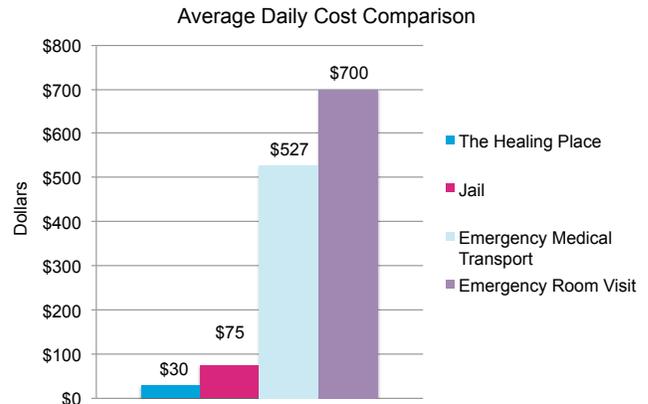


Best practice.....The Healing Place

The Healing Place is a residential peer recovery substance abuse program that ends homelessness and establishes self-sufficiency.

In 2009 the Hampton Roads Regional Task Force to End Homelessness began researching best practices for treatment of alcohol and other drug addiction in eastern Virginia and identified recovery services as a significant gap for those presenting as homeless. The Task Force selected The Healing Place as the most suitable program for the region based on its success rate and cost effectiveness. The Healing Place was named a Model that Works by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in 1998.



The Hampton Roads facility will be modeled on the validated Healing Place programs in Wake County, North Carolina, Louisville, Kentucky, and Richmond, Virginia. Statistics from Wake County, North Carolina and Richmond, Virginia report that 65-75% of graduates are sober one year later, and of those, 85% are sober 2 years later.

We estimate that there are a minimum of 1,280 homeless individuals with alcohol and drug addiction needing treatment and recovery services in our region. People who need treatment in Virginia have to wait an average of 25.4 days to get into services. For treatment to be effective, it should be available when a person is ready.

Creating a Healing Place in Hampton Roads would be an action step toward the implementation of one of the strategic priorities as outlined in the recently funded Hampton Roads Community Foundation Housing Crisis Response System Study: To ensure that the needs of special populations are met.

Specific goals are to:

- Provide a residential 12-step, peer-based model where clients gain and maintain sobriety
- Reduce homelessness in Hampton Roads
- Reduce the cost to taxpayers of placing intoxicated homeless individuals in jails or hospitals
- Provide long-term data collection of program success
- Foster a recovery environment of responsibility and accountability so that participants gain employment, and become taxpayers and contributors to their communities
- Provide family reunification services as clients regain sobriety

For more information, visit <http://thehealingplacehr.org/>.