

Thurman Brisben Center

Newsletter

SUMMER EDITION 2011

"A YEAR IN REVIEW"

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- > A Year in Review
- > Tax Incentive Program
- > Volunteer Corner in the Spotlight

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Letter from Director	1
FY 2011 Statistics	2
A look Ahead	3
Volunteer Corner	3

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

"A Year In Review"

Two words that often frighten many of us are the words challenge and change. As fiscal year 2011 came to a close and we began a new fiscal year, we took a close look at all we accomplished. We certainly faced a few challenges and made a few changes—all of which enabled us to provide 23,292 bednights to those seeking safe shelter through our emergency residential component. We served a total of 763 unduplicated individuals, 166 of which were children.

35% of all households left for permanent housing. Our residential component continues to house up to 80 men, women and children who have become homeless.

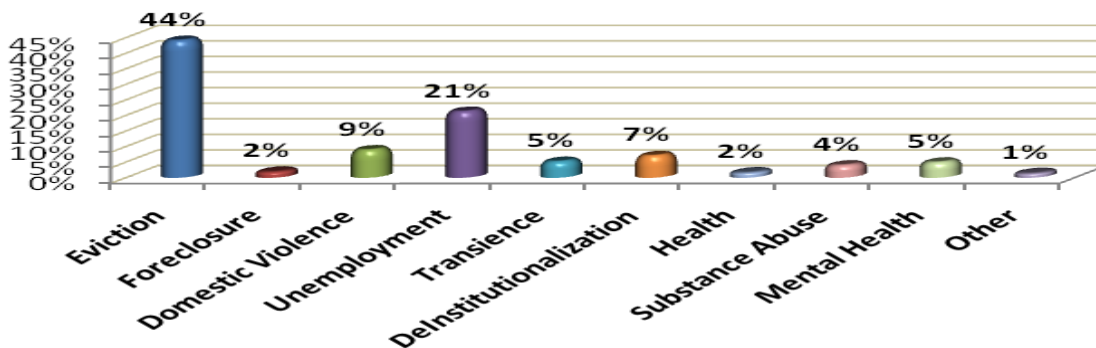
Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, TBC received a grant of \$727,262 - known as the Homeless Prevention and Repaid Re-Housing or HPRP grant. From 10/1/09 through 6/1/11, TBC provided 84 households with 223 people with rental and utility assistance to avoid eviction or utility

shut off; 23 households with 50 people with rapid re-housing; and repaid previous utility and/or rent arrearages that prevented many from obtaining a lease or utilities.

As we move forward, and our HPRP grant concludes in September 2011, a new program similar to HPRP will also offer area residents assistance with housing and utilities before they become victims of homelessness. For more information, see page 3 "As We Look Ahead".

Bunny Melzer

REASONS FOR HOMELESSNESS





THURMAN BRISBEN
CENTER
THE HOUSE THAT LOVE BUILT

Many only know bits of pieces of what TBC provides—such as three meals per day—but not that we also provide Case Management, Educational opportunities such as GED; Substance Abuse Recovery Programs through Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous, Mental Health Counseling, Child Care Resources and Job Readiness Training.

A BREAKDOWN OF THOSE WE SERVED

DID YOU KNOW ... (In Fiscal year 2011)

Almost 1/3 of the total population had a serious disability preventing them from obtaining employment

9% of the total population were veterans

Of the children, 19% were teens

35% of all households left for permanent housing

There were 92 families with children

273 people were denied shelter due to a lack of space

B EDNIGHTS AND COST PER PERSON PER NIGHT

- From July 1, 2010 through May 31, 2011, there was a total of 23,292 bednights
- There is a possible bednight count of 26,8000
- There were 335 days in that time frame
- Average of 70 people per day
- Utilization rate of 87%
- Residential expenses for the same period were \$556,640.51
- Cost per person per night is \$22.89

A Special Thank You

“Thank you seems so small for the true way I feel and for what I want to say. I am truly grateful to all at TBC for reaching out to help someone, who truly could not help herself. My husband was my true north. The rock I anchored to and weathered the storms of my life. He and he alone helped me to hang on to what little bit of sanity I had in an eight year period of loosing both my parents, three brothers and my son. He was my best friend and I held him as he died. Now I seem to be a boat with no anchor. This shelter has pulled me through the toughest storm of my life. Maybe you didn't realize it, but you are doing Gods work. Once again, thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

Miss Sheila

A S WE LOOK AHEAD

Although HPRP will end September 30, 2011; the Emergency Solutions Grants will pick up where HPRP left off. TBC will receive \$98,891 from this grant to continue HPRP type activities. This is a two year grant and will be automatically renewed next year for another \$98,891.00. The Emergency Solutions Grant is actually the old ESG (Emergency Shelter Grant).

Although we are pleased that we will be able to continue to offer area residents assistance with housing and utilities before they too become victims of homelessness, we have had to begin looking for other funding sources to help support general facility maintenance for our Emergency Residential component.

We have also begun looking for additional funding sources that will allow us to open our certified Day Care.

Financial contributions to TBC can help make these dreams a reality. Did you know that TBC is an approved NAP organization? The Neighborhood Assistance Program or NAP was created by the 1981 General Assembly to encourage private sector involvement in the alleviation of poverty in Virginia. As such, any individual or married couple that donates \$500 or more is eligible for a state tax credit equal to 40 percent of the donation's value. Any business that donates \$1,000 or more may also qualify for a state tax credit equal to 40 percent of the donation's value.

Applying for NAP tax credits is easy and requires completing a small section of just one form! For more information regarding NAP please contact TBC at (540) 899-9853 ext. 19.

VOLUNTEER CORNER - THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS!

FM (Matt) Williams Band performed songs from his debut CD "Crowded Room" for TBC Clients. Matt is a Christian musician who has written all the songs on his debut CD.



Volunteers have been the backbone of TBC. We simply would not be able to assist the men, women and children that call TBC home without their help. As the old adage goes...
"A Picture is worth a Thousand Words"

Thanks again to all our Volunteers!



New school supplies are donated for the children at TBC. Volunteers assist staff with the Annual Back to School Party so children can select brand new school supplies!

Backyard refurbish project compliments of BB&T 2010 Lighthouse Giving to the Community Project!



Volunteers make the Holidays Special!



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United Way



Non-Profit Organization

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Proud Member of Fredericksburg
Chamber of Commerce



ITEMS NEEDED ON A REGULAR BASIS TO HELP SERVE OUR CLIENTS

Client Supplies

Diapers, sizes 3, 4,5,6
Baby Wipes
Children's/Infants Tylenol and Motrin
Razors and Shaving Cream
Deodorant (men and women)
First Aid Supplies (band-aids) (antibacterial ointment)
Shampoo and Conditioner
Lotion
Hand Sanitizer
Men's/Women's flip-flops for shower shoes

Operational Supplies

Laundry Detergent
Paper Towels
Toilet Tissue
Brillo Pads
39 Gallon Trash Bags
13 Gallon Trash Bags
Coffee
Sugar
Creamer
Brown Lunch bags
Zip Lock baggies
(Gallon and sandwich size)