

WELCOME TO OUR
Monthly Newsletter
we're so glad you're here!

Hello, Supporters and Friends:

I recently attended my first LeadShare Meeting sponsored by the Shenandoah County Chamber of Commerce. Described as “a group of people invested in helping you grow your business while you help them grow theirs” didn’t seem to fit the needs of a non-profit like Shenandoah Alliance. I was encouraged to attend by colleagues I met in other networking groups, coincidentally sponsored by the Chamber, (Is this a Chamber Ad? No, but I do highly recommend joining if you have not!) and I’m glad I did!

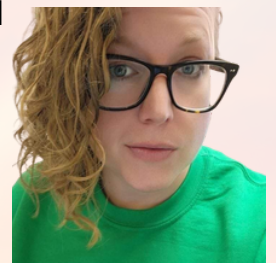
Small businesses and non-profits often have similar struggles--such as awareness of our existence and what we do. This group of supportive small businesses and non-profits, too, reminded me of the phrase, “You don’t know what you don’t know”.

That one simple phrase sums up what these newsletters are all about--helping **you** to know what we do.

As I mentioned in our May newsletter, the summer months of July and August bring with it the highest eviction rates. As Megan shares on Page 3, she received **29** new housing referrals this month--that’s a lot! We generally receive half that amount per month. On Page 2, you’ll see reduced numbers in our housing stability program, but Page 4 shows an increase in calls for assistance. What does all that mean? We’re not sure yet, but we’re working on it!

Thank you for being here while we figure out what we don’t know yet, and supporting us in our efforts to solve it when we do--

Katie



Katie Furneisen
Executive Director

Housing Stability

Sibert's House Project



Community Partnership Funds



BJ Stout-Ritter
Housing Stability Counselor

Your positive thoughts have paid off! Our Shelter resident is preparing to move into his own unit as you are reading this issue.

We are proud of his success and wish him the best as he continues to make positive strides.

With his exit from the program, we will be taking some time to evaluate how we can help more people experience a similar level of stability.

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



\$6,400.61

In Financial Assistance provided to **15** Shenandoah County Residents in both Utility & Rent/Mortgage Assistance.
Fiscal year 2025 (July 2024-June 2025)

THANK YOU to the **Shenandoah Community Foundation** for the \$4,000 grant award for use in our Housing Stability efforts. Private Grants such as this, and support from our partners listed below, help us to maximize our impact. As outlined on Page 3, the restrictions imposed by our Federal Grants limit our ability to help all the referrals we receive. In FY 2024 we helped 213 people with our fundraising efforts and private grants, compared to the 71 we helped with Federal grants.



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

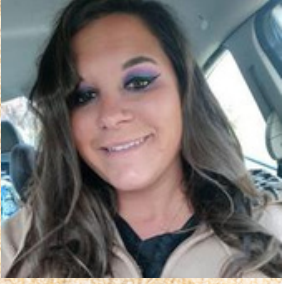
Salvation Army Funds:

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



Megan Bly
Certified Housing Counselor

Calls this Month

243

**Rental Assistance provided by Grant
Funded Projects in the month of August**

\$12,398.83

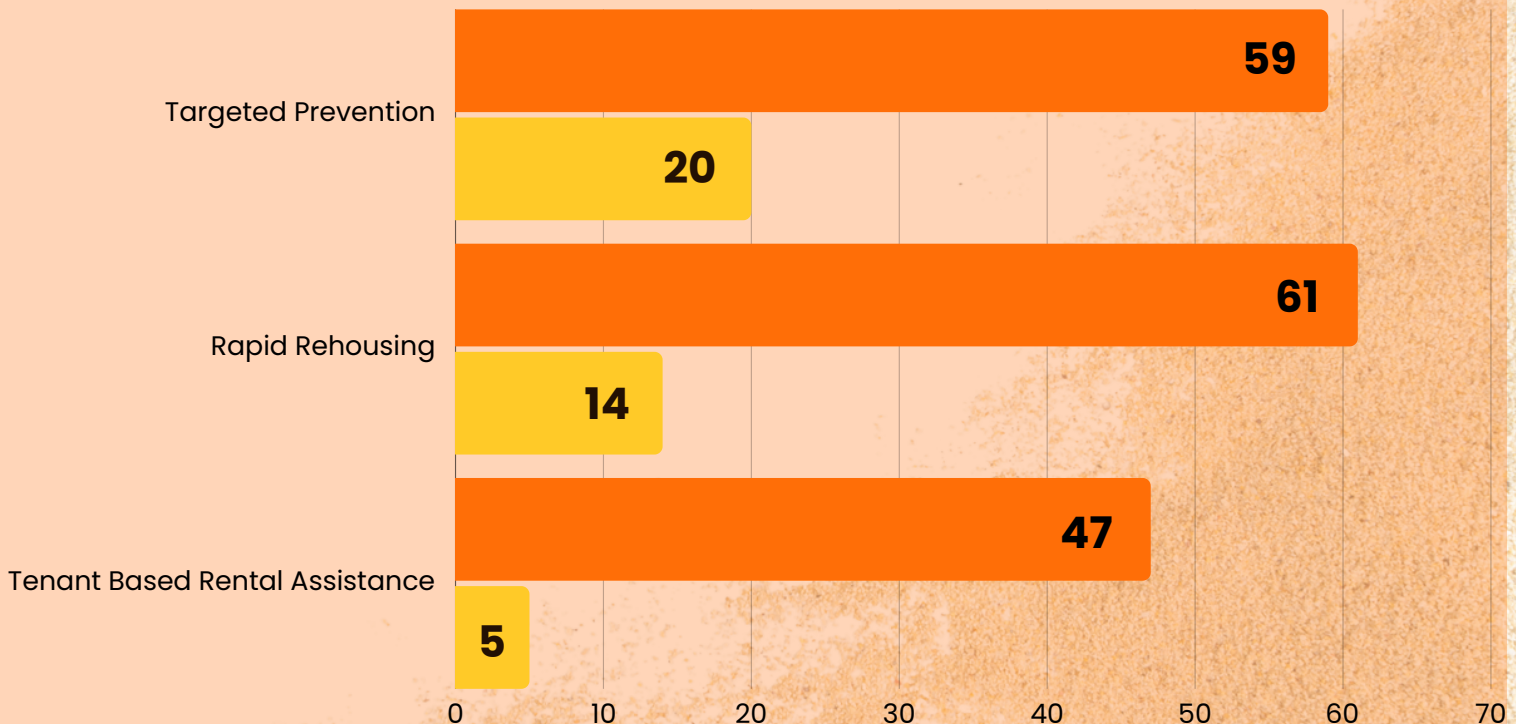


Summer has been hot, humid and in desperate need of rain. Then August hit and the flood gates opened. August also showered me with 29 new referrals. That's 29 new households who are experiencing a housing crisis. This month has been busier than usual. On average, I receive roughly 20 new referrals a month across all programs, but due to program guidelines and the lack of affordable housing without barriers, we will only be able to help less than a handful each month. Our grant funded programs allow us to assist with a larger sum of money, but serve many less households than our unrestricted funding sources allow. Every day there is a larger need for private donations and unrestricted grants to fill in the gaps that grant funding leaves behind.

Check out the chart below. It highlights this gap that I have mentioned. The chart shows the number of referrals received in a program versus the number of households that received financial assistance.

REFERRALS RECEIVED JULY 2023-JULY 2024

Referrals Received Referrals that Received Assistance



Please note, a referral represents an entire household, regardless of household size.

Each referral is assessed for program eligibility, completes a housing barrier assessment with the housing counselor, is connected to other resources and receives other referrals to address the unique needs of their household.

281
Housing Calls

1
Call for
Housing &
Utility

16
Resource
Connections

22
Utility Calls

This month SAS completed 339 unique phone calls, broken down to the left by category.

This is a 63% increase in calls from July.

Centralized Housing Intake: **AUGUST**

1175 Total Strength Based Client Interactions

100 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](https://www.continuumofcare513.com)



September

What's Happening at SAS

September 2nd: Office Closed for Labor Day

September 5th: SSHiP Meeting with Family Promise

September 9th: CoC Executive Committee Meeting

September 10th: Page Alliance for Community Action Meeting

September 11th: Built for Zero Meeting

September 12th: CoC CHI Meeting

September 12th: SAS Board Meeting

September 16th: Empty Bowl Planning Meeting, want to join? Give us a call!

September 17th: CoC Compliance and Evaluation Meeting

September 17th: CoC Media and Advocacy Meeting

Stay in Touch

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

SHOP NOW!



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(540) 459-3212
alliance4shelter@gmail.com