

Policy Briefing Summary

City Council



Regarding:	Resolution to appropriate funds from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development- Virginia Homeless Solutions Program in the amount of \$440,885 (2nd reading)
Staff Contact(s):	Taylor Harvey-Ryan, Grants Program Manager
Presenter:	Taylor Harvey-Ryan, Grants Program Manager
Date of Proposed Action:	September 2, 2025

Issue

The City of Charlottesville has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$440,885 to support our Continuum of Care's homeless emergency crisis response system.

Background / Rule

The Office of Budget and Grants Management, in coordination with the Blue Ridge Area Coalition for the Homeless (B.R.A.C.H.), applied for and received a grant from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). The Virginia Homeless Solutions Program award is \$440,885 and funds are to be expended between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026.

Analysis

The City of Charlottesville has staff from the Office of Budget and Grants Management and the Department of Human Services serving on the B.R.A.C.H. Board of Directors. The Virginia Homeless Solutions Program (V.H.S.P.) is an important resource in our community's effort to end homelessness. Included in the amount of \$440,885 in state general funds, of which \$115,116 is for State Rapid-Rehousing.

The balance of the funds is split among the other eligible categories which provide service at various points along the local continuum of services:

1. **Coordinated Assessment:** The Haven serves as the physical front door to the homelessness system of care, using an evidence-based tool for determining priority access to available resources.
2. **Emergency Low Barrier Shelter:** P.A.C.E.M. provides low barrier shelter for adults using rotating local churches for support.
3. **Rapid Re-housing:** The Haven screens and administers rapid re-housing assistance, housing navigation, and case management services to households experiencing homelessness.
4. **Targeted Prevention:** The Haven administers the Targeted Prevention program, which assists households who are 14 days or less to entering homelessness either locate housing or maintain their current housing.
5. **Homeless Management Information System (H.M.I.S.):** B.R.A.C.H. ensures that data is entered into the H.M.I.S. system, which is a well-populated database for individuals experiencing homelessness. H.M.I.S. collaboration provides real-time monitoring of the needs and progress of individuals and households facing homelessness. Collaborative use of H.M.I.S. among B.R.A.C.H. Continuum of Care Service Providers expedites communication and reduces the need to interface disparate documentation systems.

6. CoC Planning (Coalition Coordination): B.R.A.C.H. provides leadership and coordination for the required local homelessness continuum of care.
7. Administration: The City of Charlottesville, as the award recipient, is eligible for an administrative fee. Staff proposes that we pass these funds through to B.R.A.C.H. (as we have done in prior years) in recognition of staff time spent processing checks and managing this grant process.

Financial Impact

There is no budgetary impact for the City of Charlottesville, as this grant consists of state funds from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. The match requirement is made through previously appropriated City funds awarded to B.R.A.C.H.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the appropriation of \$440,885 from DHCD's VHSP.

Staff recommends City Manager execute the VHSP Grant Agreement and subsequent amendments as necessary and applicable for the administration of the VHSP grant.

Recommended Motion (if Applicable)

I move to adopt the resolution appropriating \$440,885 from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development's Virginia Homeless Solutions Program.

I move to approve the City Manager's authority to execute the VHSP Grant Agreement and subsequent amendments as applicable and necessary for the administration of the VHSP grant.

Attachments

1. VHSP FY26 Resolution
2. VHSP FY26 Grant Agreement