

Media:

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

**A-SPAN Approved for \$93,000 in New HUD Funding
for Housing Chronically Homeless Adults**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently announced \$93,000 in new funding for A-SPAN's Permanent Supportive Housing Programs (PSH) for chronically homeless individuals. This funding is part of an overall \$2.1 million in grants given to thirteen programs in the state of Virginia, and \$201 million given to 731 new programs nationally.

A-SPAN (Arlington Street People's Assistance Program) currently provides housing and case management for twenty-four 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, Open Doors, would provide rental assistance for six new clients over the next fiscal year, bringing the client total to thirty – double the occupancy from 2007.

“The clients we will house are those that have been homeless for many years and have been diagnosed with a mental illness and other severe health problems,” said Kathleen Sibert, Executive Director of A-SPAN. Despite those difficulties, we've shown that these clients can be successful, but they are our most vulnerable neighbors. Helping them get into housing is our main goal and what we're working toward with the 100 Homes for 100 Homeless Arlingtonians Campaign.”

A-SPAN provides life-sustaining services for people experiencing homelessness in Arlington County. These 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. 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, and is a key partner in the “100 Homes for 100 Homeless Arlingtonians” campaign.

HUD Secretary, Shaun Donovan, said in his release: “It's incredible that as we work to recover from the greatest economic decline since the Great Depression, the total number of homeless Americans is declining, in large part because of these funds.”

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

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

##