

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

From: Patrick L. Mauney, Executive Director

Date: April 19, 2023

Subject: RRRC Application to PATH Foundation Technical Assistance Program

Foothills Housing Network partners have held several discussions regarding homeless shelter needs in the region as pandemic-related funding supporting non-congregate emergency shelter have ended.

Presently, there are two homeless shelters operating in the region. Culpeper Housing and Shelter Services (CHASS) operates a 15-bed shelter that serves single women and families with children. Family Shelter Services has a 52-bed shelter in Warrenton serving individuals and families. Both shelters have various requirements for access and are often at capacity. The Culpeper Winter Heat Shelter has, in the past, provided 29 beds between November and March at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Culpeper, but was unable to complete the entire winter season this past year due to difficulty in finding volunteers and illness impacting volunteers and shelter residents.

In March, Foothills Housing Network partners asked the Commission, in our role as FHN Lead Agency to submit an application to the PATH Foundation to support a facilitated planning process focused on building consensus for short-term and long-term shelter needs in the region. Staff proposes to engage a facilitator via the Center for Nonprofit Excellence to support this work, which would have a target completion date of October.

Technical Assistance grants require a 20% match, although we have received feedback that this may be waived. If it were not waived, staff would seek support from FHN partners or would return to the Executive Committee with a request to use Commission funds to meet match requirements.

REQUESTED ACTION: Approval for staff to submit Technical Assistance grant application to PATH Foundation