

Open for Bid: Family Emergency Shelter Provision

The number of families experiencing homelessness has surpassed the available resources. The family system has been in overflow for the past three years, at recent times serving more than 120 families a night. CSB provides 100% of the costs for family overflow, which could reach \$1.5M this fiscal year. Providers have been working hard to meet the need and have joined with CSB to test various strategies to best accommodate the volume. It's clear that a second family shelter is needed so that all families experiencing homelessness can be sheltered in an appropriate way.

CSB will build out permanent space for sheltering families at the new shelter building on Van Buren Drive. CSB is accepting proposals for the provision of family emergency shelter services at the Van Buren shelter building. The services will include safe and decent shelter, housing placement, housing advocacy, transportation services, and linkages to other community services as needed such as employment and benefits, and physical and behavioral healthcare.

The [request for proposals and an application for funding](#) can be found on CSB's website. **The deadline for all submissions is 5:00 pm on April 21, 2014.** A provider will be selected by early July and the contract will be in place by early August.

Any questions about the program or the application process can be directed to Yolande Hall, Grants Administrator, yhall@csb.org.

Proposals due

**APRIL
21**

[FROM HOMELESS TO HOME] A NEW SYSTEM FOR SINGLE ADULTS

Work Underway to Launch New System for Single Adults

Navigator Pilot

It has been six months since Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio launched a pilot navigator team to test a centralized case management approach as part of the new crisis response system for single adults. In this innovative approach, Lutheran Social Services case managers – called navigators – link with a person when they enter a homeless shelter and work with them throughout their stay. During this time individuals experiencing homelessness are linked to employment and job training, support services, medical care, ongoing community mental health services and housing resources focused on ending the homeless crisis as quickly as possible. Paramount to the approach is the navigator's ability

to continue to work with individuals after they are housed in order to provide needed supports to ensure stability.

Lutheran Social Services reports serving over 150 individuals so far. These individuals were sheltered at Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio's men's shelter and Southeast, Inc.'s Rebecca's Place women's shelter. The three agencies working in this program continue to focus on maintaining communication between the navigator team and the shelter staff in order to best meet the needs of the individuals they are serving. Client satisfaction surveys have yielded positive results as clients continue to remain interested and engaged in the pilot program. CSB facilitates a monthly navigator operations workgroup to provide a formalized method to obtain feedback from the navigator team provider and pilot sites in order to address continuous quality improvement strategies of the new service delivery model. The pilot is scheduled to run until September 2014.

CSB issued a competitive request for proposals to find a provider or collaboration of providers for implementation of the navigator program across all single adult shelters. CSB will select a provider by early-May 2014 with a contract in place by July 1. The program will operate beginning October 1, 2014.

Shelter progress continues



Ruscilli Construction is renovating the building that will house several shelters.

Renovations to the new shelter building on Van Buren Drive are well underway by Ruscilli Construction and the interior space is beginning to take shape. Outdoor spaces will be improved as well, thanks to the [Harmony Project](#), who will install a meditation garden in April, in partnership with MKSK.

The anticipated opening date is early August. In the meantime, shelter operators are meeting monthly to develop detailed operational and staffing plans. A dedication ceremony is being planned for this summer.

[CRISIS RESPONSE]

Winter Overflow Beds Removed

Single adult shelter providers are ramping down the additional beds that were added during the winter. Through attrition, Lutheran Social Services has begun closing their 100 overflow beds, while the YMCA wrapped-up their provision of overflow services, with a capacity of 90, at the end of March.

CSB thanks HandsOn Central Ohio, Maryhaven, Lutheran Social Services/Faith Mission, Southeast/Friends of the Homeless, Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio and YMCA of Central Ohio. Together these providers stretched their capacities and worked extended hours to help ensure anyone staying outside had access to shelter during the extremely frigid and dangerous temperatures.

Although shelter capacity is decreasing after the winter expansion, the need for shelter for persons experiencing homelessness in our community has not declined proportionately. Family overflow costs have strained the entire homeless system, leaving no resources to address current overflow among single adults. Until the new shelter building on Van Buren drive is fully operational, single adults in need of shelter will be placed on waitlists when all shelter beds are full. The new shelter building will begin a phased opening schedule in August 2014. Once fully operational, the shelter will provide a flexible capacity to make sure everyone who needs shelter is able to get it. Single adults in need of shelter should continue to contact the coordinated point of access: 1-888-4SHELTR.

[TRANSITION]

Franklin Station

Franklin Station, a supportive housing community that will replace Sunshine Terrace in Franklinton, is scheduled to open in mid-May. Franklin Station will offer 100 permanent supportive housing units to single adults and couples presenting with a certified disability. 75 units will be targeted to people who have experienced long-term or repeated homelessness.

Community Properties of Ohio manages the property, the YMCA will provide on-site supportive services, and Southeast will provide on-site primary and behavioral health care. Southeast's health care services will also be available to residents of the surrounding community.

The Unified Supportive Housing System at CSB is handling lease-up of the Franklin Station units. USHS is a collaborative effort between the ADAMH Board of Franklin County, the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority and CSB. These partners work together with other agencies in the community including health, housing, shelter, and outreach providers. For more information, contact Isolde Teba, USHS Project Manager at iteba@csb.org or 614-221-9195 x127.

HUD Announces Funding Awards for Homeless Programs

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced a funding award of approximately \$9.2 million in renewal funds to assist homeless programs in Columbus and Franklin County. These funds represent the major source of federal assistance to meet the housing and supportive service needs of people experiencing homelessness. The Continuum of Care grant will provide funding for 33 renewal projects in Columbus and Franklin County. Also included in the 2013 Continuum of Care application submission was one proposal for a new project – Van Buren Village, a new supportive housing community being developed by Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio. HUD anticipates announcing new project awards in the coming weeks.

[GATEWAY]

Applications Under Review

The Gateway process for the upcoming fiscal year is underway, and all FY15 Gateway applications are under review. Spring 1-on-1 meetings with each provider agency are scheduled to take place in mid-April and early May. The meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss each agency's FY15 Gateway application and opportunities for continual quality improvement. Any questions or concerns about the Gateway process should be directed to Yolande Hall, Grants Administrator, at yhall@csb.org or 614-221-9195 x109.

[IN THE SPOTLIGHT]

In the spotlight

CSB is honored to be named one of “5 Nonprofits to Watch” in 2014 by The Columbus Foundation. “The 2014 ‘5 Nonprofits to Watch’ are scaled for impact and growth,” said Douglas F. Kridler, president and CEO of The Columbus Foundation. “Every one of them will have a substantial impact on our community’s progress and quality of life.”



CSB was recognized for its collective work with the community to address an unprecedented need for shelter and for making significant improvements to the adult homeless system, purchasing a building to make more shelter beds available, and gearing up for an unparalleled fundraising campaign.

Poverty Summit

Michelle Heritage joined leaders from the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority, Franklin County Job and Family Services and the Ohio State University on an expert panel about poverty during a community summit hosted by IMPACT Community Action on April 3. The candid community conversation explored the topics of homelessness, workforce development, livable wages and education. Read the [Columbus Dispatch article](#) for more details.



IMPACT
Community Action
2014 Poverty Summit

Happy Birthday



Clara asked her friends to donate to the Community Shelter Board rather than bring traditional gifts to her 9th birthday party. She raised \$200. Thank you, Clara, and happy birthday!

[STAFFING UPDATE]

Development & Communications Associate

CSB is pleased to introduce Deanna Wright as its new Development and Communications Associate. In her part-time role, Deanna manages CSB's donor database, gift acknowledgement system and web site.



Deanna Wright
Development & Communications
Associate

Homeless sensitivity training

CSB staff participated in homeless sensitivity training on March 18, provided by Michael Tynan. The training focused on understanding the strengths, challenges and day-to-day experiences of homelessness in order to enhance strategic planning and service provision. Mike's career in the homelessness and housing field spans 24 years. He is the retired Director of Housing Services for Community Housing Network, was the founding manager of the Engagement Center at Maryhaven, and is past Chair of the Columbus Coalition for the Homeless.