



# **FOOD SUPPORT FOR RESIDENTS FACING HOMELESSNESS**

Arlington Food Security  
Task Force  
January 31, 2022

# SHELTERS FOR SINGLE ADULTS

- Homeless Services Center (HSC) run by PathForward (formerly ASPAN)
  - HSC offers 3 meals a day prepared by an in-house cook. They also have a bagged lunch program that distributes meals (usually sandwich, plus sides) as a part of its street outreach program 3 times a week.
- Residential Program Center (RPC) run by New Hope Housing
  - PRC has a contract with Jefferies Catering for 3 meals/day
- Both have day programs that offer lunches to those who want to come in for services.



# AFAC FOR HOMELESS & SHELTERED CLIENTS



- **Partner food donations:** AFAC provides grocery staples to PathForward, Doorways for Women & Children, and Friends of Guest House in Alexandria. The staff or residents prepare their own meals with this food.
- **Weekly grocery program:** AFAC's primary grocery program is intended for those who are housed with access to a kitchen. Clients shop at one of AFAC's 16 locations. Most of the items provided are foods that require refrigeration and/or cooking with a stove, oven, or microwave. (for example: milk, eggs, frozen uncooked meats, raw vegetables, dry beans, etc.)
- **People who are newly housed:** Caseworkers at PathForward, Doorways, Bridges to Independence, and New Hope Housing refer their newly housed clients to AFAC's weekly grocery program.
- **People who are unsheltered:** AFAC provides a portion of emergency ready-to-eat items based on availability and refers these clients to homeless service organizations for meals and other services.
- **People staying in shelters:** Residents of shelters that provide 3 meals/day do not qualify for AFAC groceries. Residents of shelters or temporary/transitional housing who are responsible for buying their own groceries do qualify - they still need a referral and proof of residency at the shelter. Often the residential staff can make the referral.

# DOORWAYS

- The Doorways shelters have shared kitchens for families to use. Families have their own room, but other living spaces are shared by all shelter families.
- Families receive assistance in getting connected to resources including SNAP and WIC for use while in the shelter and once they move out.
- Donors and staff provide food for special events and holidays.



# BRIDGES 2 INDEPENDENCE

- The Sullivan House shelter houses families in apartments with their own kitchens.
- The shelter has a 24/7 food pantry for residents to use (see picture).
- Bridges gets deliveries from Real Food for Kids & occasionally support from restaurants and other partners.
- Families receive assistance in getting connected to resources including SNAP, WIC, and AFAC.
- Donors provide holiday food baskets to shelter families & families in the community.

