



Volunteers
of America®

CHESAPEAKE & CAROLINAS

125+ Years Strong



HOUSING & CARE FOR THE
DISTRICT'S HOMELESS WOMEN

HOMELESS WOMEN IN DC NEED YOUR HELP

Did you know that over 26% of those experiencing homelessness in the District of Columbia are women¹? That means over 1,000 women are living on the streets of DC on any given night of the year. Not only are these mothers and daughters without a roof over their heads, many are victims of gender-based violence, and more than half have a mental illness, addiction or other serious health condition.

What's worse is mental illness and addiction among women has been on the rise². Housing is only the first step to freeing someone from the grips of homelessness for good. Serious mental and physical illnesses can make staying housed in the long-term very difficult. That's why addressing both housing and health related needs is so important. But in DC, there are currently more resources and support available for men than women.

But there is hope.

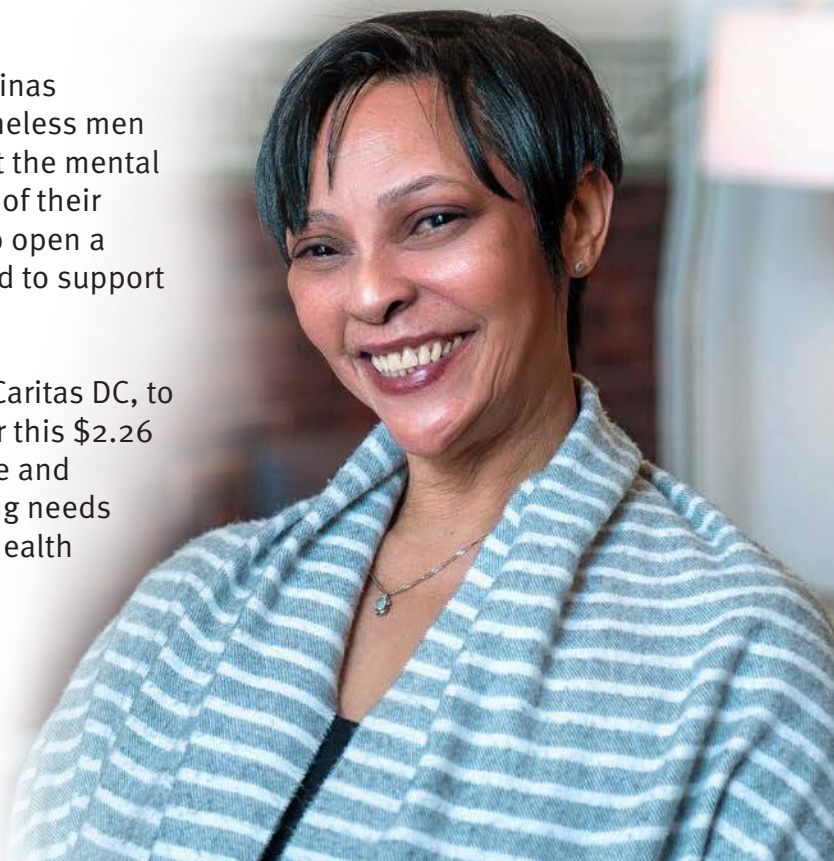
In 2019, Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas launched **Hope Has A Home™** in DC to provide homeless men too sick to be on the streets a safe place to rest, get the mental and physical care they need, and move into homes of their own. Building off of our success, in 2023 we plan to open a Hope Has A Home™ for Women – the first of its kind to support women like Kyra in DC.

We are fortunate to have our partner, AmeriHealth Caritas DC, to fund the health services and housing assistance for this \$2.26 million project. The program will offer the same care and supports as the men's version while also addressing needs that are unique to women, including reproductive health and trauma caused by gender-based violence.

But without you, this program can't open.

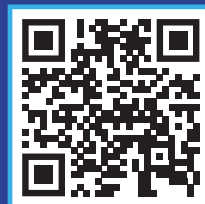
We are in need of \$71,850 to open the doors of this new safe haven for women. Only Beacons of Hope like you who believe that every woman deserves safety and care can make that happen.

By giving to the Hope Has A Home™ for Women program, you will ensure that at least 30 women can safely recover from their illnesses and not return to the streets each year.



I was the victim of abuse and became homeless after my divorce. VOA gave me a home and a doctor to help me heal.
– Kyra

To watch Kyra's story, scan the QR code or visit voachesapeake.org/kyra-story.



¹ The Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness: 2021 Point-In-Time Count

² Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health

HOPE HAS A HOME™ – HOW & WHY IT WORKS

Homeless individuals are four times more likely to visit an emergency room and five times more likely to be hospitalized - typically involving a longer than average length of stay at a cost of roughly \$3,000/day¹. For most patients, and certainly those with stable housing, the primary criterion for hospital discharge is health status. In other words, *is the patient well enough to go home?*

The situation for homeless individuals is very different. Even if they are well enough by medical standards for discharge, care providers often have no place to arrange for them to heal in a safe and supported environment. Medical respite is designed to provide that safe, supported and recuperative environment.

A partnership among VOA Chesapeake & Carolinas, AmeriHealth Caritas DC, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield, Unity Health Care and Pathways to Housing DC, Hope Has A Home™ for Men relies on the Housing First Model. It's also low-barrier, meaning that we take on individuals whether they are actively working on recovery or not.

The goal of the program is to meet homeless individuals where they are and provide them the individualized support they need to progress through the program, regain their health and transition into housing.

The current program has two phases. Phase 1, “Medical Respite”, provides individuals discharged from hospital the medical and mental health support they need to recover. Phase 2, “Step Down”, is designed to prepare individuals who have recovered from their conditions to move into their own home and address any other social barriers they may have for success.

“I had been in and out of the hospital several times and this program gave me a place to get back on my feet. I think this program would be great for women.”
– Gregory

PHASE 1 MEDICAL RESPITE | 30 days

- 8-bed home located at 4515 Edson Pl, NE
- Daily meals, laundry services, transportation
- Medical care
- Mental health & substance use recovery
- Assessment for housing & other needs

PHASE 2 STEP DOWN | 90 – 180 days

- 8-bed home located at 6520 First St. NW
- Daily meals, laundry services, transportation
- Mental health & substance use recovery
- Connection to community services
- Housing navigation & placement

¹ BMC Health Services Research: Identifying homeless population needs in the Emergency Department using Community-

A LOOK INSIDE

Phase 1: Medical Respite

4515 Edson Pl, NE

Catch a glimpse inside Hope Has A Home™ for Men while listening to a resident share how the program has been a blessing to them. Visit www.voachesapeake.org/gregory-story or scan the QR code.



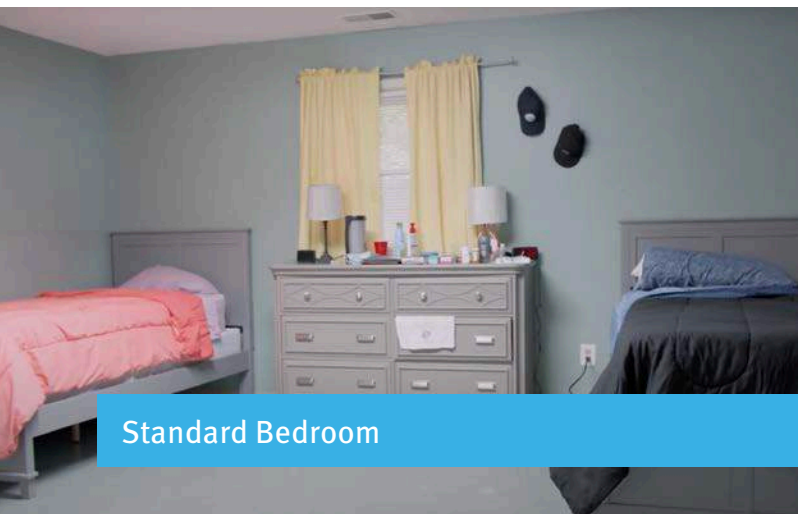
You could make a home like this for women.



Medical Exam Room



Living Room



Standard Bedroom



Medical Respite Bedroom

A PROGRAM LED BY WOMEN, FOR WOMEN

Some of the key barriers and challenges that homeless women face include higher rates of victimization due to domestic and sexual violence.

If you think that's bad, then this is the program for you.

Homeless women are also at risk of poor health during their reproductive years due to a lack of preventive care such as prenatal, mammograms and other tests. They also often lack access to menstrual products. Also, in general, women often need greater care and time than men to recover and get connected to services. Therefore, they often need more intensive support and time to recover from a medical condition.

Here's how Hope Has A Home™ will be a game-changer for women:

- **Led by women, for women**
An all-female staff of nurses, service coordinators and housing specialists will provide the full range of support vulnerable women need to heal and be successful.
- **Access to care women need**
All medical services, including gynecology, prenatal, mammograms and other primary care services will be provided by Unity Health Care, our nonprofit medical partner.
- **Addiction support from those with personal experience**
Women will receive help overcoming addiction from our trusted and trained peer recovery specialists who have lived experience with addiction and sobriety themselves.
- **Direct linkage to housing**
Our nonprofit housing partner, Pathways to Housing DC, will ensure the women are placed into housing by the end of the program and remain housed.



Kitchen



HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

By joining our campaign, you can give hope to women in need for years to come. We are fortunate to have AmeriHealth Caritas DC to provide the funding needed for the program to provide women life-changing services and support. But only givers of hope like YOU can help us cover a \$71,850 gap in funding needed to prepare the Phase 1 & 2 homes to welcome women to the program.

FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN OF \$2.26M

\$2M

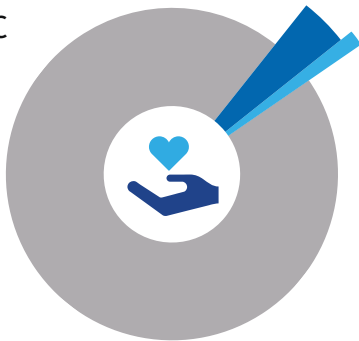
AmeriHealth Caritas DC

\$185,370

Grants & Individual
Donations

\$71,850

Funding Gap



GIVE THE GIFT OF HOPE

Become a Beacon of Hope to a woman in need by helping us reach our \$71,850 goal in donations. Donate now using the URL or QR code below!

www.voachesapeake.org/give2women



Please make checks payable to:

Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas
Attn: Development
4601 Presidents Dr., Suite 300, Lanham, MD 20706

Funding Gap

We're in need of support for the following improvements to one of the homes that will house women in the program.

- Roof & Gutter Replacement – \$21,000
- Interior Flooring Replacement – \$17,600
- Interior Painting – \$16,250
- Kitchen Cabinet Resurfacing – \$17,000

BECOME A SPONSOR

By becoming a Hope Has A Home™ for Women sponsor, you will be joining our area's corporate and philanthropic leaders to provide critical funding needed to maintain the program beyond its initial start up phase. Please answer the call, so that more women can experience hope today and into the future.

PLATINUM: \$15,000

- Verbal recognition from the podium and opportunity to make remarks at Hope for Women event
- Dedicated press release
- Logo placement on event webpage, signage, and email marketing
- Logo placement on program webpage & marketing materials for 12 months
- Social media mentions
- Engraved brick with company name placed on program property

GOLD: \$10,000

- Verbal recognition from the podium at Hope for Women event
- Logo placement on event webpage, signage, and email marketing
- Logo placement on program webpage & marketing materials for 12 months
- Social media mentions
- Engraved brick with company name placed on program property

SILVER: \$5,000

- Verbal recognition from the podium
- Logo placement on event webpage, signage, and email marketing
- Logo placement on program webpage & marketing materials for 12 months
- Social media mentions

BRONZE: \$2,500

- Verbal recognition from the podium
- Logo placement on event webpage, signage, and email marketing
- Social media mentions

Please make checks payable to:

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4601 Presidents Dr., Suite 300, Lanham, MD 20706

For questions, please contact **Nicholle Granger** at ngranger@voaches.org.

To complete your sponsorship online, visit
www.voachesapeake.org/h4w-sponsorship-payment.

OFFERING A HELPING HAND – THEN & NOW

Volunteers of America is a national, faith-based nonprofit made up of over 30 independently operating chapters that collectively support, house, treat, and care for underserved communities across the country. VOA strives to fulfill the pledge of our founders, Ballington and Maud Booth, to: “Go wherever we are needed and do whatever comes to hand.”

At Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas, supporters like you have been helping us create **Healthy Communities for All** for over 125 years by aligning health, housing and human services. We actively pursue health equity by filling the gap in housing and care for underserved populations, including those who are homeless, low-income, underinsured or uninsured, justice-involved and veterans. Across Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia and the Carolinas, we are the safety net for more than 10,000 men, women and children in need of housing and care each year.

We are proud of how far our communities have come and now look to our future, in the face of immense challenges plaguing our country. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to exacerbate the need for low-barrier, wrap-around services that address the underlying issues impacting the homeless, especially the chronically homeless.

With your support opening the Hope Has A Home™ for Women program, more people in need will be able to access the integrated support they need to be well and thrive.



Homeless Services

- Eviction prevention
- Shelters & emergency housing
- Transitional housing
- Financial assistance



Housing

- Family & Senior Housing
- Veteran Housing
- Housing for those with disabilities
- Housing for those experiencing homelessness



Mental Health

- Crisis counseling
- Peer support
- Medication management
- Child & family counseling
- Telehealth



Substance Use Recovery

- Outpatient Services
- Opioid addiction treatment
- Medical respite



Veterans

- Supportive Housing
- Financial Assistance
- Employment Resource Assistance
- Mental Health & Addiction Treatment



Employment & Training Services

- Youth training & certification programs
- Adult literacy
- Job Placement



Correctional Services

- Residential re-entry centers
- Job training & resource assistance
- Family reintegration



Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

- Housing & in-home support
- Day programs
- Community integration

Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas

Maryland, DC & Virginia

4601 Presidents Drive, Suite 300
Lanham, MD 20706
(301) 459-2020

North & South Carolina

207 Commons Blvd
Durham, NC 27704
(800) 646-2828

Website: www.voachesapeake.org

General inquiries: contactus@voaches.org

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