Report to the House Appropriations Committee, the Senate Finance Committee and Senate Appropriations Committee

Virginia's Homeless Programs 2023-24 Program Year Report

Submitted by: Department of Housing and Community Development November 2024

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
WHAT THE DATA SHOWS	4
System Performance Measures	7
HOMELESS PROGRAMS	8
VIRGINIA HOMELESS SOLUTIONS PROGRAM	9
Emergency Shelter	
Rapid Re-housing	17
Homeless Prevention	
HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS/HIV (HOPWA)	
HOUSING TRUST FUND - HOMELESS REDUCTION GRANT	
Underserved Population Invocation Pilot projects (UPIP)	
COVID-RELATED FUNDING	38
CONCLUSION	39
GENDER IDENTITY AND RACE & ETHNICITY DATA ELEMENTS	40

This report serves to report overall conditions and progress made related to the administration of the State's homeless programs in compliance with HB 5002, Budget Item 105 B of Virginia Acts of Assembly, 2018 Chapter 2. B. The department shall report to the Chairmen of the Senate Finance, the House Appropriations Committees, and the Director, Department of Planning and Budget, by November 4 of each year on the state's homeless programs, including, but not limited to, the number of (i) emergency shelter beds, (ii) transitional housing units, (iii) single room occupancy dwellings, (iv) homeless intervention programs, (v) homeless prevention programs, and (vi) the number of homeless individuals supported by the permanent housing state funding on a locality and statewide basis and the accomplishments achieved by the additional state funding provided to the program in the first year. The report shall also include the number of Virginians served by these programs, the costs of the programs, and the financial and inkind support provided by localities and nonprofit groups in these programs. In preparing the report, the department shall consult with localities and community-based groups.

Executive Summary

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) plays an integral role in Virginia's response to homelessness. DHCD continues to be a crucial resource to communities across the commonwealth allowing persons who are experiencing homelessness to access resources with the goal of obtaining permanent housing as quickly as possible.

Virginia saw a 4.6% increase in the overall number of people experiencing homelessness during the Point-in-Time count (based on preliminary reporting) between January 2023 and January 2024. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will not release the official Point-in-Time count until later in 2024 or early 2025.

The two main reasons for homelessness as reported by the National Alliance to End Homelessness are housing costs and wages. Based on evidence from the National Low-Income Housing Coalition, Virginia ranks 18th in the country with the highest housing wage. The Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment in Virginia is \$1,573. To afford this level of rent without paying more than 30% of income on housing – a household needs to make \$62,925 annually. This translates into an hourly rate of \$30.25 assuming a 40-hour work week, 52-weeks per year. However, the average renter's wage in Virginia is \$23.17 (https://nlihc.org/housing-needs-by-state/virginia).

Affordable rent for low-income households is as follows:

- Minimum Wage \$624/month
- Household under 30% of Area Median Income- \$864/month
- Household at 50% of Area Median Income- \$1,440/month

The National Low-Income Housing Coalition also reports that 24% (263,914) of renters in Virginia are extremely low income (defined as below 30% of area median income). To put this in perspective, this income level is \$35,110 for a four-person household. The Coalition also reports that there is a shortage of 183,843 rental units that are affordable for these residents (https://nlihc.org/housing-needs-by-state/virginia)

DHCD administers the Commonwealth of Virginia's homeless assistance resources. These resources include almost \$16.2 million in state and federal funding including an annual allocation for the State Housing Trust Fund Homeless Reduction Grant and the remainder of the COVID Relief Funds.

In the fall of 2023, DHCD held a competitive application for the Housing Trust Fund Homeless Reduction Grant open to nonprofits and units of local government to provide rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, and innovative programs for underserved populations.

In the spring of 2024, DHCD held a competitive application process for the Virginia Homeless Solutions Program (VHSP). The VHSP grant application combined state and federal funding sources (HUD's Emergency Solutions Grant and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS/HIV) along with State General Funds for homeless assistance and

homeless prevention). To apply and receive these funds, communities were required to complete a community-based application that demonstrate an effective crisis response system designed to make homelessness rare, brief, and one time.

What the Data Shows

The rate of homelessness is eight per 10,000 individuals, which is the fifth lowest of all 50 states. While this is a slight increase from the previous years, it is in much lower than the national average rate of 19.4 per 10,000.

Virginia ranks as the 18th state for highest rents; however, this does not have a positive correlation to homelessness since Virginia has the fifth lowest homeless rate in the country. Virginia's average rental rates align with Arizona, which has 19.2 rate of homelessness per 10,000; and Nevada, which has 27.1 rate of homelessness per 10,000 (https://usafacts.org/articles/which-states-have-the-highest-and-lowest-rates-of-homelessness/).

To obtain a more complete picture of the experience of homelessness in Virginia, annually during the last ten days in January, the commonwealth participates in the national pointin-time (PIT) count. This count identifies the number of individuals who are residing in a shelter or other temporary housing situation and those who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness - sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, or on the street. This count provides a 24-hour snapshot of people who are experiencing homelessness in Virginia. DHCD collects, aggregates, and analyzes state-level PIT data to inform grant-making decisions, best practices, and trends across the commonwealth.



Below are populations that comprise the total PIT Count for 2024.

*Homeless includes those in a shelter or temporary housing situation and those who are unsheltered.



Point-in-Time data is also used to analyze trends over time.

DHCD has aggregated PIT data since 2010, when 9,080 individuals were experiencing homelessness. Based on 2024 PIT data, there has been a 22% decrease in individuals experiencing homeless since 2010; however, there was a 4% increase between 2023 and 2024.



PIT data for 2024, showed a five percent (5%) increase since 2023, and since 2010, there has been a 35 percent (35%) decrease in family homelessness.



Overall, veterans experiencing homelessness decreased 2% since 2023, while unsheltered veteran homelessness saw 15.6% decrease during the same time.



Individuals may fall into multiple subpopulations.

Sub-population data is only captured on the adult population in the PIT count annually. In the 2024 PIT count, there were 5,528 adults. Of these 12.6% had a substance use disorder, 23% has a serious mental illness, 12% were survivors of domestic violence, and 15% met the definition for chronic homelessness. Chronic Homelessness is defined by an individual with a disability who has been living in a place not meant for human habitation or in an emergency shelter and has been living in these circumstances for at least 12 consecutive months, or on four separate occasions in the last three years that combined equal 12 months (HUD Chronically Homeless Final Rule, effective Jan. 2016).

System Performance Measures

DHCD promotes the importance of homeless services as a coordinated system as opposed to homeless assistance programs that operate independently. To facilitate this perspective, DHCD uses the HUD required system performance measures report as an evaluation of a coordinated and effective system. Below are the state-level aggregated outcomes for federal fiscal year 2023. These outcomes include all projects except for victim service projects, regardless of funding sources.

1. The average length of time a person stays in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing or Safe Haven in Virginia is 140 days in comparison to the national average of 166 days.

The average length of time a person remains homeless (entry into homeless services system to permanent housing move in date) in Virginia is 466 days.

- Returns to Homelessness (after one year) Virginia has an average nine percent (9%) returns to homelessness after a one- year period compared to the national average of 12.2% over the same year period.
- 3. Annual Homeless Count There were 17,660 individuals (3% decrease since previous year) who entered the homeless services system in Virginia. This is a count of persons who entered an emergency shelter, transitional housing, or permanent housing program. Virginia served 1.4% of the total number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness nation-wide.
- 4. First Time Homeless There were 14,591 individuals experiencing homelessness for the first-time, which is a 1% increase from the previous year. Of all individuals who entered the homeless services system, 82% were experiencing homelessness for the first time.
- 5. Percent of individuals who exited the homeless services system and increased their income is 39.5% (16% increase from the previous year). The national average remained at 32%.
- 6. Exits to Permanent Housing Of all the individuals who exited the homeless services system, an average 40% exited to a permanent housing solution. The national average of successful exits to permanent housing is 32%.

Homeless Programs

DHCD administered approximately \$30 million for homeless assistance programs during FY24. This includes approximately \$17 million in state general funds (homeless and homeless prevention funding) and \$12 million in state Housing Trust Fund that leveraged approximately \$4.8 million in federal funds to address the needs of those experiencing homelessness in Virginia.

DHCD received \$3.2 million in federal funding from HUD's Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program and \$1.6 million in Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program. The federal ESG program is leveraged along with the State General Funds to support the homeless services system across the commonwealth through the Virginia Homeless Solutions Program (VHSP). The HOPWA program prevents homelessness among low-income individuals with HIV/AIDS and their families.

DHCD expended the remaining federal COVID relief funding during FY24.

Administered Homeless Programs 2023-2024 Program Year Allocation						
Programs	Sources	Allocation to DHCD	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date		
Solutions Program	Federal- HUD and State- General Funds	\$16,257,717	7/01/2023	6/30/2024		
- General Homeless Services Funds	State	\$9,001,820				
- General Homeless Prevention Funds	State	\$4,050,000				
 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) 	Federal	\$3,205,897				
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS/HIV (HOPWA)	Federal	\$1,631,954	7/01/2023	6/29/2026		
Housing Trust Fund – Homeless Reduction Grant	State	\$12,000,000	1/01/2024	12/31/2024		
CHERP (ESG-CV)	Federal	\$32,144,481.08	6/09/2020	6/30/2024		

Virginia Homeless Solutions Program

The Virginia Homeless Solutions Program (VHSP) is approximately \$16 million, comprised of a combination of state and federal funding for emergency shelter operations, rapid re-housing and housing stabilization, homeless prevention, coordinated assessment/entry, outreach services, community planning costs, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) costs, and administration. VHSP funds require a 25 percent match.

VHSP Service Providers				
Service Providers	Location	Awards 2023 – 2024		
Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission	Accomack	\$37,750.00		
ACTS - Action In Community Through Service	Prince William	\$248,692.00		
AIDS Response Effort, Inc.	Winchester	\$180,487.00		
Arlington County Government	Arlington	\$46,539.00		
PathForward	Arlington	\$122,546.00		
Bay Aging	Urbana	\$156,163.00		
Bridges to Independence	Arlington	\$145,651.00		
CARITAS	Richmond	\$231,000.00		
Carpenter's Shelter	Alexandria	\$538,981.00		
Choices, Council on Domestic Violence for Page Co., Inc.	Luray	\$70,776.00		
City of Alexandria, a municipal corporation of Virginia	Alexandria	\$452,202.00		
City of Charlottesville	Charlottesville	\$539,369.00		
City of Hampton	Hampton	\$1,060,922.00		
City of Roanoke	Roanoke	\$110,408.00		
City of Portsmouth	Portsmouth	\$5,000.00		
Clinch Valley Community Action, Inc.	Tazewell	\$30,785.00		
Commonwealth Catholic Charities	Richmond	\$36,587.00		
Commonwealth Catholic Charities (CACH)	Petersburg	\$40,273.00		
Community Touch, Inc.	Fauquier	\$181,775.00		
Cornerstones (formerly Reston Interfaith)	Reston	\$226,613.00		
Council of Community Services	Roanoke	\$363,490.00		
County of Loudoun	Loudoun	\$272,269.00		

Culpeper Community Development Corp.	Culpeper	\$92,868.00
Doorways for Women and Families	Arlington	\$219,052.00
Eastern Shore of Virginia Housing	0.00	
Alliance	Accomack	\$133,000.00
Empowerhouse (formerly RCDV)	Fredericksburg	\$164,217.00
ESCADV	Accomack	\$46,802.00
Family Crisis Support Services, Inc.	Norton	\$322,083.00
Family Resource Center, Inc.	Wytheville	\$89,655.00
First Step: A Response to Domestic		¢ 40.272.00
Violence	Harrisonburg	\$40,272.00
ForKids,Inc.	Portsmouth	\$54,804.00
ForKids,Inc.	Norfolk	\$714,584.00
George Washington Regional		¢71.002.00
Commission	Fredericksburg	\$71,002.00
Gloucester United Emergency Shelter		¢0Γ 017 00
Team	Gloucester	\$95,917.00
Hanover Safe Place	Hanover	\$143,852.00
Harrisonburg Redevelopment and		\$59,391.00
Housing Authority	Harrisonburg	\$29,591.00
Help and Emergency Response, Inc.	Portsmouth	\$223,468.00
Helping Overcome Poverty's Existence,		\$320,164.00
Inc.	Wytheville	ŞSZU,104.00
HomeAgain	Richmond	\$232,790.00
Homeward	Richmond	\$299,938.00
Housing Families First	Richmond	\$211,537.00
Interfaith Outreach Assosciation	Lynchburg	\$85,490.00
Judeo-Christian Outreach Center	Virginia Beach	\$121,406.00
LGBT Life Center	Norfolk	\$239,543.00
LGBT Life Center	Virginia Beach	\$73,126.00
Mercy House, Inc.	Harrisonburg	\$388,963.00
Micah Ecumenical Ministries	Fredericksburg	\$335,554.00
Miriam's House	Lynchburg	\$132,794.00
New Hope Housing, Inc.	Arlington	\$209,900.00
New Hope Housing, Inc.	Fairfax	\$226,830.00
New River Community Action, Inc.	Radford	\$287,512.00
New River Family Shelter	Christiansburg	\$43,813.00
Norfolk Community Services Board	Norfolk	\$27,500.00
Northern Virginia Family Service	Prince William	\$259,752.00
Northern Virginia Family Service	Fairfax	\$178,313.00
People Incorporated of Virginia	Abingdon	\$201,944.00
Portsmouth Volunteers for the Homeless, Inc.	Portsmouth	\$77,831.00
	Portsmouth	

Project Horizon	Lexington	\$37,142.00
PWC DSS Homeless Services	Prince William	\$257,741.00
Roads to Recovery	Lynchburg	\$103,161.00
Rappahannock Refuge, Inc. dba Hope House	Fredericksburg	\$433,317.00
Rappahannock-Rapidan Community Services	Culpeper	\$5,000.00
Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission	Culpeper	\$135,201.00
Samaritan House, Inc.	Virginia Beach	\$198,726.00
Shelter House, Inc.	Fairfax	\$191,982.00
Shelter House, Inc.	Loudoun	\$100,367.00
Shenandoah Alliance for Shelter	Shenandoah	\$188,557.00
Southside Survivor Response Center, Inc.	Martinsville	\$44,070.00
St. Joseph's Villa	Richmond	\$300,000.00
St. Joseph's Villa	Petersburg	\$129,104.00
StandUp For Kids, Hampton Roads	Virginia Beach	\$54,986.00
STEP, Inc.	Rocky Mount	\$186,222.00
STEPS, Inc.	Farmville	\$125,016.00
StreetLight Community Outreach Ministries	Woodbridgo	\$54,045.00
The Daily Planet	Woodbridge Richmond	\$32,712.00
The Improvement Association	Emporia	\$56,324.00
The Laurel Center	Winchester	\$68,017.00
The Planning Council	Norfolk	
		\$113,651.00
The Salvation Army of Central VA	Richmond	\$65,000.00
Total Action Against Poverty	Roanoke	\$100,950.00
Tri-County Community Action Agency	South Boston	\$101,844.00
Valley Community Services Board	Staunton	\$52,000.00
Valley Mission, Inc.	Staunton	\$52,500.00
Virginia Supportive Housing	Norfolk	\$57,200.00
Volunteers Of America Chesapeake	Loudoun	\$100,367.00
Women's Resource Center of the New		\$166 144 00
River Valley	Radford	\$166,144.00
YWCA Central Virginia	Lynchburg	\$25,750.00
YWCA Richmond	Richmond	\$93,900.00
YWCA South Hampton Roads	Norfolk	\$268,620.00
Total		
*Total does not include admin		
allocated to DHCD		\$15,423,561.00

Emergency Shelter

Funding for emergency shelter totaled approximately \$2.9 million through the VHSP competitive application process.

During 2023-24 program year, emergency shelter providers receiving VHSP served 8,720 persons (5,821 households) through emergency and seasonal shelters. Of the 5,821 households, thirty percent (30%) or 1,728 were households with children and seventy-eight percent (70%) or 4,093 were households with only adults.



The table and charts below provide additional details on the populations served by emergency shelters.

Thirty percent (30%) of persons in emergency shelter were children under the age of 18 and five percent (5%) of those served were 62 or older.



In October 2023, HUD made significant changes to the required data elements to collect gender identity. Attached you will find the full list of gender identity data elements. The gender categories provide in this graph are only those where individuals receiving emergency shelter identified.

Fifty-three percent (53%) of individuals served in an emergency shelter identified as a woman and 46% identified as a man. In addition, 42 individuals (< 1%) identified as nonbinary, transgender, questioning, culturally specific, woman/transgender, woman/nonbinary, man/transgender, transgender/non-binary, non-binary/questioning, or more than 2 gender identities.



In October 2023, HUD made significant changes to the required data elements to collect race/ethnicity. This graph combines multiple categories. Attached you will find the full list of race/ethnic data elements.

Twenty-nine percent (29%) were White, 52% Black, African American, or African; one percent (1%) Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander; less than one percent (<1%) Asian or Asian American; less than one percent (<1%) Middle Eastern or North African; five percent (5%) Hispanic/Latino/e/o; and one percent (1%) American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous. Additionally, there were four percent (4%) Multiracial with more than one race and not Hispanic/Latino/e/o, and four percent (4%) Multiracial with more than one race and Hispanic/Latina/e/o.



* Note sub-populations only include adults (except chronically homeless families) and are not unduplicated. An adult may be in one or more categories.

Forty percent (40%) of adults were victims of domestic violence. Of the households without children who were served in emergency shelter, 13% were chronically homeless. And of the total individuals in households' w/children, one percent (1%) were chronically homeless. Five percent (5%) of adult individuals who received VHSP-funded shelter services report veteran status.



*Note conditions only include adults. An adult may be in one or more categories.

Conditions include serious mental illness (38%), substance use disorder (16%), and other chronic health conditions (22%), which are self-reported unless used as a documented

disability for permanent supportive housing or other permanent housing that requires disability documentation.



*Note insurance includes adults and children. A person may be enrolled in more than one type of insurance.

Over the last fiscal year, 18% of those who were experiencing homelessness had no insurance while the majority, 66%, had Medicaid.



Of households that exited shelter, 42% exited to a permanent destination (market rate rental, Section 8, supportive housing, or permanent placement with family and friends). Thirteen percent (13%) exited to a temporary destination (hotel or to temporary housing provided by family/friends or self-paid hotel). Three percent (3%) exited to an institutional destination (hospital, psychiatric hospital, jail/prison, treatment facility, etc.). Ten percent (10%) exited to another homeless location, and 28% exited to an "other" (unspecified) destination, while three percent (3%) exited without the data being collected.

Rapid Re-housing

Funding for rapid re-housing totaled approximately \$6.3 million through the VHSP application process. Rapid re-housing is a solution to homelessness designed to help individuals and families to quickly exit homelessness and return to permanent housing. It is offered without preconditions (such as employment, income, absence of criminal record, or sobriety) and the resources and services provided are tailored to the unique needs of the household. By providing resources for the core components of rapid re-housing, such as housing identification, move-in and rent assistance up to 24 months, and stabilization case management and voluntary services, rapid re-housing is an effective solution to end homelessness



Forty-four percent (44%) of those who were rapidly re-housed were children under the age of 18.



The gender categories provide in this graph are only those individuals receiving rapid rehousing identified.

Fifty-five percent (55%) of individuals served in a rapid re-housing identified as a woman and 43% identify as a man. In addition, 42 individuals (< 1%) identified as non-binary, transgender, woman/transgender, man/transgender, transgender/non-binary, or questioning/different identity.



In October 2023, HUD made significant changes to the required data elements to collect race/ethnicity. This graph combines multiple categories. Attached you will find the full list of race/ethnic data elements.

Twenty-one percent (21%) were White, 63% Black, African American, or African; less than one percent (<1%) Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander; two percent (2%) Asian or Asian American; less than one percent (<1%) Middle Eastern or North African; two percent (2%) Hispanic/Latino/e/o; and less than one percent (<1%) American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous. Additionally, there were six percent (6%) Multiracial with more than one race and not Hispanic/Latino/e/o, and seven percent (7%) Multiracial with more than one race and Hispanic/Latina/e/o.



*Note sub-populations only include adults (except chronically homeless families) and are not unduplicated. An adult may be in one or more categories.

Thirty-five percent (35%) of adults were survivors of domestic violence. Of the households without children who were served in rapid re-housing, fourteen percent (14%) were chronically homeless. And of the total individuals in households' with children, three percent (3%) were chronically homeless (family chronic homelessness includes adults and children). Three percent (3%) of adult individuals receiving VHSP-funded shelter services reported veteran status.



^{*}Note conditions only include adults. An adult may be in one or more categories.

Conditions include serious mental illness (35%), substance use disorder (9%), and other chronic health conditions (22%), which were self-reported unless used as a documented disability for permanent supportive housing or other permanent housing that required disability documentation.



*Note insurance includes adults and children. A person may be enrolled in more than one type.

Over the last fiscal year, 14% of individuals enrolled in a rapid re-housing program had no insurance while the majority, 75%, had Medicaid.



Of households who exited rapid re-housing, seventy-nine percent (79%) exited to a permanent destination (market rate rental, Section 8, supportive housing, or permanent placement with family and friends). Eight percent (8%) exited to a temporary destination (hotel or to temporary housing provided by family/friend). Two percent (2%) exited to an institutional destination (hospital, psychiatric hospital, jail/prison, treatment facility, etc.). Six percent (6%) exited to another homeless location, and 5% exited to an "other" (unspecified) destination.

Homeless Prevention

The purpose of VHSP's prevention funding is to prevent homelessness by targeting resources to those households who will imminently (within 14 days) lose their primary nighttime residence and have incomes below 30 percent area median income. Eligible homeless prevention activities include rent and housing stabilization financial assistance, housing search and placement, stabilization case management and services, and mediation.

Through VHSP, approximately \$4 million in state funds were distributed across the commonwealth for homeless prevention activities. During the 2023-2024 program year, prevention funding provided assistance to 2,293 individuals (996 households) including 493 households with children under the age of 18.



Forty-five percent (45%) of the individuals who received homeless prevention services were under the age of 18.



The gender categories provide in this graph are only those individuals receiving rapid rehousing identified.



Fifty-nine percent (59%) of individuals served in a rapid re-housing identified as a woman and 40% identify as a man.

In October 2023, HUD made significant changes to the required data elements to collect race/ethnicity. This graph combines multiple categories. Attached you will find the full list of race/ethnic data elements.

Thirty-four percent (34%) were White, 50% Black, African American, or African; less than one percent (<1%) Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander; one percent (1%) Asian or Asian American; one percent (1%) Middle Eastern or North African; three percent (3%) Hispanic/Latino/e/o; and less than one percent (<1%) American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous. Additionally, there were six percent (6%) Multiracial with more than one race and not Hispanic/Latino/e/o, and three percent (3%) Multiracial with more than one race and Hispanic/Latina/e/o.



*Note sub-populations only include adults (except chronically homeless families) and are not unduplicated. An adult may be in one or more categories.

Nineteen percent (19%) of adults were survivors of domestic violence. Of the households without children who were served in homeless prevention, two percent (2%) were chronically homeless. Two percent (2%) of adult individuals receiving VHSP-prevention services reported veteran status.



*Note conditions only include adults. An adult may be in one or more categories.

Conditions include serious mental illness (20%), substance use disorder (5%), and other chronic health conditions (14%), which are self-reported unless used as a documented disability for permanent supportive housing or other permanent housing that requires disability documentation.



*Note insurance includes adults and children. A person may be enrolled in more than one type.

Over the last fiscal year, nine percent (9%) of individuals enrolled in prevention programs had no insurance while the majority, 72%, had Medicaid.



Of households who exited homeless prevention, 82% exited to a permanent destination (market rate rental, Section 8, supportive housing, or permanent placement with family and friends). Seven percent (7%) exited to a temporary destination (hotel or to temporary housing provided by family/friends) and two percent (2%) exited to a homeless destination (shelter or place not meant for human habitation) and eight percent (8%) exited to an "other" destination.

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS/HIV (HOPWA)

HOPWA funds are available to meet needed housing assistance for moderate- to lowincome individuals with HIV/AIDS outside of Virginia's entitlement metropolitan statistical areas (EMSAs). The funds through this program were focused on direct housing assistance and include supportive services for the individuals receiving housing assistance through the HOPWA program.

DHCD awards HOPWA funds to eligible project sponsors (that operate outside the state's EMSAs) following a renewal application process. Currently, the state HOPWA programs encompass 31,749 square miles.

DHCD administered a federal allocation of \$1,375,054 in HOPWA funds through eight project sponsors across the Commonwealth of Virginia. The project sponsors served a total of 304 unduplicated households with housing assistance. The services they received included:

- Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance (STRMU) 214 households
- Tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA) 88 households
- Supportive services 304 households

An additional 147 family members, of which 4 also had HIV/AIDS, benefited from HOPWA housing assistance.

HOPWA Project Sponsors 2023-2024					
		Housing	Support	Funded	
Sub-grantee (Project Sponsor)	Service Area(s)	Activities	Services	Amount	
	Page,	Short term rent.	Case		
AIDS Response Effort, Inc.	Shenandoah,	Tenant based	management/		
	Winchester	rental assistance	Food bank	\$92,087.00	
City of Charlottesville	Roanoke	Tenant based rental assistance, Short term rent, Support services, Permanent Housing Placement	Case management	\$288,172.00	
Commonwealth Catholic Charities	Norton	Tenant based rental assistance, Short term rent, Support services	Case management	\$128,144.00	
Council of Community Services	Roanoke, Covington, Salem, Clifton Forge, Vinton	Tenant based rental assistance, Short term rent, Support services, Permanent Housing Placement	Case management	\$265,000.00	
Fredericksburg Area HIV/AIDS Support Services	Fredericksburg	Tenant based rental assistance, Short term rent, Support services, Permanent Housing Placement	Case management/ Transportation	\$140,000.00	

Harrisonburg Community Health Center Care Management	Page, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Buena Vista, Lexington, Staunton, Waynesboro	Tenant based rental assistance, Short term rent, Support services, Permanent Housing Placement, Housing information Services	Case management	\$122,200.20
Lynchburg Community Action Group, Inc.	Lynchburg	Short term rent. Tenant based rental assistance, support services	Case management, Transportation, Food/Foodbank, Support Group	\$83,199.00
Pittsylvania Community Action Inc	Pittsylvania	Tenant based rental assistance, Short term rent, Support services, Permanent Housing Placement	Case management	\$115,000.00
Total *Total does not include admin allocated to DHCD				\$1,233,802.20

Housing Trust Fund - Homeless Reduction Grant

At least 80 percent of the funds allocated to the Virginia Housing Trust Fund must be used to provide loans that reduce the costs of affordable rental housing and homeownership. Up to 20 percent may be used for grants to reduce homelessness. Eligible project types of the Homeless Reduction Grant (HRG) include rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing for persons experiencing chronic homelessness, and innovative and pilot projects focused on addressing the permanent housing needs of historically underserved populations, including older adults and youth experiencing homelessness. Eligible activities for each of these project types include rental assistance, case management, planning activities, outreach and engagement services, and crisis housing for special populations.

Eighty-six applications were for last year's Housing Trust Fund Homeless Reduction Grant competitive cycle, with requests of over \$16 million in funding. The applications were

reviewed, evaluated, ranked and scored according to the requirements of the program. Upon completion of the review process, proposals were ranked, whereby award offers are recommended to the highest-ranking proposals based on funding availability.

The awards were distributed as follows:

RRH – Rapid Re-Housing

•

PSH – Permanent Supportive Housing

UPIP – Underserved Populations Innovation Project (Innovative projects for specific groups experiencing homelessness who have been historically underserved including Older Adults and Youth.

• Total amount (\$) utilized \$12,900,000

Total # of projects funded		68
0	# of RRH projects	34
0	# of UPI projects	9
0	# of PSH projects	25

Housing Trust Fund – Homeless Reduction Grant 2023 - 2024				
Organization	Project Name	Project Type	Recommended Funding	Localities
Virginia	Youth Shared	UPIP	\$805,875	City of Richmond,
Commonwealth	Housing Program			Counties of
University	Implementation and Evaluation			Chesterfield and Henrico
Bridges to	Bridges to	RRH	\$625,630	City of Arlington
Independence	Indpendence-RRH- 23			
FACETS	Facets HTF RRH 2023	RRH	\$526,452	County of Fairfax
Williamsburg	WHOM Older	UPIP	\$473,040	City of
House of Mercy	Adults Returning to			Williamsburg,
	Stability (OARS),			Counties of James
	2022			City and York
Shelter House	Shelter House, Inc.	RRH	\$451,214	County of
Inc.	Loudoun Rapid Re- Housing 2023			Loudoun
Family Crisis	FCSS PSH Serbie	PSH	\$432,241	City of Norton,
Support	2023			Counties of
Services, Inc.				Dickenson, Lee,
				Scott, and Wise
Carpenter's	Carpenter's Shelter	RRH	\$400,000	City of
Shelter	Rapid Rehousing 2023			Alexandria
Shelter House,	Housing Trust Fund	RRH	\$400,000	Cities of Fairfax
Inc.	Homeless Reduction			and Falls Church,
	Grant 2023			County of Fairfax

Ecumenical MinistriesFredericksburg Continuum of Car Permanent Supportive Housing Program (Micah)Fredericksburg, Counties of Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania, and StaffordFamily Crisis Support Services Inc.Pamily CrisisUPIP\$379,773City of Norton, Counties of Dickenson, Lee, Scott, and Wise Cunties of James City and YorkWilliamsburg House of Mercy VillaWHOM, Colonial Area Supportive Housing 2022PSH\$343,656City of Norton, Counties of James Cunties of James Cities of Colonial Heights, Dinwiddie, Emporia, Hopewell, and PetersburgVirginia Supportive Housing UriginiaFY23 Virginia Supportive Housing Greater Richmond Continuum of Car PermanentPSH\$300,000City of Richmond Susportive HousingVirginia Supportive Housing Commonwealth Cammonwealth<	M ² 1	EVO2	DCII	¢200.070	Citer of
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		2023			Prince William

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Bay Aging	Bay Aging Scattered Site Permanent Supportive Housing 2023	PSH	\$265,823	Counties of Essex, Gloucester, King and Queen, King William, Lancaster, Matthews, Middlesex, Richmond and Westmoreland,
Virginia	FY23 Virginia	PSH	\$250,000	Cities of
Supportive Housing	Supportive Housing SVHC Permanent Supportive Housing Services			Chesapeake, Norfolk, and Suffolk
LINK of Hampton Roads Inc.	LINK of Hampton Roads, CANLINK Housing Trust Fund 2023	PSH	\$245,078	Cities of Hampton and Williamsburg, County of Newport News City
Valley Community Services Board	2023 Rapid Rehousing Youth Valley Community Services Board	RRH	\$227,115	Cities of Buena Vista, Lexington, Staunton, and Waynesboro, Counties of Augusta, Bath, Highland, and Rockbridge
Rappahannock- Rapidan Regional Commission	Rappahannock- Rapidan Regional Commission Permanent Supportive Housing 2023	PSH	\$222,000	Counties of Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock
Council of Community Services	Council of Community Services Rapid Rehousing 2023	RRH	\$203,610	Cities of Covington, Craig, Roanoke, and Salem, Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, and Roanoke
Carpenter's Shelter	Carpenter's Shelter Rapid Rehousing Project II	RRH	\$200,000	City of Alexandria
Cornerstones (formerly Reston Interfaith)	Cornerstones Rapid	RRH	\$200,000	Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church, County of Fairfax
The Haven at First & Market	The Haven Rapid Rehousing Program 2023	RRH	\$200,000	City of Charlottesville, Counties of

Micah Ecumenical Ministries	Micah Health Innovation	UPIP	\$198,790	Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson City of Fredericksburg, Counties of Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania, and Stafford
Tri-County Community Action Agency	Tri-County Community Action Agency	PSH	\$177,944	Counties of Charlotte, Halifax, and Mecklenburg
PathForward	The A-SPAN Supportive Housing Project 2023	PSH	\$175,000	County of Arlington
Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia	Senior Services of SEVA Homeless Older Adults Program 2023	UPIP	\$162,756	Cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Norfolk City, Portsmouth, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach City, Counties of Isle of Wight and Southampton
Judeo-Christian Outreach Center	Judeo Christian Outreach Center Rapid Rehousing 2023	RRH	\$150,000	City of Virginia Beach
Mercy House Inc.	Mercy House Housing Trust Fund 2023	RRH	\$150,000	Cities of Harrisonburg, Staunton, and Waynesboro, Counties of Augusta, and Rockingham
Miriam's House	Miriam's House, Community First 2023	RRH	\$150,000	Cities of Bedford, Campbell, and Lynchburg, Counties of Amherst, Appomattox, and Bedford
Rappahannock- Rapidan Regional Commission	Rappahannock- Rapidan Regional Commission Rapid Rehousing 2023	RRH	\$148,000	Counties of Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange,

				and
				and Rappahannock
Doorways for	2023 Doorwove	RRH	\$147,579	County of
Women and	2023 Doorways Housing Trust Fund	KKI1	φ147,373	Arlington
Families	Trousing Trust Fully			Armigion
PathForward	PathForward Rapid	RRH	\$147,019	County of
1 ann 01 ward	Rehousing Project	KKII	\$177,017	Arlington
	23			7 mington
Carpenter's	Carpenter's Shelter	PSH	\$135,000	City of
Shelter	Permanent		+	Alexandria
	Supportive Housing			
	2023			
New River	New River	RRH	\$132,850	City of Radford,
Community	Community Action			Counties of Giles,
Action Inc.	Housing Trust Fund			Floyd,
	Rapid Rehousing			Montgomery and
	FY2023			Pulaski, Towns of
				Blacksburg, and
		DDV	¢107.000	Christiansburg
S.T.A.R. Haven	S.T.A.R. Haven	RRH	\$125,000	Cities of
	Rapid Rehousing			Chesapeake,
	2023			Franklin, Norfolk,
				and Suffolk, Counties of Isle of
				Wight, and Southampton
Micah	FY23	RRH	\$118,450	City of
Ecumenical	Fredericksburg	KKII	\$110,450	Fredericksburg,
Ministries	Continuum of Care			Counties of
iviniisti ies	Rapid Rehousing			Caroline, King
	Program (Micah)			George,
				Spotsylvania, and
				Stafford
Virginia	FY23 Virginia	PSH	\$110,000	City of Virginia
Supportive	Supportive Housing			Beach
Housing	Cloverleaf and			
	Crescent Square			
	Virginia Beach			
Virginia	FY23 Virginia	PSH	\$110,000	City of
Supportive	Supportive Housing			Charlottesville
Housing	The Crossings			
	Charlottesville			
	Permanent			
	Supportive Housing	DOLL	¢105.000	
New Hope	Arlington	PSH	\$105,000	County of
Housing Inc.	Permanent			Arlington
	Supportive Housing			
	Projects 2023			

X 7' · ·		DCH	¢105 000	
Virginia	FY23 Virginia	PSH	\$105,000	City of Norfolk
Supportive	Supportive Housing			
Housing	Gosnold and Church			
	Street Norfolk	DDU	¢100.000	
Culpeper	Culpeper	RRH	\$100,000	Counties of
Community	Community			Culpeper,
Development	Development			Fauquier,
Corporation	Corporation/CHASS			Madison, Orange,
	Homeless and			and
	Special Needs			Rappahannock
	Housing Trust Fund			
	Homeless Reduction			
Cl	Grant 2023	DDU	¢100.000	
Gloucester	Gloucester United	RRH	\$100,000	Counties of Essex,
United	Emergency Shelter			Gloucester, King
Emergency	Team Rapid Re-			and Queen, King
Shelter Team	housing 2023			William,
				Lancaster,
				Matthews,
				Middlesex,
				Richmond and
			.	Westmoreland,
Northern	Northern Virginia	RRH	\$100,000	City of Radford,
Virginia Family	Family Service			Counties of Giles,
Service	Prince William Area			Floyd,
	Rapid Rehousing			Montgomery and
	Program			Pulaski, Towns of
				Blacksburg, and
		DOLL	¢100.000	Christiansburg
Pathways	Pathways	PSH	\$100,000	Cities of Fairfax
	Permanent			and Falls Church,
	Supportive Housing			County of Fairfax
	2023	DOLL	#00.10	
St. Joseph's	St. Joseph's Villa	PSH	\$98,406	City of Richmond,
Villa	Permanent			Counties of
	Supportive Housing			Charles City,
	Richmond			Chesterfield,
				Goochland,
				Hanover, Henrico,
				New Kent, and
				Powhatan, Town
		יותם	¢07.000	of Ashland
YWCA South	YWCA South	RRH	\$96,202	Cities of
Hampton Roads	Hampton Roads			Chesapeake,
	Housing Trust Fund			Franklin, Norfolk
	Rapid Rehousing			City, Portsmouth,
	FY23			Suffolk, and
				Virginia Beach
				City, Counties of

				Isle of Wight and
People Incorporated of Virginia	People Inc. Housing Trust Fund Homeless Reduction Grant Foothills Housing Network Permanent Supportive Housing 2023	PSH	\$95,986	Southampton Counties of Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock
People Incorporated of Virginia	People Inc. Cumberland Plateau Housing Trust Fund Permanent Supportive Housing 2023	PSH	\$89,859	City of Bristol, Counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell, Tazewell, and Washington
Rappahannock Refuge dba Hope House	Loisann's Hope House Housing Trust Fund Rapid Rehousing for Families	RRH	\$80,000	City of Fredericksburg, Counties of Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania, and Stafford
ForKids Inc.	ForKids Rapid Rehousing for Parenting Youth and Young Adults	UPIP	\$75,000	Cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Norfolk, and Suffolk Counties of Isle of Wight and Southampton
New Hope Housing Inc.	City of Alexandria Permanent Supportive Housing 2023	PSH	\$73,000	City of Alexandria
Help and Emergency Response Inc.	Help and Emergency Response Rapid Rehousing 2023	RRH	\$65,360	City of Portsmouth
Community Touch	Community Touch Rapid Rehousing 2023	RRH	\$65,000	Counties of Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock
FACETS	FACETS Rapid Rehousing 2023	RRH	\$63,109	County of Fairfax
Miriam's House	Miriam's House Central Virginia	PSH	\$61,800	Cities of Bedford and Lynchburg, Counties of

h	1			- I
	Supportive Housing			Amherst,
	2023			Appomattox,
				Bedford and
				Campbell
Bay Aging	Bay Aging Rapid	RRH	\$60,000	Counties of Essex,
	Rehousing 2023			Gloucester, King
	0			and Queen, King
				William,
				Lancaster,
				Matthews,
				Middlesex,
				Richmond and
				Westmoreland,
Miriam's House	Miriam's House	RRH	\$60,000	,
Miriam's House		KKH	\$60,000	Cities of Bedford,
	Community First			Campbell, and
	Expansion 2022			Lynchburg,
				Counties of
				Amherst,
				Appomattox, and
				Bedford
New Hope	Fairfax Permanent	PSH	\$60,000	Cities of Fairfax
Housing Inc.	Supportive Housing			and Falls Church,
	Projects 2023			County of Fairfax
Virginia	FY23 Virginia	PSH	\$60,000	City of
Supportive	Supportive Housing			Portsmouth
Housing	South Bay			
U	Apartments			
	Portsmouth			
Mercy House	Mercy House Rapid	RRH	\$55,000	Cities of
Inc.	R-housing 2023	ittiii	\$55,000	Harrisonburg,
inc.	it housing 2025			Staunton, and
				Waynesboro,
				Counties of
				Augusta, and
		DOLL	#2 < 001	Rockingham
FACETS	FACETS Permanent	PSH	\$36,891	County of Fairfax
	Supportive Housing			
	2023	n =		
First Step: A	First Step Rapid	RRH	\$26,000	Cities of
Response to	Rehousing 2023			Harrisonburg and
Domestic				Winchester,
Violence				Counties of
				Rockingham,
				Clarke, Frederick,
				Page, Shenandoah,
				and Warren
Shenandoah	Shenandoah Rapid	RRH	\$25,000	Cities of
Alliance for	Rehousing 2023		. ,	Harrisonburg,
Shelter				Staunton, and
Shelter				Staanton, and

				Waynesboro, Counties of
				Augusta, and
				Rockingham
Commonwealth	Commonwealth	PSH	\$23,690	Cities of Colonial
Catholic	Catholic Charities			Heights,
Charities	Crater PSH Project			Dinwiddie,
	FY23			Emporia,
				Hopewell, and
				Petersburg
				Counties of
				Greensville, Prince
				George, Surry, and
				Sussex
AIDS Response	AIDS Response	RRH	\$10,000	Cities of
Effort Inc.	Effort Rapid			Harrisonburg and
	Rehousing 2023			Winchester,
				Counties of
				Rockingham,
				Clarke, Frederick,
				Page, Shenandoah,
				and Warren
	Total:		\$12,900,000	

Housing Trust Fund: Homeless Reduction Grant Outcomes	Rapid Re-housing	Permanent Supportive Housing	Underserved Populations Innovative Project
Total Households	1193	942	401
Total Adults	1486	974	467
Total Children	823	43	204
Total Individuals	2309	1017	671
Mental Health Disorder	22%	59%	47%
Substance Use Disorder	7%	29%	10%
Chronic Health Condition	15%	27%	15%
Developmental Disability	7%	8%	9%
Physical Disability	15%	32%	10%
Domestic Violence Survivor	31%	19%	30%
Total Exits	1719	183	460
Exits to Homelessness	8%	12%	11%
Exits to Institutions	1%	14%	2%

Exits to Temporary	7%	9%	18%
Housing			
Exits to Permanent Housing	76%	31%	60%
Exits to Other Housing	9%	34%	10%

Underserved Population Innovation Projects (UPIP)

Agencies across the Commonwealth have piloted projects that focus on populations that are historically underserved including: youth experiencing homelessness from ages 18-24, older adults, LGBTQ+, those with substance use or who are in recovery, and those with complex medical needs. As a result, many projects have created new models of service delivery that includes the experience of those being served. A few highlights include establishing Youth Action Boards that have diverse voices for system improvement and teaching youth skills needed for adulthood such as opening checking accounts, budgeting, time management, transportation options, and how to apply for benefits. Projects focusing on older adults developed partnerships with home health agencies, assistances with activities of daily living (ADL) and managing chronic health conditions. Many projects continued practices that were previously developed, including Supportive Housing Collaboratives, partnering with Managed Care Organizations, increasing shared housing options, improving coordinated entry and assessment methods, providing critical supplies (food, clothing, diapers, and toiletries), and the implementation of Positive Youth Development and Healing Centered Engagement approaches.

While focusing on these underserved populations, a number of barriers to their service that were identified. Specific to parenting youth (18-24), were lack of childcare, lack of shelter space, and difficulty in getting connected to mainstream services. There were also barriers related to the complexity of serving older adults specifically the lack of cross-system referrals when healthcare providers identify lack of housing as the most significant health-related social need. In rural areas, the lack of transportation and lack of employment opportunities were reported as significant barriers to stable housing.

COVID-Related Funding

The Homeless and Special Needs Housing unit administered the COVID Homelessness Emergency Response Program (CHERP) to first ensure all individuals and households experiencing homelessness have access to safe, 24/7, emergency shelter during this health pandemic. The second goal of the COVID Homelessness Emergency Response Program was to help households maintain or obtain permanent housing and receive the housing-focused supportive services necessary to retain permanent housing. Additionally, COVID funds were used to continue services in the post-COVID era.

All COVID Funds were expended during FY24. Over the four-year period, the commonwealth served 12,439 persons with emergency shelter, 4,503 persons with rapid re-housing, and 1,247 persons with prevention. Of these served, 9,183 exited to permanent housing.

Conclusion

DHCD's Homeless and Special Needs Housing unit continues to work to make homelessness rare, brief, and one time. To that end, the unit administers state- and federally-funded homeless service programs to address housing and stabilization services for individuals and families at-risk of or experiencing homelessness in the commonwealth. To administer these funds, partnerships are maintained with communities and an array of service providers including nonprofits, units of local government, and housing authorities. It is paramount for ensuring comprehensive homeless services are provided effectively and efficiently in accordance with best-practice models to maximize limited resources.

These efforts have been successful. Since 2010, the increased focus on ending homeless in the Commonwealth of Virginia has achieved significant results:

- ✓ Overall homelessness decreased by 22 percent
- ✓ Family homelessness decreased by 35 percent
- ✓ Veteran homelessness decreased by 60 percent (since 2011)
- ✓ Youth homelessness decreased by 46 percent (since 2013)
- ✓ Chronic homelessness decreased by 45 percent

With continued state leadership, innovation, funding, and increased affordable housing, ending homelessness is possible in Virginia.

Gender Identity and Race & Ethnicity Data Elements

Gender Identity:

- 1) Woman
- 2) Man
- 3) Culturally Specific Identity
- 4) Transgender
- 5) Non-binary
- 6) Questioning
- 7) Different Identity
- 8) Woman/Man
- 9) Woman/Culturally Specific Identity
- 10) Woman/Transgender
- 11) Woman/Non-Binary
- 12) Woman/Questioning
- 13) Woman/Different Identity
- 14) Man/Culturally Specific Identity
- 15) Man/Transgender
- 16) Man/Non-Binary
- 17) Man/Questioning
- 18) Man/Different Identity
- 19) Culturally Specific Identity/Transgender
- 20) Culturally Specific Identity/Non-Binary
- 21) Culturally Specific Identity/Questioning
- 22) Culturally Specific Identity/Different Identity
- 23) Transgender/Non-Binary
- 24) Transgender/Questioning
- 25) Transgender/Different Identity
- 26) Non-Binary/Questioning
- 27) Non-Binary/Different Identity
- 28) Questioning/Different Identity
- 29) More than 2 Gender Identities Selected
- 30) Gender: Client Doesn't Know/Prefers Not to Answer
- 31) Gender: Data not Collected
- Race & Ethnicity
- 1) R&E: American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous
- 2) R&E: Asian or Asian American
- 3) R&E: Black, African American, or African
- 4) R&E: Hispanic/Latina/e/o
- 5) R&E: Middle Eastern or North African
- 6) R&E: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander *
- 7) R&E: White
- 8) R&E: Asian or Asian American & American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous

9) R&E: Black, African American, or African & American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous

10) R&E: Hispanic/Latina/e/o & American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous

11) R&E: Middle Eastern or North African & American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous 12)R&E: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander & American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous

13) R&E: White & American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous

- 14) R&E: Black, African American, or African & Asian or Asian American
- 15) R&E: Hispanic/Latina/e/o & Asian or Asian American
- 16) R&E: Middle Eastern or North African & Asian or Asian American
- 17) R&E: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander & Asian or Asian American
- 18) R&E: White & Asian or Asian American
- 19) R&E: Hispanic/Latina/e/o & Black, African American, or African
- 20) R&E: Middle Eastern or North African & Black, African American, or African
- 21) R&E: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander & Black, African American, or African
- 22) R&E: White & Black, African American, or African
- 23) R&E: Middle Eastern or North African & Hispanic/Latina/o/e
- 24) R&E: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander & Hispanic/Latina/o/e
- 25) R&E: White & Hispanic/Latina/o/e
- 26) R&E: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander & Middle Eastern or North African
- 27) R&E: White & Middle Eastern or North African
- 28) R&E: White & Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- 29) R&E: Multiracial more than 2 races/ethnicity, where no option is Hispanic/Latina/e/o
- 30) R&E: Multiracial more than 2 races/ethnicity, with one being Hispanic/Latina/e/o
- 31) R&E: Client Doesn't Know/Prefers Not to Answer
- 32) R&E: Data Not Collected