The Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness is the only statewide organization unifying the interests of all concerned with homelessness to bring the most effective and cost-effective policies, systems, and services into practice across the Commonwealth.
Our Initiatives

**Advocacy** for increased state funding and improved state policy

**Capacity, Data, and Systems Change**
To provide technical assistance on community planning, transitioning to housing first, utilizing data to drive decisions, and Continuum of Care applications and strategies

**1,000 HOMES FOR 1,000 VIRGINIANS**
To support communities in creating permanent supportive housing opportunities for the most vulnerable individuals experiencing homelessness

**Employing Virginia’s Homeless Families**
To increase their income to prevent the likelihood of families returning to homelessness
VCEH Community Engagement Structure

- **Community Leader Council**
- **Continuum of Care Leadership**
- **Statewide**
- **Specific Issues**
- **Policy**
- **Legislative Advocacy Committee**
- **Ad Hoc Working Groups**
- **Community**
VCEH's Community Engagement Structure

Community Leader Council
Provides a statewide forum for the discussion of and engagement in solutions to common challenges.

Legislative Advocacy Committee
Statewide network of representatives committed to improving public policy and funding for best practice and evidence based solutions to homelessness.

Continuum of Care Leadership
Provides a forum for leaders of CoCs from around the state to discuss challenges and opportunities to improving local homeless response systems.

Ad Hoc Working Groups
Working groups convene on specific topics identified by CoC Leaders, Legislative Advocacy Committee members and the larger Community Leader Council.
Agenda for Today

Funding Outcomes and Measures

Outputs vs. Outcomes

Federal and State Policy Context

Performance Measures

Community examples
## Outputs vs. Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUTPUTS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What did we do?</td>
<td>What difference did we make?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus on activities</td>
<td>Focus on results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of people served in emergency shelter</td>
<td># of people placed in permanent housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Your resources allowed us to provide shelter to 200 people this year.”</td>
<td>“Your resources ended the homelessness of 100 people this year.”</td>
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Why do we want to measure outcomes?

- Understand what is working and not working
- Move towards data-driven decision-making – making decisions based on data and analysis, rather than just experience and intuition
- Support advocacy efforts
Why do we have to?

The HEARTH Act establishes “Selection Criteria” for awarding funds under the Continuum of Care Program.

HUD and the Commonwealth of Virginia are placing increasing emphasis on performance and data.

Each year, Virginia receives an estimated $30 million in funding through HUD’s targeted homelessness assistance programs – let’s keep it coming!
Virginia Homeless Assistance Performance Measures

Initiative of the **Data Collection and System Coordination Committee** of the **Virginia Homeless Outcomes Coordinating Council** *(Virginia’s Interagency Council on Homelessness)*

**Two main goals:**

1) “Create consistent and meaningful data and outcomes standards to document progress and achievement in reducing homelessness.”

2) “Assist communities with adopting housing-focused performance measures that comply with new federal requirements and enhance data-driven approaches to local responses to homelessness.”
Homelessness should be a RARE SHORT-LIVED and NON-RECURRING event.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HUD “Selection Criteria”</th>
<th>VA Performance Measures</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Length of Stay</strong></td>
<td>Decrease in the length of time people experience homelessness</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>People entering the system exit to permanent housing</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recidivism Rates</strong></td>
<td>People exited to permanent housing stay in permanent housing, both while receiving assistance and after assistance ends</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Homeless assistance is targeted towards people who are most likely to return to homelessness</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong># of homeless</strong></td>
<td>Decrease in people experiencing homelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jobs and Income</strong></td>
<td>People entering the homeless response system increase their income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First time homelessness</strong></td>
<td>Coming soon...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Access</strong></td>
<td>Coming soon...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Targeted Prevention, Hennepin County, MN:

- $1,000 difference in monthly income between households receiving prevention assistance funds and households in shelter

- 63% in shelter had been homeless before, only 36% receiving assistance had been homeless

- 33% of sheltered families had head of household under the age of 22, only 1% of families receiving prevention assistance did.
Using data and outcomes to:
(RE)ALLOCATE RESOURCES

Western Virginia CoC
2013 Allocation of Funding

SOURCE: Spending Plans submitted with state ESG application.
Using data and outcomes to:
PROMOTE COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY

Community Shelter Board
Columbus, Ohio
• High accountability among shelters due to transparency
• Shared HMIS
• Daily bedlist
• Quarterly indicators
• Annual program evaluations
• Weekly/monthly coordination meetings – systemic approach to “staffing” hard-to-place families
Using data and outcomes to:
INCREASE RESOURCES

As a result of 1,000 Homes - Richmond
Dwayne now has a home

Before

After
Questions

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