

Adopted by the Prince William Area CoC on June 13, 2024.

HUD FY23 HOMELESS POLICY PRIORITIES INCORPORATED INTO THE GOALS DEVELOPED APRIL 11, 2024

1. Ending Homelessness for All Persons (ongoing throughout all Strategic Planning recommendations)
2. Use a Housing First Approach (Goal #5)
3. Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness (Goal #4 & #5)
4. Improving System Performance (length of time homeless and earned income need to be improved. Multifaceted throughout the strategic planning recommendations)
5. Partnering with Housing, Health and Service Agencies (Goal #5)
6. Racial Equity (Goal #6)
7. Improving Assistance to LGBTQ+ Individuals (Goal #6)
8. Persons with Lived Experience (Goal #1 and Goal #6)
9. Increasing Affordable Housing Supply (Goal #5)

GOAL 1

Ensure the CoC is Structured to Effectively Lead the Implementation of the Strategies Outlined in the Strategic Plan.

For homelessness to be brief, rare and nonrecurring, foundational strategies will be developed and followed to ensure action and decision-making are guided by data, the voices of people with lived experience and racial equity analysis.

Goal 1 Strategies:

- Identified groups, CoC committees, and/or partners charged with specific strategies will refine action plans using a Strategic, Measurable, Ambitious, Realistic, Time-bound, Inclusive and Equitable (SMARTIE) goal framework.
- Adjust the frequency of CoC Meetings to bi-monthly so that active working groups have the time to develop strategies and policies to enhance the system, with their recommendations reported.

GOAL 2

Increase Coordinated Entry Services Capacity by Securing Funding to Expand CES

Strengthen the CoC's Coordinated Entry System to ensure efficient, equitable, and transparent access to services for individuals experiencing homelessness through screening for program eligibility, processes and accessibility.

Goal 2 Strategies:

- Increase capacity and staffing for the CES Team.
- Research and develop a new screening tool for outreach, prevention, and shelter.
- Provide ongoing training and education for CES staff and the CoC At Large about available programs.

GOAL 3

Data-Driven Decision-Making

Prioritize the use of data, to include HMIS data, to determine areas of opportunity in the homeless services system and to guide strategies, track progress, and make informed decisions about effective resource allocation and service provision.

Goal 3 Strategies:

- Identify specific areas within the system that require attention by measuring system and program-level performance and implementing targeted strategies to address them.
- Ensure resources are used in a way that maximizes impact.
- Communicate trends and gaps to the CoC Service Continuum Committee to make informed decisions and adjustments to programs and interventions to improve outcomes.
- Conduct a provider survey to identify barriers, challenges, and needs to determine training needs among HMIS users.
- Use HUD Planning funds to increase HMIS technical staff.

GOAL 4

Expand Emergency Shelter Inventory on the West and East

Bring equitable services throughout the PWA.

Goal 4 Strategies:

- Establish Homeless Advocates - West as an Ad Hoc Committee of the CoC.
- Establish a year-round single adult shelter for the western side of the PWA.
- Expand the availability of hypothermia shelter for the western side of the PWA so they are open every night, regardless of the temperature, from November 1 through March 31.
- Expand the Supportive Shelter for the western side of the PWA and increase capacity on the eastern side of PWC.

GOAL 5

Expand the Inventory of Permanent Housing Options and Increase Placements Over Time

Create a comprehensive strategy encompassing the coordination of housing and services, which includes outreach, shelter, housing, supportive services and prevention strategies.

Goal 5 Strategies:

- Provide training and education on CoC services, programs and resources. (Also noted in Goal 2)
- Offer additional case management and outreach services to address evolving needs such as panhandling, addiction, mental health, and domestic violence.
- Establish a CoC landlord advisory group focused on 30% AMI units, including non-profit developers and private owners.
- Increase affordable housing supply by creating inventory exclusively for CoC clients through MOUs and corporate leases.
- Survey ownership opportunities for potential property purchases, including available land and vacant hotels.
- Advocate for easing PWC ordinances restricting housing inventory.
- Explore innovative private-mortgage financing options to support investor-landlords in the long term.
- Expanding Housing Options/PHA Engagement:
 - Collaborate with the two local Housing Offices to expand affordable housing options for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.
 - Evaluate and optimize existing housing programs to ensure they meet the diverse needs of the population served.
 - Engage with landlords and property owners to increase the availability of housing units for those in need.
- Participant Income Growth:
 - Offer financial literacy training and employment assistance programs to help participants increase their income and achieve financial stability.
 - Develop partnerships with local businesses and organizations to create job opportunities for program participants.
 - Provide access to education and skill-building resources to support participants in securing higher-paying jobs and career advancement.
- Housing First:
 - Expand the Housing First approach to prioritize rapid access to permanent housing for individuals experiencing homelessness.
 - Strengthen partnerships with supportive service providers to ensure participants receive the necessary wraparound services to maintain housing stability.
 - Continuously assess and adjust the Housing First model based on best practices and feedback from participants to optimize outcomes.

GOAL 6

Promoting Equity and Equitable Outcomes

Encourage a collaborative approach where diverse perspectives are valued, and decisions are made collectively to enhance the quality and relevance of services. Focus on Equity and Inclusion analysis, identify disparities and address disparities utilizing a data-informed lens.

Goal 6 Strategies:

- Focus on addressing HUD-prioritized disparities.
- Equitable access to services.
- Conduct a comprehensive analysis of racial disparities utilizing available data.
- Work with the PWC Office of Equity and Inclusion to develop a survey of customers accessing homeless services to pinpoint inequities, focusing on HUD priorities and to explain/train the CoC on the use of equity analysis tools.
- Implement biannual CoC training or classes on topics such as cultural competency, racial equity, LGBTQ+, trauma-informed care, implicit bias and tenant rights/responsibilities.
- Translate CoC documents into multiple languages to guarantee equitable access, prioritizing the top three languages identified in available data.
- Establish a CoC equity and inclusion committee.
- Facilitate partnerships between persons with lived experience and service providers to co-design interventions, develop training materials and conduct outreach activities.
- Develop a new prioritization assessment tool to replace the VI-SPDAT that will improve racial equity in service delivery and housing stability.



Prince William County and the
Cities of Manassas & Manassas Park