

Greater Richmond Continuum of Care
Emergency Housing Vouchers Referral and Match Process
Endorsed by SPP July 7, 2021

Background: Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) are a new resource that is part of the American Rescue Plan Act and they are targeted to help households exit homelessness. The vouchers will become available by mid-July.

These vouchers must come through the Coordinated Entry System and our network of homeless service providers will have access to at least 104 vouchers.

Given the emergency nature of these vouchers and the intent to use these vouchers to address the increase in homelessness from the pandemic, the Greater Richmond Continuum of Care (GRCoC) wants to ensure that these vouchers are targeted to our most vulnerable neighbors.

Order of Priority (approved by GRCoC board 6/28/21):

- 1) Household is prepared to move from HUD-funded permanent supportive housing (PSH) and does not need ongoing supportive services or has access to the supportive services needed from another program.
- 2) Household meets the definition of chronic homelessness and does not need ongoing supportive services or has access to the supportive services needed from another program.
- 3) Household is prepared to move from HUD- or VHSP-funded Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) program into private housing and does not need ongoing supportive services or has access to the supportive services needed from another program.
- 4) Household is a current resident in an emergency shelter program with a history of multiple (2 or more) or lengthy (longer than 45 days) emergency shelter stays within the last 3 years and does not need ongoing supportive services or has access to the supportive services needed from another program.

Households fleeing sexual and domestic violence: January 2020 Point-in-Time count was used to determine a “set-aside” amount for vouchers to be coordinated through the SDV regional collaborative (10 vouchers). The SDV regional collaborative will determine prioritization within this set-aside amount.

Proposed match/referral process:

All applications must be submitted directly to Homeward’s System Team at jjohnson@homewardva.org.

Priority population 1: Beginning immediately, the systems will run an HMIS report identifying clients that meet priority 1. This list will be shared with providers who will work to submit an EHV application on behalf of interested clients.

Priority population 2: Beginning immediately, the system team will run an HMIS report identifying clients in RRH, emergency shelter, or outreach project that meet priority 2. The timeline for this priority will be determined by the success of the preceding priorities and the availability of vouchers. This queue will be case conferenced with project providers to determine:

- Who on the provider staff will submit the application?
- Are there housing search/housing stabilization needs to successfully lease up and move in?

Priority population 3: The timeline for this priority will be determined by the success of the preceding priorities and the availability of vouchers. The system team will case conference with RRH providers to determine eligibility and:

- Who on the provider staff will submit the application?
- Are there housing search/housing stabilization needs to successfully lease up and move in?

In order to expedite this process, RRH providers are encouraged to identify clients that meet priority 3 criteria.

Priority population 4: The timeline for this priority will be determined by the success of the preceding priorities and the availability of vouchers. The system team will case conference with shelter providers to determine eligibility and:

- Who on the provider staff will submit the application?
- Are there housing search/housing stabilization needs to successfully lease up and move in?