

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: FEBRUARY 28, 2005

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO ACCEPT A SAFE HAVEN GRANT AWARD FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT FOR A SAFE HAVEN FACILITY AT THE CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT 115 NORTH PATRICK STREET

ISSUE: Consideration of acceptance of grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to establish a Safe Haven housing program for homeless men and women at the City-owned property at 115 North Patrick Street (former site of the Clubhouse Program).

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council authorize the Alexandria Community Services Board (CSB) to accept \$163,824 in HUD grant funds over a three-year period to establish a Safe Haven facility and program at 115 North Patrick Street.

BACKGROUND: At its June 22, 2004 meeting, City Council voted to: 1) authorize CSB submission of a grant application to HUD for \$163,824 over a three-year period for establishment of a Safe Haven program; 2) note the grant application's proposed use of the City's 115 North Patrick St. building for development of a four-unit apartment (multi-family dwelling) to house the Safe Haven program; and 3) authorize an additional 3.5 FTEs for a total of 10.0 FTEs (7.0 Residential Counselors, 1.0 FTE Therapist III, 1.0 FTE Assistant Residential Coordinator/Program Director, 0.5 FTE Custodian, and 0.5 FTE Account Clerk III).

Council requested that the CSB return to Council to request approval of the acceptance of the HUD grant monies for the Safe Haven, if awarded, or, if the HUD grant funds were not awarded, to consider a reallocation and re-programming of other CSB General Fund monies to substitute City funds for the HUD grant funds.

The CSB stated in 2004 its intention to notify civic associations and neighbors of 115 North Patrick St. of plans for the Safe Haven, although it was noted that CSB Board policy does not require community notification in the development of apartment units. The CSB also planned to identify staff and Board members responsible for ongoing communication with the community and to offer to develop a Neighborhood Advisory Committee to coordinate information about the Safe Haven start-up and operations to ensure a successful program for the residents and the community.

The June 22, 2004 Council docket item also proposed using \$795,000 in existing Capital Improvement Program funds to renovate 115 North Patrick St. into a Safe Haven. These funds were initially placed in the City's Capital Improvement Program in FY 2004 to be used for renovation of 115 North Patrick St. into City offices, and the City Manager and CSB recommended that these monies be reprogrammed to allow for renovation of the same building, but for a Safe Haven use.

DISCUSSION: On June 24, 2004, the CSB mailed notice of the Safe Haven plans to all property owners on North Patrick and North Alfred Streets between King and Cameron Streets and on Cameron and King Streets between North Patrick and North Alfred Streets. The letter included a list of "Frequently Asked Questions" and invited neighbors to attend a community meeting on July 7, 2004. Eighteen community members attended the meeting at which CSB staff and Board members discussed the project in greater detail, heard neighbors' feedback, and responded to questions. Follow-up letters were mailed to all neighbors on July 21, 2004 with highlights of the meeting.

On October 19, 2004, neighbors were mailed invitations to the initial Neighborhood Advisory Group meeting on November 17, 2004. Eight neighbors attended this meeting where CSB staff and Board members responded to additional questions about the project and the vacated property at 115 North Patrick St. and addressed the future role of the Advisory group. Follow-up letters were mailed to all neighborhood property owners and occupants on November 30, 2004, containing details of the meeting.

In late January 2005, the CSB learned that it had been awarded a HUD grant that would partially fund a Safe Haven. It should be noted that the establishment of a Safe Haven program is a specific Action Policy in the Council's Strategic Plan, under Goal 5, which provides for "A Caring Community That is Diverse and Affordable."

Timeline:

June 22, 2004	City Council approves submission of HUD grant for Safe Haven; identifies 115 North Patrick St. as proposed Safe Haven site; and authorizes additional 3.5 FTEs for Safe Haven program staffing
July 7, 2004	Informational community meeting about Safe Haven program
July 27, 2004	HUD grant application submitted
Nov. 17, 2004	First Safe Haven Advisory Group meeting held
Jan. 25, 2005	Notice of award of HUD project renewal grants and new Safe Haven grant
Mar. 8, 2005	City Council approves acceptance of HUD grant for Safe Haven.

- (Est.) Apr. 2005 Architect identified, contract project manager hired.
Re-convene Safe Haven Advisory Group and determine ongoing meeting schedule.
- (Est.) May. 2005-
Dec. 2005 Prepare construction documents; secure all necessary approvals; obtain building permit
- (Est.) July 2005 Recruit and hire 1.0 FTE Safe Haven Assistant Residential Coordinator and 0.5 FTE Account Clerk III
- (Est.) Dec. 2005-
Feb. 2006 Bid and negotiate construction contract
- (Est.) Feb. 2006-
Dec. 2006 Construction
- (Est.) June 2006 Begin recruitment, hiring, and training of Safe Haven direct service staff
- (Est.) Jan. 2007 Open the Safe Haven facility

FISCAL IMPACT: The ongoing operating budget for the Safe Haven, once fully operational, totals \$527,190 annually (\$462,685 for personnel costs and \$64,505 for operating costs). Revenue to fund the project, on an annual basis, is as follows:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	\$ 54,608
Consumer fees	16,200
Medicaid	218,036
State	126,455
City	<u>111,891</u>
Total	\$ 527,190

The CSB has agreed that if grant or fee revenues do not meet the budget in FY 2005 or subsequent fiscal years, the Board will reallocate existing base budget resources to finance any shortfall.

Funding in the amount of \$795,000 was initially placed in the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) in FY 2004 to be used for the renovation of 115 North Patrick St. into City office space. It was proposed and approved that these funds be reprogrammed for renovating the same building, but for a Safe Haven use. As this project progresses through the design, architectural, engineering and construction phases, CIP allocations will be requested as necessary.

ATTACHMENT: City Council docket item #35 from June 22, 2004 meeting, concerning the Safe Haven.

STAFF:

L. Michael Gilmore, Ph.D., Executive Director, MH/MR/SA

Carol Layer, LCSW, Director, Extended Care Services Division, MH/MR/SA

Jane Hassell, Fiscal Officer III, MH/MR/SA

Sandy Murphy, Budget Analyst, Office of Management and Budget

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 16, 2004

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *PS*

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION OF GRANT SUBMISSION TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND IDENTIFICATION OF NEW PROGRAM SITE FOR SAFE HAVEN

ISSUE: City Council consideration of the Alexandria Community Services Board's (CSB) application for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for a new Safe Haven housing program for homeless men and women with mental illness and/or other disabling conditions, which identifies 115 North Patrick Street as the proposed Safe Haven program site.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council:

- (1) Authorize CSB submission of a grant application to HUD for \$163,824, over a three-year period, for a Safe Haven to serve up to 12 men and women who are homeless, who have a serious mental illness or other disabling condition, and who are unwilling or unable to use available housing services for the homeless;
- (2) Note the grant application's proposed use of the City's 115 North Patrick Street building for development of a four-unit apartment (multi-family dwelling) to house the Safe Haven program. Planning and Zoning Department, General Services, and MH/MR/SA staff analysis indicates that use of this site for a Safe Haven is consistent with current zoning and building use requirements, as well as the CSB's FY 2004-2008 Housing Plan (approved by Council June 24, 2003). 115 North Patrick Street is the current location of the Board's Clubhouse program which will be relocating to 4480 King Street in August 2004. There is no further land use approval required for the use of the 115 North Patrick site for the Safe Haven program, and the site's current building is available for this use if the necessary funding is available. Board policy addresses community notification in the acquisition of group homes. Community notification is not required for the development of apartment units. Nonetheless, the Board intends to notify the civic associations and neighbors of 115 North Patrick Street of plans for the Safe Haven. The Board will also identify staff and Board members responsible for ongoing communication with the community, and will offer to develop a Neighborhood Advisory Committee to coordinate information about the Safe Haven's start-up and operations to ensure a successful

program for the residents and the community. An initial community notification letter is planned to be mailed in late June 2004. Later in 2004, Council will be requested either to accept the HUD Safe Haven grant if the CSB application is accepted or, if no HUD grant is available, to approve a reallocation of CSB General Fund monies to substitute City funds for the HUD grant funds; and

- (3) Authorize an additional 3.5 FTEs for a total of 10.0 FTEs for the Safe Haven program. These include: 7.0 FTE residential counselors to provide operational management, clinical services, and 24-hour supervision of the Safe Haven program; 1.0 FTE Therapist 3; 1.0 FTE Program Director; 0.5 FTE custodian; and 0.5 FTE Account Clerk. Funding for 6.5 FTEs was already approved in the FY 2005 budget. No additional funding is being requested for the remaining 3.5 FTE positions as the CSB will use existing City and State CSB funds to cover the added costs of these positions.

BACKGROUND: The Alexandria Community Services Board is requesting HUD grant funding for a new program as part of its annual Continuum of Care submission that includes renewal applications for existing HUD funded Supportive Housing Programs. In response to the needs of Alexandria's homeless population, the City's Homeless Services Coordinating Committee (HSCC) has identified a Safe Haven as its number one priority objective. The City incorporated the HSCC's recommended priority into the FY 2001-2005 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and the CSB's FY 2004-2008 Housing Plan. To further the objectives of 1) providing people the opportunity to live productive lives and 2) maintaining appropriate human and social services and service levels with adequate resources, the City's Draft Strategic Plan identifies the action step of securing funding for a Safe Haven and designing and renovating a facility to accommodate the program.

The Safe Haven program is designed to fill a gap in Alexandria's services for homeless people with mental illness and/or other disabling condition, who are on the streets and are unwilling or unable to participate in housing services for homeless individuals. The needs of many of these homeless people frequently cannot be met with traditional outreach and emergency shelter services that serve the general homeless population. A Safe Haven serves as an entry way to the homeless and mental health service systems. Rather than demanding immediate compliance with treatment as a prerequisite to housing, a Safe Haven offers support, through a "Housing First" model, that helps homeless individuals establish trust and eventually engage in needed treatment and services.

In its June 2003 meetings, City Council directed staff to pursue potential sites for a Safe Haven in the City and specifically to analyze the potential use of 115 North Patrick Street. In November 2003, staff completed a feasibility study, concluding that the 115 North Patrick Street facility could be a suitable location for the proposed Safe Haven facility. The application for funds from HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs is a competitive grant process. A significant rating criterion is the use of supplemental resources, which is demonstrated by a written commitment at the time of the application for buildings, equipment, and services.

DISCUSSION:

Analysis of 115 North Patrick Street as Proposed Safe Haven Site

Siting: The Patrick Street site is well-located for a Safe Haven because of its accessibility to public transportation and its proximity to other community resources, such as employment, social services and CSB services. The building is a familiar location for the target population and thus can enhance the success of outreach efforts. The surrounding community generally has been accepting of the population currently participating in the Clubhouse program at the site – a population which, while not homeless, is experiencing similar mental health and substance abuse issues as the intended Safe Haven population. The Board has a policy that details its ongoing housing activities and includes its siting policy which addresses the basis for locating Board housing. In order to prevent saturation of special needs housing in one area of the City, the Board attempts to place future housing in areas with the lowest concentration. For planning purposes, the Board uses eight Board Housing Planning Areas, which are based on a combination of the Small Area Plans used by the City's Department of Planning and Zoning. The priority locations for the Board's next two apartment projects are Area IV and Area V. 115 North Patrick Street is located in Area V, and is one half-block from the boundary of Area IV.

Zoning and Building Use: The building at 115 North Patrick Street is located within a commercial downtown (CD) zone which permits multifamily housing by right, and would not require a special use permit (SUP). Zoning requirements for multifamily structures include adequate parking; a maximum floor area ratio (FAR) of 1.5; 40% open space; and 25 feet of yard setback. The parking requirement is for 2.2 parking spaces per apartment unit either on the property, adjacent to it, or directly across the street. Four apartment units would require nine spaces. MH/MR/SA is currently allocated nine of the 19 parking spaces in the City-owned lot directly across the street from 115 North Patrick Street. The zoning code requirement for 40% open space on the site would be met with the current back yard space plus a roof deck. Zoning staff have indicated that since the current building is a noncomplying structure, the 25-foot setback requirement would not apply as long as the project does not change the building footprint, which is not anticipated. An architectural study of the building concluded that the existing structure can be adapted to multifamily use. Due to its size, the building lends itself to a four-unit building, and the existing building width, windows, and floor plate would facilitate this transformation. The study found that the FAR for the proposed use at this site would be no greater than the 1.5 allowed, resulting from maximizing the use of the building. General Services also assessed the building during the summer of 2003 and found that the building could be used for a residential facility.

City Space Planning: The Department of General Services had been considering the use of 115 North Patrick Street for use by City agencies to reduce potential leasing costs, whether for currently leased space or additional space. If the Patrick Street site is used for the Safe Haven program, there will be a need for City agencies to lease additional office space.

Program Model and Staffing

The Safe Haven will provide an alternative to the high-demand and highly structured traditional shelter and treatment services that have been unsuccessful in serving many homeless people with mental illness and/or other disabling conditions. The program will provide a homelike atmosphere with a strong emphasis on nurturing and support rather than demanding compliance with treatment. While the proposed program is conceptualized as providing permanent housing to participants, with no specified time limit on length of stay, Safe Havens typically are successful in supporting residents in moving on to more independent and permanent housing, such as a CSB independent living program or a Section 8 apartment. Program services will include outreach, residential support, training in activities of daily living, linkage to entitlements and income supports, employment services and training, and supportive services, including comprehensive mental health and substance abuse assessment, treatment and rehabilitation. Services will be made available to all residents and provided when the resident is ready to accept them. Program rules will focus on health and safety, and residents will be prohibited from using illegal drugs or alcohol on the property and from harming others or damaging property. Similar to other CSB residential programs, there will be appropriate consequences for rule violations (e.g., hospitalization, removal from the program). Residents will be expected to pay a negotiated residential fee based on income. No individual will be permitted at the Safe Haven who is assessed to present a risk to himself or others.

The proposed program model calls for around-the-clock coverage seven days per week with two direct-service staff per shift. While the initial staffing proposal on which the FY 2005 supplemental budget request was based called for fewer staff, further research into best practice models and clarification from the architect about the likely physical layout of the program at Patrick Street suggests that adequate supervision and service delivery requires that two direct service staff be working on each of three daily shifts. The FY 2005 approved budget includes funding for 6.5 FTEs. Once the program is operational, an additional 3.5 FTEs will be funded through other monies in the Department's budget, including increased FY 2005 State funds (\$62,711) which will become part of the Department's ongoing base budget and a projected increase in Medicaid fees from other Board programs (\$69,425). In addition, \$31,921 in funds budgeted in FY05 for start-up costs for furniture and equipment can be reallocated in future years for other ongoing expenditures, once the program becomes fully operational.

Safe Haven staff will include a Program Director who is responsible for overall program operations and management and staff supervision; a half-time Account Clerk responsible for purchasing, billing, processing resident entitlements, and monitoring required documentation and reporting; a licensed clinical therapist responsible for clinical assessment, planning, and treatment for residents and clinical consultation with staff; a half-time custodian responsible for daily cleaning and light building and grounds maintenance; and seven residential counselor positions to provide supervision, support, engagement, and training in activities of daily living to the residents.

During daytime and evening hours, the direct service staff at Safe Haven will comprise two

residential counselors or one residential counselor and one clinical therapist. The overnight hours will be staffed by one residential counselor and a clinical staff member from the Department's existing Emergency Services program. Since the CSB is required to provide 24 hour availability of Emergency Mental Health Services, locating the overnight Emergency Services staff at 115 North Patrick Street will allow for coverage of both Emergency Services and the Safe Haven.

It should be noted that the CSB intends to implement the Safe Haven program even if the three-year \$163,824 HUD grant is not awarded. This would necessitate the City's approval of reallocation of additional existing Departmental funds.

Proposed Estimated Timeline:

- Late June 2004: Community notification letter mailed to Civic Associations and neighbors of 115 North Patrick Street regarding Safe Haven program and siting
- Early July 2004: Begin Community meetings about Safe Haven program
Initiate recruitment and hiring of Safe Haven project director
- July 27, 2004: Submit HUD grant application
- August 2004: Relocation of Clubhouse program from 115 N. Patrick Street to 4480 King Street
- December 2004: HUD grant award letters are sent and grant agreements signed.
Council decision on HUD grant (if any) and on allocation of capital funds for 115 N. Patrick Street
- March 2006: Begin recruitment, hiring, and training of Safe Haven staff
- June 2006: Opening of Safe Haven facility

FISCAL IMPACT: The ongoing operating budget for the Safe Haven, once fully operational, totals \$527,190 annually (\$462,685 for personnel costs and \$64,505 for operating costs). Revenue to fund the project, on an annual basis, is as follows:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	\$ 54,608
Consumer fees	16,200
Medicaid	281,780
State	62,711
City	<u>111,891</u>
Total	\$ 527,190

It should be noted that the original proposed budget for the Safe Haven was \$422,891 (\$298,628 for personnel costs and \$124,263 for operating costs) and did not include any State revenue. The CSB has agreed that if grant or fee revenues do not meet the budget in FY 2005 or subsequent fiscal years, the Board will reallocate its existing base budget resources to finance any shortfall.

Funding in the sum of \$795,000, was initially placed in the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) in FY 2004 to be used for renovation of 115 North Patrick into City offices. It is now proposed that these funds be reprogrammed for renovating the same building, but for a Safe Haven use.

ATTACHMENT: None. The grant application may be reviewed in City Hall, Office of Management and Budget, Room 3630, on or after July 27, 2004.

STAFF:

L. Michael Gilmore, Ph.D., Executive Director, MH/MR/SA
Carol Layer, LCSW, Acting Director, Extended Care Services Division, MH/MR/SA
Jane Hassell, Fiscal Officer III, MH/MR/SA
Sandy Murphy, Budget Analyst, Office of Management and Budget

27
3-8-05



<Ccthompso@aol.com>
03/05/2005 01:49 PM

To <Alexvamayor@aol.com>, <DELPepper@aol.com>,
<Councilmangaines@aol.com>, <rob@krupica.com>,
<macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <PaulCSmedberg@aol.com>,
cc <jim.hartmann@alexandriava.gov>,
<jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov>
bcc
Subject Supporting Docket Items 26 and 27

Dear Mr Mayor and Members of City Council,

I am writing in support of the two docket items listed above. Item 26 is requesting acceptance of the Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in Alexandria and Item 27 seeks your authorization to accept a HUD grant for \$163,824, which will be used for the renovaton of the Patrick Street site for our Safe Haven.

I am a co-founder of David's Place, a day center for the chronic homeless at Carpenter's Shelter. When I helped members prepare resumes, I realized that many members were born, raised and attended schools right here in Alexandria. One member told me he had been in the Alexandria jail at least 50 times and that was not an isolated case. Every Monday morning some one of the members would arrive on crutches or bandaged-up after a trip to the emergency room at Alexandria Hospital. Living on the streets is difficulty, especially for those who are mentally ill and/or have substance abuse issues. The Point in Time Study shows that there are 100 people sleeping on our streets, under bridges, by the river every night.

The chronic homeless are our neediest citizens. On March 8, you have an opportunity to approve not only the Ten Year Plan to end homelessness for our unsheltered population but to bring our Safe Haven one step closer to becoming a reality. Because there are many sources of funding for Safe Haven, the cost to the City remains low. The cost for doing nothing is very high, not only in terms of dollars but of human life.

I ask that you vote in support of Items 26 and 27 so, once again, Alexandria can takes the lead in helping those who are suffering on our streets every day.

Thank you,

Catherine C. Thompson
3613 Oval Drive
Alexandria, VA 22305

27
3-8-05



<ARLHEWITT@aol.com>

03/03/2005 04:35 PM

To <Alexvamayor@aol.com>, <DELPepper@aol.com>,
<Councilmangaines@aol.com>, <Roba@krupicka.com>,
<macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <PaulCSmedberg@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject Safe Haven

Dear Bill, Del, Ludwig, Rob, Andrew, Paul, Joyce, Jim, and Jackie,
Through my experience as Director of Social Work at Alexandria Hospital I witnessed the suffering of patients who needed a place like Safe Haven in the community which was not available. Therefore I urge you to support the making of Safe Haven a reality this Tuesday. Along with this it is crucial for you to commit to a plan to end chronic homelessness in Alexandria.

Arlene Hewitt
Public Health Advisory commission

26:27
3-8-05



<patricetighe@yahoo.com>

03/07/2005 09:24 AM

Please respond to
<patricetighe@yahoo.com>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,
<council@joycewoodson.net>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>,
<council@krupicka.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>,

cc

bcc

City of Alexandria Website Contact Us - EMail for Mayor,
Vice-Mayor and Council Members (alexvamayor@aol.com,
delpepper@aol.com, council@joycewoodson.net,
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,
macdonaldcouncil@msn.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,
rose.boyd@ci.alexandria.va.us,
jackie.henderson@ci.alexandria.va.us,
tom.raycroft@ci.alexandria.va.us)

Subject

**City of Alexandria Website Contact Us - EMail for Mayor,
Vice-Mayor and Council Members (alexvamayor@aol.com,
delpepper@aol.com, council@joycewoodson.net,
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,
macdonaldcouncil@msn.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,
rose.boyd@ci.alexandria.va.us,
jackie.henderson@ci.alexandria.va.us,
tom.raycroft@ci.alexandria.va.us)**

Time: [Mon Mar 07, 2005 09:24:54] IP Address: [68.83.211.219]

Response requested:

First Name: Patrice Malley
Last Name: Tighe
Street Address: 301 Summers Drive
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22301-2446
Phone: 703-836-5790
Email Address: patricetighe@yahoo.com

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and City Council members:

I am writing to ask that you vote to authorize two important initiatives addressing the problem of chronic homelessness that will be presented to the City Council this Tuesday, March 8.

Thank you for the leadership you have shown in the past in dealing with the problem of homelessness in the City of Alexandria. In

particular, thank you for endorsing the Community Services Board (CSB) application to HUD in June 2004 to establish a Safe Haven and approving the use of the City's property at 115 N. Patrick Street as the Safe Haven site.

Comments:

Having recently learned that HUD approved the CSB's application for funding of \$163,824, I now urge you to vote to authorize the acceptance of the HUD grant funds.

Further, although the Safe Haven will provide a much needed service for 12 homeless men and women, it will not resolve the overall problem of chronic homelessness in our City. To address this problem, I urge you to adopt the Homeless Services Coordinating Committee's "Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in Alexandria."

Alexandria must continue to actively address the needs of all its homeless men, women, and children, and diligently plan and act to prevent and end chronic homelessness.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Patrice Malley Tighe

26 & 27
3-8-05



"annherlin"
<annherlin@msn.com>
03/07/2005 11:50 AM

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,
<councilmangaines@aol.com>, <Rob@krupicka.com>,
<macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <PaulCSmedberg@aol.com>,
cc <Jim.Hartmann@alexandriava.gov>,
<Jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov>
bcc
Subject Docket Items #26 and 27

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I was pleased to learn that HUD approved the CSB application for funding of a Safe Haven to serve the chronically homeless in Alexandria. I thank the council for its past support of this project, and urge you to vote tomorrow to authorize the receipt of those funds, an important step in making this project a reality. I am proud to be part of a community that is taking this small but important step toward caring for the chronically homeless -- a population that is "unromantic," and yet in such vital need of support. While I firmly believe that the mandate to provide the services and support comes from our common humanity, I also note that it makes more economic and social sense to take these proactive steps to end homelessness, rather than addressing it through emergency services and the prison system.

I would also urge your support of the HSCC's "Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in Alexandria." I commend HSCC for their efforts both to keep this issue before us, and to lay out concrete steps to work toward ending homelessness through both the "front door" and the "back door," as their report describes it. The Alexandria housing situation certainly is a difficult environment in which to pursue these goals, but I think that our civic spirit defines the city more than our housing prices, so I am hopeful that working together, we can make significant progress.

Thank you again for your commitment to this city, and for your efforts in caring for the most disadvantaged among us.

Sincerely,
Ann Herlin
Associate Pastor, Old Presbyterian Meeting House
Alexandria Resident (53 Skyhill Rd.)

26927
3-8-05



Constance Richardson
<ctamyfam@yahoo.com>

03/04/2005 12:01 PM

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,
<councilmangaines@aol.com>, <Rob@krupicka.com>,
<macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <PaulCSmedberg@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject Safe Haven & Ten-Year Plan

3/4/05

Dear Mayor, Council Members and City Clerk:

This e-mail message is to reiterate the need for the safe haven and ten-year plan. So many of our Alexandria citizens are in need of suitable housing that would fit their individual needs and those of their family. The aforementioned program would allow those who do not quite fit in existing criteria to have a "safe haven" in which to live with dignity, safety and the lack of judgemental opinions that would limit their progress. I ask you to look beyond what may appear to be an obvious solution to this one that can help some of those who need this
SAFE HAVEN.

Constance C. Richardson, M.D.

Celebrate Yahoo!'s 10th Birthday!

[Yahoo! Netrospective: 100 Moments of the Web](#)



"Mary Riley"
<maryriley@comcast.net>
03/03/2005 12:34 PM

26 & 27

3-8-05

"Mayor William D. Euille" <alexvamayor@aol.com>, "Vice Mayor
To Del Pepper" <delpepper@aol.com>, "Councilman Ludwig Gaines"
<councilmangaines@aol.com>, "Councilman Rob Krupicka"
"City Clerk Jackie Henderson"
cc <Jackie.Henderson@alexandriava.gov>, "City Manager James
Hartmann" <jim.hartmann@alexandriava.gov>
bcc
Subject Safe Haven & Chronic Homelessness

Dear Mr. Mayor and Council Members,

Thank you for your support to date for a Safe Haven for unsheltered homeless persons in our City. Advocacy for this project began many years ago and it is heartening to see that it will move forward with your vote on Tuesday night (Docket Item #27). The Safe Haven facility will serve 12 homeless men and women, but as I'm sure you are aware, scores of other persons in our City are experiencing chronic homelessness. Thus, part of my reason for writing is to urge you to endorse Docket Item #26, the "Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness."

The goal of ending chronic homelessness was described in 2000 by the *National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH)* as part of its ten-year plan. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) endorsed this goal in 2001. In June 2003, the U.S. Conference of Mayors unanimously endorsed the 10-year planning process and urged cities across the nation to create and implement strategic plans to end chronic homelessness in 10 years. Since 2002, HUD has required jurisdictions receiving HUD Supportive Housing Program (SHP) and other HUD funding to develop a concrete plan to end chronic homelessness.

By endorsing Alexandria's "Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness," you will be sending the message that it is unacceptable to have citizens living on our streets. Please vote in favor of both Docket Items #26 and #27 on Tuesday night.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Mary
Mary Riley
Chair, Community Services Board
maryriley@comcast.net
703-836-8823