

News Blast -- CoC Awarded \$348,943 in HUD Funding

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FREDERICKSBURG REGIONAL
CONTINUUM OF CARE

News Blast

CoC Awarded \$348,943 in HUD Tier 1 Funding

On January 14, 2020, HUD announced \$2.16 billion in grants to provide funding to 6,595 local homeless housing and service programs across the U.S. and its territories. These Continuum of Care (CoC) grants provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, states, and local governments to quickly rehouse individuals and families experiencing homelessness and provide support while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness.

The Tier 1 funding announcement includes Renewal, New, Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus, CoC Planning, and Unified Funding Agency (UFA) projects. HUD will award approximately \$122 million in Tier 2 funding to support hundreds of local projects in the near future. Tier 2 grants will include Renewal, New, and DV Bonus projects and projects straddling Tier 1 and Tier 2 will be announced along with other Tier 2 projects.

[View a list of the Tier 1 grant awards by CoC.](#)

The Fredericksburg Regional CoC was awarded a total of \$348,943 in Tier 1 funding. Micah Ministries received a renewal amount of \$234,781 to maintain existing permanent supportive housing beds. The George Washington Regional Commission received \$55,125 in Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) funding to continue overseeing the regional homeless services database. Empowerhouse received \$46,928 through the DV Bonus to expand their rapid re-housing program. The CoC is waiting to hear the results of two Tier 2 amounts requested through the application process for Micah's permanent supportive housing projects.

Interested in joining the CoC?

Organizations and individuals can apply to join the CoC at any time. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Kate Gibson at (540) 642-1579 or gibson@gwregion.org



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https://www.fredericksburg.com/news/local/local-groups-that-serve-the-homeless-receive-state-and-federal/article_dcb531fb-3aa2-5cc2-b4dc-41812be3da13.html

Local groups that serve the homeless receive state and federal grants

By ADELE UPHAUS-CONNER THE FREE LANCE-STAR
Jan 23, 2020



Micah Ecumenical Ministries staff, clients and volunteers clean-up a homeless camp under the Chatham Bridge in Stafford County in 2018.

FILE / THE FREE LANCE-STAR

Two local organizations that coordinate care for homeless people and families have received state and federal grants to support their projects.

The Fredericksburg Regional Continuum of Care, the local planning body that coordinates housing and services for the homeless population across Planning District 16—the city of Fredericksburg along with Stafford, Spotsylvania, Caroline and King George counties—has been awarded just under \$349,000 in grants from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The majority of the grant money—\$234,781—will go to support the CoC’s supportive housing program, which combines affordable housing with best-practice services for individuals and families with disabilities and a lengthy history of homelessness.

Almost \$47,000 will go toward rapid rehousing for survivors fleeing domestic violence.

Altogether, HUD awarded \$29.2 million to homeless services programs in Virginia, according to a Jan. 17 press release from the agency.

Micah Ecumenical Ministries will also receive about \$129,000 in Virginia state grant money for its rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing programs.

The award is part of almost \$12 million in funding for organizations that work to reduce homelessness and increase access to affordable housing announced Thursday by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development and the office of Gov. Ralph Northam.



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“Housing is the foundation for building vibrant communities and creating equal access to economic opportunity across our Commonwealth,” Northam said in a news release. “Every time I meet with housing service providers and individuals who have overcome homelessness, I am given hope that with the right investments, we can effectively address homelessness, reduce housing instability, and provide more Virginians with safe and affordable living options.”

Since 2010, overall homelessness in Virginia has decreased by 36.3 percent and homelessness among families has decreased 45 percent.

According to the annual Point in Time count, a HUD-mandated count of people experiencing homelessness on one night in late January, overall homelessness has declined in the Fredericksburg area, as well.

The 2011 count found 280 homeless individuals the night of the count. Last year’s count found a total of 221 people. Of those, 36 were unsheltered, meaning they slept outside or in a place “not meant for human habitation,” according to the HUD definition.

None of the unsheltered homeless in last year’s count were children.

The Fredericksburg Regional Continuum of Care conducted the 2020 PIT count Wednesday night. Results of the count will be available in April or May.

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Virginia

Coastal Zone Management

Fall 2019/Winter 2020



Look what NOAA's Okeanos Explorer research vessel discovered off Virginia's coast - see page 4!



Protecting, restoring, and strengthening our coastal ecosystems and economy in partnership with NOAA.



New Community Garden in King George Showcases Native Plants

By Virginia Witmer, Virginia CZM

On June 8, partners in the Plant Central Rapp Natives campaign dedicated a series of native plant demonstration gardens in Cedell Brooks, Jr. Park in King George County. Five gardens, including over 70 species and over 650 plants, showcase the color, variety and multiple benefits of natives.

Visitors will find a meadow garden, pollinator garden, rain garden and gardens demonstrating native plants suitable for difficult to landscape areas like hillsides and streetsides. To enhance their educational experience, visitors will also find interpretive signs and plant identification markers that include a description and engraved drawing of the plant.

The Plant Central Rapp Natives campaign promotes use of plants that are regionally native to the City of Fredericksburg and the counties of Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania, and Stafford. The campaign is part of a coast-wide effort by Virginia CZM to increase the demand and supply of Virginia native plants through public-private collaboration.

“Collaboration was key to installation of the gardens at Cedell Brooks, Jr. Park,” shares Kate Gibson, Deputy Director with the George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC). “It has been such a pleasure to work with the various partners that have come together for the campaign and to make the demonstration gardens a reality.” GWRC received multiple grants from Virginia CZM to develop and implement the campaign and to install the demo gardens.



Participation in the ribbon-cutting ceremony reflected the many partners involved in the demonstration landscaping project.



Artwood Gardens, Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists, Rappahannock Garden Club and King George County contributed over 577 volunteer and staff hours, valued at \$13,871, to help match the \$24,716 grant from the Virginia CZM Program for the gardens.

Retired King George Board of Supervisors member, Cedell Brooks Jr., for whom the garden is named, attended the dedication with his family.

“The county envisioned the park as an educational, discovery and demonstration facility where visitors can learn about the flora and fauna of our region, and the conservation practices that can be applied at home,” explains Chris Clarke, Director of the King George Parks and Recreation Department. “We’re excited that these new native plant gardens help us fulfill that mission.” 

For more information, contact Virginia.Witmer@DEQ.virginia.gov; (804) 698-4320.

All photos courtesy of GWRC.

