



## **Collaborative Impact: The Case for Reducing Homelessness**

Friday, September 27, 2013

Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond  
701 East Byrd Street, Richmond, VA 23219

### **9:00 am Welcome from the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond**

- ❖ Jen Giovannitti, Regional Community Development Manager, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
- ❖ Carrie Roth, Virginia Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Trade

### **9:20 am The Business Case: The Return on Investment of Decreasing Homelessness**

- ❖ Bob Sledd, Senior Economic Advisor to Governor McDonnell

### **9:45 am What Communities Need: Expanding Collaboration**

Community leaders are expanding beyond their traditional partnerships to collaborate in more regional and comprehensive ways. Hear from communities that are building broad networks to address quality of life issues in a comprehensive manner.

- ❖ Patricia Popp, State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth, Project HOPE-VA
- ❖ Christie Smith, Executive Director, Neighborhood Housing Services of Richmond
- ❖ Kathi Sheffel, Homeless Liaison, Fairfax County Public Schools

### **10:25 am Coffee and Networking Break**

### **10:45 am Does Foreclosure Increase the Likelihood of Homelessness? Evidence from the Greater Richmond Area**

The unprecedented rise in foreclosures since the onset of the Great Recession has raised concerns about the potential for an increase in homelessness. This session details local research that examines whether foreclosures increase the likelihood of homelessness and, among those who have undergone a foreclosure, the specific risk factors associated with homelessness.

- ❖ Margot Ackermann, Research and Evaluation Director, Homeward Virginia
- ❖ Nika Lazaryan, Community Development Research Analyst, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond



**11:15 am      Taking a Comprehensive Community Approach to a Complex Issue**

Homelessness is the result of a combination of factors that converge to adversely affect individuals and families. Homeless individuals and families face unique challenges including those related to transportation, access to affordable housing and health care, making informed and practical financial decisions and acquiring and maintaining job skills. In this session, panelists will provide examples of how community development financial institutions, government infrastructure planners, and housing providers are addressing these challenges in the Roanoke Region.

- ❖ Paul Phillips, Chief Executive Office, Freedom First Credit Union
- ❖ Jake Gilmer, Project Manager, Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission, Partnership for a Livable Roanoke Valley
- ❖ Moderator: Dan Merenda, President, Council of Community Services

**12:00            Lunch**

**1:15 pm         Innovative Models for Reducing Homelessness: Current and Future Initiatives**

Research has demonstrated that certain models can effectively house the most vulnerable individuals and families experiencing homelessness and also reduce costs to and burdens on health care, criminal justice, and other systems and facilities. In addition, new financing mechanisms such as social impact bonds are models that may be able to create resources for interventions that prevent homelessness or serve those who are homeless. This session will discuss current and potential program and financing initiatives.

- ❖ Phyllis Chamberlain, Executive Director, Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness
- ❖ Alice Tousignant, Executive Director, Virginia Supportive Housing
- ❖ Kelly King Horne, Executive Director, Homeward

**1:45 pm         Setting the Stage: National and State Efforts to End Homelessness Among Veterans**

In 2012 veterans represented ten percent of the homeless population in the United States. Presenters will provide an overview of the Federal plan to end veteran homelessness by 2015 from the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness and Virginia Department of Veterans Services. The session will also cover veteran-specific initiatives in Virginia where collaborative efforts have resulted in an eighteen percent decline in veteran homelessness from 2012 to 2013.

- ❖ Laura Zeilinger, Deputy Director, U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness
- ❖ Brandi Jancaitis, Director, Housing Development for Veterans, Virginia Department of Veteran Services



**2:15 pm      Research Perspective on Veterans and Homelessness**

This session will provide a research perspective on salient issues in the veteran community. As the U.S. active engagement in Iraq and Afghanistan winds down, there is a new generation of veterans returning to our communities. Many of the returning veterans face financial, housing, health care, and family hardship.

- ❖ Stephen Metraux PhD., National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans

**2:45 pm      Coffee and networking Break**

**3:00 pm      Voice of the Veteran: Stories from the Other Side of Homelessness**

Formerly homeless veterans will share their experiences with homelessness. While the veteran panelists share a common thread in military service, their individual paths and needs were and will be different. Personal stories will give additional meaning to the programs, policy, and research discussed throughout the day.

- ❖ Samantha Belton, Army Veteran
- ❖ John “Steve” Peterson, Army Veteran
- ❖ Brandi Jancaitis, Moderator

**3:45 pm      Wrap up and Closing Comments**

