



Prince William County and the
Cities of Manassas & Manassas Park



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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



References and Data Sources

- The annual report period used is 10/1/2024 - 9/30/2025 and includes emergency shelter, transitional housing, street outreach, and permanent housing data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- 2026 annual Point-in-Time Count data.
- 2026 Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) PIT Report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

August 10, 2026

Dear Prince William Area Residents,

The Prince William Area Continuum of Care (PWA CoC) continued strengthening the region's homeless response system throughout 2025–2026 through enhanced coordination, data-driven decision-making, and strategic community partnerships. The 2026 Point-in-Time Count remained stable in comparison to previous years with 387 total individuals counted (-2%, or 6 fewer persons), however, rising rates of chronic homelessness, reported disabling conditions, and shifts in demographic trends underscore the growing complexity and intensity of need among those experiencing homelessness. These patterns reinforce the importance of sustained investment in permanent housing solutions, supportive services, and tailored interventions for vulnerable populations.

The CoC expanded its participation in the Built for Zero initiative, strengthened community-wide and Veteran By-Name List efforts, and improved case conferencing processes to better connect households with housing resources. Significant progress was also made in updating Coordinated Entry System (CES) policies and developing a dedicated Domestic Violence Coordinated Entry (DV CES) framework to improve safety, access, and housing outcomes for survivors.

The CoC continued advancing affordable housing initiatives, supporting landlord engagement efforts, and collaborating with local partners to expand housing opportunities. Emergency shelter providers worked together to ensure households experiencing housing crises had access to shelter and housing-focused case management, while the relaunch of the Prince William County Homeless Mobile Unit expanded outreach services to unsheltered individuals.

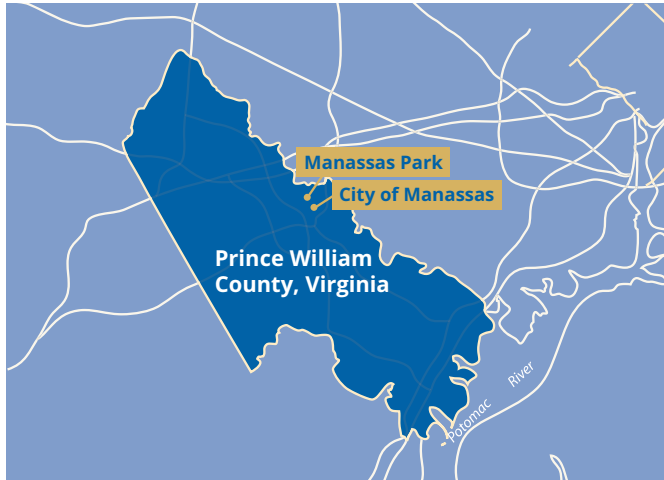
Investments in HMIS, public dashboards, and Civic Roundtable strengthened transparency, data quality, community engagement, and system performance. These accomplishments reflect the dedication of service providers, community partners, volunteers, and residents working together to build a more effective homeless response system and create pathways to long-term housing stability throughout the Prince William Area.



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.

1,163

Total Persons Served

926

Adults

237

Children



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. 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 Prince William Area (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.

870

CES Referrals

1,484

**Households
Served**

Referral Count of Final Need Type for 2025

Diversion

17

2%

Emergency Shelter

574

66%

Homelessness Prevention

102

12%

Rent Payment Assistance

108

12%

Utility Assistance

69

8%

Grand Total

870



2025 Call Count

Crisis Intervention	80	>1%
Diversion	1,336	12%
General Information	2,416	21%
Homeless Intervention	1,856	16%
Rent Payment Assistance	2,842	25%
Follow Up	1,715	15%
Other	1,210	11%
Grand Total	11,455	



POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

During the last 10 days of January each year, communities nationwide 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.

2026 PIT Count Date: February 4, 2026



306

Persons Experiencing Sheltered Homelessness

11% increase since last year, 27 more people



81

Persons Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness

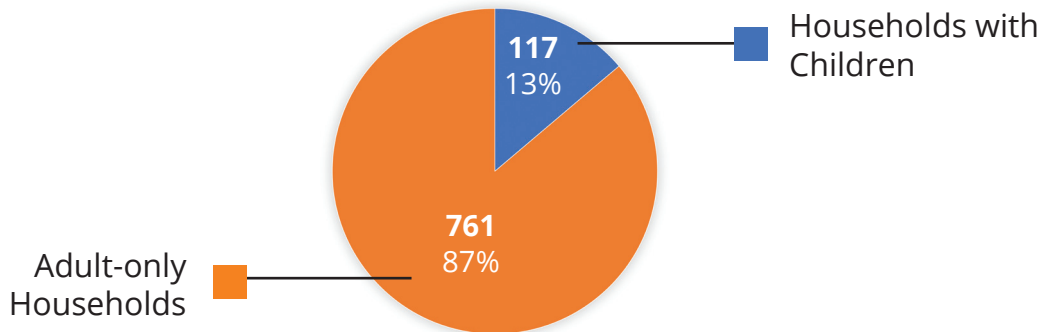
30% decrease since last year, 34 less people

- Expanded hypothermia shelter inventory led to a reduction in unsheltered homelessness (-30%) which suggests targeted interventions can have immediate and measurable impacts.
- Household composition remained stable with adult-only households continuing to represent the majority of those counted (84%).
- Racial composition shifted in 2026, with an increase in persons identifying as Black, African American, or African (+9%) and a decrease in persons identifying as White (non-Hispanic) (-14%).
- Analyzing gender by household type highlights notable differences: 81% of adults in households with children identify as female while 69% of single adults identify as male.
- The CoC continues to see an aging population with an upward trend in adults between the ages of 45 and 64.
- 50% of adults report living with one or more disabling conditions with the most reported conditions being physical disabilities (42%), mental health disorders (41%) and chronic health conditions (33%).

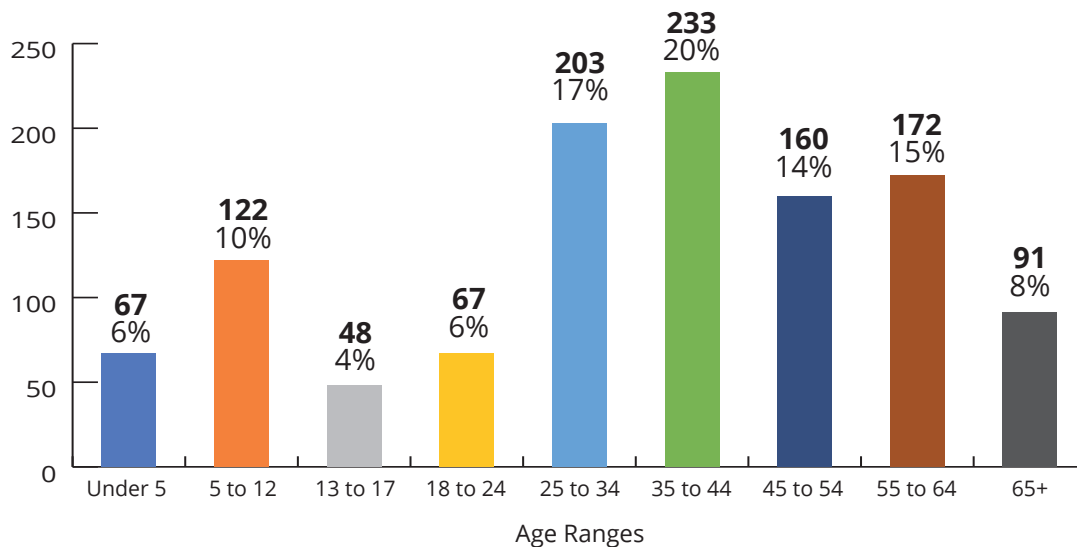


WHO IS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN OUR COMMUNITY?

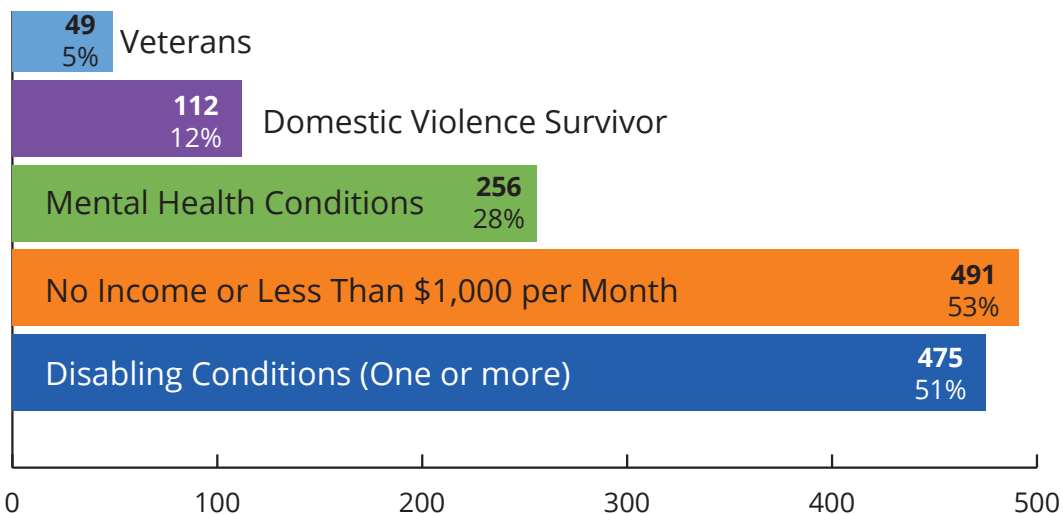
Total Households Served



Age Ranges (Adults & Children)



Additional Demographics (Adults Only)



OUR RESPONSE

HOMELESS RESPONSE SYSTEM

Coordinated. Compassionate. Community.

1. Coordinated Entry



A single front door for equitable access to services and housing opportunities.

- Comprehensive assessment
- Prioritization
- Connection to appropriate resources

Outreach & Engagement



Meet people where they are to build trust, provide information and connect individuals and families to Coordinated Entry.

2. Prevention & Diversion



Help people stay housed and avoid homelessness through resources and problem-solving.

Examples of Support

- Meditation & problem-solving
- Rent & utility assistance
- Flexible financial assistance
- Landlord engagement
- Referrals to community resources

3. Emergency Shelter



Safe, low-barrier shelter and crisis services when people need it most.

Examples of Support

- Emergency shelter
- Crisis stabilization
- Basic needs (meals, clothing, hygiene)
- Connection to services

4. Housing



Connecting households to stable housing with ongoing supports.

- RRH (Rapid Re-Housing)
- PSH (Permanent Supportive Housing)
- Transitional Housing
- Family/Friends (Natural Supports)

EMERGENCY SHELTER SYSTEM

Working together to provide immediate safety, support and essential services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in the Prince William Area

Ferlazzo Emergency Shelter



Operated by Prince William County Social Services

Provides temporary emergency shelter and supportive services to individuals experiencing homelessness.

SERVE



Operated by Northern Virginia Family Services

Shelter and supportive services for families and individuals in need.

Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center



Operated by Prince William County Social Services

Offers crisis intervention, prevention services and resource navigation to help individuals and families maintain stable housing.

ACTS DV Shelter



Operated by Action in Community Through Service

Emergency shelter and supportive services for survivors of domestic violence and their children.

Supportive Shelter



Operated by Streetlight Community Outreach Ministries

Provides short-term shelter with intensive case management and supportive services to help guests achieve housing stability.

Hypothermia Shelter - East



Operated by Streetlight Community Outreach Ministries

Seasonal shelter providing overnight refuge and safety during extreme cold weather. (Eastern County)

Beverly Warren



Operated by Action in Community Through Service

Emergency shelter for women, providing a safe environment and supportive services.

Hypothermia Shelter - West



Operated by Manassas Baptist Church

Seasonal shelter providing overnight refuge and safety during extreme cold weather. (Western County)



This coordinated network of emergency shelters and services helps ensure that no one in the Prince William Area has to face a crisis alone.

Together, we can end homelessness

SUCCESS STORIES

Mary's Journey Home

At 63 years old, Mary entered the Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) Program in 2024 after experiencing chronic homelessness and facing significant barriers, including mental health challenges, substance use, unemployment and a lack of income. Through consistent support from the RRH Team, she secured a room rental, obtained SNAP and Medicaid benefits, and engaged in recovery services. While she made meaningful progress, it became clear that she required a higher level of long-term support to achieve housing stability.

Recognizing her needs, the RRH Team helped Mary apply for Permanent Supportive Housing. For the first time, staff saw a renewed sense of hope and excitement as she actively participated in the application process. Just weeks later, Mary was approved for Permanent Supportive Housing and prepared to move into a home of her own.

With emotion, Mary shared that this would be the first home she had ever had. After decades of instability, her journey reflects the transformative impact of housing, supportive services and a community committed to helping individuals achieve lasting stability and dignity.

Finding Financial Freedom

When the single mother of four first entered the HUD DVB RRH program they were working to rebuild stability and create a safe future for themselves and their family. The client leaned into RRH case management and began to show resilience, determination and growth.

Through consistent support, hard work and dedication to their goals, the client was able to secure stable housing and begin focusing on financial independence. During their time in the program, they successfully grew a legitimate catering business that allowed them to self-sustain. The ex-client proudly reported their successful news, noting that they now earn approximately \$6,000 per month in income. Their business has continued to gain recognition through community networking, social media networking and quality food.

In addition to their catering, the client had also started to develop a self-care business focused on bath salts and wellness products. These ventures reflect their passion for healing, self-care and entrepreneurship while creating opportunities for long term stability.

Today, the client is thriving, financially independent and building a strong foundation for their future. Their journey is a powerful example of how safe housing, supportive services and their personal determination can create lasting changes. This client left ACTS RRH appreciative, confident and with a wonderful mood.

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 expanding 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 and Impact Areas:

- **Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV):** Administers 2,000+ 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

Since joining the Built for Zero (BFZ) initiative in 2024, the PWA CoC has strengthened real-time data tracking, coordination, and system alignment. Key advancements include the implementation of community-wide and Veteran By-Name Lists, updated assessment tools, and regular case conferencing.

The CoC recently completed a system realignment in collaboration with community partners and adopted five priority goals:

Goal 1:	System Prioritization
Goal 2:	Street Outreach Expansion
Goal 3:	Fair Housing Awareness
Goal 4:	Documentation Optimization
Goal 5:	Public Awareness & Community Partnerships

While still in the early phase, improved data visibility has increased the number of identified persons experiencing homelessness. This reflects better system coverage rather than a definitive rise in homelessness. The current data is still shifting, and more time is needed before the CoC can measure the full impact of the changes made under this initiative.

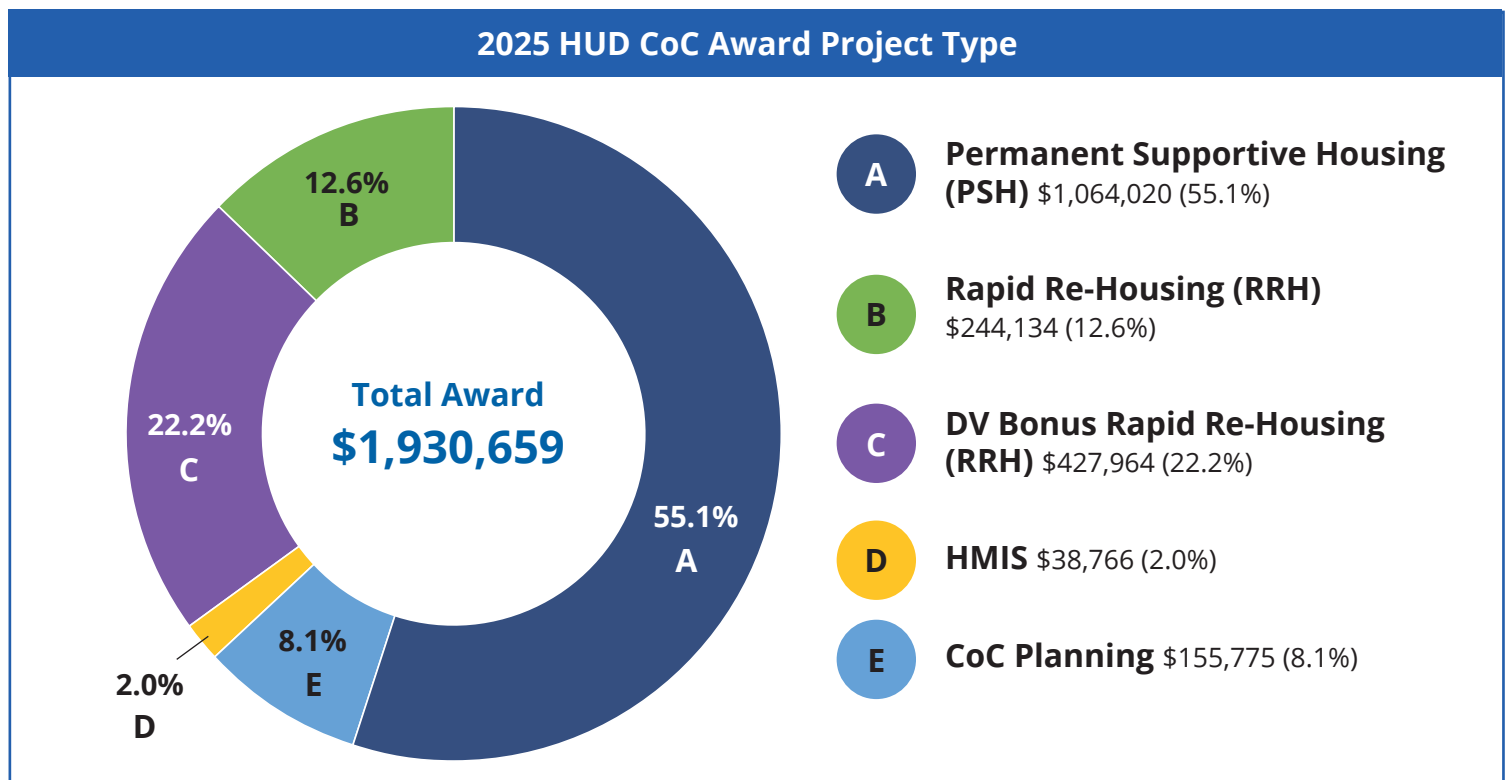


COC FUNDING

HUD CoC funding supports critical housing and services that help prevent and end homelessness across Prince William County.

2025 HUD CoC Award Summary		
Project Type	Award Amount	Number of Projects
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	\$1,064,020	3
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)	\$244,134	2
DV Bonus Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)	\$427,964	1
HMIS	\$38,766	1
CoC Planning	\$155,775	1
Total	\$1,930,659	8

Includes 7 HUD CoC Program Projects and 1 UFA Planning Project



2025 Investment in Our Community: \$1,930,659

These funds support stable housing and essential services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Prince William County.

8 Projects

7 HUD CoC Program
1 UFA Planning

Note: Award amounts reflect HUD CoC Program funding for the period 10/1/2024 - 9/30/2025

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION

The PWA CoC continued expanding community engagement efforts during 2025 through meetings, trainings, volunteer coordination and regional collaboration initiatives.

The CoC utilized Civic Roundtable as a centralized communication and resource platform for:

- Committee meetings and announcements
- Training materials and recordings
- HMIS and PIT Count resources
- Funding opportunities and community updates
- Policy and procedure feedback opportunities

The CoC also hosted trainings and community discussions related to housing stability, harm reduction, low-barrier shelter practices, coordinated entry, landlord engagement and system planning. Cross-sector collaboration remained a major focus area throughout the year.

Case studies completed in 2025 include:

Civic Roundtable Case Study PWC: [How Prince William County Ditched Email for Roundtable's Government Operations Platform](#)

Civic Roundtable Case Study 2026 PIT: [How Two Governments Built a Resilient Network for the Toughest Census of the Year](#)



CONTINUUM OF CARE MEMBERS

Action in Community Through Service	NOVA Bulls Organization
Ashiyanaa	Operation Renewed Hope Foundation
Aya Housing Collective	Pathway Homes
Casa BruMar	People Inc.
Centro de Apoyo Familiar (CAF)	PowerMax Company
CFH, Inc. (formerly Catholics for Housing, Inc.)	Prince William Community Services
City of Manassas Department of Social Services	Prince William County Department of Social Services
City of Manassas Park Department of Social Services	Prince William County Office of Housing and Community Development
Cooperative Council of Ministries	Prince William County Public Schools (PWCS)
Elect Ladies Transition Home	Prince William Health District
Faith in God Charity Missions	Saved Hands Foundation
Friendship Place Veterans First	Sentara Health Plans
Good Shepherd Housing Foundation	Serving Friends – Gainesville United Methodist Church
Hope Village of Virginia	StreetLight Community Outreach Ministries
House of Mercy	The Church-God's Assembly
Independence Empowerment Center	The House, Inc.
J&J Harmony Center	The Human Services Alliance of Greater Prince William
Jobs for Veterans State Grant / Virginia Works	Tree of Kingdom Life Ministries
Northern Virginia Family Service	Virginia Department of Veterans Services
Northern Virginia Food Rescue	Virginia Women and Family Support Center



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

[Become a CoC member today.](#)

Help Us In Identifying Encampments and Persons Living on the Streets

[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. [Learn more about how to support our partners.](#)

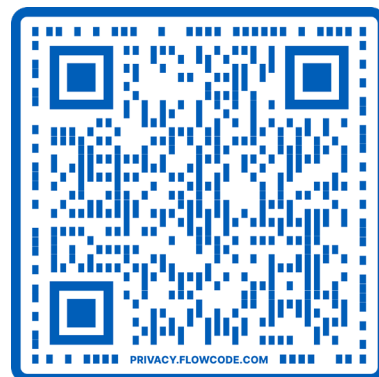
Resource Guide

Sentence of the kind of information people can find in the resource guide the audience. [View the resource guide.](#)

CoC Data

[View the CoC data dashboards and reports.](#)

Scan to Get Involved!





homelesssservices@pwcgov.org

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

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