Families and individuals are seeking emergency shelter in alarming numbers, swelling Franklin County shelters beyond capacity. The devastation of homelessness is reflected in the faces of 1,400 children, some less than a month old. **You can make a difference through One Day to End Homelessness on Monday, January 31.**

Too many of our neighbors and friends are merely one medical bill, car repair, or pink slip away from losing their apartments or homes. As the effects of the recession rage on, people are failing to meet their basic needs for food and shelter.

- Demand for adult shelter has surged. There has been a **21% increase** in the number of people who need shelter in our overflow beds.
- Shelters housing families have run out of room, resulting in a rise in overflow family shelter of **more than 4,000%**.
- Many people are staying in shelters longer because they can’t find employment in today’s **tough job market**.

**A solution is within reach**

Unfortunately, there is not enough money to handle the surge in shelter demand. Without your help, people will have to wait out housing crises in extreme living conditions. The answer to the crisis is not building more shelters. Rather, people experiencing homelessness need help finding jobs and other support to return to permanent housing as rapidly as possible. Those on the brink of financial disaster need help with rent and utilities until their situations stabilize.

Our community’s approach to homelessness works: **only a small percentage of people assisted through a temporary housing crisis return to emergency shelters.**

**You can make a difference**

Please contribute the equivalent of just one day’s rent or mortgage payment to **One Day to End Homelessness** on Monday, January 31. All money raised will support the proven programs of the Community Shelter Board that help people find work, access benefits, and get back into affordable housing quickly.

**Donate on January 31, 2011**

Now is your chance to help struggling neighbors get back on their feet. On Monday, January 31, WBNS-10TV is hosting a day-long telethon. On that day, please call phone bank volunteers (at 614.821.1010) to make your donation or pledge. You may also donate online at www.10tv.com, where you will also find a “Chart of Gifts” to calculate your one day’s rent or mortgage payment. **Everyone needs a place to call home. Donate one day and rebuild lives forever.**

* The number of times families needed shelter when there were no beds in our regular shelter capacity (2,350, compared to 56 last year). No family is ever turned away from shelter.