

2018

PETERSBURG POVERTY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING

February 8, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Mike Edwards, Chairman of the Commission. Rev. Michael Shannon, Pastor of Zion Baptist, provided opening prayer.

Chairman Edwards noted that at the last meeting new officers had been nominated and approved. Officers are:

Mike Edwards, Chairman
Wanda Taliaferro, Vice Chair
Barbara Hoosier, Secretary

The invited guest speaker was Dr. Marcus Newsome, Superintendent of Petersburg City Schools who noted that for the evening he would focus on poverty on the national, state, local levels.

He quoted Nelson Mandela that "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world" and reinforced the reality the although schools have suffered because of finances from a year ago, he remains committed to the mission to improve academic progress in the schools of the City of Petersburg.

Ten facts on how poverty impacts education were offered. Key points of discussion included:

- Poverty is a mind set
- Spirit of community is different – lack of two parent household
- Encourage parents to build vocabulary
- Children are angry – don't know why profanity is inappropriate
- Parent engagement through Title One – bring parents into school

He noted that there are 4000 students in Petersburg and not one of the schools is accredited, questioning whether or not the seriousness of academics has become apparent to parents. Other points of reference:

- According to Volmer's List – the increasing burden of educating our youth is placed on America's public schools
- Teachers are the core
- Barriers are evident
- Correlation between housing and performance
- Graduation rate vs. dropout rate
- Legislative involvement is needed

A discussion of Petersburg School data followed and handouts were provided following by a question/answer period.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50PM

Minutes

67

Anti-Poverty Commission March 3, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Edwards and seconded by Wanda Talafero. The guest speaker for the evening was Nathaniel Pride, executive director for Peter Housing Authority, accompanied by Yvette Brenby, property mgr. The team provided handouts that focused on its present housing sites, housing choice voucher program, the Rental Assistance Demonstration Program referred to as (RAD), new building construction and organizations that partner with the housing authority to provide support, counseling for home ownership, and other tools needed to improve skills and resident's quality of life. Mr. Pride + Ms. Brenby addressed questions from board concerning accountability, educating residents, home ownership, work vs not working and benefits as both that serve as reality for residents, and issues that could be viewed as discrimination from the housing authority. PHA is currently working with the city to obtain a grant for a market study to diminish blight and to re-occupy

B.H.

houses. The team cited key roles of the ^{housing} authority is certifying & re-certifying landlords for continuous participation in the Choice Neighborhood Program which is implemented by the city. The market study will also focus on the best way to promote Pety. Mr. Pride shared that Sycamore Towers will be the first development to be reconstructed. Residents will be relocated while construction is taking place at each housing site. Presently PRHA is not and will not accept new applicants during this time of reconstruction & relocation.

The meeting adjourned at 8pm.

4/12/18

Meeting called to order by ^{C. Korman} President.
 Guest speaker from PAT, Orestka
 reviewed purpose of board with guests
 before presentation. Discussion of routes
 in the city that have been run for
 35 yrs - need to change or revamp.
 Transit team reviewed that Hispanic
 population does not use the bus
 system, and the necessity of all groups
 and communities utilizing the system.
 Cited ~~the~~ Island as possible reasons
 for non-usage. Discussed the need
 for a liaison with this population.
 Team asked for reasons that poverty
 would "prevent" in meeting. Transit
 team explained lack of education, costs,
 area of service the providers for.
 Rev. Shannon suggested having a liaison
 in community ride the bus from a certain
 point with population to assure they
 would reach destination without being
 transported for deportation. It was
 expressed that Hispanic had no one
 to act as speaker or liaison for them.

Discussion followed that suggested
different ways to integrate population to
bus system.

Team cited ref of Survey given to
Bois Head that asked how many people
would be interested in riding the bus
to said company. Only one response
to survey. Lack of interest from
employees, so service not provided.

Team discussed vision to increase
Transit Soc as far as Va. Beach Society
of Colonial Heights refuse to pay funding
for route provided for city! Project
cost over a million dollar funding free
route to Colonial Heights. Constraints
have been put forward to C. H. but
after one payment they refused to pay
for bus service. ~~Early to~~ Discussed
why bus stop running so early? Will
take another look at hrs. of operation.
Will ~~not~~ take a survey of people who
are interested in riding bus at later
time. It was suggested that PTA
provide free bus to people in C.H.

to a city Council meeting to protest
lack of city involvement for bus line.
Discussed bus demonstration to Divided
and possibility of creating route after
speaking to Board re Divided; possible
funding for route available. Spoke
on New bus routes coming to Cramer
Rd area; Norton Ave, & pass
ACE Hardware. N & S Plain drive no
extra cost to city for new routes.
New routes will be presented to
City Council in July. Marta stated
she will arrange meeting to with
officials & Hispanic population to encourage
ridership. Question concerning why
Cab Company not regulated by
Transportation City. Cab Company not
regulated in 35 yrs. Was informed that
conference room in PAT office is
available for meetings. Meeting adjourned
at 7:50.

ndivid <treskaw@aol.com>

6/26/2018 7:25 PM

Fwd: Anti-Poverty Commission Comments for Final Report

To dylean40@gmail.com • leonardmuse@gmail.com • wataliaferro@hotmail.com • roseroy11@verizon.net • criggins@cares-va.org • bjeanhoo@gmail.com • m_shannon15@comcast.net • bismichaeledwards@aol.com • pastorjdz@hotmail.com • williamsmedia1@aol.com • gerry8790@gmail.com • danwtodd@aol.com • rhues2@verizon.net • pastorjd2@hotmail.com

Hello All,

In reference to the letter that went out on last Friday, we have received a response....see below. Please keep for your records.

Aluta Continua
Treska Wilson-Smith
804-720-9520

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Bobb <bob@robertbobbgrouop.com>
To: Treska Wilson-Smith <treskawilsonsmith@petersburg-va.org>
Cc: Nykesha D. Jackson <njackson@petersburg-va.org>
Sent: Tue, Jun 26, 2018 3:29 pm
Subject: Anti-Poverty Commission Comments for Final Report

Council-Women Wilson-Smith-

Pursuant to your Letter of 20June with respect to the captioned,here are my comments:

A-The work of the Committee is an important step in helping to lift those who are vulnerable to the social, emotional/trauma, educational, housing, and economic challenges within the City of Petersburg.

B-The Role of the Commission, if not currently, should be institutionalized as a City Entity. There are too many persons at risk to ad-hoc this important mission. The future of the City as a growing enterprise long term is at stake.

C- There must be a deep knowledge in how the following programs are administered as a key component of the work of the Commission:

- 1-Federal Unemployment Programs
- 2-The Head Start Programs
- 3-The Supplemental Nutrition Program(SNAP)
- 4-Women,Infant &Children Program(WIC)
- 5-The Temporary Assistant for Needy Families Program(TANF)
- 6-The Earned Income Tax Credit Program(EITC)
- 7-Children's Health Insurance Program(CHIP)

Finally, with the Federal Government Budget Cuts, there are others programs that are impacted such as Social Security, Federal Pell Grants to name a few.

I realize there are fiscal challenges facing the City, but the Anti-Poverty Commission's Work will not get any meaningful traction without staff support, which is knowledgeable and would see this work as a mission and not just employment.



COMPOSE



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Today on AOL

Inbox 3290

Drafts 12

Sent

Spam 3

Trash

Contacts

Calendar

Folders

Saved Mail

Saved Chats

saved mail

savemail 2

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This is probably more than you ask



AGENDA

July 9, 2018 – Anti-Poverty Work Meeting

Prayer

Review of Last Year's Presentation

Review of the Homeless Presentation

Review of the School Board's Document

Discussion of what we want to keep and/or add

Recommendation to Council

Our next steps

Phase II – Definition of such

What do we want to do in our next phase? And How?

Going to Ashland?

Choosing a date

Community Wealth Building Strategy Sharing Session

Location: 1400 Oliver Hill Way, Richmond, VA

Date: July 13, 2018

Time: 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Agenda details:

- I. Welcome
Reginald Gordon, City of Richmond OCWB Director and Kelly Harris-Braxton, Virginia First Cities Executive Director
- II. Richmond Office of Community Wealth Building Overview
~~*~~ Reginald Gordon, City of Richmond OCWB Director
- III. Greetings from the City of Richmond
Selena Cuffee-Glenn, City of Richmond Chief Administrative Officer
- IV. Richmond's Approach to Community Wealth Building Service Delivery
(Program Design, Enrollment, Service Delivery, & Business Services)
Valaryee Mitchell, City of Richmond OCWB Workforce Administrator
- V. Lunch Discussion on Collaboration and Outreach
Office of Community Wealth Building Staff and Partners
- VI. Tips for Successful Grant Submission
Valaryee Mitchell, City of Richmond OCWB Workforce Administrator
- VII. Updates from Virginia First Cities VDSS Grantees
Kelly Harris-Braxton, Virginia First Cities Executive Director
- VIII. Closing
Reginald Gordon, City of Richmond OCWB Director

Reality Check

Many people in our City are working multiple jobs in order to make ends meet. A sick child, a broken down car, a bad cold, or a problem with the baby sitter can cause lost hours from work and result in financial and emotional stress.

Collective Impact in Action: Application of the Community Wealth Building Framework

The Community Wealth Building Matrix (shown below) can be used by the Richmond community of non-profits, ministries, government agencies, funders, businesses and interested people as a:

Model to align the Richmond community of non-profits, ministries, government agencies, funders, businesses and people

Tool to coordinate the implementation of a service delivery and philanthropic approach that provides a consistent ladder out of poverty through access to quality employment and related supports

- ⇒ Management tool for programs and agencies to better tailor the type of services being offered to clients and to assess the way those services are delivered
- ⇒ Measurement tool for funders to determine where funding gaps exist and for organizations who receive funding to measure success
- ⇒ Communication and Policymaking tool for demonstrating success and sharing information to the public and policy makers about conditions in Richmond

The Goal is to create individualized pathways or roadmaps through our systems from crisis to thriving.

	In Crisis	At Risk	Safe	Stable	Thriving
Employment	No Income or assets	Seeking job or temp/ seasonal job or other legal income	Employed in semi-stable job	Permanent & stable job paying living wage	Permanent, stable employment sufficient to build assets
Education	No skills or credentials	Seeking GED or vocational training	Has high school diploma, GED, or vocational training	Career & educational plan in place; active & on-going learning	Implementing education and career plan
Housing	Homeless or unstable housing	Temporary or transitional housing	Housing is stable and is affordable (maybe with subsidy)	Housing is stable & and is affordable without subsidy	Housing is permanent & affordable without subsidy
Transportation	No or unreliable transportation or child care	Transportation and child care available, but not affordable or reliable	Transportation and child care are generally reliable and affordable	Transportation and child care are reliable and affordable	Transportation and child care are reliable and affordable

Community Wealth Building Momentum in Richmond, VA

FROM	TO
A charity framework, exemplified by the annual demonstration of care and concern from Thanksgiving to Christmas	A Self Sufficiency framework, exemplified by intentional hiring practices
Programs and organizations created to help people	Ideas for transforming communities that are created by the people
Unassisted job searching	Comprehensive workforce assistance for thousands of people each year through the Center for Workforce Innovation
The problems in the community and the schools	The assets in the community and the untapped potential of the students
Independent, disconnected service delivery and philanthropic approach to helping people in Richmond	Coordinated service delivery and philanthropic approach that provides a consistent ladder out of poverty through access to quality employment and related supports
Transportation as a barrier to employment and childcare	Innovative approaches to mobility
Overwhelmed, hopeless, frustrated, ineffectual community of nonprofits, ministries, government agencies, funders, businesses and people	Informed, energized and aligned community of nonprofits, ministries, government agencies, funders, businesses and people – Community Wealth Builders



The Leadership Role of the Office of Community Wealth Building

Collective impact hub for an informed, energized and aligned community of non-profits, ministries, government agencies, funders, businesses and people -- Community Wealth Builders

Coordinator for the implementation of a service delivery and philanthropic approach -- based on a *Community Wealth Building Framework* -- that provides a consistent ladder out of poverty through access to quality employment and related supports

Connector between the ideas for transforming communities that are created by the people and the assets that exist in the community

Provider of comprehensive workforce assistance for thousands of people each year through the Center for Workforce Innovation

Community Wealth Building Strategy Sharing Session

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH VIRGINIA FIRST CITIES

JULY 13, 2018



Agenda

- Welcome
- Richmond Office of Community Wealth Building Overview
- Greetings from the City of Richmond
- Richmond's Approach to Community Wealth Building Service Delivery
- Lunch Discussion on Collaboration and Outreach
- Tips for Successful Grant Submission
- Updates from Virginia First Cities VDSS Grantees
- Closing

Richmond Office of Community Wealth Building Overview - Vision

Build a coordinated approach that provides a consistent ladder out of poverty through access to quality employment and related supports.

Create stronger neighborhood and educational opportunities to improve the life chances for all of Richmond's children.



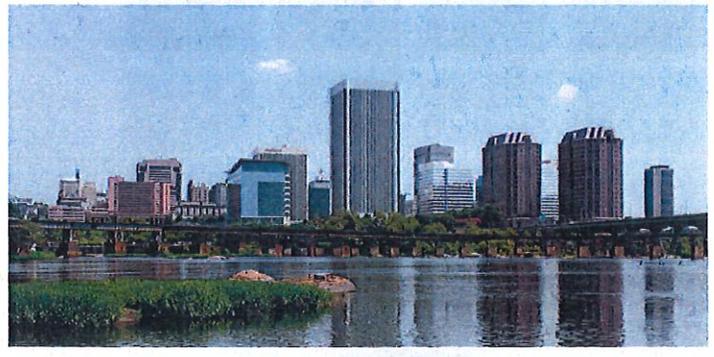
Richmond Office of Community Wealth Building Overview - OCWB Strategy



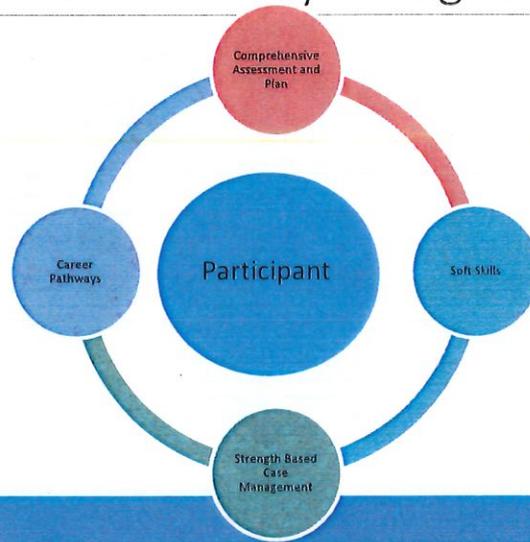
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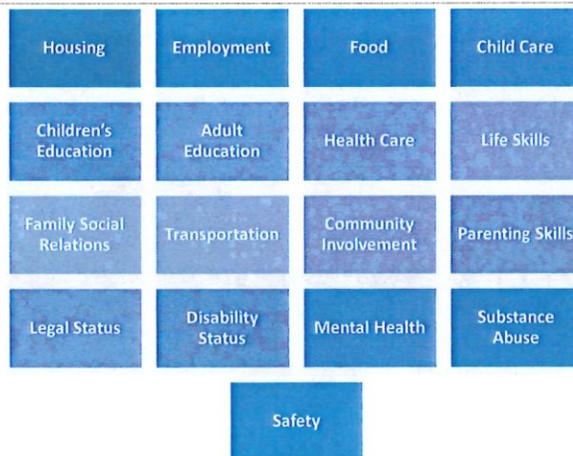
Greetings from the City of Richmond



Richmond's Approach to Community Wealth Building Service Delivery - Program Design



Richmond's Approach to Community Wealth Building Service Delivery - Program Design



Richmond's Approach to Community Wealth Building Service Delivery - Enrollment

- Process
- Flexible
- Fast
- Simple



Richmond's Approach to Community Wealth Building Service Delivery - Service Delivery

- Career Coaching & Advising
- Wrap Around Services
- Career Pathways



Richmond's Approach to Community Wealth Building Service Delivery -Business Services

- Business Service Design
- Business Solutions Team
- Business as the Trainer



Collaboration and Outreach

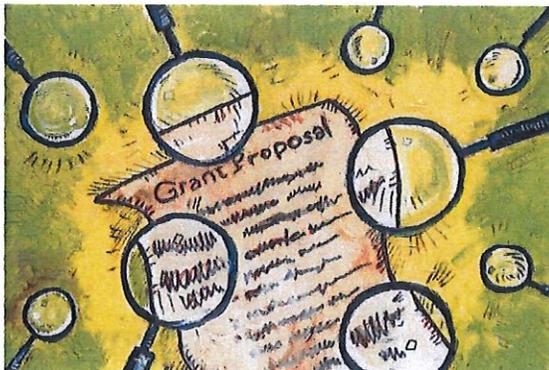


Collaboration and Outreach

- AARP
- Associated Educational Services of Virginia
- Bridging the Gap in Virginia
- Capital Area Health Network
- Career Support Systems
- Caritas Furniture Bank
- Economic and Community Development
- Justice Services
- Community College Workforce Alliance
- Daily Planet
- Dream Academy Adult Education
- Freedom Marketing
- HumanKind Ways to Work
- LBJ Transportation Services
- Richmond Behavioral Health Authority
- Richmond Dept of Social Services
- Senior Connections
- VCU Trio
- Virginia DARS

Tips for Successful Grant Submission

- Program Design
- Teamwork
- Timeline
- Attention to Details and Addendums
- Stay True to the Purpose
- Additional Tips



Updates from Virginia First Cities VDSS
Grantees



Closing

Thank you



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING 2017 ANNUAL REPORT* SUPPLEMENT

February 26, 2018

Year Three Highlights:



We Listened

- Friday Listening Sessions
- CWB Ambassadors
- Citizens Advisory Board
- Citywide Network Focus Group Meetings
- Community Events
- Partner Meetings

We are creating a Community Wealth Building Ecosystem so that individuals and families have a clear pathway to move from crisis to thriving

—Reggie Gordon

We Learned

- Critical facts about the people who turn to us for help and the systemic barriers they face each day.
- In the City of Richmond, the jobless rates are much higher for African-Americans (15.7 percent), Hispanics (7.2 percent), and Asians (8.2 percent), compared to Whites (4.9 percent). 30% of African-Americans work in the service industry — the lowest paying occupational category.
- Moving up the ladder toward a living wage and no reliance on government subsidies is a unique journey for each individual.
- This climb is complex, riddled with pitfalls and most of all it takes time—up to two years of intensive dedicated support.



We Worked

- Received a \$1.9m TANF Grant from the Commonwealth of Virginia for expanded workforce services
- Designed a Living Wage Certification Program in partnership with Virginia Interfaith Center on Public Policy
- Opened two new Career Stations — Conrad Center and Southside
- Refined Mayor's Youth Academy to be more workforce focused
- Held Job Fairs and provided on the job training and workforce services to employers relocating to Richmond
- Continued to enhance the strategic partnerships we have built and leverage new and ongoing initiatives

Thriving

Stable

Safe

At Risk

In Crisis



1,841

participants attended training activities

350

participants received intensive services

2018— Looking Ahead

Priority Areas:

Craft strategies to identify and take action on bringing down the systemic barriers to wealth.	Create interventions to decrease the racial wealth gap.
Build out the Ambassador Training to include Faith and Corporate Communities.	Support interdisciplinary teams with other City Agencies to address the challenges faced by some Richmond citizens.

Creating a Community Wealth Building Ecosystem:

OCWB is in the process of developing a *Community Wealth Building Scorecard* based upon the nine domains shown below. Each domain will have its own network of partners, stakeholders, city staff, for profit and non profit organizations. If a viable network already exists then we will join that network. The charge of this Community Wealth Building Ecosystem — comprised of members of these networks — is to ensure the network is strong enough to sustain action in finding solutions to systemic and structural barriers in order to support the economic mobility of 1,000 residents annually. By creating this ecosystem we will be able — as a community — to plot the economic mobility of residents along their journey toward financial independence.



Looking for more information?

CALL us at 804-646-6374

EMAIL us at: AskCommunityWealthBuilding@Richmondgov.com

FOLLOW US

Twitter and Facebook @ MaggieWalkerRVA

Instagram @ RVACommunityWealthBuilding

YouTube @ Community Wealth Building RVA

#IAMCWB

COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING CAREER STATIONS

- Marshall Plaza 900 East Marshall Street
- The Conrad Center 1400 Oliver Hill Way
- Southside Community Center 6255 Old Warwick Road

Hours:

Monday—Thursday 8:30a—4:30p Friday 8:30a—1:00p

Call 804-646-6464 for more information



DCWB Ladder: The Climb for an Individual with a child

*As reported in the MIT living wage calculator <http://livingwage.mit.edu/counties/51760>. †Wage ranges as reported by the Office of Community Wealth Building. **Transportation ranges as reported by GRTC www.RideGRTC.com. ††Area Median Income (AMI) as reported by VHDA <http://bit.ly/2ryAIQI>.

Level 5: Thriving (55%+AMI)

- ⇒ My income is above \$33,280 per year.
- ⇒ I am no longer eligible for Housing, Child Care or Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I have safe, reliable and affordable transportation.

Level 3: Safe (35-45%AMI)

- ⇒ My income is anywhere from \$21,840 to \$26,000 per year.
- ⇒ If available I am eligible for a Housing subsidy.
- ⇒ I am eligible for a Child Care subsidy
- ⇒ I am no longer eligible for Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I have generally safe and reliable transportation beyond the bus line.

Level 1: In Crisis (↓30%AMI**)

- ⇒ My income is anywhere from \$0 to \$14,560 per year.
- ⇒ If available I am eligible for a Housing subsidy — even so our options are limited.
- ⇒ I am eligible for Child Care and Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I cannot afford safe or reliable transportation beyond the bus line.

Thriving

I make \$16.00 and up/hr.

Living Wage = \$24.06/hr.

Stable

I make \$12.50 - \$16.00/hr.

Safe

I make \$10.50 - \$12.50/hr.

At Risk

I make \$7.25 to \$10.50/hr.

Minimum Wage = \$7.25/hr

In Crisis

I make anywhere from \$0 to \$7.25/hr.†

*Poverty Wage = \$7.00/hr.**

Level 4: Stable (45-55%AMI)

- ⇒ My income is anywhere from \$26,000 to \$33,280 per year.
- ⇒ If available, I am eligible for limited Housing subsidies
- ⇒ I am eligible for Child Care subsidies.
- ⇒ I am no longer eligible for Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I have safe, reliable and affordable transportation.

Level 2: At Risk (↓30-35%AMI)

- ⇒ My income is anywhere from \$15,080 to \$21,840 per year.
- ⇒ I am eligible for Housing subsidies (If available) and Child Care subsidies.
- ⇒ Once my salary goes above \$20,712 per year I am no longer eligible for Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I cannot afford safe or reliable transportation beyond the bus line.



Average Household Expenses

1 Adult/1 Child	Monthly	Yearly
Food*	\$376	\$4,516
Child Care*	\$563	\$6,754
Medical*	\$562	\$6,747
Housing*	\$966	\$11,592
Transportation via GRTC only**	\$95	\$1,140
	\$2,562	\$30,749



OCWB Ladder: The Climb for an Individual

January 2018

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Level 5: Thriving (70%+AMI)

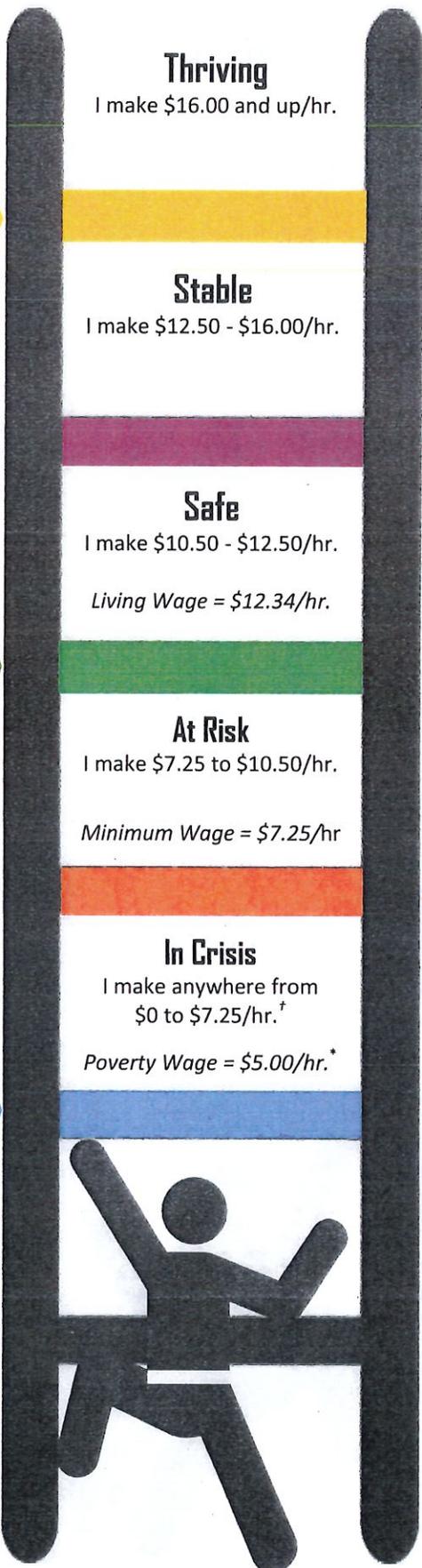
- ⇒ My income is above \$33,280 per year.
- ⇒ I am no longer eligible for Housing or Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I have safe, reliable and affordable transportation.

Level 3: Safe (40-50%AMI)

- ⇒ My income is anywhere from \$21,840 to \$26,000 per year.
- ⇒ If available, I am eligible for Housing subsidies.
- ⇒ I am no longer eligible for Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I have generally safe and reliable transportation beyond the bus line.

Level 1: In Crisis (↓30%AMI††)

- ⇒ My income is anywhere from \$0 to \$14,560 per year.
- ⇒ If available, I am eligible for a Housing subsidy — even so my options are limited
- ⇒ I am eligible for a Food Subsidy (SNAP).
- ⇒ I cannot afford safe or reliable transportation beyond the bus line.



Level 4: Stable (50-70%AMI)

- ⇒ My income is anywhere from \$26,000 to \$33,280 per year.
- ⇒ If available, I am eligible for limited Housing subsidies.
- ⇒ I am no longer eligible for Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I have safe, reliable and affordable transportation.

Level 2: At Risk (30-40%AMI)

- ⇒ My income is anywhere from \$15,080 to \$21,840 per year.
- ⇒ If available, I am eligible for Housing subsidies — even so my options are limited
- ⇒ Once my salary goes above \$15,312 per year I am no longer eligible for Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I cannot afford safe or reliable transportation beyond the bus line.

Average Household Expenses

1 Adult	Monthly	Yearly
Food*	\$249	\$2,983
Medical*	\$187	\$2,241
Housing*	\$795	\$9,540
Transportation via GRTC only**	\$60	\$720
	\$1,291	\$15,484



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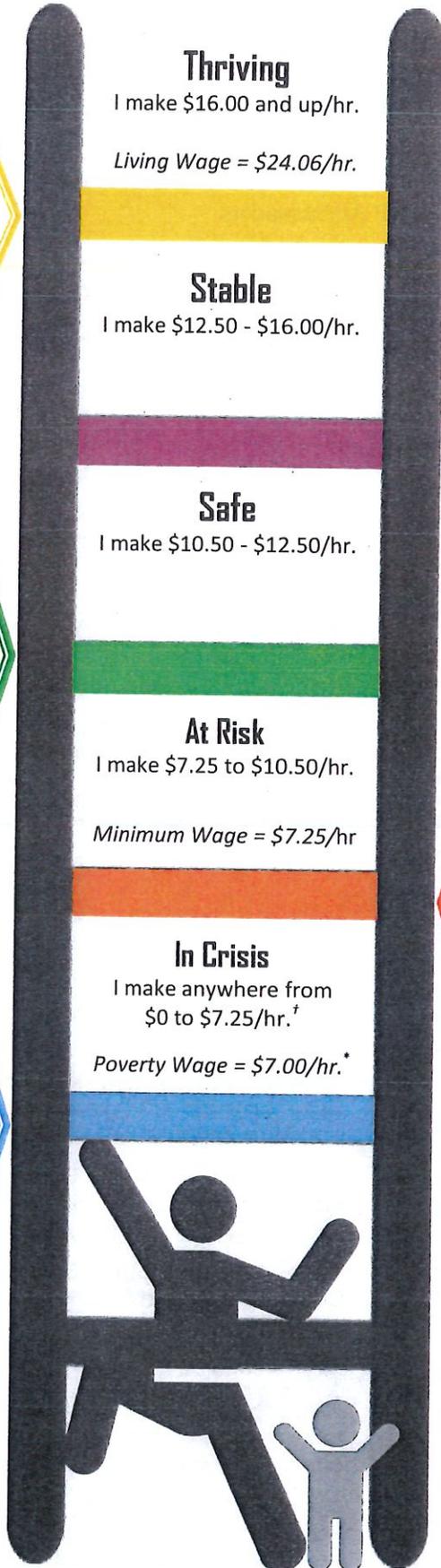
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In Crisis

I make anywhere from \$0 to \$7.25/hr.†

*Poverty Wage = \$7.00/hr.**

Level 5: Thriving (55%+AMI)

- ⇒ My income is above \$33,280 per year.
- ⇒ I am no longer eligible for Housing, Child Care or Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I have safe, reliable and affordable transportation.

Level 3: Safe (35-45%AMI)

- ⇒ My income is anywhere from \$21,840 to \$26,000 per year.
- ⇒ If available I am eligible for a Housing subsidy.
- ⇒ I am eligible for a Child Care subsidy
- ⇒ I am no longer eligible for Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I have generally safe and reliable transportation beyond the bus line.

Level 1: In Crisis (↓30%AMI**)

- ⇒ My income is anywhere from \$0 to \$14,560 per year.
- ⇒ If available I am eligible for a Housing subsidy — even so our options are limited.
- ⇒ I am eligible for Child Care and Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I cannot afford safe or reliable transportation beyond the bus line.

Level 4: Stable (45-55%AMI)

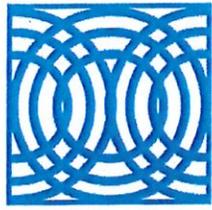
- ⇒ My income is anywhere from \$26,000 to \$33,280 per year.
- ⇒ If available, I am eligible for limited Housing subsidies
- ⇒ I am eligible for Child Care subsidies.
- ⇒ I am no longer eligible for Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I have safe, reliable and affordable transportation.

Level 2: At Risk (↓30-35%AMI)

- ⇒ My income is anywhere from \$15,080 to \$21,840 per year.
- ⇒ I am eligible for Housing subsidies (If available) and Child Care subsidies.
- ⇒ Once my salary goes above \$20,712 per year I am no longer eligible for Food Subsidies (SNAP).
- ⇒ I cannot afford safe or reliable transportation beyond the bus line.

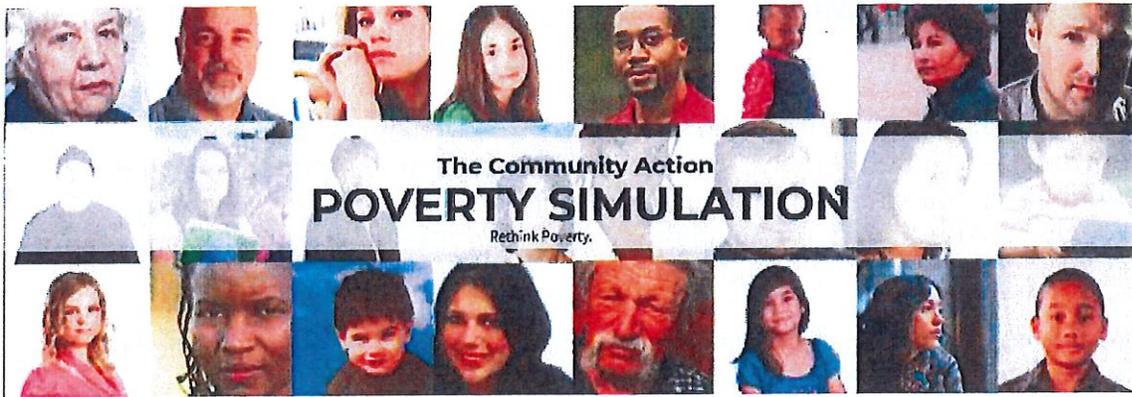
Average Household Expenses

1 Adult/1 Child	Monthly	Yearly
Food*	\$376	\$4,516
Child Care*	\$563	\$6,754
Medical*	\$562	\$6,747
Housing*	\$966	\$11,592
Transportation via GRTC only**	\$95	\$1,140
	\$2,562	\$30,749



Circles[®] Ashland

Thriving Families, Thriving Communities



Unless you've experienced poverty, it's difficult to truly understand. Circles Ashland invites you to participate in an immersive poverty simulation to understand the reality that thousands of Ashland and Hanover County residents face every day.

Participants in the simulation will role play a month in poverty and experience low-income families' lives. They will be discussing their experience, unpacking what was learned, and brainstorming community change.

The event will be held Sunday, July 15, 2018 from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 800 Thompson Street, Ashland, Virginia. Please register at info@circlesashland-va.org

Big View: Housing Community Conversation, Part 3



More than **10,000 households in Hanover County** (approximately 7,000 homeowners and 3,000 renters) are cost burdened, meaning that they spend more than 30% of their income on housing costs. A quarter of these residents are **severely** cost burdened, meaning that they spend 50-70% of their income on housing costs.

Families are trapped in this financially unstable situation because of insufficient safe, affordable housing options in our community.

Circles Ashland believes that there exists in Ashland and Hanover County an abundance of people, resources, and hope sufficient to end poverty in our community as long as we all join forces.

The lack of affordable housing and correlated poverty rates are problems that we can resolve, *together*.

Continuing our discussion about housing and its impact on poverty in Ashland and Hanover County, we will be talking with **local government leaders** on Thursday, July 26.

Join us on Thursday, July 26 from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall of Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church. All are welcome!



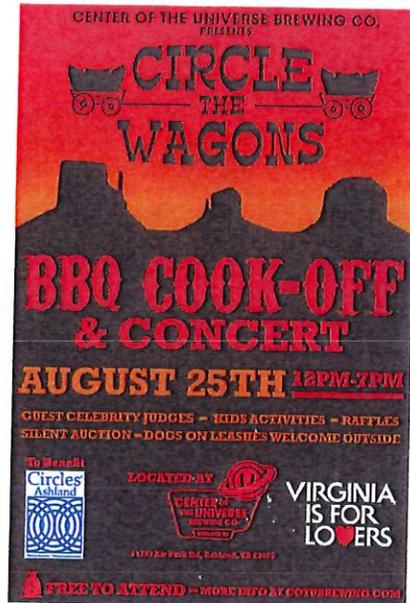
If you weren't at June's **Big View: Housing** meeting, you missed an amazingly raw, honest, and powerful conversation about the reality of finding safe, affordable housing in Ashland and Hanover County.

Our Circle Leaders walked us through demoralizing and confusing housing voucher programs, the secret real estate market that's seldom- if ever- open to residents below a certain income level, covert racism when applying for home and apartment leases, the injustice of getting kicked off social support programs (like housing assistance) when income increases- even if the income increase isn't enough to pay market value for the necessary item covered by the support program, fear of retaliation from landlords if unsafe housing conditions or price gouging are reported, and the impossibility of finding clean, safe, good condition starter homes under \$250,000.

It's not too late to join the conversation! Please join us Thursday, July 26 for Part 3 of our series. (Details in the article just above this one.)

SAVE THE DATE
for
Circle the Wagons 2018

It's BAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAACK and better than ever! [Center of the Universe Brewing Company](#) and Circles Ashland are joining hands again for the second annual **Circle The Wagons BBQ Cook-Off and Silent Auction** on **Saturday, August 25, 2018**. We'll be rolling out more details soon, but for now- **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**



JULY CALENDAR

7/5 1st Thursday. **NO CIRCLES! SEE YOU NEXT THURSDAY!**

7/12 2nd Thursday. **Class Night** for Cohort 2. **WELCOME**, Cohort 3!

7/19 3rd Thursday. **Class Night** for Cohort 2, **Training** for Cohort 3, and **Support Meeting** for Allies.

7/26 4th Thursday. **Big View Night**. Continuing our discussion about affordable housing. 6:30-7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall @ Duncan.

*****REMINDER: NO CIRCLES JULY 5*****

Your donations help resolve poverty in Ashland.

If you already support Circles Ashland financially – thank you! Please consider renewing your commitment with a new gift.

If you're new to Circles, we invite you to find out more. [Take a look at our website](#). Give us a call. [Visit our Facebook page](#). [Send us an email](#). Come visit us on Thursday (send us an email RSVP). We will also gladly come to you and your group for in-person Q and A.

Then, please consider making a gift to sustain and expand the poverty resolving work of Circles Ashland. We can't do this work without you.

Donations may be made by check (payable to Circles Ashland) and mailed to P.O. Box 247 Ashland, VA 23005, or on our website by credit card or bank draft (see link below). Circles Ashland is a federally recognized non-profit (501(c)3). Your donations are tax deductible.

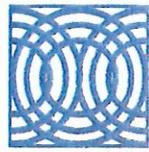
[Click here to donate online.](#)

The mission of Circles Ashland is to inspire, inform, and equip individuals, families, and the community to resolve poverty and thrive.

Connect with us:

[Visit our website.](#)





**Circles[®]
Ashland**

Thriving Families, Thriving Communities

YES. I'd like to be a part helping people move out of poverty in Ashland.

I'd like to **LEARN MORE:**

Learn more about Circles Ashland. Please add me to the **newsletter** mailing list.

Learn more about becoming an **Ally**.

Learn more about becoming a **Circle Leader**.

I'd like to help on a **RESOURCE TEAM:**

Services: Establishing and maintaining community resources as Circles referral sources

Recruitment: Enrolling Circle Leaders, Allies and volunteers

Big View: Organizing Big View meetings, supporting Circle Leaders' budgets and cliff effect planning

Economic Stability: Help Circles with contacts for educational programs and finding better jobs

Community: Manage space for meetings, secure donated meals, organize child care, and/or assist in facilitating meetings

OTHER:

Spread the word within the Ashland community. Please let us know other organizations or groups we can contact to present information about Circles Ashland:

Make a financial contribution. Please make checks payable to Duncan Memorial UMC, and designate Circles Ashland on the memo line.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____



POST-EXPERIENCE SURVEY

NAME _____ HOST SITE _____

EMAIL _____ DATE _____

1. The best thing that our community can do to address poverty is:

- _____ Offer programs that provide financial or material support
- _____ Offer programs that provide counseling and education
- _____ Advocate for policy and systems change
- _____ Build collaboration amongst business, government, faith, education and nonprofit institutions
- _____ Build direct relationships with low-income families and promote leadership amongst communities impacted by poverty

**FOR QUESTION ONE,
RANK THE FOLLOWING
1-5 WITH 1 BEING THE
MOST IMPORTANT.**

2. The following are causes of poverty:

	MAJOR	NOT A CAUSE	MODERATE	UNSURE
--	-------	-------------	----------	--------

Poor Choices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of Knowledge + Skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of Connection + Relationships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of Resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Broken Policies + Systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. The COPE training will likely influence my... (Please check all that apply.)

- Interactions with low-income individuals
- Assumptions (bias, stereotypes, etc.)
- Involvement in poverty alleviation efforts
- Organization/Institutions approach to working in the community
- Understanding of the complexities of poverty
- Ability to influence initiatives that address poverty

4. The next step I plan to take after this training is:

- Host a COPE in my community / organization
- Build relationships with individuals impacted by poverty
- Donate to individuals or organizations addressing poverty
- Volunteer in my community
- Volunteer for an upcoming COPE

PLEASE SHARE ANY COMMENTS RELATED TO THE FACILITATOR, VENUE, MATERIALS AND MEALS ON THE BACK. THANK YOU!



PRE-EXPERIENCE SURVEY

1. The following are causes of poverty:

MAJOR	NOT A CAUSE	MODERATE	UNSURE
-------	-------------	----------	--------

Poor Choices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of Knowledge + Skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of Connection + Relationships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of Resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Broken Policies + Systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

RANK THE FOLLOWING 1-5 WITH 1 BEING THE MOST IMPORTANT.

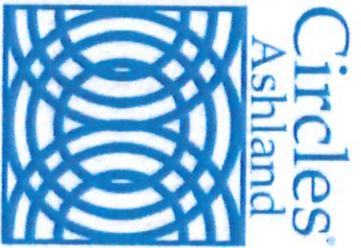
2. The best thing that our community can do to address poverty is:

- Offer programs that provide financial or material support
- Offer programs that provide counseling and education
- Advocate for policy and systems change
- Build collaboration amongst business, government, faith, education and nonprofit institutions
- Build direct relationships with low-income families and promote leadership amongst communities impacted by poverty

SELECT ALL THAT APPLY.

3. I am currently involved in poverty alleviation efforts in the following ways:

- Financial Support
- Work for an organization that is addressing poverty
- Volunteer
- Direct relationship with individuals/families impacted by poverty
- Personally working to move out of poverty



Thursdays 7:00am - 7:30am
P.O. Box 247
Ashland, VA 23005

Become an Ally with Circles Ashland and be a part of a relationship-based, community-driven solution to end poverty in our area. Allies are volunteers who form friendships with local families working to achieve self-reliance (Leaders).

Allies commit to:

- 4-10 hours per month cultivating relationship with Circle Leader
- Complete Ally training and pass background check
- Attend at least two meetings per month, Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church. Dinner and childcare is provided.



The role of an Ally is to be an intentional friend. Circle Leaders are more successful when they have someone in their lives to provide emotional support and empowerment. Like any friendship, it requires nurturing through regular meetings, at least twice monthly. Allies should be willing to share life experience, and work in partnership with Leaders to action-plan around goals.

Allies have:

- Good listening skills and empathy
- Work experience, and willingness to share networks and career exploration tips
- Insight to applying for higher education
- Knowledge of financial goal setting and solutions



Become an Ally today.

Visit circlesashland-va.org, or contact Kendra Grimes at kendragrimes@vaumc.org or 804.912.7809 for more information or to complete an application.

BUILDING COMMUNITY TO END POVERTY.

There are many ways to volunteer with Circles Ashland!



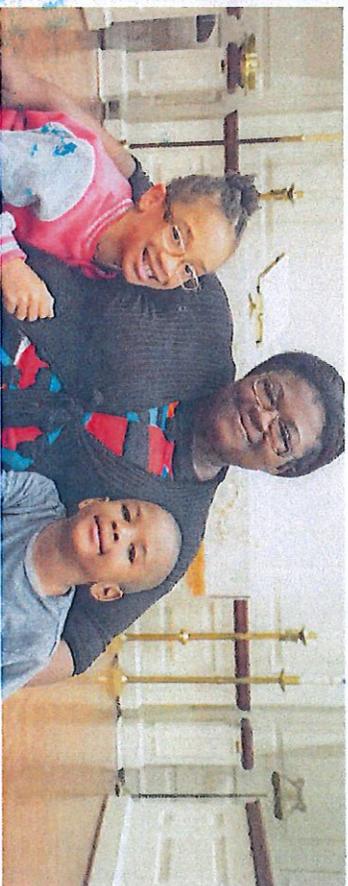
Meals Team - provide a ready-to-serve dinner (homemade or store-bought) for our Thursday program. Once a month, once a quarter, or one-time commitments are all appreciated! Please contact Claudia Diehl at claudiediehl@gmail.com or (804) 382-5754.



Children's Program Team - provide childcare or deliver curricula to pre-school, elementary, or youth-aged children on Thursday evenings. Weekly or once a month commitments are needed. Background check required. Please contact Sandra Stanley at sandrastanley@vaumc.org or (804) 240-8772.



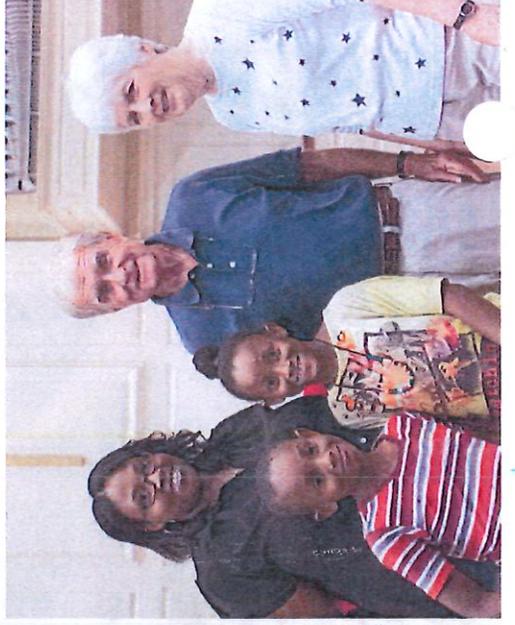
Circle Ally- serve as an advocate and supporter to an individual trying to break out of poverty. Attend Thursday night program 2x/month and meet with or call, text, and/or email your Leader about 4 additional hours each month. An 18 month commitment. Please contact Kendra Grimes at kendragrimes@vaumc.org or (804) 912-7809.



Do you have an interest, skill, or talent not listed here that you'd like to share? Talk to us! Other volunteer opportunities can be found in our communications, advocacy, and jobs and education teams, and we're always willing to consider other ways to get volunteers involved, too.



VOLUNTEER with





Birdies for Charity Presented by TowneBank

DONATION GUIDE



Below is a step-by-step guide on how to donate through Birdies for Charity (all donations will be matched by 10% with a maximum bonus of \$10,000 per charity). Thank you for your support.

DONATION TYPES (Donations can be made at any time)

- A one-time flat donation (minimum donation of \$25).
- A per-birdie donation (option to cap donation). Total donation amount will be determined based on the number of birdies made by PGA TOUR Champions professionals during the Dominion Energy Charity Classic (Oct. 19-21, 2018).

WHAT IS A BIRDIE

- "Par" is the normal expected score on any given hole on the golf course. A "birdie" is a score of one stroke better than "par" for any golf hole. For example, on a par-4 hole, a score of 3 is a birdie.
- In 2017, 789 birdies were made during the Dominion Energy Charity Classic (i.e. A donation of \$.10 per birdie would equal a total donation of \$78.90).

HOW TO DONATE ONLINE (Credit Card Fees Apply)

- Visit <https://birdies.together.pgatour.com/index.cfm?action=campaigns.donate&campaignID=2&charityID=194>
- Select "one-time fixed donation" OR "score-based donation" (per birdie).
- Enter your one-time flat donation amount OR a per-birdie donation amount (option to cap donation at a certain amount).
- Fill out the billing information form. One-time flat donations will be processed immediately, and per-birdie donations will be processed post tournament once the number of birdies made during competition rounds is determined.
- You will receive a confirmation email that will serve as a receipt for tax-deduction purposes.

HOW TO DONATE BY CHECK

- Make your check out to PGA TOUR Charities Inc.
- Write **Circles Ashland** in the memo line.
- Mail check to:

Dominion Energy Charity Classic
707 East Main Street, Suite 1025
Richmond, Virginia 23219
Attn: Birdies for Charity

- PGA TOUR Charities Inc. will mail you a receipt for tax-deduction purposes.

Note: Per-birdie donations can only be made using a credit card. One-time flat donations can be made using a credit card or check. This program is operated by PGA TOUR Charities Inc., a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.



NEXT STEPS

The following is a list of next steps that can be taken to further explore and engage in holistic poverty alleviation in your community.

1

GO & LISTEN

Take time to explore different parts of your community. If you've been isolated from poverty, there are many places that you can go to connect with people who are willing to share their story. Listen and learn.

- Visit a food pantry or soup kitchen. Serve. Talk to the volunteers and families who frequent there to secure food for their families.
- Commit to volunteering at your local elementary schools- choose a couple from different parts of your town/ city.
- Use a different mode of transportation than what you are used to. Maybe for you this means walking or riding public transportation to work or to shop.
- Go grocery shopping in a different part of town than where you normally frequent. Choose a location that caters to a different economic or ethnic group than your own.
- Visit various churches representing a variety of ethnic/ economic groups. Listen to the themes of their messages comparing the similarities and differences.
- Set up appointments with various change agents in your community who are working to transform their communities (ie: grassroots leaders, Non-Profits).

2

STUDY & REFLECT

Read and study various publications that can offer new information, challenge my bias and expand my understanding of the scope and impact of poverty in North America. Some people find that blogging or journaling about their experiences can be a helpful way to reflect and deepen their own understanding. We have included a short list of recommended reading to get started. These publications reflect perspectives on both the structural and individual forces that have shaped poverty and prosperity in America.

- *More Than Just Race* by William Julius Wilson
- *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander
- *The Abundant Community* by John McKnight and Peter Block
- *The Careless Society* by John McKnight
- *Bridges to Sustainable Communities* by Philip DeVol and Dan Shenk
- *When Helping Hurts* by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert
- *Scarcity: Why Having Too Little Means so Much* by Sendhil Mullainathan and Eldar Shafir
- *Why the Garden Club Couldn't Save Youngstown* by Sean Safford

The Anti-Poverty Commission Second Report – July 17, 2018

“Overcoming poverty is not a task of charity, it is an act of justice. Like Slavery and Apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings. Sometimes it falls on a generation to be great.” “YOU can be that great generation. Let your greatness blossom.”

Nelson Mandela – February 2005

The Anti-Poverty Commission Members

Chairperson – Mr. Michael Edwards

Vice Chairperson – Mrs. Wanda Taliaferro

Secretary – Ms. Barbara Hoosier

Dr. Cheryl Riggins

Pastor David Tolbert

Mrs. Florence Rhue

Ms. Joanne Williams

Pastor Michael Shannon

Dr. Rosezelia Weaver-Roy

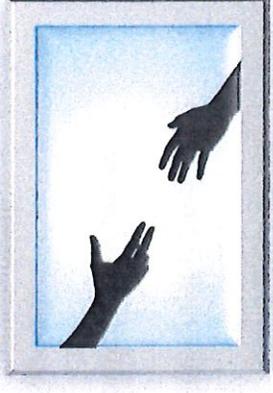
Mr. Leonard Muse

Ms. Janell Sinclair

Mr. Daniel Todd

The Honorable Treska Wilson-Smith, Council Representative

The Anti-Poverty Commission



- The Anti-Poverty Commission was established in 2015
- Citizens of Petersburg applied and were appointed by City Council.
- We adopted the theme:
“Giving a hand up, not a hand out!”
- The Anti-Poverty Commission’s goal is to influence public policy to address poverty and its impact on the city of Petersburg.
- Strategies are to address interventions by the local government of Petersburg in conjunction with the community and private sector.

The Anti-Poverty Commission

15-R-41

Adopted 07/07/15

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING ANTI-POVERTY COMMISSION

- **WHEREAS**, the Petersburg City Council, by the authority vested in them, hereby creates the **Anti-Poverty Commission**; and
- **WHEREAS**, under the authority, the Anti-Poverty Commission is hereby established to develop strategies to address poverty that have demonstrable results for increasing employment and educational attainment, improving transportation, and enhancing healthy communities for Petersburg residents; and
- **WHEREAS**, the City of Petersburg sees to identify the root cause of poverty to the City and develop policies designed to address these causes; and
- **WHEREAS**, according to the *US Census 2013 American Community Survey* 26.7% of Petersburg residents are below the poverty threshold set by the Federal government compared to 11.3% average for the Commonwealth of Virginia; and
- **WHEREAS**, the *US Census, 2013 American Community Survey* reports the median household income for residents of the City of Petersburg as \$34, 424, while the median household income for the Commonwealth of Virginia is \$63, 907; and
- **WHEREAS**, according to the *U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, February 2015 data*, the unemployment rate in the City of Petersburg is 10.1%, while the rate of unemployment for the Commonwealth is 4.7%;
- **WHEREAS**, the City of Petersburg seeks to promote economic purity and social justice for all of the citizens and residents of Petersburg, Virginia,
- **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Petersburg, Virginia, hereby sets forth to develop and Ant-Poverty Commission, and do hereby order that:
- The Commission shall, by way of illustration but not limitation, consist of the following work groups; **Job Creation, Workforce Development/Education, Policy/Legislation, Healthy Communities, Research/Evaluation, and Transportation**. The Commission will provide recommendations on strategies to address poverty. The Commission will identify strategies consistent with making Petersburg a Tier One City and develop a report detailing the recommendation within twelve (12) month of the establishment of the Commission.

The Anti-Poverty Commission

Mission Statement

The Anti-Poverty Commission is dedicated to the role of identifying strategies to reduce poverty and to make Petersburg a Tier One City. With focus on the areas of Job Creation, Workforce Development, Education, Healthy Communities, Research/Evaluation, Transportation, and Policy/Legislation, the Commission continues to conduct research, identify available resources, collaborate with neighboring cities, organizations, and the local government of Petersburg. . The focus areas are:

Job Creation

Policy/Legislation

Workforce Development Education

Healthy Communities

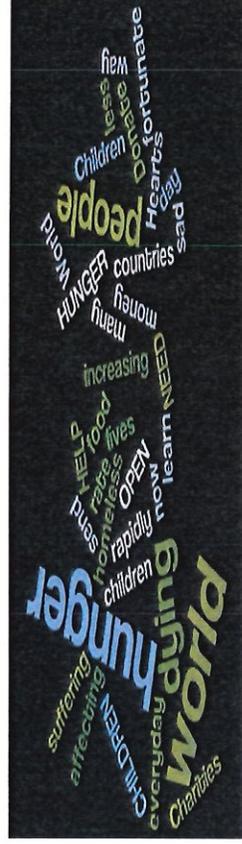
Research/Evaluations

Transportation

The Anti-Poverty Commission

Defining Poverty

- **According to Miriam Webster** - it is the state of one who lacks a usual or socially acceptable amount of money or material possessions.
- **According to the Business Dictionary** – it is a Condition where people’s basic needs for food, clothing and shelter are not being met. Poverty is generally of two types; (1) Absolute Poverty and (2) Relative Poverty.
- **According to the U.S. Census Bureau** - if a family’s total income is less than the family’s threshold, then that family and every individual in it is considered in poverty.
- **According to Investopedia** – it is a state of deprivation, lacking the usual for socially acceptable amount of money or material possessions
- **According to Wikipedia** – Poverty is the scarcity or the lack of a certain amount of material possessions or money. Poverty is a multifaceted concept which may include social, economic, and political elements.



The Anti-Poverty Commission



- **Poverty according to the 2016 U. S. Census Bureau**
- The official poverty rate in 2016 was 12.7 percent, down 0.8 percentage points from 13.5 percent in 2015. This is the second consecutive annual decline in poverty. Since 2014, the poverty rate has fallen 2.1 percentage points from 14.8 percent to 12.7 percent.
- In 2016 there were 40.6 million people in poverty, 2.5 million fewer than in 2015 and 6.0 million fewer than in 2014.
- The poverty rate in 2016 (12.7 percent) was not significantly higher than the poverty rate in 2007 (12.5 percent), the year before the most recent recession.
- For most demographic groups, the number of people in poverty decreased from 2015. Adults aged 65 and older were the only population group to experience an increase in the number of people in poverty. (The elderly are living longer and this number does not reflect the needs of the elderly such as medication, special adaptive devices, etc)
- Between 2015 and 2016, the poverty rate for children under age 18 declined from 19.7 to 18.0 percent. The poverty rate for adults aged 18-64 declined from 12.4 to 11.6 percent. The poverty rate for adults aged 65 and older was 9.3 percent in 2016, not statistically different from the rate in 2015.

Anti-Poverty Commission What Does Poverty Look Like in Petersburg?

Local Department of Social Services Profile Report, SFY 2017

W. Renea Evans-House, MUS, MPA | Interim Director

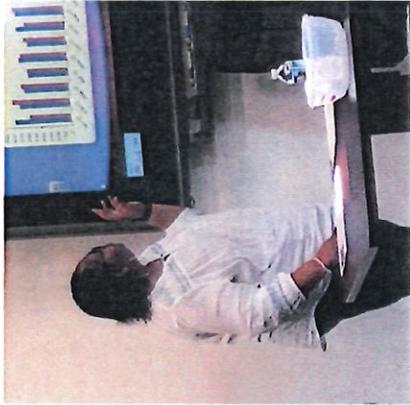
Petersburg Dept. of Social Services

400 Farmer Street

Petersburg VA 23803

804-861-4720

w.reneaevans-house@dss.virginia.gov



Anti-Poverty Commission

Poverty Status of Compared to Surrounding Localities

Ranking From Lowest to Highest	City or County Identified	Poverty Level According to 2016 U.S. Census Bureau
1	Chesterfield	7.0%
2	Prince George	9.5%
3	Colonial Heights	12.9%
4	Dinwiddie	13.0%
5	Hopewell	20.5%
6	Richmond	26.2%
7	Petersburg	29.4%
	Total Percent in the state of Virginia	11.0%

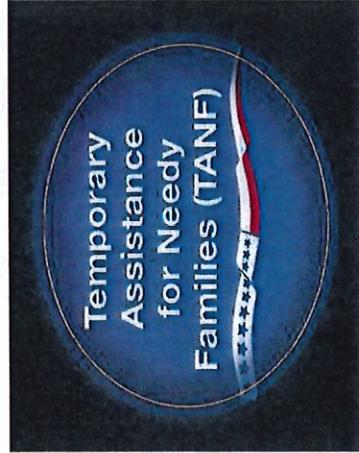
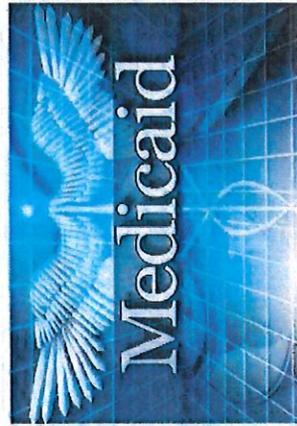
Anti – Poverty Commission

Median Household Incomes of Surrounding Localities
 According to the 2016 U.S. Census Bureau
 Listed in order of highest income levels

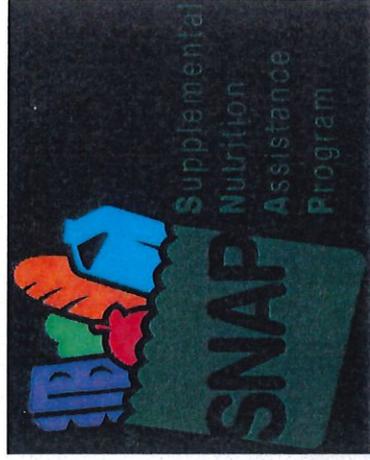


2014 Statistics as Reported in 2017	Surrounding City or County	2016 Statistics
\$72, 972	Chesterfield	\$73,869.00
Data not available at time of report	Prince George	\$64, 804
\$52,288	Dinwiddie	\$51,579
\$52,355	Colonial Heights	\$49, 639
Data not available at time of report	Richmond City	\$44, 919
Data not available at time of report	Hopewell	\$40,814
\$32, 749	Petersburg	\$32, 169
\$64,923	Virginia	\$66, 149

Anti-Poverty Commission



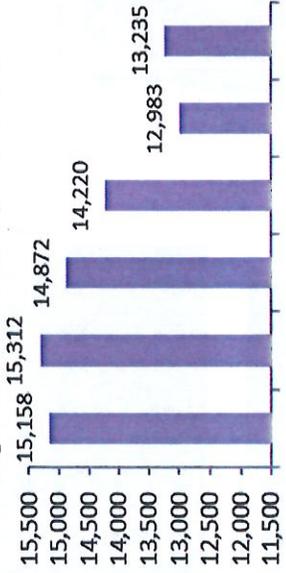
Residents who received benefits (SNAP, TANF or Medicaid) in CY 2017



18,248 out of a population of 31,882

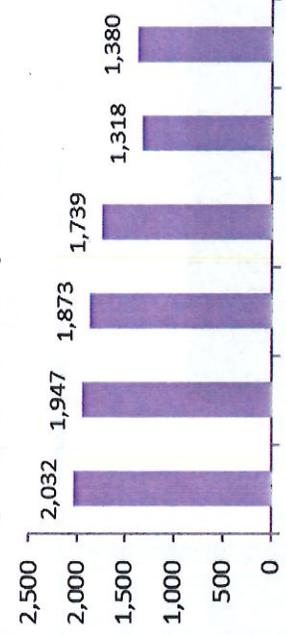
Anti-Poverty Commission

Eligible SNAP Clients by Calendar Year

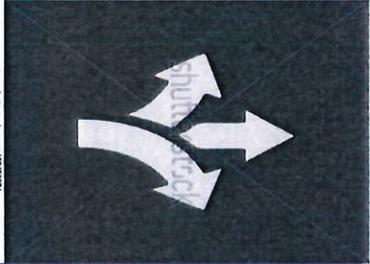


Source: Data Warehouse, Client Cross-Program Locality Yearly Analysis).

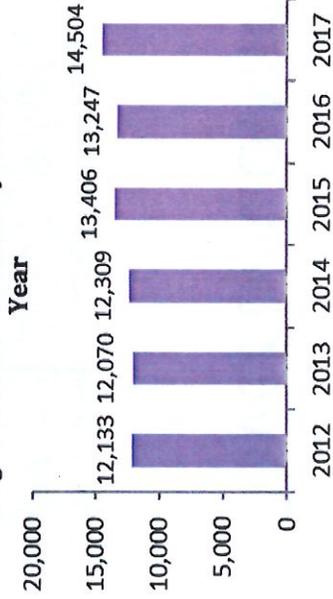
Eligible TANF Clients by Calendar Year



Source: Data Warehouse, Client Cross-Program Locality Yearly Analysis).



Eligible Medicaid Clients by Calendar Year



Source: Data Warehouse, Client Cross-Program Locality Yearly Analysis).

Anti-Poverty Commission



Total amount spent on
Social Services in the
locality (SFY 2017)

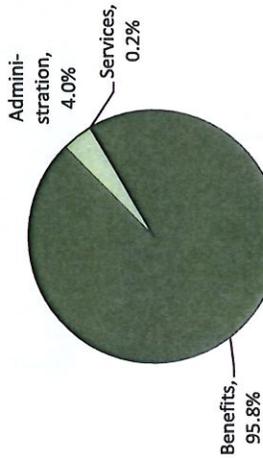
\$133,239,371

\$3,032,728

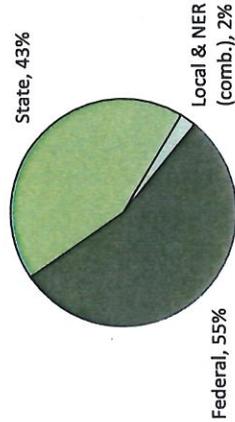
Total amount spent on
Social Services *contributed*
by the locality (SFY 2017)

Anti-Poverty Commission

Distribution of Social Services Spending in Locality, SFY 2017



Total Social Services Spending by Funding Source in Locality, SFY 2017



Social Services Spending, SFY 2017 <i>Petersburg</i>	Federal		State	Local & NER (comb.)		All Sources
Administrative costs	\$2,682,515		\$1,289,865	\$1,364,890		\$5,337,269
Staff and operations ¹	\$2,419,458		\$1,289,865	\$676,791		\$4,386,113
Other expenses ²	\$263,057		\$0	\$688,099		\$951,156
Admin costs - % by Funding Source	50%		24%	26%		100%
Admin costs - % Total SS spending	4%		2%	45%		4%
Services purchased for clients³	\$65,318		\$158,327	\$42,037		\$265,682
Services - % by Funding Source	25%		60%	16%		100%
Services - % Total SS spending	0%		0.3%	1.4%		0.2%
Client Benefits Spending⁴	\$69,940,164		\$56,070,454	\$1,625,801		\$127,636,419
Medicaid & FAMIS ⁵	\$51,950,930		\$50,604,904	\$236,982		\$102,792,815
SNAP	\$14,849,877		\$0	\$0		\$14,849,877
TANF	\$457,682		\$684,483	\$0		\$1,142,164
Energy Assistance	\$795,026		\$0	\$0		\$795,026
Foster care/adoption ⁶	\$1,274,303		\$1,476,816	-\$46,846		\$2,704,272
Comprehensive Services (Title IV-E) ⁷	\$0		\$2,667,085	\$1,326,887		\$3,993,972
Child Care ⁸	\$613,552		\$203,593	\$0		\$817,145
Other Benefits ⁹	-\$1,205		\$433,573	\$108,779		\$541,147
Benefits - % by Funding Source	55%		44%	1%		100%
Benefits - % Total SS spending	96%		97%	54%		96%
Total SS Spending	\$72,687,998		\$57,518,645	\$3,032,728		\$133,239,371
SS Funding - % by Funding Source	55%		43%	2%		100%

Source: LASER, Statewide Summary. Local expenses and expenses not eligible for reimbursement (NER) are combined.

Anti- Poverty Commission

Phase One from Jan. 2017-June 2018

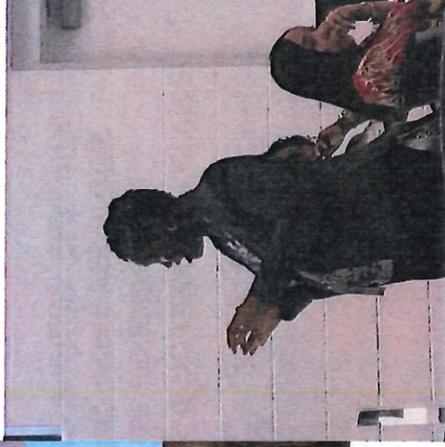
- It was the Commission's task to interview various community organizations who provide services to the impoverished. Commissioners interviewed people who could provide assistance in understanding how poverty was affecting their localities and what was being done regarding poverty. A plethora of people were interviewed from various professions to include, but, not limited to, the following:
 - **From The Office of Community Wealth Building in Richmond, Va.** - Mr. Thaddeus Williamson
 - **From The Robert Bobb Group** – Mr. Robert Bobb, Mr. Tom Tyrell, Former Acting City Manager and Jack Berry (Former member of the Anti-Poverty Commission in Richmond.
 - **From Work Force Development – Learn to Earn** - Earlene Jones , Glen M. Jones
 - **From Circles of Ashland** – Mr. David Cooper
 - **From the Petersburg Housing Authority** - Mr. Nathaniel Pride and Ms. Yvette Bembrly
 - **From the Petersburg Transit System** - Mr. Charles Koonce, Mr. Darius Mason and Mr. Vincent Seaberry
 - **From Petersburg Public School System** – Dr. Marcus Newsome, Supt. Of Schools
 - **From Petersburg Social Services** - Ms. Renea Evans- House and Ms. Wallace from Petersburg Department of Social Services
 - **From City Administration** - Ms. Darnetta Tyus Deputy City Manager and Work Force
- We, the Commission has interviewed at least 20 different people, collected data from them and had the opportunity to seek additional information.

Anti-Poverty Commission

Phase One Continued:

Collaborating with surrounding communities regarding their efforts to address poverty. 

Three members of the Anti-Poverty Commission attended the Community Wealth Building Strategy Sharing Session presented in Partnership with Virginia First Cities..... The Honorable Treska Wilson-Smith; Councilwoman, Michael Edwards; Chairperson and Dr. Rosezelia Roy. There was discussion on the role of employment on poverty as well as applying for the "TANF for Employment Grant".



Anti-Poverty Commission

Phase Two - Three

Phase Two

- Identify Petersburg's current state of poverty. 

- Develop metrics by which to measure, track and report efforts to decrease poverty in the City of Petersburg.

This is an ongoing process while we review records from the U.S. Census Bureau, United Way, Virginia Employment Commission and Petersburg Social Services and other organizations that address those living in poverty (i.e. CARES, Other Shelter Facilities, Cooling and Warming Stations)

Phase Three

- Collaborate with City Council and the Community to increase awareness about poverty in the City of Petersburg
- Teach the community about the effects of poverty in Petersburg via poverty simulations.

Anti-Poverty Commission

Phase Four

Phase Four

In collaboration with members of the community, private sector and local government, develop and present a strategic plan of action to decrease poverty in the City of Petersburg.

Anti – Poverty Commission

- The Anti-Poverty Commission wishes to thank the members of the City Council of Petersburg for the initiative shown by formulating this Commission. You are to be commended for recognizing that the city of Petersburg is in critical state by having a poverty level at 29.4%, higher than any of our surrounding localities.
- The Anti – Poverty Commission is in the process of learning all that we can so that we can develop a strategic plan to share with you.

Petersburg Anti-Poverty Commission gives report

By John Adam

Staff Writer

Published Jul 19, 2018 at 2:21 PM

Updated Jul 19, 2018 at 5:41 PM

PETERSBURG — In Petersburg, approximately 29.4 percent of the population lives at or below the poverty line, which is the most out of any locality in the Tri-Cities area. After almost two years gathering information and data on the issue, the Petersburg Anti-Poverty Commission looks to officially start tackling the problem.

"We're committed to seeing this through, no matter how many years it takes," said Michael Edwards, the chairman of the Petersburg Anti-Poverty Commission.

Formed by a city council resolution made in 2015, the commission has been meeting since late 2016 with a goal of identifying the causes of poverty in the city, and coming up with a plan to help lift citizens out of it. Edwards gave a presentation to the city council on Tuesday night, outlining some of the research the commission has been conducting.

The commission has spent time hosting guest speakers and attending meetings in other localities to better understand the problems that poverty causes, and to see what other localities are doing in response to poverty. One of their stops included a strategy-sharing session at the Richmond Office of Community Wealth.

"We went to Richmond to see the offspring of their Anti-Poverty Commission, which is the Office of Community Wealth," said Edwards. "That program showed us that they basically took the findings of the Anti-Poverty Commission, made this new department, and now they have programs that help folks get jobs, education, and training."

The Office of Community Wealth was formed in 2014 in response to Richmond's own Anti-Poverty Commission, and now houses initiatives for things like workforce development, early childhood education, housing and transportation, and college and career planning. All of which of things Edwards hopes the Petersburg Anti-Poverty Commission can help bring to Petersburg.

"The vision is to provide these programs, get the city council behind the programs, offer recommendations, and ultimately get our citizens into a decent living environment outside the poverty rate," said Edwards.

"It's going to come down to funding, and we were given a lot of information that we'll give to council about what we can possibly get. Right now, we're trying to get established, and mimic that program here."

The commission also engaged in talks with various city departments, such as the Petersburg Area Transit, the Housing Authority, and most notably, with the Social Services Department. Around 18,000 of Petersburg's 32,000 residents receive some form of assistance from social services, a fact that Edwards said "made of a lot of us gasp."

"I think that's when reality set in, that we have a serious problem," he said.

"Almost 20,000 people out of 32,000, that's a lot of people," added Councilwoman Treska Wilson-Smith, who is the commission's council representative. "And within that group of people there are a lot of children."

During his presentation to council, Edwards broke down the different types of programs that social services provides to citizens, including SNAP (food assistance), energy assistance, foster care, and medicaid.

Edwards said that the next phase of the commission's work will involve "paving a way forward" using all the information they have gathered over the past several years. This includes bringing together the private sector and local government agencies to develop a strategic plan to combat poverty. In the interim, Edwards said the commission will collaborate with council to increase awareness about poverty, and work to educate citizens about the issue.

John Adam may be reached at jadam@progress-index.com or 804-722-5172.

< Results for treska

RE: Meeting Cancelled, October 11, 2018 - Fwd: Anti-Poverty Commission Meeting

From: M_Shannon15 <M_Shannon15@comcast.net>

To: roseroy11@verizon.net; treskaw@aol.com <treskaw@aol.com>; 20nicolataylor@gmail.com <20nicolataylor@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Oct 30, 2020 8:20 am

Thank you

Pastor Shannon

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: roseroy11@verizon.net

Date: 10/30/20 8:12 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: treskaw@aol.com, m_shannon15@comcast.net, 20nicolataylor@gmail.com

Subject: Meeting Cancelled, October 11, 2018 - Fwd: Anti-Poverty Commission Meeting

Sharing...

-----Original Message-----

From: roseroy11@verizon.net

To: roseroy11@verizon.net

Sent: Wed, Oct 28, 2020 6:49 pm

Subject: Fwd: Anti-Poverty Commission Meeting

-----Original Message-----

From: Nykesha D. Jackson <njackson@petersburg-va.org>

To: Dr. Cheryl Riggins <criggins@cares-va.org>

Cc: danwtodd@aol.com <danwtodd@aol.com>; gerry8790@gmail.com <gerry8790@gmail.com>; Joanne Williams <williamsmedia1@aol.com>; pastorjdz@hotmail.com <pastorjdz@hotmail.com>; michael.edwards301985@gmail.com <michael.edwards301985@gmail.com>; m_shannon15@comcast.net <m_shannon15@comcast.net>; barbara hoosier <bjeanhoo@gmail.com>; roseroy11@verizon.net <roseroy11@verizon.net>; wataliaferro@hotmail.com <wataliaferro@hotmail.com>; Leonard Muse <leonardmuse@gmail.com>; JANELL SINCLAIR <dylean40@gmail.com>

Sent: Thu, Oct 11, 2018 12:05 pm

Subject: RE: Anti-Poverty Commission Meeting

You are very welcome Dr. Riggins.

Nykesha D. Jackson, CMC
Clerk of City Council
135 North Union Street
Suite 210
Petersburg, VA 23803
Office: (804) 733-2323
Fax: (804) 863-2171

"ABILITY is what you're capable of doing. MOTIVATION determines what you do. ATTITUDE determines how well you do it." ~ Lou Holtz

From: Dr. Cheryl Riggins <criggins@cares-va.org>

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2018 12:04 PM

To: Nykesha D. Jackson <njackson@petersburg-va.org>

Cc: danwtodd@aol.com; gerry8790@gmail.com; Joanne Williams <williamsmedia1@aol.com>; pastorjdz@hotmail.com; michael.edwards301985@gmail.com; m_shannon15@comcast.net; barbara hoosier <bjeanhoo@gmail.com>; roseroy11@verizon.net; wataliaferro@hotmail.com; Leonard Muse <leonardmuse@gmail.com>; JANELL SINCLAIR <dylean40@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Anti-Poverty Commission Meeting

Thank you for the update.

Dr. Cheryl G. Riggins
Executive Director

CARES, Inc.

120 E. Washington Street
P. O. Box 1167
Petersburg, VA 23804

804-722-0988 (O)

804-722-0987 (F)

criggins@cares-va.org

www.cares-va.org

On Thu, Oct 11, 2018 at 10:21 AM Nykesha D. Jackson <njackson@petersburg-va.org> wrote:

Good morning members,

The Anti-Poverty Commission Meeting scheduled for tonight has been canceled due to severe weather. No rescheduled date has been determined.

Thank you

Nykesha D. Jackson, CMC
Clerk of City Council
135 North Union Street
Suite 210
Petersburg, VA 23803
Office: (804) 733-2323
Fax: (804) 863-2171

"ABILITY is what you're capable of doing. MOTIVATION determines what you do. ATTITUDE determines how well you do it." ~ Lou Holtz

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Nov. 8, 2018 Anti-Poverty

The meeting was called to order by Wanda, & opened in prayer by D. Todd.

Members not present had informed committee they would not be present.

Issues of concern:

Consistent presence of all members & discussion as to how to bring more members on board & who we can bring in.

D. Todd suggested - a gathering of all areas who are willing & involved with poverty & similar issues, to have more visibility get together for discussions, gather more interest. C. Higgins further explored & added to Todd's suggestion. Need to provide road map & know where we are going. Phase II should lay framework & acknowledge poverty area.

Wanda: what do we want to accomplish in phase II? Framework should be with different professionals (ex. someone in finance could be helpful)

BH

Flora Rue stated we should go back to our original mission. (Statement mission read by Flora.)

Wanda: narrow down resolution to specific area.

Roy: agree to go back to original mission should focus on one component and then use wrap around Sbc to help individuals. Use subcommittee.

Janette: we need to develop a strong plan using all the info gathered by committee. Suggested goals be provided for individuals for job seeking jobs. (workforce, transportation, job creation)

All members agree to ~~workforce~~ develop a strategy to (workforce develop) present to Council. Identify strengths & barriers of this focus. How to tie education in to your workforce?

All members voted to make our focus workforce/education.

What resources in workforce develop in Belg? what resources can we use

to help in workforce. (All member should bring the back to next meeting) What we need to ask, how does the effect ppl in area. Business discussion over.

7pm Arrival of Speaker - Katrina Kurby (Kurby)

Poverty Simulation. Handout provided
Va. Cooperative Extension

Purpose (see handout)

For Simulation

All near of handout discussed
First need identify a location, who to invite determine target audience, need 3 mos to set up poverty simulation, need a number of participants, more volunteer will make it easier of the group. (70 needed, ppl)
Model provided to show how the simulation is set up to include all groups used in demonstration

Evaluation used in end results. Impact of sensitivity + compassion for those in poverty.

Wanda exit 7:38 - Speaker exit 7:43

Dr. Roy volunteered to do research to bring in other groups who are interested

Poverty Simulation

PRESENTED BY: KATRINA KIRBY, M.ED
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES EXTENSION AGENT
VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
CITY OF PETERSBURG OFFICE

 **Virginia Cooperative Extension**
Virginia Tech • Virginia State University www.ext.vt.edu

Purpose

- The poverty simulation is designed to help participants begin to understand what it might be like to live in a typical low-income family trying to survive from month to month.
- The object is to sensitize participants to the realities faced by low-income people.
- Whether you are manager or front-line worker, everyone can gain useful information from this experience.

 **Virginia Cooperative Extension**
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Simulation Model

- The simulation takes about three to four hours to complete.
- Orientation
- Participants are given a profile of a family struggling to meet their financial obligations and are asked to assume a realistic portrayal of the family role they have selected.
- Simulation Exercise
- Family's goal is to keep the home secure, feed the family, keep utilities turned on, make all necessary loan payments, pay miscellaneous expenses, and meet unexpected financial situations.
- Debriefing
- After the simulation, participants have an opportunity to reflect on and talk about their experience.

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Participants

- A minimum of 40 and a maximum of 85 participants assume roles of family members in 26 different family situations facing poverty.
- Some are newly unemployed, some are recently deserted by the "breadwinner," and others are recipients of TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families), either with or without additional earned income.
- Some are senior citizens receiving Social Security or grandparents raising their grandchildren.



Participants Responsibilities

- Adults portraying the roles of "the head of household" are responsible for providing basic necessities and shelter during the course of one month, which is represented by four 15-minute "weeks."
- Adults portraying the roles of children are to attend school or daycare during the week.



Volunteer Staff Roles

- BANKER/LOAN COLLECTOR
- QUIK CASH (CURRENCY EXCHANGE) WORKER
- COMMUNITY ACTION STAFF
- SUPERCENTER CLERK
- MORTGAGE/RENT COLLECTOR
- PAWNBROKER
- POLICE OFFICER
- EMPLOYER
- UTILITY COLLECTOR
- DSS OFFICE RECEPTIONIST
- DSS OFFICE CASEWORKER #1
- DSS OFFICE CASEWORKER #2
- "ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES" PERSON
- SCHOOLTEACHER
- CHILD CARE WORKER



Sample Floor Plan

Virginia Cooperative Extension
Virginia Tech • Virginia State University
www.vext.vt.edu

Why the Poverty Simulation is Effective

- In general, people retain:
- 20% of what they hear
- 30% of what they see/read
- 50% of what they hear/see/read
- 70% of what they hear/see/read/discuss
- 90% of what they hear/see/read/discuss/do – a simulation

•

Virginia Cooperative Extension
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www.vext.vt.edu

Expected Outcomes of the poverty simulation:

- Increased understanding of the stereotypes about people with low income
- Improved customer service for clients with low income
- Increased connections and coordination with other staff in other agencies and partner organizations to lessen bureaucratic obstacles for clients
- Increased awareness about institutional obstacles for people with low income.
- Improved ethics when making financial decisions in business.
- Improved ethics when tasked with promoting products to people with low income (such as predatory financial services).

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COST/EXPENDITURE

Job Readiness class; transportation; completion stipend; WELDING Program interest
Job Readiness class; transportation; completion stipend; ECE Diploma program - did not enroll yet
DCC Enrolled; Nursing
DCC ENROLLED WELDING PROGRAM
DCC ENROLLED WELDING PROGRAM
aPHR class and certification
DCC ENROLLED; Manufacturing Specialist; transportation
PCA CERTIFIED; ROYALTY CARE TUITION/FEEES
Job Readiness class; transportation; completion stipend; interested in NURSE AIDE program
DCC Enrolled; WELDING-tuition paid spring 2018
Job Readiness class; transportation; completion stipend; housing utilities; NURSE AIDE program
Job Readiness class; transportation
MEDICAL SOLUTION MEDICAL OFFICE PROGRAM transportation
Job Readiness Class; transportation
MEDICAL SOLUTION MEDICAL OFFICE PROGRAM transportation
Job Readiness class; transportation
Job Readiness class completion stipend; transportation;
Job Readiness class complete; transportation, CDL Training
DCC enrolled Phlebotomy program
DCC ENROLLED; Manufacturing Specialist; transportation
DCC WELDING PROGRAM
Job Readiness class; transportation
DCC ENROLLED; transportation; clothing
DCC ENROLLED; transportation; CDL TRAINING
ROYALTY PCA COMPLETE
DCC WELDING PROGRAM
DCC WELDING PROGRAM
DCC APhr completion
DCC job readiness class; stipend; transportation; housing
DCC job readiness class; stipend; transportation; tuition; customer service; forklift
Job Readiness class; transportation
Job Readiness class completed; transportation; safeSERVE; forklift; MT1
VISTA PBY TUITION
Job Readiness Class; completion; transportation; clothing
DCC Enrolled; books-fall 2017; dropped due to medical
DCC Enrolled; ServSAFE complete
DCC WELDING PROGRAM
DCC Nurse Aide Program fall 2018
DCC WELDING PROGRAM
DCC Nurse Aide Program
DCC Enrolled; HVAC transportation; resume update services
DCC Enrolled; HVAC transportation
Job Readiness Class; transportation; Business Management Program
Job Readiness Class; transportation
ROYALTY PCA COMPLETE
Job Readiness Class; transportation
Job Readiness class; transportation; clothing' relocating
DCC Enrolled; PBY program enrolled

DCC CDL TRAINING CERTIFICATION

DCC Enrolled; transporation; supplies/tools/books

DCC ENROLLED; METROLOGY; TRANSPORATION

Job Readiness Class; completion; TRANSPORTATION; GED PROGRAM ENROLLED; Rental Assistance

ROYALTY PCA COMPLETE

Job Readiness Class; completion; tuition for associates degree; exhausted FA; transportation

DCC ENROLLED; transportation; Customer Service Certification

Job Readiness; transportation

Job Readiness class completion; transporation; enrolled at DCC

VISTA PBY

DCC job readiness; fall 2018 office administration; completion; transportation

DCC Enrolled; PBY; certification

DCC WELDING PROGRAM

Jamison Manion
City of Richmond

Paul D. McWhinney
Director
Virginia Department of Social
Services

Dr. John Moeser
Community Representative

Doris D. Moseley
Director
Richmond Department of Social
Services

Hon. Norma Murdoch-Kitt
School Board Office
Richmond Public Schools

Hon. Rev. Tyrone E. Nelson
Henrico Board of Supervisors
Varina District
Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church

Lorae Ponder
Vice President
House Opportunities Made Equal

Dr. Gary L. Rhodes
President
J. Sargeant Reynolds Community
College

Dr. Michael O. Royster
Director
Virginia Department of Health,
Office of Minority Health and
Health Equity

Jim Schuyler
Executive Director
Partnership for Community
Action Agencies

Dr. Thomas J. Shields
Director
University Of Richmond

Dr. Donald (Don) Stern
Director
Richmond City Health District

Candice Streett
Executive Director
Local Initiatives Support Corporation

Hon. Frank J. Thornton
Chairman
Henrico Board of Supervisors –
Fairfield

Alice Tousignant
Executive Director
Virginia Supportive Housing

Heather Turbyne-Pollard
Vice President
United Way of Greater Richmond &
Petersburg

Thomas Wagstaff
President
Capital Area Partnership Uplifting
People

Dr. Thad Williamson
University of Richmond

City of Richmond Staff:

Carla Childs
Gayle Turner
Leah Dozier Walker
Ann-Marie C. Williams
LaForest F. Williams