



Photo credit: scribbletaylor

# Ending Homelessness Together: *A Summary of 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness in the Metropolitan Washington Region*

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**COG Board of  
Directors**

March 12, 2014

# Introduction and Background

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- National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) 2000 report: *A Plan, Not a Dream: How to End Homelessness in Ten Years*;
- HUD Secretary Mel Martinez adopted this charge;
- May 2009 passage of the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act resulted in federal plan, *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*

# Introduction, continued

- Why create a 10 Year Plan today?

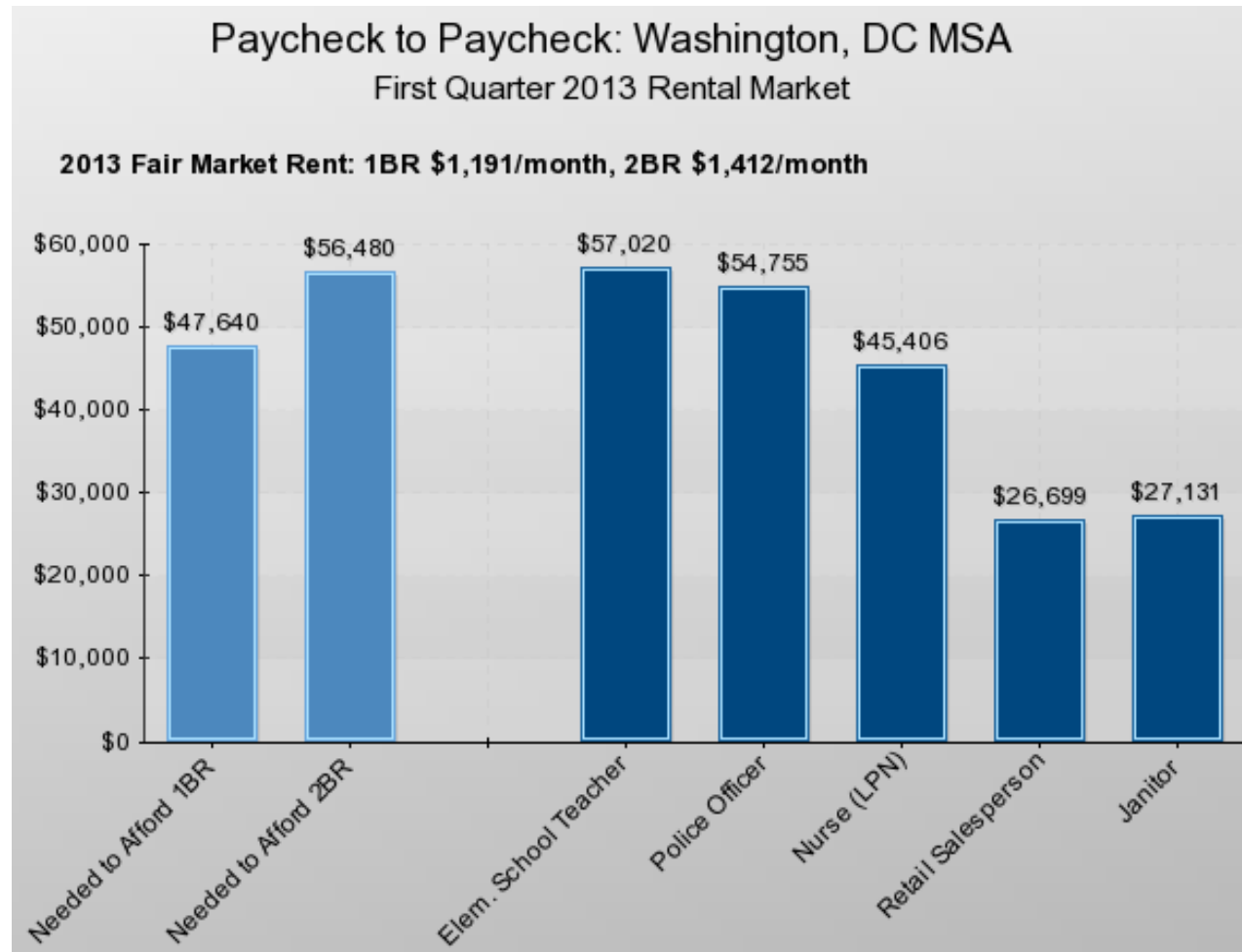


Chart courtesy of the Center for Housing Policy

# Regional Adoption of the 10 Year Planning Process

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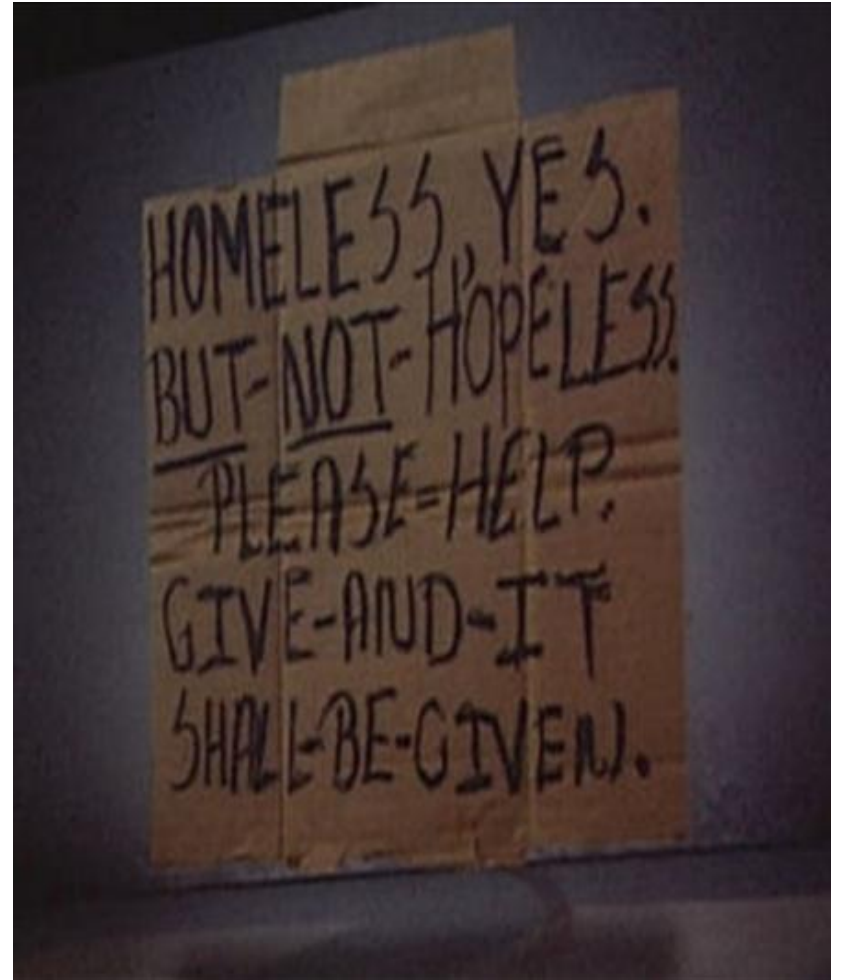
- 2002 – Montgomery County, MD
- 2004 – Alexandria, VA & District of Columbia
- 2006 – Arlington County, VA & Fairfax-Falls Church, VA
- 2010 – Prince William County, VA
- 2012 – Prince George's County, MD

*In draft form: Frederick County, MD and Loudoun County, VA*

# National Best Practices for 10 Year Plans

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- Plan for outcomes;
- Close the front door;
- Open the back door;
- Build the infrastructure.



*Photo credit: marsmet53*

# Early Adopters: Lessons Learned

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- Montgomery County, MD (2002)
- Alexandria, VA & the District of Columbia (2004)
- Arlington County, VA & Fairfax-Falls Church, VA (2006)
  - Many original key objectives still relevant today;
  - Shift to “Housing First” model and Rapid Re-housing for families;
  - Focus more on *outcomes* rather than *process*;
  - Align funding sources with strategies;
  - Changing economy has created new challenges to ending homelessness.

# Recent Plans

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- 2010 – Prince William County, VA
- 2012 – Prince George's County, MD

Plans reflect evolution of strategies to end homelessness and current best practices



# Proven Strategies: Region-Specific

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- Focus on increasing the supply of affordable housing;
- Focus on increasing income (through employment & benefits receipt);
- A shift from emergency shelter to a “Housing First” model and rapid re-housing approach;
- A need to diversify funding and seek outside financial support.



# What Else Are We Doing to End Homelessness?

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- 100,000 Homes Campaign
- 1,000 Homes for 1,000 Homeless Virginians
- Rapid Re-Housing Challenge
- Jeans Day
- The Way Home
- Homeless Resource Day

# Next Steps

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- COG's Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee
  - April 2014, report to the COG Human Services and Public Safety Policy Committee
  - May 2014, report to the COG Board of Directors



*Photo credit: Occupy Global*

# Questions?

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Volunteers from Freddie Mac  
prepare a meal at a homeless  
shelter (*Photo credit Fairfax  
County*)

