

[RESOURCE GENERATION]

One Day to End Homelessness Campaign Results

The One Day to End Homelessness campaign kicked off with a very successful 10TV telethon on January 31 that raised \$101,000. The campaign urged Columbus and Franklin County residents to contribute the equivalent of just one day's rent or mortgage payment. Throughout the month of February, additional funds were raised by congregations and donated by community members through the website.



With the help of WBNS-10TV, the Dispatch Media Group, Nationwide, and the United Methodist Church, CSB raised over \$150,000. The funds raised will go to support CSB's nationally recognized programs.

A de-brief meeting with the Faith Leadership Council will occur on March 23.

Benefit Concert by the Harmony Project

The Harmony Project embraces the mission of building community through the vehicle of the performing arts. The Harmony Project will hold a spring concert benefitting the Community Shelter Board on May 12 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

This concert, entitled "Lift Every Voice: A Concert to End Homelessness," will feature the 150-voice Harmony Project choir, Jazz Arts Group, Project Hope Children's Choir, and the Unison Project Choir. The Harmony Project brings together a diverse group of people to become one voice through artistic collaboration and community service. The Unison Project Choir is a newly formed music and service program for community members experiencing the transition from homelessness to permanent housing. Residents from the Commons at Grant and the Commons at Buckingham make up the membership of the choir.

[ADVOCACY]

State and Federal Advocacy

Michelle has been busy this winter meeting with state and federal elected officials to advocate for preservation of funding for homeless programs. We are concerned about the Ohio Housing Trust Fund, Ohio's Local Government Fund, and federal McKinney-Vento funding.

We are advocating to keep the Ohio Housing Trust Fund intact because any loss in funding would result in reduced shelter beds and reduced housing units. Millions in private and federal dollars leveraged by Trust Fund projects will be lost, as will the jobs created by the leveraged funds. Nearly \$3.9 million is at risk for homeless programs in Franklin County. The Trust Fund supports programs at Amethyst, Community Housing Network, Community Shelter Board, Faith Mission, Homeless Families Foundation, National Church Residences, The Salvation Army, Southeast, and the YMCA of Central Ohio.

Our concern about Ohio's Local Government Fund is that a great deal of our City and County funding is dependent on the state budget. \$3.4 million in City funding and \$1.4 million in County funding is dependent on the Local Government Fund.

Federal McKinney-Vento funding is at risk as well. McKinney-Vento needs to be funded at least at the same level as last year in order for communities across the country to guard against the impacts of the recession. An increase is needed to start implementing the HEARTH Act.

Michelle has met with Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Senator Jim Hughes, and Ed Roberts and Ben Famous from Senator Sherrod Brown's office. In addition, letters have been sent and calls have been made to Rep. Steve Austria, Rep. Steve Stivers, Senator Charleta Tavares, and Rep. Patrick Tiberi. Rep. Steve Stivers is scheduled for a tour on March 23.

[CRISIS RESPONSE]

Winter Overflow

Winter overflow remains in effect for the single adult system. Although the average number of women served each night remained constant, the men's shelter dropped to an average of 141 in overflow per night. Winter overflow services will begin ramping down March 15 and will cease April 15. Adult shelter providers are focusing on moving people to housing as quickly as possible.

Fortunately, the family system has experienced a drastic drop in overflow usage and has not experienced any families in overflow since the last week of February. We hope this situation continues.

[REBUILDING LIVES]

Collaborative Outreach Strategy

As mentioned in last month's issue, recommendations for the Rebuilding Lives Collaborative Outreach Strategy were presented to the Rebuilding Lives Funder Collaborative (RLFC) at its February meeting. As a result of the recommendations, a request for proposals has been developed and released to the community. The RFP is requesting the provision of outreach services and the development and implementation of a collaborative model for outreach. Proposals are due by 5:00 pm April 15, 2011. A bidder's conference will be held on March 17 at 9:00 am. The RFP and application can be found at www.csb.org.

[GATEWAY]

Gateway Application

The Gateway process for the upcoming fiscal year is underway, and FY12 Gateway applications are due to CSB by **5:00 pm on Thursday, March 17**. All applications will be reviewed in the final two weeks of March, followed in April by the spring 1-on-1 meetings with each partner agency. The meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss each agency's FY12 Gateway application and opportunities for continual quality improvement. Any questions or concerns about the Gateway process should be directed to Noel Welsh, Grants Administrator, at nwelsh@csb.org or (614) 221-9195.

[IN THE SPOTLIGHT]

New Resource for Finding Affordable Housing

We are pleased to report that the City of Columbus and Franklin County have launched *Come Home Central Ohio*, a website providing information and resources for affordable housing. The website can be found at <http://www.comehomeco.org/>.

Individuals can view listings of affordable homes for sale and for rent in Central Ohio or add their own properties to the lists. Each listing includes contact information and a detailed description of the home, including price or rent and number of bedrooms. Visitors can find resources on housing related issues, such as home buyer education and foreclosure intervention. The site also provides links to information on subjects such as public health and family services.

This website has just begun to help community members find homes – the City and County welcome any feedback on its usefulness in order to improve the site. Please direct your comments or suggestions to both Amanda King ajking@franklincountyohio.gov and Theresa Saelim theresa@hztrust.org.

Franklin County CCC Recognition Luncheon

Michelle Heritage Ward was the keynote speaker at the Franklin County Combined Charitable Campaign recognition luncheon on February 24. Chaired by Commissioner John O’Grady, Franklin County employees exceeded their \$350,000 goal during the campaign. At the luncheon, Michelle spoke about CSB’s experiences over the winter season and the large number of families and children served by our programs.

Tours

In March, CSB provided a tour for Bob Tanner, NetJets, of the YWCA Family Center.

[STAFFING UPDATE]

Direct Client Assistance Intern

Stimulus funds from the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program are allowing us to move people out of shelter quickly through our direct client assistance programs. In order to handle the additional direct client assistance processing, it has become necessary to add a part-time, temporary position. Daniel Praznovsky will start on March 28. He is currently a student with OSU in the School of Social and Behavioral Science.

Upcoming Meetings

⟨ Check out the interactive calendar at www.csb.org under Resources for our Partners < Meetings.

Enclosures

⟨ FY11 S1 System & Program Indicator Report