

Media:
Jan-Michael Sacharko
A-SPAN
jsacharko@a-span.org
202.903.4849



A-SPAN Receives \$91,000 in New HUD Funding for Housing Chronically Homeless Adults

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently announced \$91,000 in new funding for A-SPAN's Permanent Supportive Housing Programs (PSH) for chronically homeless individuals. This funding is part of an overall \$2.4 million in grants given to eleven programs in the state of Virginia.

A-SPAN (Arlington Street People's Assistance Program) currently provides housing and case management for twenty-one adults who suffer from mental illness and/or substance abuse and were chronically homeless prior to being placed in Permanent Supportive Housing. Housing Case Managers provide weekly support, assisting clients with transportation, budgeting and activities of daily living. This new grant, called Homeward Bound 2, would provide rental assistance for three new clients for the next two years, bringing the client total to twenty-four.

A-SPAN is currently transitioning six clients from this program who have reached a state of self-sufficiency and demonstrated the ability to live on their own. A-SPAN will be taking referrals from shelters programs such as Residential Program Center (RPC), Arlington County programs, and others to identify suitable clients for this program.

"We're very excited to expand this program," said Kathleen Sibert, Executive Director of A-SPAN. "The clients we will house are typically those that have been homeless for many years and have been diagnosed with a mental illness. Getting these most vulnerable clients into housing as soon as possible is better for them and better for the entire County."

A-SPAN provides life-sustaining services for Arlington's homeless, which include daily street outreach, drop-in services such as showers, laundry, and food, and a bagged meal program serving up to 80 individuals 365 days a year. In addition, from November 1- March 31, A-SPAN operates the Arlington County Emergency Winter Shelter. The current economic and unemployment crisis has driven client numbers from 940 to 1800 in the past three years. A-SPAN offers a wide variety of case management services through the Permanent Supportive Housing Program and the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program.

Please call or email Jan-Michael Sacharko, Development Director, with any questions.

For more details on A-SPAN visit: <http://www.a-span.org>

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