



# SHC

**Somerville Homeless Coalition**  
**Support, Housing, Community**

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*Homeless Prevention  
Case Management  
Supportive Housing  
Family & Adult Shelter  
Project SOUP*

March 1, 2018

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Dear Friends, Supporters and Colleagues,

Mark Alston-Follansbee, our Executive Director for the last 18 years, will be retiring from Somerville Homeless Coalition on June 30 of this year. Mark has served as Executive Director at a critical time in SHC's history. His efforts, along with the staff and contributions from the community, have helped thousands of individuals and families, who otherwise would still be homeless, to build their lives back to normal.

These efforts yielded an excellent reputation for the organization and strong relationships with the City of Somerville, state and federal agencies and colleague nonprofits. During his tenure, SHC has created six new permanent housing programs, and over the last twelve years Mark has led the organization to focus more on prevention of homelessness.

Mark's commitment has made him very effective in his role as Executive Director. Over the last two years after the heartbreaking theft by our former CFO, Mark has worked collaboratively with the agency's employees and Board on a variety of initiatives that included strengthening internal controls, systems, and policies to achieve greater compliance with reporting requirements and to ensure nothing like this would happen again.

The Board has developed a thoughtful transition plan with the assistance of Suzanne Maas of Leadership Transitions LLC. Mark will work with Board members, staff and Leadership Transitions to ensure a healthy transition to the incoming executive director. Together they are preparing the entire organization to work with a new leader.

On behalf of the board and staff, I thank you for all the support and encouragement you have given over the years to Somerville Homeless Coalition and to the homeless and hungry people with whom we work. We trust this important partnership will continue and grow during our transition and well into the future.

Sincerely,

Tom White  
President, Board of Directors

PS: Interested applicants may [view the position announcement on our webpage.](#)

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