

A not-for-profit homeless services provider and community development corporation, **Virginia Supportive Housing (VSH)** is committed to helping those in need gain what others cherish the most – a home and personal independence.

Founded in 1988 to serve Greater Richmond, Virginia Supportive Housing has expanded to South Hampton Roads and the Tri-Cities area. VSH provides both permanent housing and supportive services to the most under-served segments of our population. The homeless and the physically disabled individuals and families VSH serves represent the very lowest levels of income in the Commonwealth (at or less than 30% of the area's median income). This financial situation is often compounded by other challenges, including mental illness.

Virginia Supportive Housing's approach goes far beyond shelter. VSH provides permanent housing integrated with appropriate levels of support services to help clients stay sheltered and find the support they need to succeed in other areas of life.

- VSH develops and manages properties specifically for use as permanent, affordable housing.
- Residents can stay as long as they wish provided they can meet their commitments to pay rent and live within the guidelines of the property.
- VSH provides on-site case management to help people maintain their housing and become more independent.
- VSH works with landlords who offer affordable housing and connects them to homeless and disabled people who need housing.

By actively seeking out, purchasing, and renovating dilapidated properties, VSH brings positive development into neighborhoods that are often in desperate need of revitalization.

- VSH's houses, apartment buildings, and group homes increase property values, decrease blight, and encourage additional investment and renewal.

For two decades, VSH has been a statewide leader in affordable housing and quality services for many of the community's hardest to serve populations. Four VSH housing developments and supportive housing programs have received the Virginia Governor's Housing Achievement award:

- New Clay House- the first SRO (studio apartments with support services) in Virginia;
- The Families In Neighborhoods Developing program- the first affordable rental housing program in the state for homeless families graduating from shelters and transitional housing;
- HomeBuy5 (formally First Homes) program- the only homeownership program in Virginia for homeless families and families at risk of homelessness;
- Gosnold Apartments in Norfolk- the first regional SRO (studio apartments with support services) in the nation serving formerly homeless individuals from Norfolk, Virginia Beach and Portsmouth.

Virginia Supportive Housing's approach saves the public up to \$9,000 per individual served. The cost to the Greater Richmond community of providing temporary housing is approximately \$9,500 to \$13,500 per person. VSH spends approximately \$4,500 per person, per year to provide permanent, supportive housing.

Visit [www.virginiassupportivehousing.org](http://www.virginiassupportivehousing.org) to learn more about VSH and how you can get involved.