



A-SPAN Announces New Brand Identity

A-SPAN, Arlington's homeless services organization, is now *PathForward*. Our new name celebrates each person's different and distinct pathways towards stability, independence, and a life [free from the threat of homelessness.](#)

PathForward was born in 1988, when Lora Rinker and friends prepared bagged meals and served them from her front porch in Arlington. This meal program gradually grew to become A-SPAN, and in 1992 was formally incorporated as a nonprofit organization. Today, the Bagged Meal Program serves up to 50 meals daily, while the organization distributes close to 40,000 meals annually as part of its collective meal programs - which are but one component on the continuum of homeless services that PathForward provides. To learn more about PathForward's full continuum of services, click [here](#).

We changed our name in 2021 after the Board of Directors worked to revise our organizational mission, vision and values in order to better reflect the breadth of services we provide, the role we play in our community, and our continuing efforts to be a leader in diversity, equity and inclusion. As a result, the Board concluded that a new name was necessary to match the work and impact the organization has had since its inception.

PathForward can be reached at (703) 228-7803 and on the web at www.pfVA.org. You can email us at admin@pfVA.org. Please note the "VA" in both our web and email addresses. If you or someone you know is in need of help, please call (703) 228-1010.

Please note that we are not the same organization as Path Forward in New York, which is focused on caregiver re-entry into the workforce. Though we share the same name as this pre-existing, national nonprofit organization, our missions and work differ. If you would like to learn more about their work focused on caregiver re-entry, you may [click here](#).