



BEST PRACTICES in AFFORDABLE HOUSING



HOMELESSNESS

WHO

South Hampton Roads Regional Task Force on Ending Homelessness

WHAT

A collaboration of seven localities in Virginia—the Cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Isle of Wight County—and non-profit organizations--The Planning Council and United Way of South Hampton Roads--cooperating to address homelessness on a regional basis in addition to each localities individual efforts.

WHERE



South Hampton Roads Region

HOW

On any given day, nearly 1,300 individuals in South Hampton Roads experience homelessness. It's not uncommon for homeless individuals who spend their nights in one city to seek services during the day in another. Thus, South Hampton Roads localities agreed that homelessness is a regional problem that needs a regional solution.

The Task Force was formed in 2005 at the initiative of the Mayors and County Board Chairs of localities throughout the region. The Task Force's mission is to provide a forum for communicating, sharing ideas, and developing regional strategies to address homelessness in Southside Hampton Roads. As a result of their cooperation, they have achieved major successes in raising awareness, building new housing units, leveraging funding, and expanding access to existing housing.

In 2006 the Task Force partnered with Virginia Supportive Housing to develop the first regionally funded Single Room Occupancy (SRO) building in the nation: Gosnold Apartments in Norfolk. Since then, the Task Force and VSH have collaborated to establish Cloverleaf Apartments in Virginia Beach, South Bay Apartments in Portsmouth and Heron's Landing Apartments in Chesapeake. Crescent Square in Virginia Beach will be the region's fifth supportive apartment community and will house 42 formerly homeless adults as well as 38 low income adults. Church Street Station in Norfolk will be the region's sixth SRO. Together, these projects will add 322 units to the stock of permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless adults.

BEFORE



AFTER



THE TASK FORCE PARTNERED WITH VIRGINIA SUPPORTIVE HOUSING TO BUILD THIS SINGLE ROOM OCCUPANCY BUILDING: PICTURED IS THE BEFORE AND AFTER OF CLOVERLEAF APARTMENTS IN VIRGINIA BEACH

LEARN MORE: <http://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/housing-neighborhood-preservation/Documents/boards-committees-partners/regional-task-force-brochure.pdf>