

2023 YHDP IMPACT REPORT

Background

The Greater Richmond Continuum of Care (GRCoC) was selected as a Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) community in **October 2022** and awarded **\$4,478,877 for a two-year grant term**. After an extensive and collaborative planning process, including multiple systems and agencies over a six-month period, the GRCoC released the **Coordinated Community Plan** to address and end youth homelessness. **Seven projects**, operated by **five established and qualified organizations**, launched in October 2023. YHDP funding has allowed the GRCoC to **expand capacity and maximize resources to serve more youth experiencing homelessness in the Richmond region**. By engaging with youth with lived experience and investing in proven programs, we have a greater impact.

Timeline

Community Planning	Coordinated Community Plan	Funder Grant Agreement	YHDP Project Start
Oct.'22-April'23 A 6-month collaborative planning process	May '23 A strategic plan to address youth homelessness.	June-Sept. '23 Selected projects come to grant agreement.	Oct. '23-Present YHDP-funded projects begin 2-year grant contracts Oct. 1

Innovation and Growth

Joint Transitional Housing/Rapid Re-Housing

Through the support of YHDP Funds, the GRCoC has added a new project type to support young adults aged 18-24 experiencing homelessness. This project type will expand community crisis housing resources by **19 beds**, and housing-based Rapid Re-Housing resources by **38 beds**, over the course of the initial 2-year grant term.

Peer Navigation & Youth Outreach

During a 6-month collaborative planning process, young people with lived experience of homelessness emphasized the importance of peer navigation and youth-specific outreach to build trusting relationships with youth who may not otherwise choose to engage with the homeless services system. With the support of YHDP funds, community partners have expanded the youth-outreach team to a size of **9 members**. Since the start of YHDP grants, Youth outreach partners have engaged **31 individuals** and **3 families**.

Facing the Future

Pregnant and Parenting Youth

In the 12 months prior to the GRCoC being selected for YHDP funding, **33.7%** of youth experiencing homelessness were pregnant or parenting. In the first 3 months of YHDP funding, preliminary data shows that **pregnant and parenting youth continue to represent a third of all youth experiencing homelessness in the greater Richmond region**. GRCoC partners continue to monitor the needs of young families experiencing homelessness and prioritize community resources as needed.

Additional Housing Resources

The resources added to the GRCoC through the Joint Transitional Housing/Rapid Re-Housing projects represent an increase of **57 beds or units** in housing resources available. This expanded capacity represents a **5x increase** in youth-specific housing resources in the GRCoC.

To Learn More:

For More Information on YHDP and GRCoC, visit www.endhomelessnessrva.org

To Learn More about Coordinated Youth Homeless Services, contact Frances-Marie Pugh, Youth Programs Manager, fpugh@homewardva.org

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