#### Housing and Homeless Assistance Programs and Ex-Offenders

Nikki Nicholau

**Deputy Director for Housing** 

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development

September 12, 2005

## Housing Resources

#### HOME

- State Sets Aside for Projects Targeted at Transitional Housing, Single Room Occupancy
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Pilot Project
- CoC Balance of State Application
  - Current coverage PD 1-4, 9
  - Expansion Planned
  - Over \$1 million for Permanent Supportive Housing

#### Housing Resources

- SRO Pre-Development Fund
  - \$300,000 by 2005 General Assembly
  - Up to 6 projects
  - Architectural work, site control, other activities
- Homeless Intervention Prevention
- Emergency Shelter Program to a limited extent

## Challenges

- Identification Cards for Homeless
- Housing for Sex Offenders
- Re-Uniting with Families in Public Housing
- Cutbacks in Federal Funding
- Limited State Funds Available for Housing
- Access to Emergency Shelter Services particularly those without medications

# Virginia Inter-Agency Council on Homelessness

- Statewide leadership organization
- Purpose is to eliminate homelessness in Virginia.
- Action Plan: Sharing a Common Wealth to End Homelessness
- Completing 2<sup>nd</sup> year of plan implementation
- www.endhomelessnessva.org

#### Policy Council Members

- Governor's Office
- Department of Corrections
- Department of Health/Vital Records
- Department of Housing and Community Development
- Department of Juvenile Justice Services
- Department of Medical Assistance Services
- Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services
- Department of Motor Vehicles
- Department of Rehabilitative Services

- Department of Social Services
- Department of Veterans Services
- Virginia Employment Commission
- Virginia Housing Development Authority
- Homeless Consumer
- Virginia Coalition on the Homeless
- Homeward of Richmond
- Virginia Supportive Housing
- Virginia Sheriff's Association
- Virginia Municipal League
- Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association
- Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy

#### Responses Underway

- Multi-agency work group on IDs for homeless modeled after DOC efforts
- Preliminary discussions on housing for sexoffenders using DHCD and DOC resources
- 2006 Action Plan and Balance of State CoC funding - notifications and request for projects (September to March)