



Faith Communities United for Housing

In 2007, Fairfax County transformed its approach to homelessness to create a flexible, community-centered system that places high priority on rapid permanent housing for all. This "housing first" approach engages the whole community in preventing homelessness, integrating services into a coordinated and flexible support program, and creating more housing choices.

The goal of the program is to ensure that every person who is homeless or at risk of being homeless in Fairfax County/Falls Church is able to access appropriate affordable housing and the services needed to keep them in their homes.

As members of communities of faith and residents of Fairfax County, we support the following statements:

BECAUSE homelessness exists in our community;

BECAUSE homelessness comes in many faces (families, children, single adults, diverse populations, those with disabilities and mental illness) and in many places (shelters, transitional housing apartments, motels, outdoors),

BECAUSE the talent and resources to end homelessness exist in our community,

BECAUSE homeless shelters are not permanent housing,

BECAUSE prevention and an adequate supply of affordable housing are critical components to our success in ending homelessness,

BECAUSE ending homelessness will take a community-wide effort of faith communities, residents, nonprofits, businesses, health care organizations, public safety personnel, schools and government,

We urge the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to adopt the recommendations of the Implementation Committee for the Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

Name of Organization or Individual

Address

Date

Send to: Gerry Connolly, Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 530, Fairfax, VA 22035-0079