

INCOME

Helping families and individuals achieve financial stability and stable housing

Programs supported by United Way's Community Action Fund



Agency Name	Program	Description
CARITAS	<i>Emergency and Transitional Sheltering</i>	<p>CARITAS was organized over 20 years ago to respond to the tremendous unmet need for emergency shelter for homeless adults in the cold winter months. It has since become the largest emergency shelter program in the community and has been expanded to operate year-round. Each week, host congregations welcome 35-40 homeless guests to eat and sleep at their facilities. More than 170 faith-based communities participate in the program's congregation-based model, which mobilizes thousands of volunteers who cumulatively donate more than 80,000 hours of service annually.</p>
	<i>Family Focus</i>	<p>The Family Focus program at CARITAS provides 24-hour shelter and supportive services for up to 28 children and adults. It is the only homeless shelter in the Richmond area that accepts families with fathers and adolescent males. Designed in collaboration with Salvation Army and HomeAgain, CARITAS serves as the initial entry point in the system for homeless families in our community. Based on an assessment by a social worker, CARITAS conducts "triage" and refers families to longer-term shelter at Salvation Army or Home Again, transitional housing programs, or permanent housing. The program also provides furniture and household items to families exiting the shelter system and moving into permanent housing. Homeless families unable to secure emergency shelter may remain in substandard and unsafe conditions or be forced to place their children in foster care.</p>
Commonwealth Catholic Charities	<i>Homeless Point of Entry</i>	<p>This program, formerly known as Central Intake, provides a single point of entry for persons in housing crises who are seeking shelter and other services. All individuals in need of shelter are required to go through the Homeless Point of Entry system, thus allowing for a more organized, system-wide response to homelessness in our area. At the Homeless Point of Entry office, individuals and families meet with program staff who assess their needs and arrange for entry into local shelters. Program staff also refer clients to other agencies for additional services, such as healthcare, mental health and substance abuse treatment. An on-site social services worker determines clients' eligibility for benefits.</p>
Daily Planet	<i>Case Management Services</i>	<p>The Daily Planet provides comprehensive and integrated case management services for homeless adults in the Greater Richmond area who face significant barriers to overcoming homelessness. Case managers link clients to needed resources in the community and to all of Daily Planet's services, including substance abuse services (inpatient treatment and outpatient groups), mental health services, and medical, dental, and vision services.</p>

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Daily Planet	<i>Medical Respite</i>	The Medical Respite Program at Daily Planet provides short-term convalescent supervision for homeless clients with medical and mental health diagnoses. These individuals are usually discharged from medical facilities and are not able to stay in the emergency shelter system. In a safe, structured setting, program staff assess the psychosocial functioning of clients, provide case management services, and link clients to housing, substance abuse, and mental health treatment and other needed services.
Fan Free Clinic	<i>HIV Case Management</i>	This program assists individuals with HIV/AIDS in securing entitlements, benefits, social services, and appropriate referrals in the community. Services include professionally-led support groups, financial assistance, complimentary therapies, food pantry/nutritional supplements, an HIV/AIDS information and referral hotline, Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) housing emergency financial assistance, and extensive prevention education and outreach. Individuals with HIV/AIDS who become homeless are especially vulnerable because of their increased health care needs; therefore, case managers intervene at the first signs of a housing crisis to prevent homelessness and the additional problems it creates. Case managers also work to address other obstacles that clients may face, including difficulties accessing transportation, medical care, and sufficient food.
Freedom House	<i>Community Shelter</i>	The Community Shelter at Freedom House is a transitional housing program that provides comprehensive support services including case management, referrals to complementary programs, and life skills training. The program provides a safe, clean, and stable environment where individuals address the issues that led them into homelessness. The program also provides well-balanced evening meals, on-site AA meetings, and group activities. Residents are required to find employment, address medical and/or mental health issues if needed, begin saving their income, and pay unresolved debts. They are strongly encouraged to stay in the program for the full 12-month period and then transition into permanent housing.
	<i>Conrad Center Meals Program</i>	The Conrad Center Meals Program provides hot, nutritious meals seven days a week to homeless and low-income individuals. These individuals are more likely to suffer from poor nutrition and chronic illnesses due to living on the streets or living in substandard housing. Many who attend the program are working hourly jobs and do not make a sufficient income to cover the cost of housing, food, and other necessities.
Greater Richmond Job Center at Richmond Goodwill	<i>Greater Richmond Job Center</i>	The Job Center helps individuals become financially stable through employment. The program provides support and training to individuals who are unemployed, underemployed, disabled or disadvantaged to help them develop the skills to conduct an effective job search, learn to make positive personal decisions, and develop strategies to address barriers to employment. The Job Center is a complete and comprehensive gathering of resources, information, and services, which are specifically designed to add productive wage earners to the workforce. Employment services are geared to assist individuals at their current level of knowledge, experience, and ability.

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The Healing Place of Richmond	<i>Emergency and Transitional Sheltering</i>	The Healing Place of Richmond is an innovative program that assists chemically dependent, chronically homeless men in reaching stability. The Healing Place is based upon the principles of the 12 Step Program in Alcoholics Anonymous. One of the key tenets of the program is the belief that alcoholics and addicts have the capacity to heal each other. During the transitional phase of the program, residents obtain full-time employment and pay a small rental fee. They are also required to take life-skills classes and create a plan for their departure that includes developing a support network for maintaining long-term sobriety.
HomeAgain Family Shelter	<i>Espigh Family Shelter</i>	The Espigh Family Shelter at HomeAgain provides housing, intensive case management and child services for homeless women and children as well as single women. Services include debt reduction/money management support, a parenting group, tutoring for children, a substance abuse prevention group, a women's issues group (ex. relationships, budgeting, health care, self-esteem, etc), and linkages with community resources and programs. This array of interventions is designed to prepare residents for permanent housing. In addition, the program connects children with community resources to get them into school or day care.
Homeward	<i>Community Services</i>	Homeward is the planning and coordinating organization for homeless services in the Greater Richmond region. The agency's mission is to prevent, reduce, and end homelessness by facilitating creative solutions through the collaboration, coordination, and cooperation of regional resources and services. Homeward has facilitated the process for the Ten Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, which calls for a transformation of the region's continuum of homeless services to focus on increasing housing stability. Homewards works with regional public and nonprofit service providers to fill gaps in the community's services for residents with very low incomes, to enhance the housing stability and quality of life for these residents, and to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of programs serving homeless individuals and families.
Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR)	<i>Pre- and Post-Release</i>	OAR's Pre and Post-Release program helps offenders make successful transitions upon reentry into the community. The program provides a continuum of services ranging from education and support groups to assistance with transportation, housing, and job search, placement, and retention. Referrals are provided for medical and mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, legal aid, and other community services as needed. Once an individual has gained employment, OAR will purchase work tools, work clothes, safety shoes, and other items required by the client's employer if no alternative funding source is available. Clients are also eligible for rent assistance once employment is verified. In addition, clients are provided with personal hygiene items and seasonal clothing such as coats and gloves as needed.
Richmond YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter	<i>Domestic Violence Shelter Programs</i>	These programs at Richmond YWCA provide a comprehensive array of services to victims of domestic violence. The programs empower women and their families by first providing safety and then providing the tools needed to maintain safety and increase self-sufficiency. Services provided include: emergency shelter for domestic violence victims and their children; transitional apartments for those in the next phases of recovery seeking more independence; a 24-hour hotline; individual counseling and case management; adult and children's support groups; educational groups; transportation; court accompaniment; and referrals to additional services.

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Salvation Army Richmond	<i>Men's Emergency Shelter</i>	<p>This shelter works to alleviate homelessness for single men in the Greater Richmond metropolitan area. The program provides clients with an initial 30-night stay, and extended stays may be granted as long as the individual follows an established, individualized service plan. In addition to at least two meals a day, a shower, and a bed, the program provides employment assistance, life skills workshops, financial assistance, case management, and referrals to other community services.</p>
	<i>Women & Children's Emergency Shelter</i>	<p>The Women and Children's Emergency Shelter provides shelter for homeless women and women with children in the Richmond metropolitan area. Single women and women with children are provided with up to an initial 30-night stay. Case managers help residents develop individualized service plans that include measurable goals and objectives aimed towards addressing the underlying issues that led to the resident's housing crisis. Stays may be extended if progress is being made toward these goals. In addition to food and shelter, the program offers employment assistance, life skills workshops, financial assistance, and referrals to other community services. Parenting classes are provided for women who are pregnant and/or have children. Special activities for children are also provided to help them cope with the stress and trauma of homelessness.</p>
	<i>Family Services Program</i>	<p>The Salvation Army Family Services Program assists families and individuals with basic human needs in the primary areas of housing, utilities, food and clothing. The program provides financial assistance, mortgage and rent assistance, food, household items, clothing vouchers, and seasonal assistance (Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc.). Each client is assessed at intake and assistance and referrals to intra- and inter-agency services are provided as needed.</p>
Virginia Supportive Housing	<i>A Place to Start (APTS)</i>	<p>APTS is a regional program that serves individuals experiencing chronic homelessness and serious mental illness. Chronically homeless individuals are regularly or repeatedly homeless and have a disabling condition. APTS immediately houses these individuals. Housing provides the initial stability that then allows the individuals to meaningfully engage in services. APTS is based on the Pathways to Housing Program in New York City. This "Housing First" model wraps intensive mental health services around those who have an extensive history of homelessness. In 2010, 100% of clients in the program remained housed and didn't return to the streets.</p>
William Byrd Community House	<i>Emergency Assistance and Intake</i>	<p>The Emergency Assistance and Intake program at William Byrd Community House helps low-income individuals and families resolve their immediate financial crises. These individuals and families are at high risk of becoming homeless if their crisis is not resolved. Services include crisis intervention, intensive case management, food, bus tickets, community service referrals, and assistance with rent, mortgage, and utility payments.</p>