

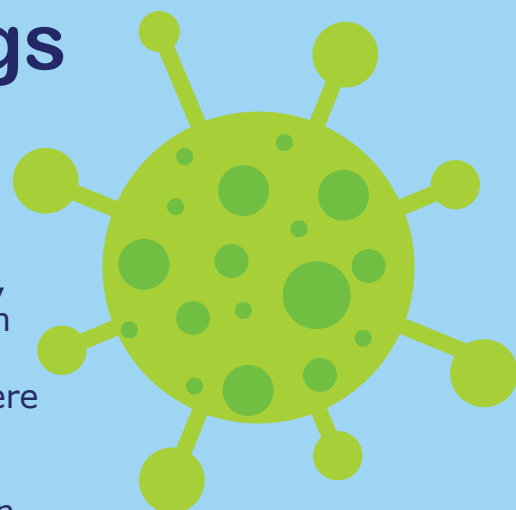


# 2020 COVID IMPACT REPORT

HMHY Foundation has continued to provide Navigation Continuum of Care to returning citizens since the declared National Emergency on a modified basis. In the front end of the pandemic, HMHY restricted all intake services using telephones or video communication. During the summer and early fall, we slowly began meeting participants for services face-to face, spacing out in-office meetings to ensure safety for our participants and staff. By experiencing the pandemic, HMHY has found the rapport building process to be more efficient and effective in the office than on the phone.

## Reentry Covid Meetings

HMHY has been able to continue having community meetings with re-entry providers to determine how the re-entry community can coordinate more adequately to meet the individualized needs of returning citizens more efficiently. On April 23, 2020, HMHY hosted a COVID-19 Re-Entry conference call in partnership with the City of Richmond Human Services and the City of Richmond Sheriff Office. There were approximately 40 providers on the call and a representative from each sector (i.e. housing, employment, health, family services, etc.) briefing an update on services related to their area and how services are continuing to be provided during COVID-19. HMHY has continued this effort by working with YMCA of Greater Richmond to build out Help1RVA, an online directory that serves both the citizen and supporter when navigating the resources and programs in Richmond. Dates Include: March, April, May, June, August



## WE BELIEVE STATEMENTS

“We believe in solidarity not charity.”

“We believe in bringing cohesiveness to the Re-Entry community by establishing partnerships with all applicable community providers.”

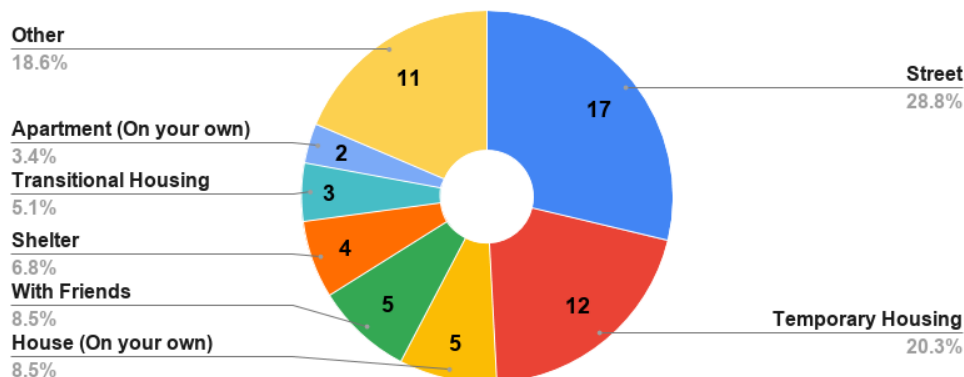
“We believe treatment should be person-centered.”

# Emergency/Transitional Housing Program

There is a housing crisis in Virginia, especially among our recent formerly incarcerated citizens. Due to an increased number of returning citizens, and in correspondence of early releases related to COVID-19, HMHY continuously runs into the issue of finding community housing for our participants due to organizations being at capacity or not allowing direct intake after their release due to the pandemic. HMHY knows the importance of stable living environments upon the release of a former justice involved citizen. The likelihood of recidivism increases when this need is not directly met. If there is availability to host a participant, organizations now require 2 weeks of isolation for those coming out of incarceration due to COVID-19. In August, HMHY developed a partnership with Eastern Estate Realty by providing participants to fill their 4-bedroom house in Church Hill. With the help of Robins foundation, Emergency Cares Act and Community Foundation funding, HMHY has been able to continuously house 5 participants every 6 weeks. 5 times a week, participants are fed full course-homemade dinners, and provided a breakfast bar and a stocked refrigerator and pantry for self-prepared lunches. Each participant must undertake ongoing peer support and transitional planning. HMHY helps each participant set themselves up with a financial and housing goal that will help them transition after their stay.



Current Living Situation



This pie chart shows the Current Living Situation for the 74 participants currently enrolled at HMHY. Out of the 74 participants, 11.9% are living in stable environments. While, 64.4% are experiencing homelessness.

HMHY continues to build out partnerships with housing programs, agencies, landlords and community organizers to locate affordable housing that fits our participants direct needs. If you are a part of the housing community, please reach out to us for partnership. We could never have enough housing support for the participants we work with daily.

# Increased Internal Employment

- Director of Clinical and Operations - Full-time
- Executive Assistant - Full-time
- 1 Peer Support Supervisor - Part-time
- 3 Peer Support Specialist (Lived Experience Expert) - 2x Full-time, 1x Part-time
- 6 Interns from Virginia Commonwealth University(4 Graduate and 1 Bachelor ) & Liberty University (1 Graduate): 3x Case Managers, 1x Clinical Coordinator, 1x Admin



**Participants range between 21-68 years in age.  
24.3% are women & 75.6% are men.**



## Navigation Story

One of our participants, "London", was released from DOC (Coffeewood Correctional Center) July 2, 2020 during the National pandemic. London was homeless upon release and was housed by DOC at Franklin and Grove for 90 days. London enrolled at Help Me Help You Foundation on July 3, 2020 due to word of mouth from a peer staying at Franklin and Grove. London has spent almost 30 years collectively in prison, most recently served 4 years for a parole violation and multiple previous charges for credit card fraud. London has 5 adult children and several grandchildren whom he has a close relationship with. London is healthy for his age and has a desire to work. London has a certification as a mental health aid from VCU and was enrolled in school to obtain his bachelor's degree in nursing in the past. London has a desire to start an LLC and become a consultant for various group homes regarding medication modifications. London needed support in the following areas when first enrolling: employment, housing, connecting to resources, medical treatment, obtaining legal documents, and establishing a healthy support system. Currently, London has obtained full-time employment, his own apartment, and been connected to many reentry service providers such as, A Better Day Than Yesterday, Next Level Health Options and Office of Community Wealth Building.

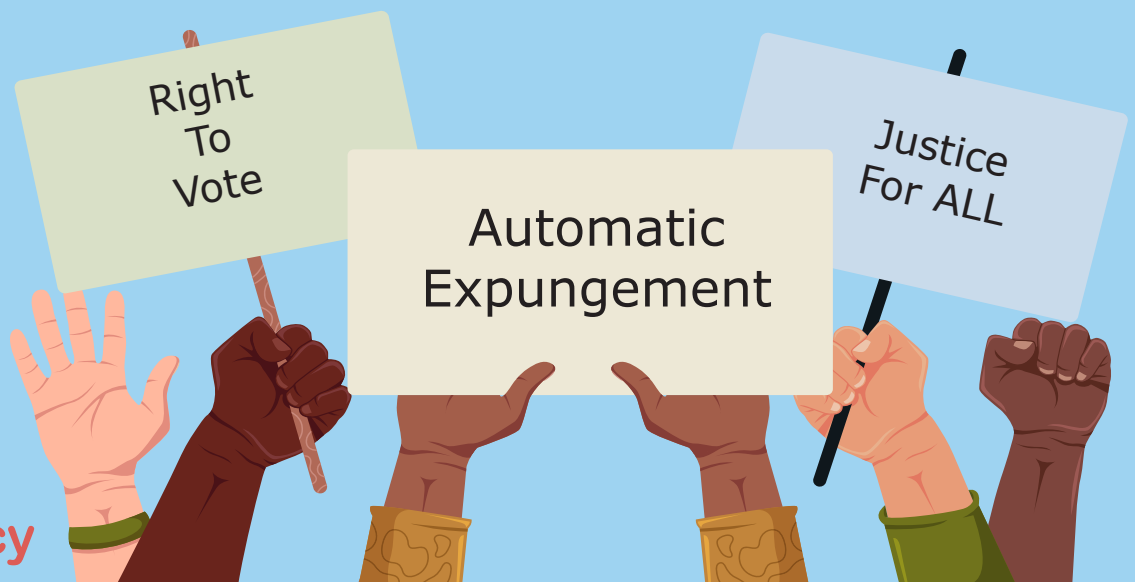
# Community Engagement

## A. Building Partnership

At HMHY, we believe one provider cannot impact the community alone, it takes a group of community leaders to make real change. HMHY is driven to improve community cohesiveness amongst community providers to be better able to connect all those with justice involvement history to the service providers they need to live a dignified life. This year, HMHY has been able to build partnership with the following:

Guardian Angels  
Drive-To-Work  
RVA League for Safer Streets  
Capstone Counseling  
EMS Venture LLC/ MySpectrum  
Reid's Wellness and Research Center  
Focused Outreach Richmond  
My Brother's Keeper  
D.E.T.E.R  
Health Brigade  
5C's Development Program  
VA Career Works

My Brother's Keeper  
Virginia Organizing  
A Better Day Than Yesterday  
Mutual Aid Richmond  
Dandelion Health  
Oxford House  
VA Department of Corrections  
Richmond City Sheriff's Office  
Office of Community Wealth Building  
Dept. of Juvenile Justice Services  
Next Level Health Options  
Help1RVA



## B. Advocacy

HMHY has connected with advocacy organizations such as Virginia Organizing, Nolef Turns, Bridging the Gap, and New Virginia Majority that continue to support new legislation that empowers and benefits the community we serve. Two campaigns we have joined is the Right to Vote Campaign organized by Virginia Organizing and Automatic Expungement organized by Nolef Turns, Bridging the Gap, and Legal Aid Justice Center. Through these campaigns, we will continue to connect with legislators about the needs specific to the population we serve. HMHY encourages participants to contribute their first-hand experiences, and have a voice when talking with legislators. HMHY has already met with Delegate Aird and Senator Hashmi.



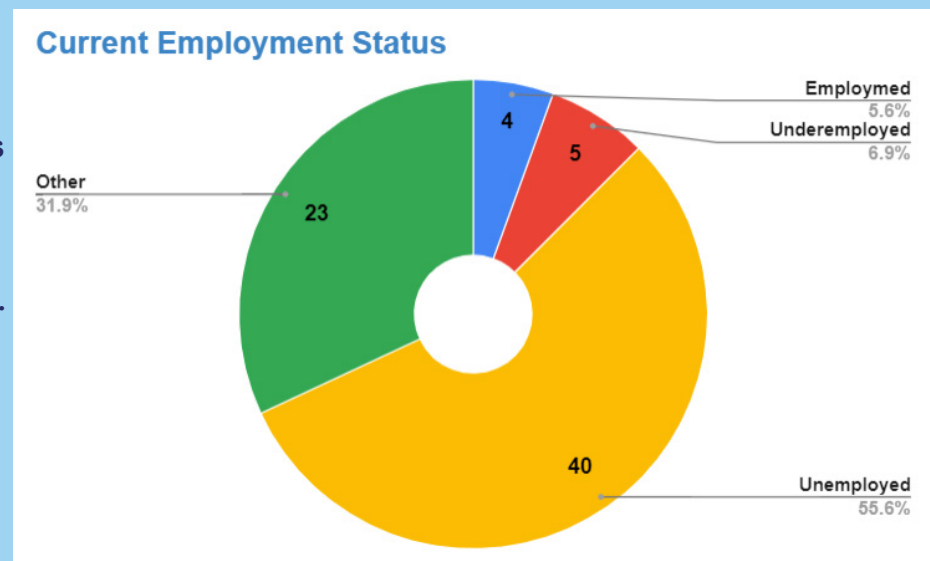
# Workforce Development

Based on our data, at least 62.5% of our participants are either underemployed or unemployed. Due to this, HMHY has continued to establish workforce partnerships that will benefit our participants.

HMHY, in collaboration with Office of Community Wealth Building, has been working diligently to streamline an effective workforce process. At HMHY, if a participant is identified needing workforce support that could mean additional schooling, career enhancement, rapid hiring, and resume building. HMHY currently has an Ambassador (from OCWB) directly working with participants needing workforce development to reduce the amount of time it takes for an individual to begin receiving needed support related to employment.

HMHY has recently bridge a direct partnership with VA Career Works to establish a Staff Training Program, specifically focusing on Lived Experience Expert (Peer Support Specialist) that includes paid work experience.

This pie chart shows the Current Employment Status for the 74 participants currently enrolled at HMHY. Out of the 74 participants, 5.5% are directly employed. While, 62.5% are either underemployed or unemployed.



## Additional Support

### A. Identification

HMHY has noticed that most of our participants who are newly returned into the community after incarceration need some form of legal documents to show who they are. Many exit the prisons and jails with only a facesheet, which program participants have reported to feel a lack of dignity and respect as a result of utilizing their Inmate Face Sheet as their only form of identification. We are putting out a call for any agencies, nonprofits, and community members who can help our participants navigate this specific barrier.



## B. Technology

HMHY serve individuals who have been incarcerated up to 30+ years and many of them do not have basic computer skills necessary to thrive in today's society. Technology deficits amongst this population impacts access to basic needs such as healthcare benefits, financial benefits, and employment. Technology deficits were highlighted and exacerbated because of COVID-19 due to many services and benefits requiring computer access and knowledge of basic computer skills, which many returning citizens lack. HMHY is currently seeking to partner with community service providers that specifically work in this area for our participants.



## C. Service Providers



HMHY is continuously looking to connect with all local agencies, nonprofits, and community organizers that serve all justice involved community members. In our Reentry Navigation Continuum of Care Wheel, HMHY has identified 10 areas that participants need support in to reclaim their lives and live a dignified life for themselves and their communities. We encourage anyone who has a passion for this specific community to reach out and get involved with HMHY, whether it is volunteering, fundraising, or working directly with the community we serve.

## Email or call to connect.

[hmhyfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:hmhyfoundation@gmail.com)

804.608.9703

“We Believe one provider can not impact the community alone, it takes a group of community leaders to make real change.”