

[FROM HOMELESS TO HOME]

New program takes major step forward with award of \$2.5 million grant

Forty-two navigators will begin working with single adults who are experiencing homelessness to help them find homes, stay in them and become self-sufficient under a new program beginning this fall. Community Shelter Board has announced a \$2.5 million award to Access Ohio in partnership with Columbus Area Integrated Health Services and Goodwill Columbus to kick start the new services. These services should reduce time adults spend in shelters, end the cycle of repeat homelessness, and provide intensive aftercare assistance even as adults move out of shelters into stable housing.



The trio of providers has an impressive track record linking those in need to specialty services necessary to maintain housing stability like employment and job training, medical care, mental health/alcohol counseling and housing support. Access Ohio is a community mental health agency accredited by the Joint Commission and certified by Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services. Access Ohio has a strong resume helping those who have been receiving facility-based care obtain housing, set up a household, and connect to supportive community resources.

Three of the critical components that this multi-systemic model brings to the table are the seamless provision of services across partners, a grounding in multiple best practice approaches to serve the diverse populations, and an expertise in the provision of community-based services, including prioritization of persons experiencing homelessness into ongoing mainstream services.

Columbus Area Integrated Health Services will provide direct housing, supported employment, and mental health/alcohol and drug prevention services. Goodwill Columbus will assist with workforce development, helping people with multiple barriers obtain and maintain meaningful employment.

Each navigator will work with 25 participants, maintaining a presence at all shelters for single men and women across Franklin County. The new program will be fully operational in October 2014 and is expected to serve over 3,000 people during its first year of operation.

New family shelter will work to alleviate housing crisis among local families

Community Shelter Board has announced a \$2.2 million award to Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio to address the exponential growth in family homelessness. A new family shelter will address a 65% increase in the last three years in the number of families seeking shelter.

A renovated building at 595 Van Buren Drive will include the development of a new family shelter with space to serve up to 85 families. The YWCA Columbus Family Center has been grappling with the increased demand in a facility designed for only 50 families.

Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio is a long-term partner of the Community Shelter Board with a strong track record for quickly re-housing families and veterans experiencing homelessness, as well as a highly experienced shelter provider. Part of a national non-profit organization that has served the most vulnerable populations since 1896, Volunteers of America has become one of the nation's largest and most comprehensive human services organizations and an important partner in efforts to end homelessness in this region. Volunteers of America has made huge strides in our community finding housing and giving support to veterans experiencing homelessness. CSB is pleased that they will grow their services and work on behalf of families. We will rely on their expertise to stabilize families who need their steady hand.

The YWCA has worked very hard to meet the increased demand among families, but has simply run out of space to serve everyone. They have had to sleep families on cots in the shelter and at local faith-based congregations, and have even had to resort to using motels. An additional facility to meet the sustained increase of families in crisis is essential. The family shelter wing in the Van Buren building is expected to open in Summer 2015.



Photo credit: The Columbus Dispatch

[RESOURCE GENERATION]

Together Rebuilding Lives

Presenting sponsor, Honda of America Mfg., and co-presenting sponsor, PNC, were joined by over 920 friends on June 5 for the Together Rebuilding Lives luncheon. The program focused on the transformational new model developed to change the way our community addresses homelessness. Clients from the pilot navigator program shared their stories, and guests at the event took a virtual tour of the new shelter building.

Honda of America Mfg. and PNC provided an incredible matching gift opportunity at the luncheon, where 143 individuals had their gifts matched dollar for dollar, up to \$25,000.



Jan Gansheimer of Honda of America Mfg.



Mike Gonsiorowski of PNC, Michelle Heritage of Community Shelter Board



Charles Hillman of Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority,
Andrew Roberts of YMCA,
Franklin County Treasurer Ed Leonard



Patti Eshman of Grange Insurance, Adrienne Corbett of Homeless Families Foundation



Michelle Heritage of Community Shelter Board,
Darnita Bradley of Columbia Gas



Paul Coleman of Maryhaven, Rick Davis of Lutheran
Social Services



Transit Arts

[GATEWAY]

FY15 Contracting underway

The FY15 Gateway process is coming to an end and provider agencies are receiving contracts for the upcoming fiscal year. CSB thanks its providers for their assistance throughout the contracting process and their continued commitment to ending homelessness and rebuilding lives.

[STAFFING UPDATE]

Volunteer Coordinator

CSB is pleased to introduce Charity Eilerman as its new Volunteer Coordinator. Charity will coordinate volunteer engagement at the Van Buren building, creating efficiency in shelter operations among multiple service providers under one roof. This will include the provision of daily meals served by volunteers, in-kind supplies, material goods, community gardens and other volunteer activities. Charity can be reached at ceilerman@csb.org or 614-715-2534.



Charity Eilerman
Volunteer Coordinator



Angelic Euceda
USHS Project
Manager

USHS Project Manager

Angelic Euceda, Administrative Assistant, has been promoted to Project Manager for the Unified Supportive Housing System. In this role, she will work with provider organizations referring people experiencing homelessness to permanent supportive housing, ensuring those most vulnerable in our community get access to the housing and supports needed to end their cycle of homelessness as quickly as possible.

[IN THE SPOTLIGHT]

Woman of the Year

The Niagara Foundation honored Michelle Heritage with its 2014 Woman of the Year Award to celebrate her remarkable achievements in the non-profit sector. Michelle was honored on April 30 during Niagara Foundation's Women Community Builders event at the Ohio Union.

Nonprofit Partner Award

Communities in Schools Central Ohio held its annual "You Are an Essential Piece" luncheon at Columbus State Community College on May 5 and awarded CSB with its 2014 Nonprofit Partner Award. The award was given in appreciation for our partnership to prevent homelessness among families.