

WELCOME TO OUR
Monthly Newsletter

we're so glad you're here!

Hello, Supporters and Friends:

As this issue hits your inbox, we will be well into our first week of June. For many of us, this marks the beginning of summer fun; school is out and families are heading out on vacations and summer adventures.

But, for those experiencing housing insecurity, summer often brings a new set of challenges:

*Thermal Shelters close in March, leaving minimal options for the unsheltered to escape the heat--Did you know the closest Thermal Shelter to Shenandoah County is in Front Royal?

*Eviction rates are 40 percent higher in July and August than other times through-out the year.

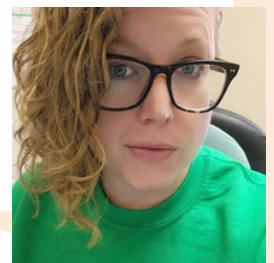
*Low income households find themselves struggling to keep up with higher cooling bills--this summer is expected to have record breaking temperatures, bringing with it much higher electric bills.

In this issue, you'll see the above trends beginning to take shape across all of our programs, and also find an employment opportunity to help be part of the solution to help those in need access necessary services.

Thank you for being here.

With Gratitude,

Katie



Katie Furneisen
Executive Director

Housing Stability

**Sibert's House
Project**



**Community
Partnership Funds**



BJ Stout-Ritter
Housing Stability Counselor

This month, we were contacted by a local employer seeking options to help one of their employees. As a single mother with a 3 year old, she was struggling to keep up with high rent (\$1050). She had located affordable housing (\$700), but struggled to pay all the costs associated with moving (first months rent, security deposit, utility deposit, water deposit) while maintaining her current housing.

We were able to help her with rent, and connected her to our community partners to ensure she was able to get her utilities turned on.

Community connections are at the core of our mission.



Our Resident is actively seeking housing and is working on obtaining a bank account. In June he will start contributing to the rent at the shelter. He is excited to find a place of his own.

*read his full story in previous newsletters available on our website, allianceforshelter.com/newsletter.html



Fiscal year 2024 (July 2023-June 2024)

197

Households Served

\$56,179.46

In Assistance Delivered to
Shenandoah County Residents

Partner Organizations & Private Grants:

Woodstock Ministerial Association
Strasburg Local Relief
Maurertown Brethren Church
Wakeman's Grove
St. John's Bosco
Edinburg Ministerial Association
New Market Presbyterian Church
St. Mary's Church of the Pine
Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative
Shenandoah Community Foundation

Salvation Army Funds:

Funds from Shenandoah County Salvation Army Service unit to administer the funds collected in the Red Kettles for utility/rent/mortgage assistance to Shenandoah County residents.

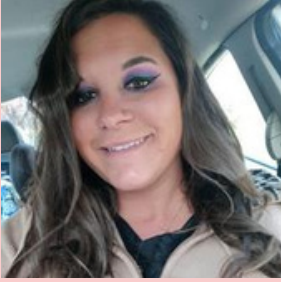


Use the QR Code to
Make a Donation to the
Virtual Kettle Year Round!

Housing Corner

Rental Assistance provided by Grant Funded Projects in the month of May

\$3,313.23



Megan Bly
Certified Housing Counselor

Although this month has been a little slower in the rental assistance category, I have been steadily on the phone with active housing clients and those inquiring about assistance. In the Month of May I had 181 unique phone calls - that includes calls received, calling my clients and returning calls to those who have housing questions. In addition, I've attended meetings with Family Promise of Shenandoah County, the Department of Social Services and the Northern Shenandoah Valley Substance Abuse Coalition as well as trainings on re-entry for those exiting incarceration and starting conversations about the Criminalization of Homelessness and how to bring about awareness on the subject.

As we approach the end of our fiscal year I wanted to talk about our most funded program - the Targeted Prevention Program. This program assists those with incomes in the 0-30%AMI range, who have either been to court and are at risk of eviction, or who are living doubled-up or self-paying at a hotel and are experiencing a housing loss within 14 days. This program has the capacity to assist with rental arrears, security deposits, rental assistance, utility deposits and utility arrears. Check out the unique statistics below!

TARGETED PREVENTION

Funding Allocated for FY2024 (July 2023-June 2024)

\$93,366.00

serving the Counties of Shenandoah, Page and Warren



18/21 households were more than one month behind in rent, and their landlords had been granted possession of their unit.

13 people identify as living with a disability, 4 identify as living with more than one



71% of households are led by single women

3 Veterans Served



5 individuals report being victims of Domestic Violence



19 children served, 27 adults served : 21 total households served



\$4,446.00 average amount spent on each household

SAS Is Hiring for a Centralized Housing Intake Coordinator!

The opportunity requires an energetic and positive professional to respond to a high volume of client interactions (both phone and in-person) while screening for program eligibility and making appropriate referrals for service. The position requires significant data entry and the ability to maintain a complex database. The CI Coordinator will be required to conduct outreach and maintain relationships with area non-profits/governmental agencies providing services to homeless families and individuals. The ideal candidate will possess the ability to multi-task, problem solve, adapt to change, and demonstrate a willingness to take on additional duties when required. Applicants must possess a Bachelor's degree, preferably within a social service related field, or at least 5 years direct experience in social work or shelter services. Bi-lingual candidates preferred, but not required. To apply: Mail a resume, cover letter, and three references to Shenandoah Alliance for Shelter, PO Box 386 Woodstock, VA 22664 or via email to katie@shenandoahallianceforshelter.org.

Shenandoah Alliance is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Centralized Housing Intake: **May**

978 Total Strength Based Client Interactions

369 of these calls & face to face

interactions performed by SAS CHI Staff

72 Households Referred to Community Organizations for Assistance



If you know someone who is experiencing a housing crisis, please have them call Centralized Housing Intake at 540-271-1701 to complete an eligibility screening.



Learn about the CHI Program here: continuumofcare513.com

190
Housing Calls

1
Call for
Housing & Utility

13
Resource
Connections

47
Utility Calls

This month SAS completed 251 unique phone calls, broken down to the left by category.

This is a 47% increase in calls from April.

JUNE

What's Happening at SAS

- June 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th: CHI Walk-In Hours at Page One
- June 6th: Partnership meeting with Family Promise
- June 10th: CoC Executive Committee Meeting
- June 11th: Student Leadership Class
- June 11th: PACA Meeting
- June 12th: Built for Zero Meeting
- June 12th: Valley Vista Residents Day
- June 13th : CoC General Meeting (Open to Public)
- June 13th: SAS Board Meeting
- June 18th: CoC Compliance & Evaluation Committee Meeting
- June 18th: CoC Media & Advocacy Committee Meeting
- June 24th: CHI Presentation to the Department of Social Services
- June 28th: Project Connect

STAY IN TOUCH

Support SAS with a couple clicks—
check out our Amazon Wish List!

[SHOP NOW!](#)



Follow us on Facebook
for real-time updates.

(540) 459-3212
alliance4shelter@gmail.com