Homeward Statement on COVID-19

Homeward serves as the planning and support agency working to prevent, reduce, and end homelessness in the Greater Richmond region. One of our core functions is to facilitate collaborative service coordination among the providers and partners in the Greater Richmond Continuum of Care, the collaborative, community-wide planning body working to prevent, reduce, and end homelessness. For more information on the Greater Richmond Continuum of Care, please visit www.endhomelessnessrva.org.

To address the increased risks associated with COVID-19 for people experiencing homelessness, Homeward has been working with the Daily Planet Health Services, our shelter and housing program partners, and our local government partners to assess, develop, and deploy strategies to continue to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness during this crisis and to expand the capacity of our homeless services system to meet the needs.

This situation is fast-moving and evolving, but our decades of coordinated service planning have enabled our partners to rapidly adapt to this new situation. While our shared community goal has always been to end a household’s experience of homelessness through housing and supportive services (including employment), our collective work is grounded in our commitment to the health, safety, and dignity of each person.

Homeward is supporting and connecting our service provider partners to implement safety protocols to continue to serve people experiencing homelessness during this crisis. We are also working with the City of Richmond and others to address the urgent needs of unsheltered individuals who may be at increased risk of disease transmission.

We are gathering information on donations needed so that our partners can continue to provide the care and support that our neighbors in crisis will require in the coming days and weeks.

As these resources and plans are developed, they will be posted here www.homewardva.org.

Thank you for your support of Homeward and our partners. To learn more about how you can help, visit http://www.homewardva.org/get-involved/what-you-can-do.