# Impact Report







Support Works
HOUSING

## Support Impacts

In 2024 1,639 people lived at home, thanks to your support.

784 lived in a Su apartment lived in a SupportWorks

participated in a 360 scattered-site program

were rapidly rehoused through Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF)

were formerly homeless 881

were low-income\* 180







Almost all choose to stay with us for at least a year.

98%

stay at least one year.

remain permanently housed.

Almost all

96%

remain in stable. permanent housing.

Many maintain or increase their income.

71%

of our residents reported maintaining or increasing their cash income.

Of the formerly homeless individuals served by supportive housing...

> And some build on their strengths to the point that they can "move on."

> > **51**

successfully moved into permanent housing and live independently.\*

On average, they choose to stay several years.

6 years

is the average length of stay.

Their income improves.

average increase in monthly income for those who improve their income.

<sup>\*</sup> Individuals earning 50% or less of the Area Median Income. For these individuals, affordable rental housing is the primary tool that decreases their chances of experiencing homelessness.

<sup>\*</sup> Their transition out of SupportWorks housing creates availability of much-needed supportive housing units for individuals still experiencing homelessness.

# Support Builds

#### **CHARLOTTESVILLE - 96 INDIVIDUALS SERVED**

The Crossings at **Fourth and Preston** Built in 2012 – 60 units

**Supportive Services** for Veteran Families 38 individuals

#### RICHMOND - 956 INDIVIDUALS SERVED

### **New Clay House**

Built in 1992, renovated and expanded in 2019 -80 units

### **Studios at South Richmond**

Built in 1996, renovated in 2016 – 39 units Expanded in 2011 – 21 units 60 units total

### **Cool Lane Commons**

Built in 2024 – 86 units

### **Bliley Manor**

Acquired in 1998 -8 units

### **Stratford House** (Cherokee Hill)

Acquired in 1998 -8 units

### **Cary Street Apartments**

Built in 2004 – 4 units

### Independence House

Built in 2005 – 6 units

### **James River Apartments**

Built in 2008 – 14 units

**HomeLink** 253 Served

### **Supportive Services for Veteran Families**

457 Served

#### **HAMPTON ROADS - 587 INDIVIDUALS SERVED**

### Gosnold **Apartments**

(Norfolk) Built in 2006 – 60 units

### **Church Street Station Studios**

(Norfolk) Built in 2017 – 80 units

### **South Bay Apartments** (Portsmouth)

Built in 2010 – 60 units

### **Heron's Landing Apartments**

(Chesapeake) Built in 2013 – 60 units

### Cloverleaf **Apartments**

(Virginia Beach) Built in 2008 – 60 units

### **Crescent Square Apartments**

(Virginia Beach) Built in 2016 – 80 units

### **Hampton Roads Housing First**

107 Served

### **Street Outreach** 23 Served

These percentages include five

### Of the formerly homeless individuals served by supportive housing:

### Many are chronically homeless upon intake

Chronically homeless......63%

### Most have a disability

Physical disability or chronic health condition......44% Chronic mental health condition or substance use......51%

### Most are older

Under 18	3%
18-24	2%
25-44	13%
45-64	61%
65+	219

#### Some are veterans

#### Most are black

Black	679
White	269
Hispanic	29
Multiracial/	
Other	59

#### Most are male

Male	64%
Female	36%

transgender people. One participant is non-binary.







**CHARLOTTESVILLE** 



**RICHMOND** 





# Support Stabilizes

Many aspects of the SupportWorks Housing mission have remained unchanged over the years, but our success also lies in our ability to adapt and evolve. We thought it would be interesting to ask some of our longer-tenured teammates how their jobs have changed over the years. (And the following page explores how we've adapted and evolved by harnessing the power of data.)

Shaniqua Faulk joined our Property Management (PM) team in 2006, and Karen Gorum joined PM three years later. Both think that better integration across teams contributes to heightened mission impact.

Property management, Karen says, is about taking care of the buildings, but the focus is always on resident well-being. "A person can't be a good tenant if they are in crisis," she says, describing instances in which getting a resident to pay late rent or cease their disruptive behavior was more about caring for a person in pain than sending official notices. "We work a lot more closely these days with Services to make sure we're taking care of people first."

Shaniqua adds that over time, PM has also become more involved at earlier stages of new project developments. "Our knowledge of how the properties are used and what our residents really need from their private and public spaces is valuable when new properties are being designed."

Julie Anderson, Director of Real Estate
Development (RED) and herself a 16-year
SupportWorks veteran, agrees, and adds that
SupportWorks has a great reputation in the
communities it operates in, thanks to the
great work of both Property Management
and Services, which can shorten the time it
takes to develop new properties. "When I first
started, overcoming community resistance
and getting approvals took a long time, and
now that is much easier because we are known
as good neighbors."

The financial benefit of shortened project timelines is more important than ever because one of the other changes Julie describes is the dramatic increase in the cost and complexity of developing new projects. "Financing sources, compliance demands, material costs have all become more burdensome," says Julie.

The RED team draws on its deep expertise in both construction and financing—as well as its collaboration with PM—to thrive in this ever-changing landscape. As Julie notes, "Their input into the locations and types of buildings, number of apartments, and even sustainable building practices, plays a big part in our success."

...Better integration across teams contributes to heightened mission impact.



"A person can't be a good tenant if they are in crisis."

Karen Gorum
 Assistant Property Manager II,
 Church Street Station

"....Overcoming community resistance and getting approvals took a long time, and now that is much easier because we are known as **good neighbors.**"

Julie Anderson
 Director of Real Estate Development





"Our knowledge of how the properties are used and what our residents really need from their private and public spaces is valuable when new properties are being designed."

Shaniqua Faulk
 Associate Director of
 Property Management

# Support Strengthens

Every one of us can point to the places where technology and automation is making the world a less-personal place. Self-service kiosks, endless phone menu trees, texts instead of phone calls. Sometimes it seems technology drives us inevitably farther away from one another. SupportWorks uses technology to do the opposite.

SupportWorks grew rapidly in the early 2010s, receiving more and more grant funding to serve even more people. And as the world increasingly runs on data, grant reporting and compliance requirements became more complex. This complexity began to exact a toll on SupportWorks' effectiveness.

"Services teammates were spending hours each day entering data," says Joshua Meade, Data and Compliance Specialist, every minute of which took them away from spending time directly serving residents and program participants. Even small data entry errors could cost time and money to fix. There was another financial impact, as well. Reporting overhead led to delays, which left SupportWorks vulnerable to having to return grant money if the money couldn't be put to work. The solution to both of these related challenges lay in reducing the service team's reporting overhead and increasing reporting accuracy.

That's where Joshua and his self-described "team of nerds" comes in. They offload much of that reporting overhead from Services, eliminating costly data-entry errors and allowing Services to devote more time to serving residents and participants. Denise Bavaro, Program Manager for the scattered-site program HomeLink, says "without the work of our data group, it would be almost unmanageable."

The back-end result is more accurate and more efficient reporting, which gives funders the confidence that their money is being deployed as intended. The front-end result is that SupportWorks can serve even more people, and be even more supportive to each person as they pursue their individual journeys to success.

Thanks to Joshua and his team, SupportWorks is turning the normal trope of automation leading to impersonalization on its head. Our technology is designed to place human beings even more in the center of our business. Support transforms lives, and good data transforms Services, which is why Denise says, "I am so thankful for our data team!!!"

Support transforms lives, and good data transforms Services.





## Support Transforms

# "Home is what this place is to me."

Earlisa Matthews knows what life is like when you have no support. When your family turns you out. When drugs take you in. When your shelter is a prison cell.

"I've been clean since March 5, 2012, but I had other things to go through after that," says Earlisa, describing years in an abusive relationship. "I prayed for a way out, and when the chance for this apartment happened, I was gone."

"The chance" happened in 2020 and "this apartment" is SWH's Church Street Station in Norfolk. She points to a decoration atop a bookshelf. The word "home," made of woodcut letters. The letters are connected, with a heart at the end. The H and the M are painted bright blue, the O and the E a mellower purple. The heart, of course, is pink.

"I painted that in a class," she says, "because home is what this place is to me."

And Earlisa is making the most of her chance, working hard to be as connected as the letters in her bookshelf decoration. She shows up to pretty much every activity Church Street Station offers. Classes

on money management. Mental health seminars. Red Table Talk, a women's peer support group. Decorating the common room for Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day.

When she runs out of things to do at Church Street, she visits other SWH properties. "I take the activities bus to Heron's Landing and to Gosnold and do activities there. I love that bingo game!"

Earlisa also spreads the word. She's constantly encouraging other residents to take part in everything Church Street Station offers, urging them to connect with one another the same way her blue and purple and pink HOME is all joined up. "I try to get everybody involved in something," says Earlisa. "We've got to support each other."

Earlisa Matthews now knows what life is like when you have abundant support, when an organization like SWH gives you another chance. "God gave me all of this," she says, looking with wonder at the tables and chairs and books and art that surround her, "and I'm not going to waste it."





Support transforms lives, but it also transforms communities. As an evidence-based best practice, SupportWorks' supportive housing delivers measurable results for the communities we serve.

But don't just take it from us! A few of our partners from local governments shared with us their perspective on the value of investing in supportive housing and collaborating with SupportWorks Housing to make it happen. We're grateful for their leadership and their support as we work together to end homelessness—and save communities millions of dollars in the process.



"We had folks who had been homeless in some cases, for decades, some of the hardest to serve individuals in our entire community and The Crossings [Supportive Housing Community] worked for them. It dramatically improved their quality of life, and, in many cases it



Dave Norris
 Former Charlottesville
 Mayor and City
 Councilperson

saved us money in the community. Up to that point they had been very frequent consumers of very expensive public services, going back years, if not decades, cycling in and out of emergency rooms and homeless shelters and mental health facilities and detox facilities and the courts and the prisons and jails. That all adds up and costs a lot of money, but when you can get somebody into permanent supportive housing, their quality of life improves and they're less of a financial burden on our community, so it's a total win-win, and again, it was SupportWorks that made that happen."



"Given our shared mission and goals to end homelessness by facilitating permanent housing and supportive services, it is only natural that the City of Chesapeake considers SupportWorks Housing as a



- **Rick West** Chesapeake Mayo significant partner organization in our community. With their outstanding track record of 98% of residents not returning to homelessness, I am confident that Chesapeake's association with SupportWorks will continue to pay dividends to our entire community for years to come."

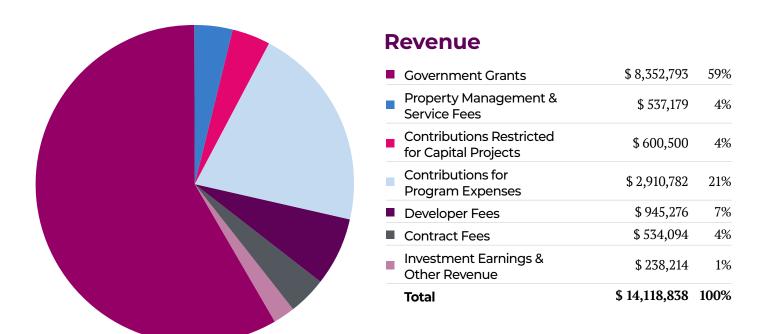


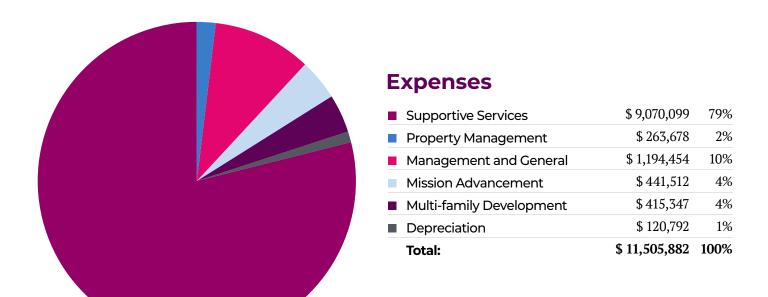
"Henrico County is grateful for our partnership with SupportWorks Housing. Cool Lane Commons' apartments are filling a much-needed gap for some of the most



- Tyrone E. Nelson Henrico County Board of Supervisors Chairman, Varina District vulnerable members of our community. We look forward to continued collaboration with SupportWorks and other nonprofit partners to ensure that no one is left behind."

# 2023 Financial Highlights





The above revenue and expense report reflects SupportWorks Housing's 2023 IRS Form 990, filed under Virginia Supportive Housing. To view the full IRS Form 990, please visit guidestar.org.

# Sincerest thanks to all our donors and volunteers.

Your steadfast commitment to our shared belief that homelessness is solvable ensures that SupportWorks Housing can provide our residents and program participants with the highest quality housing, facilities, services, and support, both today and in the future. Thank you for your contribution—together, we are making homelessness history.

View our 2023 Donors at SupportWorksHousing.org





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We welcome gifts of cash, stock, and bequests as well as annual gifts or installment gifts. Make a gift on our website using the link or QR code below!

Visit SupportWorksHousing.org

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