reconstructive surgery on her ankle and, simultaneously, began her CNA training. As her physical mobility improved, so did her emotional well-being. For the first time in years, Zoey could envision spending pain-free, quality time with her daughter, which gave her renewed strength.

By mid-spring, Zoey successfully exited the RRH program stronger, healthier and full of hope. Zoey credits the ACTS RRH Team for motivating her towards her needs and desires.

Zoey's journey is a testament to resilience and perseverance. In Zoey's case, it was also the power of a mother's love. Zoey Jones is an inspiring example of what can happen when determination meets opportunity. Zoey remains focused on building a future full of promise for herself and her daughter.



”  
*Completing the RRH Program gave me a fresh start. Now, working with a job placement program, I feel hopeful and ready to build a stable future for myself and my family.*  
Zoey  
RRH Program



# OFFICE OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Strengthening Our Community Through Collaboration

The Prince William County Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) plays a central role in advancing affordable housing, homelessness prevention, and neighborhood development for low- and moderate-income residents across the Prince William Area, including Prince William County and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park.

Working closely with the PWA CoC, OHCD supports efforts to end homelessness and poverty by delivering comprehensive housing solutions and leveraging partnerships with local service providers. Together, they promote stability and self-sufficiency through a wide range of federal, state and local programs.

Key Housing Programs & Impact Areas:

- **Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV):** Administers 2,023+ vouchers, including special allocations and preferences, to help eligible families secure private rental housing.
- **CDBG, HOME, ESG Grants:** Federal funds support shelter operations, affordable housing development, homebuyer assistance, and homelessness prevention programs.
- **HOME-ARP & Tenant-Based Rental Assistance:** Provide short- and medium-term rental support to vulnerable populations, including those enrolled in the Family Self-Sufficiency Program.
- **State Rental Assistance Program (SRAP):** Offers housing for individuals with Serious Mental Illness and others in the Department of Justice settlement agreement target populations.

Community Development Highlights:

- Rehabilitation support for homeowners and affordable rental units
- Down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers
- Emergency shelter and rapid re-housing services
- Implementation of the new Affordable Dwelling Unit Ordinance and Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support long-term housing solutions

Through coordinated care, strategic planning and innovative funding, OHCD and the PWA CoC are building a stronger, more inclusive housing system that helps individuals and families move from housing instability to permanent housing and greater independence.

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*“There is a sense of enduring thankfulness not having to worry as much about safety and where the night is going to be spent, allowing me a chance to get back to stabilization.”*

CoC Client

## BUILT FOR ZERO

### What is “Built for Zero”?

“Built for Zero” is a national movement working to achieve an end to homelessness that lasts and leaves no one behind. This movement is powered by the NYC-based non-profit, Community Solutions.

### Functional Zero

What does it mean to reach a functional end to homelessness? Ending homelessness does not mean homelessness will be preventable for everyone. A functional end to homelessness, or “Functional Zero,” means that homelessness will occur rarely, be of a short duration, and typically will not recur. The number of people experiencing homelessness at a given time will be less than or equal to the average number of people who exit to permanent housing in a six-month period.

In 2024, the PWA CoC joined the Built for Zero Initiative alongside the member CoC’s of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

The regional goal is to achieve functional zero for veteran homelessness before the end of 2027, as well as functional zero for any priority populations we identify within our individual CoCs.





# CONTINUUM OF CARE MEMBERS

Action in Community Through Service (ACTS)	Operation Renewed Hope Foundation
Aya Housing Collective	Pathway Homes, Inc.
Casa BruMar Foundation	People Inc.
Centro de Apoyo Familiar	Prince William County Community Services
CFH, Inc.	Prince William County Department of Social Services
City of Manassas Department of Social Services	Prince William Office of Executive Management
City of Manassas Park Department of Social Services	Prince William Office of Housing and Community Development
Cooperative Council of Ministries	Saved Hands Foundation
Friendship Place	Serving Friends-Gainesville United Methodist Church
Good Shepherd Housing Foundation	Streetlight Community Outreach Ministries
Hope Village of Virginia	The Church - God's Assembly
Northern Virginia Family Service	The House, Inc.
Northern Virginia Food Rescue	The Human Services Alliance of Greater Prince William
NOVA Bulls Organization	



# GET INVOLVED

## Join the CoC

In addition to helping address homelessness in the Prince William area, members of the CoC:

- Decide which types of organizations and programs receive funding from the CoC
- Determine strategic direction of the CoC
- Analyze and interpret data for the CoC to make decisions
- Set community standards for how people are prioritized for and matched with available housing and service

## Who Should Join the CoC?

- Those with lived experience of homelessness
- Non-profits focused on homeless services (health, behavioral health, subpopulation-specific, housing, benefits, employment, etc.)
- Non-profits targeting housing or services to both homeless and non-homeless persons
- Veterans and organizations assisting veterans
- School districts (and their McKinney Vento liaisons), institutions of higher education, adult education and training programs, etc.
- Victim-service providers
- Faith-based organizations
- Businesses

Scan the Qr code below to become a CoC member.

## Help Us In Identifying Encampments and Persons Living on the Streets

Scan the QR code below to report encampments or areas where persons may be sleeping.

## Support Our Partners

Instead of giving money directly to panhandlers, give that money to one of the non-profit members of the CoC, who can provide and connect those panhandling to the resources they need. Scan the QR code below to learn more.

## Resource Guide

Sentence of the kind of information people can find in the resource guide the audience. Scan the QR code below to view the resource guide.

*Scan to Get Involved!*







homelesservices@pwcgov.org

[pwcva.gov/pwa-coc](http://pwcva.gov/pwa-coc)

*Promoting community-wide commitment to the  
goal of ending homelessness.*