

HEALTHCARE AND HOUSING (H²) SYSTEMS INTEGRATION INITIATIVE WEST VIRGINIA Homeless Housing Resources

PUBLIC HOUSING AND HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM (HCV¹)

Currently, there are 36 Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) in West Virginia administering HCVs and public housing programs. Of those, 3 administer only an HCV program, 13 administer only a public housing program, and 20 administer both.

5 of West Virginia's PHAs also administer special purpose vouchers that have been appropriated by Congress exclusively for people with disabilities. There is a statewide total of 570 vouchers through the following two programs: 1) Five-Year Mainstream Housing Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities (39 vouchers) and Rental Assistance for Non-Elderly Persons with Disabilities (531 "NED" Vouchers).

CONTINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM²

A variety of homeless housing is funded through the Continuum of Care Program, including emergency shelter (ES), safe havens (SH), transitional housing (TH), permanent supportive housing (PSH) and rapid rehousing (RRH). West Virginia has 4 active Continuums of Care (CoCs).

Continuum of Care	2014 Homeless Housing Inventory			Permanent Housing Inventory		
	Total Year-Round Beds (ES, SH, TH)	Inventory by Type		Total (PSH, RRH)	Inventory by Type	
		Emergency Shelter/Safe Haven	Transitional Housing		Permanent Supportive Housing	Rapid Rehousing
Wheeling/Weirton Area CoC	136	77	40	19	18	1
Huntington/Cabell, Wayne Counties CoC	776	193	68	407	403	4
Charleston/Kanahwa, Putnam, Boone, Clay Counties CoC	610	302	128	180	178	2
West Virginia Balance of State CoC	1843	804	353	686	620	66
State Total	3365	1376	589	1292	1219	73

¹ Data from HUD PHA Contact Information http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/pha/contacts and HUD Housing Authority Profile database <https://pic.hud.gov/pic/haprofiles/haprofilelist.asp>

² 2014 HIC Count, available at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3031/pit-and-hic-data-since-2007/>

HEALTHCARE AND HOUSING (H²) SYSTEMS INTEGRATION INITIATIVE WEST VIRGINIA Homeless Housing Resources

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS (ESG)³

The ESG Program provides grants to states and localities for emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing for the homeless. ESG funds can be used for street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing assistance, and HMIS, as well as administrative activities.

In 2014, West Virginia was awarded ESG grants totaling over \$1.6 million.

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS (HOPWA)⁴

HOPWA funds are awarded through the Consolidated Plan as a block grant to states and larger metropolitan areas based on their incidences of AIDS and competitively through an annual Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). HOPWA funds may be used for a wide range of housing, social services, program planning, and development costs. In 2014, the State of West Virginia received over \$350,000.

HOPWA – Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (2013)⁵

	Households Served	HOPWA Expenditures
State of West Virginia		
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	56	\$30,953
Subsidized Permanent Housing	3	\$12,176.38
Transitional/Short-term Facilities	NA	NA
Short-Term Rent, Mortgage & Utility Assistance	182	\$96,985.08
Permanent Housing Placement Services	38	\$34,912.31
TOTAL	268	\$175,026.77

VETERANS AFFAIRS SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAM (HUD-VASH)⁶

HUD-VASH is a joint project between the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) which offers a housing voucher from HUD and intensive case management services provided by the VA for five years. From 2008 to 2014, 385 VASH vouchers have been awarded to 7 PHAs in West Virginia, including an award of 20 new vouchers to the Housing Authority of Raleigh County in 2015.

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF)⁷

The SSVF Program funds supportive services which promote housing stability for very low-income Veterans and their families residing in or transitioning to permanent housing. In 2014, five organizations in West Virginia received SSVF Awards totaling over \$2.8 million.

³ https://www.hudexchange.info/grantees/cpd-allocations-awards/?filter_year=2014&filter_program=6&filter_state=CT&filter_coc=

⁴ <https://www.hudexchange.info/grantees/cpd-allocations-awards/>

⁵ State of Tennessee, Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) (July 2013-June 2014)
Salt Lake City Corporation, CAPER (July 2013-June 2014)

⁶ http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/vash

⁷ Data from http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/ssvf/docs/2014_SSVF_Award_List.pdf

HEALTHCARE AND HOUSING (H²) SYSTEMS INTEGRATION INITIATIVE

WEST VIRGINIA

Homeless Housing Resources

West Virginia Resources

Funding – Special Initiatives – Coordination

West Virginia Affordable Housing Trust Fund⁸

In response to the growing need of affordable housing, the State Legislature established a permanent dedicated source of funds in 2001 through passage of the Housing Trust Fund Act. The West Virginia Affordable Housing Trust Fund (WVAHTF) is supported by a twenty-dollar real estate transfer fee on the amount of real estate and manufactured housing sold each year. Through requests for proposals issued annually, WVAHTF offers resources to a variety of eligible non-profit organizations, enabling them to provide housing to low and very low-income families and individuals across West Virginia.

Since 2001, the Housing Trust Fund has provided total resources of \$2,230,664 to 45 organizations, resulting in 250 units of housing, as well as \$225,000 in funding for housing counseling programs.

West Virginia Housing Development Fund⁹

The West Virginia Housing Development Fund is a public body corporate and governmental instrumentality of the State of West Virginia established to increase the supply of residential housing for persons and families of low- and moderate-income, and to provide construction and permanent mortgage financing to public and private sponsors of such housing. As of June 2015, the Housing Development Fund has issued more than \$4.3 billion in bonds and has financed more than 117,000 housing units since it began operation in 1969.

Federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program¹⁰

The federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program is one of the most important affordable housing programs available in West Virginia for supportive housing development. The LIHTC program is administered by the U.S. Department of Treasury. The program provides competitive awards of federal tax credits to developers to assist in the creation of affordable rental housing including supportive housing. In West Virginia, the West Virginia Housing Development Fund administers the LIHTC program. The LIHTC program income targeting requires that 20 percent of LIHTC units be made available for households at or below 50 percent of area median income (AMI) or that 40 percent of LIHTC units be made available for households at or below 60 percent of AMI. Since its inception, the LIHTC program has produced more than 13,900 affordable rental units in West Virginia.

West Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness¹¹

The West Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness (WVCEH) is a private non-profit advocate for services to prevent and end homelessness in West Virginia. WVCEH serves a vital role in West Virginia's housing and homeless assistance network through its work as:

- Collaborative Applicant/Lead Agency for the Balance of State CoC
- HMIS Lead for the Balance of State CoC
- Provider of direct services, including street outreach and rapid rehousing
- SSI/SSDI outreach access and recovery state lead/trainer

⁸ <http://wvaht.org/who-we-are.html>

⁹ <https://wvhdf.com/about-wvhdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.wvhdf.com/programs/low-income-housing-tax-credit-program>

¹¹ <http://wvceh.org/coalition/about>

HEALTHCARE AND HOUSING (H²) SYSTEMS INTEGRATION INITIATIVE

WEST VIRGINIA

Homeless Housing Resources

WVCEH also provides support to West Virginia communities taking part in the national Zero: 2016 Campaign to end chronic and veteran homelessness and provides coordinated entry guidance for the West Virginia Balance of State CoC.

West Virginia Interagency Council on Homelessness¹²

In November 2013, the West Virginia Interagency Council on Homelessness (WVICH) was established to develop and implement a plan to prevent and end homelessness in West Virginia. Additionally, the Council is to serve as a statewide homelessness planning and policy development resource for the Governor and the State of West Virginia, which includes plan development that will ensure services and housing are provided in an efficient, cost-effective, and productive manner. The Council is also charged with developing recommendations related to improved and increased access to resources and services, assisting with cross-sector partnerships, developing strategies for implementation and oversight, and other similar duties that can contribute to ending homelessness in West Virginia.

Housing Programs- Homeless Assistance Resources

The Hodge Decree and DHHR Homeless Program¹³

With the enactment of the Hodge Decree in 1983, West Virginia became (and continues to be) the only state to guarantee all literally homeless families and individuals statewide the right to emergency shelter, food, and medical care. As a result of the Hodge Decree, the Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) implemented the Homeless Program in West Virginia in the late 1980s. DHHR contracts with ten emergency shelters and four coalitions statewide to provide the basic necessities cited in the decree- including shelter, food, routine medical care, and emergency health care treatment and services- as well as case management. Most sites offer a variety of additional supportive services, such as transportation or employment services. Clients may receive assistance for up to six months, during which time they are required to save at least 50% of their income, contribute an additional 30% towards the cost of shelter benefits, and work with a case manager to develop and implement a service plan towards self-sufficiency.

Roark-Sullivan Lifeway Center¹⁴

The Roark-Sullivan Lifeway Center (RSLC) serves individuals experiencing homelessness in Charleston and the Kanawha Valley by helping them gain access to housing, job skills, and employment in order to achieve self-sufficiency.

The Roark-Sullivan Lifeway Center operates the following transitional and permanent housing programs:

- **Liberty Center-** Liberty Center (LC) is a 4-bed transitional program geared to support the successful re-entry of men returning home from prison that would otherwise be homeless.
- **Twin Cities Center-** Twin Cities Center (TCC) operates 16 beds to serve the chronically homeless population of the Kanawha Valley. TCC serves men and women with a persistent mental illness or a mental illness coupled with a substance abuse problem, who have experienced long periods of homelessness and/or multiple episodes of homelessness.

¹² http://www.wvcommerce.org/App_Media/assets/download/ndrc/WVICH_Progress_Report_2014.pdf

¹³ http://www.wvdhhr.org/bcf/children_adult/homeless/overview.asp

¹⁴ http://rslwc.org/?page_id=941

HEALTHCARE AND HOUSING (H²) SYSTEMS INTEGRATION INITIATIVE WEST VIRGINIA Homeless Housing Resources

Veterans Grant and Per Diem Program - Transitional Housing and Service Center- The Veterans Program is comprised of 27 units of transitional housing and supports single men who are veterans experiencing homelessness. This program provides housing and case management support for up to two years to assist residents in working towards self-sufficiency and community living. The Service Center is available for all veterans in the community and offers a variety of services and classes, including individualized case management, transportation, mental health and substance abuse support services, and on-site therapy. The RSLC Service Center utilizes community assets outside the VA for those that served active duty but are not healthcare eligible; Veterans who are healthcare eligible may access treatment and services at the nearby VA Outpatient Clinic in Charleston as well.

In addition, RSLC provides a variety of services to help support and stabilize individuals experiencing homelessness. Services include the **Resident Healthcare Program**, which employs nursing staff on-site to assist individuals with medication monitoring, health education, basic health screenings, health promotion and maintenance, and the **Peer 2 Peer Project**, in which formerly homeless peer specialists in recovery from substance abuse and/or mental health issues who have gone through intensive training help current residents face their own obstacles.

Greater Wheeling Coalition for the Homeless¹⁵

The Greater Wheeling Coalition for the Homeless provides temporary shelter, assists in the preparation of long-term solutions to homelessness, and networks with other agencies to provide a comprehensive level of services for the homeless population in West Virginia's Northern Panhandle. The Coalition also provides direct care to the homeless by providing a variety of case management and housing services. Through needs assessments and by identifying gaps in the service delivery system, the Coalition has adapted its programming and evolved into a successful provider of accessible, affordable housing for the homeless.

Permanent Supportive Housing: The Coalition's Residential Housing Program is long-term, community-based housing with supportive services for homeless persons. The intent is to enable the target population to live as independently as possible in a permanent setting. The Coalition has 16 beds for single individuals, 11 of which assist the chronically homeless. Services include direct case management to assist clients in obtaining mainstream resources, budgeting finances, linkages to health care and opportunities for volunteering in the community. All clients are offered follow-up care.

Cabell-Huntington Coalition for the Homeless (Harmony House)¹⁶

The Cabell-Huntington Coalition for the Homeless, or Harmony House, affirms the right of all people to adequate food, clothing, shelter, and healthcare. The mission of Harmony House is to provide basic resources and housing to the homeless and formerly homeless of the Huntington area, and to collaborate with partner agencies for the provision of these basic resources. In addition to Harmony House- a multi-purpose day shelter that houses a vast array of services offered to individuals experiencing or at-risk of homelessness- the Cabell-Huntington Coalition for the Homeless operates the following housing programs:

- **Vanity Fair:** Fifty-three single-room occupancy housing complex specifically designated for individuals moving from homelessness.

¹⁵ <http://www.wheelinghomeless.org/about-the-coalition.php> and <http://www.wheelinghomeless.org/programs.php?id=38>

¹⁶ <http://www.harmonyhousewv.com/about-us/>

HEALTHCARE AND HOUSING (H²) SYSTEMS INTEGRATION INITIATIVE WEST VIRGINIA

Homeless Housing Resources

- **Seaton Taylor:** Twelve-unit apartment complex for individuals struggling with mental or developmental disabilities who are at risk of homelessness.
- **Heistad House:** Six unit housing complex designated for chronically homeless individuals that operates under a Housing First model.
- **Nelson Apartments:** Donated by Huntington Federal, this new and under-construction complex will include six units for those experiencing homelessness.