

Breaking Ground

The Monthly Newsletter of the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio

..... June 2003

Senate Supports Housing in State Budget

Advocates Still Need to Act

The State Senate has included funding the Housing Trust Fund in their proposed state budget through the county recordation fee increase. Thanks to all the individuals that have worked tirelessly over the past few months to build the support necessary to win. OUR WORK IS STILL NOT DONE!

We must continue to demonstrate support for all of the housing and homelessness programs, as the budget moves to the Conference Committee. We have serious issues that remain unaddressed in the proposed state budget. The homelessness /housing line items (406, 440 and 431) remain funded by the Housing Trust Fund - not as separate line items. Bridge funding, which would provide funding to programs until the recording fees begin to be generated, remain unfunded. Proceeds of the fee increase going to the Housing Trust Fund remains capped at \$50 million. Now is the final push. We need advocates from all around the state to contact their local legislators and the Conference Committee, to demonstrate how important these remaining issues are.

We believe that these issues are still in play, and therefore, it's critical to demonstrate the support of these items at the local level with your legislators.

The message to your Representatives and Senators is:

- 1) Continue to support funding for the Housing Trust Fund through the recordation fee increase.
- 2) Provide bridge funding for the line items and the Housing Trust Fund to cover the first seven months of the biennium until the recorders fees begin to flow in January of 2004. This can be done with a combination of General Revenue Fund (GRF) funding and changing the schedule when the recording fee increase will come to the state.



- 3) Change the \$50 million annual cap, so that all money generated by the recordation fee goes to fund housing.

The conference committee, is made up of members of the House and Senate, and they must reconcile the differences between the House and Senate budgets. Once that is done, the full House and Senate will vote on the revised budget and it will go to the Governor. Members of the conference committee are: Representatives Calvert, Hoops and Jerse; and Senators Harris, Amstutz and Fingerhut. When you communicate with your legislators, copy your correspondence to these members as well. It is imperative that our housing programs get elevated with the committee.

Advocacy efforts will remain to be critical during the next week or two. Please keep up the effort. All of the months of hard work by advocates all across the state will culminate in our efforts during this month. Please reach out to your legislators one more time to express your support for Ohio's housing programs.

Don't forget to copy the Conference Committee on your communications (Representatives Calvert, Hoops and Jerse, and Senators Harris, Amstutz, and Fingerhut).

Contact information for your Senators and your Representatives is available at www.cohhio.org/resources/directorylegislative/LegislativeDirectoryDB/ldbsearchform.php.

COHHIO is also reaching out to local media outlets to demonstrate the severity of the lack of bridge funding to emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. If you'd like to help us with these efforts in your community, contact Susan Francis at COHHIO at 614/280-1984 or at susanfrancis@cohhio.org.

Updated budget information and resource materials are available at www.cohhio.org/campaign/HTFcampaign.html.

Questions can be directed to Cathy Johnston at COHHIO at 614/280-1984 or at cathyjohnston@cohhio.org.

Jackson to Urge Nation's Mayors to Adopt Bush Administration Strategy to End Chronic Homelessness in Ten Years

Resolution follows national plan to target most vulnerable

DENVER - Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Deputy Secretary Alphonso Jackson is urging the nation's mayors to adopt a resolution that mirrors the Bush Administration's strategy to end chronic homelessness in 10 years. At its annual meeting in Denver, the U.S. Conference of Mayors will consider adopting a resolution to join the federal government's response to homelessness by providing permanent housing and services to persons experiencing long-term homelessness.

In January, the Bush Administration challenged 100 mayors to create their own 10-year plans to end homelessness. To date, Chicago, Memphis, Indianapolis, Phoenix and Atlanta are among more than a dozen communities that have already endorsed the Bush plan and adopted similar 10-year strategies of their own.

"Our cities are on the front lines in our effort to confront homelessness and meet the needs of our most vulnerable neighbors," said Jackson who will address the USCM in Denver. "We sincerely hope the U.S. Conference of Mayors becomes an enthusiastic partner with us as we work toward breaking the cycle of homelessness. Together, we can achieve a society where those living with a disability, mental illness or an addiction have an alternative to living on our streets."

Ending chronic homelessness is a primary goal of HUD's homeless assistance programs. Research indicates that approximately 10 percent of all homeless persons are chronically homeless. Studies also find that this population consumes over half of the resources designed to assist all homeless individuals and families. By shifting the federal emphasis toward meeting the needs of the most vulnerable homeless persons, more resources become available for those who experience homelessness as a temporary condition.

The Bush Administration's plan to end chronic homelessness includes collaboration between three federal agencies that will provide \$35 million in permanent housing and critical services to help model local programs end chronic homelessness. The funding will include \$20 million from HUD, \$10 million from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and \$5 million from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

In addition, the Bush Administration's FY 2004 budget includes a \$70 million Samaritan Initiative to provide permanent housing and supportive services to those experiencing long-term or chronic homelessness. HUD, HHS and VA would jointly administer this interagency program.

HUD is the nation's housing agency charged with increasing homeownership, particularly among minorities, creating affordable housing opportunities for low-income Americans, supporting the homeless, elderly, people with disabilities and people living with AIDS. The Department also is charged with promoting economic and community development as well as enforcing the nation's fair housing laws. *Information provided from the National Community Reinvestment Coalition.*

In related news, the New York Times recently ran an editorial calling on President Bush to "make a truly credible budget commitment for the chronically homeless." The editorial also credited Columbus as a city focusing on "aiming to engage the homeless more than arrest them." The editorial ran on Monday, June 9, 2003.

The National Alliance to End Homelessness has spearheaded this movement by creating and supporting the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness. More information is available at www.endhomelessness.org.

Local Resident, Ohio Advocates Concerned About Housing Assistance

The Coshocton (OH) Tribune - 5/28/2003

By CARY ASHBY, Tribune Staff Writer

TUSCARAWAS TOWNSHIP -- Mabel Calland has a hard time paying the bills -- even with her dependence on monthly Social Security checks.

"It's hard to make ends meet," said the unemployed Calland. "I just barely have enough to buy food and gas for the car. If I weren't getting help from the prescription drugs I'm taking, there wouldn't be anything left."

Calland, 55, who gets medicine for high-blood pressure and cholesterol as well as daily insulin shots, lives in a government-subsidized apartment at The Meadows. Her rent is based on her income. If her income changes, she has to provide documentation to her landlord in order for that difference to be reflected in her current \$185 rate.

"Usually they take the information from me and verify it with HUD," she said.

Calland is not alone in needing help in paying her rent.

There are about 73,300 Ohioans who benefit from the federally funded Section Eight housing program. The program helps low-income families, and the elderly and disabled, pay rent at private apartments or homes they otherwise could not afford.

Ohio housing advocates are concerned that people will be cut off from rent assistance under a Bush administration proposal to move control of the program from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to states.

Opponents of Bush's plan argued if the program is paid for through block grants to states, funding will either level off or be increased by just minimal amounts, leading to cutbacks in services.

Administration officials said the change would simplify the program because HUD would be dealing with 50 states instead of 2,600 housing agencies that currently administer the program. They said the change would give states more flexibility and ensure that all of the money is used.

HUD officials said states already administer cash assistance, welfare to work, Medicaid and other social services, so it would be a logical fit for them to manage housing vouchers as well.

"We think it can be done more easily under one roof," said Michael Liu, HUD assistant secretary for public and Indian housing.

Advocates said shifting control to the states will add bureaucracy to the program and doesn't guarantee an improvement in efficiency. Instead, they said it would add a further burden to financially strapped state governments.

Do you currently receive *Breaking Ground* by mail?
If so, please switch to email delivery. To switch,
email Susan Francis at COHHIO at
susanfrancis@cohhio.org.

"My bottom line is why mess with success? This program is good the way it is," said Bill Faith, executive director of the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio. Faith is also president of the board of directors for the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

Doug Garver, assistant director at the Ohio Department of Development, said the state likes some parts of the proposal, such as making the program more flexible, but is undecided about the rest.

The National Governors' Association also had not taken a position on the president's proposal. In general, governors encourage the federal government to support flexibility and state discretion in housing programs, said spokeswoman Christine LaPaille.

Ohio is eligible to provide housing vouchers to 78,149 people. Last year, 73,301 people took advantage of them, leaving 4,848 unused, according to HUD statistics.

Those unused vouchers contributed to the \$1 billion in housing funds that went unused last year, roughly eight percent of the program budget. Nearly two million families use Section 8 vouchers nationwide.

But housing advocates in Ohio said the reason for the unused vouchers is not lack of need. They said there are thousands of people on waiting lists. They said some vouchers weren't used because there aren't enough landlords who accept them, and recipients in tight housing markets often return the vouchers when they can't find affordable housing.

"Section 8 is a program where there is still a large demand," said Terry Meese, president of the Ohio Housing Authority Conference who also works with the Akron Housing Authority.

Landlords also are wary of the change.

Megan Booth, a spokeswoman for the National Association of Realtors, said they oppose the plan because it would put a burden on states, and the association is worried that funding levels wouldn't be enough to handle housing needs.

Ohio Rep. Bob Ney, who is chairman of the House Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, introduced Bush's plan in the House last month but declined to endorse it.

"I am willing to listen to both sides," said Ney, a Republican from St. Clairsville. "The question I have is if the state runs it, hypothetically, what happens to the housing authorities? How does the state run it? Do they need more staff?"

Reps. Pat Tiberi of Columbus, a Republican member of the housing subcommittee, and Marcy Kaptur of Toledo, a senior Democrat on the House Appropriations panel that funds housing programs, said they oppose the plan.

"The current system is not perfect, but to do this fix, it would complicate things even more," Tiberi said. "You would be creating a new nightmare at the state level."

Associated Press Writer Malia Rulon contributed to this article.

CARY ASHBY, Tribune Staff Writer, cashby@nncogannett.com, 740/295-3437.

Reprinted with permission, The Coshocton Tribune. Originally published on Wednesday, May 28, 2003.

For more information, contact the National Low Income Housing Coalition at www.nlihc.org.

Changes to 2003 Continuum of Care Application

The following is a synopsis of the May 28th Continuum of Care webcast sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. This synopsis covers the major changes to this year's application. Applicants are strongly encouraged to review both the general and project specific sections of the 2003 SuperNOFA, the 2003 application, as well as the 2003 Questions & Answers for further information.

Outline of Major Changes:

Due date for applications is July 15, 2003.

Scoring changes:

- Gaps and Priorities reduced from 20 to 15 points;
- Housing Emphasis increased from 5 to 10 points (ratio of dollars requested for housing activity vs. service activity); and
- No EZ/EC bonus points.

Application page limit:

- The page limit for Exhibit One has been expanded from 25 to 30 pages in recognition of the request for increased details on addressing chronic homelessness. *Please note: this page limit increase was not included in the NOFA release, but was correctly cited in HUD's Q & A and Application materials; this will be clarified in an upcoming SuperNOFA correction.*

Permanent housing bonus:

- Maximum amount is increased from \$500,000 to \$750,000; and
- Only housing activities will count toward permanent housing bonus amount: acquisition, new construction, rehabilitation, and leasing & operating costs of housing. Costs for services and HMIS, for example, will not count toward the permanent housing bonus amount.

Chronic Homelessness:

- Please note that a formal definition now exists: According to the NOFA, "A person experiencing chronic homelessness is defined as an unaccompanied individual with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more or has experienced four or more episodes of homelessness over the last three years." *According to HUD, the definition for people who are "chronically homeless" only applies to people living in streets and shelters, not people in transitional housing;*
- HUD wants details of your Continuum's approach to address chronic homelessness, including an update on past success, review of current strategies, and goals set for the future;
- HUD will assign "increased" rating points for your efforts to address chronic homelessness in this year's application; and
- Each application is required to include a "baseline" number of chronically homeless people in your community. This number will be used in future years to determine your community's ability to effectively address chronic homelessness.

Discharge Planning:

- HUD is requiring each Continuum to describe their efforts to develop and implement plans with appropriate state and local agencies to prevent discharging from institutions into homelessness. Please note that HUD is **NOT** asking for the plan itself at this time; only for evidence that local continuums are prepared to work with state and local government institutions to ensure a plan is created and implemented.

Unexecuted grants:

- To ensure that awarded resources are being used in a timely and effective manner, HUD is asking for details on all Continuum grants awarded to your community prior to 2002 that are **NOT** under contract. HUD will verify accuracy of this information.

HMIS:

- Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) is now a separately eligible activity under the Supportive Housing Program (SHP). All grantees will be required to participate in their local HMIS system once it is implemented.
- HMIS changes are based on Congress' instructions for HUD to continue efforts to collect data on homelessness. More specifically, HUD is continuing to analyze patterns of service use, how people enter and exit the system, and the overall effectiveness of the system. HUD is directed to work with Continua to collect and analyze data within one year, including progress report and timeline.
- HUD is awaiting final review on HMIS privacy and HIPA issues – they hope to publish the long-awaited data standards for a 60-day public comment period within the coming weeks.
- (Note: HUD indicated that HMIS projects not ranked above the pro rata need line have virtually no chance of being funded.)

Other significant changes:

- Housing Activity Chart modified to include more information on geographic areas and target populations;
- Housing Gaps Analysis Chart has been streamlined to focus on unmet housing needs (largely due to complaints about the amount of data being requested). Communities must identify rationale for determining unmet need.
- Homeless Population and Sub-Populations Chart modified to include baseline statistics on populations (especially the “chronically homeless”).
- Supplemental Resources section modified to include information regarding participation in mainstream programs and employment.
- All new SHP project applications must request funding for either two or three years.
- HUD has created a new exhibit (2R) to streamline the application process for SHP renewals. The new renewal exhibit separates forms and instructions, requests only essential information, and is intended to reduce paperwork. HUD is not asking for narrative, only checklist items to assess the renewal project and performance.
- SRO applications: The per unit rehab cost limit has been raised from \$18,500 to \$19,000.

For more information, visit www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa/grpthhap.cfm.

New Study Reveals that the National Average Rent is More than the Amount Received by People with Disabilities on Supplemental Security Income

First Time National Rental Rates are Higher than Supplemental Security Income Payments

Washington, D.C. -- For the first time ever, the national average rent for an efficiency or one-bedroom apartment is more than the entire Supplemental Security Income of a person with a disability, according to a study released in late May by the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Housing Task Force and the Technical Assistance Collaborative.

The study titled, "Priced Out in 2002," reveals that persons with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) needed to pay 105 percent of their monthly income to rent a modest one-bedroom unit at the published fair market rent.

"If SSI is the safety net, than a lot of Americans are falling through," said Ann O'Hara of the Technical Assistance Collaborative, who co-authored the study.

The federal SSI program provides a monthly income to people with long-term disabilities who have no other source of income. Twenty-four states add a small supplement to SSI. According to the study, people with disabilities in New York City needed 143 percent of monthly SSI to cover the cost of a one bedroom apartment. In Chicago they needed 142 percent, in Miami 119 percent, and in San Francisco – the highest cost housing market area in the country – people with disabilities needed over twice their monthly income, or 204 percent, to pay for a one bedroom unit.

"As housing values surge ahead, the poorest Americans with disabilities are being left behind," O'Hara added.

According to *Priced Out in 2002*, over 1.9 million people with disabilities remain in public institutions, nursing homes, or other unsafe and overcrowded board and care homes because they do not have enough money to pay for housing in the community. More than 640,000 people with disabilities are living at home with aging parents who worry where their adult child will live after they die.

Homelessness is an inevitable outcome of this problem, according to O'Hara.

"Today, we have hundreds of thousands of people with disabilities who are homeless and living in emergency shelters or on the streets because they cannot afford a place to live" she stated.

This study compares the monthly SSI income of more than 3.7 million Americans with disabilities to the fair market rental rates for efficiencies and modest one-bedroom apartments in every housing market in the country. The fair market rental rate is determined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

In 2002, the monthly income of a person with disability on federal Supplemental Security Income benefits was equal to \$545. That amount is equal to only 18 percent of the one-person median household income -- the lowest it has ever been.

"While the need is increasing, the number of affordable housing units available to people with disabilities is declining. That means that large segments of our communities are being forced to live in sub-standard housing or simply being pushed out of their homes altogether," noted Andrew Sperling from the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, who is a Co-Chair of the CCD Housing Task Force.

The report, which was funded by the Melville Charitable Trust, recommends that federal, state and local housing officials:

- Set-aside more affordable and accessible housing units specifically for people with disabilities;
- Restore cuts to federal housing programs that benefit people with disabilities
- Increase the production of new affordable housing units for the lowest income Americans, including people with disabilities.

The Consortium conducted two other earlier studies in 1998 and 2000, both of which also revealed a severe housing crisis.

"We cannot turn our backs on the poorest Americans in order to provide housing for higher income groups" concluded Ann O'Hara. "It is penny-wise and pound-foolish, because if people don't have decent housing they can afford, it costs us all more in the long run."

To obtain a copy of the study, visit www.tacinc.org or call 617/266-5657.

NLIHC Launches Legislative Action Center

The National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) has added a Legislative Action Center on their web page (www.nlihc.org). Visitors can enter their zip codes and receive help in contacting Congress about housing and other issues, including the National Housing Trust Fund. The Center allows visitors to check NLIHC’s legislative updates and alerts, key votes by Members of Congress, and learn the basics of communicating with Capitol Hill. In addition, there is a media guide that allows visitors to learn about the media in their area of the country. The Center can be accessed at www.nlihc.org.

Mayors Report TANF Concerns

Thirty-one mayors recently responded to a survey on the impact of welfare reform in their cities by the Brookings Institution’s Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy. Two-thirds of the mayors reported that the proportion of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients with substantial barriers to employment has increased in recent years. Following a lack of job skills, an individual’s poor health or a disability was the most frequently mentioned barrier to employment. The Mayors expressed concern over their cities’ capacity to meet the proposed increases in work requirements as outlined in the House TANF reauthorization bill. For more information, visit www.brookings.edu/es/urban/publications/wallermayors.pdf.

In My Opinion...

Cincinnati, Less Housing Segregation...the view from English Woods

Submitted by Georgine Getty, Greater Cincinnati Coalition for the Homeless, 1506 Elm Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45210; 513/421-7803 - phone; 513/421-7813 - fax; homelesscivilrights@yahoo.com.

Cincinnati is a segregated city and taking steps to change. However, we question rather this change is for the better. The majority of Cincinnati’s urban poor are comprised of African Americans. All of the people, including African American’s living in poverty, desire a choice of where to live. However, many want this choice to include remaining in the city instead of being forced to move into surrounding suburbs where there is no access to transportation, social services and affordable childcare. The voucher system currently offered by some Metropolitan Housing Authorities deny folks the option of remaining in the central city.

One example is the English Woods housing project. This community is rallying to have the option to remain in their concentrated urban housing. They do not want to be dispersed into the projected plan of all of the fifty- two communities of Cincinnati becoming two- thirds middle and upper income and one- third lower income housing. The English Woods Community Council states that they do not want to be dispersed because they feel supported by their community. At English Woods they have access to programming to help better their skills and education, they are near the bus line and the social service agencies that exist to assist them. They question whether these services will be available in the other communities.

The city has taken steps to create the aforementioned two- thirds to one- third ratio, by creating the Impaction Ordinance. This ordinance prevents affordable housing from being built in Cincinnati without setting up a way to provide more affordable housing elsewhere. As a result, eleven of the suburbs that the city hoped to have become a two- thirds, one- third community have already refused all federal funding to ensure that this does not happen. As a result, affordable housing in the city is disappearing in alarming numbers without a replacement rate that can possibly provide enough housing. So in this ill prepared shift to a “choice” in housing, what choice will people have other then to move to the streets and the shelters? The Greater Cincinnati Coalition for the Homeless (GCCH) would like to take more proactive steps to create a viable means to change the state of housing in Cincinnati. The GCCH would like to do this with other local organizations so that the city will not have to see an increase in homelessness in the attempts to decrease poverty concentration.

Resources

EVENTS

- June 19-20 - *IAMS Effective Planning for Nonprofits*, Center for Nonprofit Resources, Dayton. \$180-\$200. For more information, visit www.cnrohio.org.
- June 28 - July 1, *National Fair Housing Conference, National Fair Housing Alliance*. Includes sessions on all aspects of fair housing, including public-private initiatives, fair housing enforcement, predatory lending, education and outreach, mapping for fair housing and design. For more information, visit www.nationalfairhousing.org or call 202/898-1661.
- July 23-25 - *Introduction to Multi-Family Affordable Housing Development for Faith-Based and Community Based Organizations*, Ohio CDC Association, Columbus. For more information, contact Craig Spadafore at Ohio CDC Association at 614/461-6392 or at cspadafore@ohiocdc.org.
- July 29 - *Great Special Events Generate Great Results*, Center for Nonprofit Resources, Dayton. \$54-\$60. For more information, visit www.cnrohio.org.
- August 20 - *Taking the Plunge: Introduction to Micro Lending*, Ohio CDC Association, Columbus. For more information, contact Craig Spadafore at Ohio CDC Association at 614/461-6392 or at cspadafore@ohiocdc.org.
- *Financial Education: What Is It and What Makes It So Important?*, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. June 17 - Dayton; June 18 - Cincinnati; June 24 - Cleveland; and June 27 - Pittsburgh. For more information, call 216/579-2846.
- *Beyond Basic Skills: Intermediate Level Training in Affordable Housing Development and Finance*, Ohio CDC Association. June 24-26 - Advanced Techniques for Single Family New Construction; July 14-16 - Advanced Skills for Development and Finance of Multi-Family Housing; August 25-27 - Advanced Specification Writing in Affordable Housing; September 29-October 1 - Advanced Rehabilitation Construction Management; and October 28-30 - Advanced Development Strategies for Affordable Housing. For more information, contact Craig Spadafore at Ohio CDC Association at 614/461-6392 or at cspadafore@ohiocdc.org.
- *Building Doctor Clinics*. The Ohio Historic Preservation Office is offering two-day free clinics: June 26-27 - Germantown; July 10-11 - Bryan; July 31 - August 1 - Lynchburg; August 28-29 - Cincinnati; and October 23-24 - Centerville. The clinics are designed to help solve common old building problems and help owners make informed repair and improvement decisions. Old buildings are defined as structures built before 1950. Each clinic begins with a seminar about roof repair, window replacement, alterations, and additions. The next day the building doctors tour ailing buildings within five miles of the host community to examine problems and prescribe cures. Interested participants must register to attend a clinic or request a visit by the building doctors. Contact OHPO at 800/499-2470 or visit their web page at www.ohiohistory.org/resource/histpres/programs/builddocregistration.html.

PUBLICATIONS

- *National Directory of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Treatment Programs 2003, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)*. Provides information on over 11,500 public and private alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs. Available at 800/729-6686.
- *Paycheck to Paycheck: Wages and the Cost of Housing in America*, Center for Housing Policy. Study found that janitors and retail salespersons are among those who are unable to rent a one-bedroom apartment based on the accepted standard of 30 percent of their income. In addition, the annual salaries of other workers such as elementary school teachers, police officers, licensed practical nurses fall below what is necessary to qualify to purchase a median priced home. The findings are based on housing and wage data from 60 metropolitan areas across the U.S. Available at www.nhc.org/comm_and_pubs_paycheck01.htm.
- *Affordable Rental Housing and the American Dream: The Role for Foundations, Neighborhood Funders Group*. Intended to help grantmakers better understand affordable housing public policy issues and encourage strategic public and private investments in rental housing. For more information, visit www.nfg.org.
- *Punishing Poverty: The Criminalization of Homelessness, Litigation and Recommendations for Solutions*, National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty. Reports on the ordinances that different communities use to punish homeless people for eating, sleeping, and other activities in public spaces. Provides an update on the criminalization trends and most egregious incidents that have taken place since the publication of the last such report, *Illegal to be Homeless*, in January 2002 and provides an overview and summaries of 79 cases that have challenged such laws and practices. As alternatives to criminalization, the report highlights community approaches that are more constructive in ending homelessness in public spaces and makes further recommendations specific to city governments, business groups and the federal government. For more information contact Tara Skepkow at tslepkow@nlchp.org or 202/638-2535 or visit www.nlchp.org.
- Two publications from Consumers Union. *Consumers Union's Tips on Mobile Homes* is updated and aimed at consumers considering purchasing a manufactured home. Available at www.consumersunion.org/other/mh/tips.htm. *Raising the Roof, Raising the Floor: Raising Our Expectations for Manufactured Housing* is a critical overview of the manufactured housing market for the nonprofit housing practitioner. Available at www.consumersunion.org/other/mh/policy.htm.

Alliance Announces Ten Essentials Toolkit for Ending Homelessness

The National Alliance to End Homelessness has created an extensive toolkit for communities engaged in planning to end homelessness. The toolkit provides comprehensive resources for developing the ten essential elements of an effective permanent solution to prevent and end homelessness. For each of the ten essentials, the toolkit provides a basic rationale, program examples, and resources for further examination. In addition to these resources, the toolkit includes a checklist to guide communities through an effective plan development process, a primer on the housing first approach to linking families with permanent housing and services, and a copy of the original Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness, upon which the ten essentials were based. For more information on the Ten Essentials or to obtain a free copy of the Toolkit, visit www.endhomelessness.org/pub/toolkit.

Order Your Updated COHHIO Directory of Services

COHHIO's *Directory of Services*, a listing of non-profit housing organizations and homeless service providers in Ohio, is now available. The Directory is organized by county and lists over 900 programs that serve homeless Ohioans as well as provide housing and economic development opportunities for other low-income families and individuals. The Directory includes organizations that provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, health and mental health care, shelter for youth and victims of domestic violence, fair housing counseling, housing development expertise and permanent housing.

If you are interested in purchasing a copy of the COHHIO Directory of Services, please complete the order form below and return with payment to COHHIO.

Please send me _____ copy/copies of the Directory of Services at \$15.00 per copy or \$35.00 for three copies (cost includes handling and postage).

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Send Directory To:

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Please make checks payable to COHHIO, and mail with this form to: 35 East Gay Street, Suite 210, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3138; (614) 280-1984. Federal Identification No.: 31-1189029

Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio Membership

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Individual: _____ \$35 (Regular) _____ \$75 (Benefactor) _____ \$250 (Sustainer)

_____ \$10 (Low-Income) _____ Fee Waiver Requested

Agency (according to budget):

_____ \$35 (\$100,000 or less) _____ \$75 (\$100,001 - \$250,000)

_____ \$125 (\$250,001 - \$500,000) _____ \$200 (\$500,001 - \$1 million)

_____ \$250 (\$1 million-\$1.5 million) _____ \$300 (over \$1.5 million)

Please send your tax deductible check to COHHIO at 35 E. Gay St, Ste. 210, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Thank you for your support!

How to Contact...

NATIONAL

National Alliance to End Homelessness: www.endhomelessness.org
National Coalition for the Homeless: www.nationalhomeless.org
National Community Reinvestment Coalition: www.ncrc.org
National Low Income Housing Coalition: www.nlihc.org

President Bush - 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500; 202/456-1414; 202/456-2461 (fax); president@whitehouse.gov

Senators Voinovich & DeWine - United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510
Voinovich - 202/224-3353; 202/228-1382 (fax); voinovich@voinovich.senate.gov
DeWine - 202/224-2315; 202/224-6519 (fax); senator_dewine@dewine.senate.gov

Representatives - United States House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515; 202/224-3121

STATE

Governor Taft - 77 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215; 614/466-3555; 614/466-9354 (fax)

Ohio Senate - State House, Columbus, Ohio 43266-0604; 614/644-5466 (fax-R); 614/644-1982 (fax - D)

Ohio House of Representatives - 77 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215; 614/644-9494 (fax)

UPDATED - Legislative Directories are available by contacting us: COHHIO - 35 East Gay Street, Suite 210, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3138; 614/280-1984; 614/463-1060 (fax); www.cohhio.org.

COHHIO Staff

Bill Faith, Executive Director - billfaith@cohhio.org
Rebecca Bartholomew, AmeriCorps Program Coordinator - rebecca@cohhio.org
Sofia Burd, OTAG VISTA - sofiaburd@cohhio.org
Susan Francis, Communications and Development Coordinator - susanfrancis@cohhio.org
Gwen Garth, AmeriCorps Leader - gwengarth@cohhio.org
Alfred Jones, YEP Youth Advocate - alfredjones@cohhio.org
Cathy Johnston, Special Projects and Advocacy Coordinator - cathyjohnston@cohhio.org
Angela Lariviere, Youth Empowerment Coordinator- angelalariviere@cohhio.org
Mary Scott, AmeriCorps Program Support Administrator - maryscott@cohhio.org
Rick Taylor, Managing Director - ricktaylor@cohhio.org
Ande Ucubagabriel, Finance Director - andeucubagabriel@cohhio.org
Spencer Wells, Tenant Outreach Coordinator - spencerwells@cohhio.org
Jeannette Welsh, Housing + Services Coordinator - jeannetewelsh@cohhio.org
Joy Willis, Administrative Assistant - joywillis@cohhio.org

35 East Gay Street, Suite 210, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3138
614/280-1984; 614/463-1060 (fax)
cohhio@cohhio.org; www.cohhio.org

Newsletter of the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO)
June 2003 • Volume 8 • Issue 5. Editor: Susan Francis

COHHIO is a coalition of organizations and individuals committed to ending homelessness and to promoting decent, safe, fair, affordable housing for all, with a focus on assisting low-income people and those with special needs.