

[RESOURCE GENERATION]

Lift Every Voice: A Concert to End Homelessness

The Harmony Project concert – *“Lift Every Voice: A Concert to End Homelessness”* – on May 12 was an inspiring evening for the 2,000 people in attendance. We congratulate The Unison Choir, formed of previously homeless individuals living at Commons at Grant and Commons at Buckingham; they were an excellent addition to the choir. As the beneficiary, CSB was able to highlight our mission to end homelessness in Columbus and Franklin County. Thanks to the Harmony Project for the way they sing, serve and share.



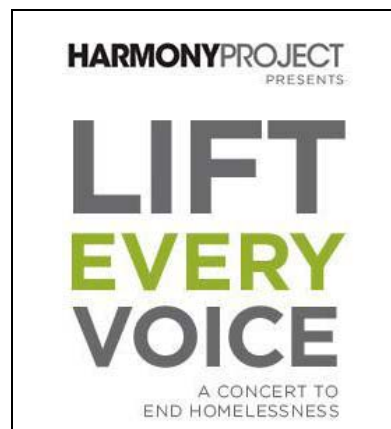
Michelle Heritage and Franklin County Commissioner Marilyn Brown



Members of the Unison Choir and staff from National Church Residences



David Brown of the Harmony Project and Michelle Heritage



Shelters to Receive City Funds for Capital Improvements

We are pleased to announce that \$250,000 in funding has been made available from the City of Columbus, as part of the 2011 Capital Improvements Budget, to provide funding for the rehabilitation or renovation of emergency shelters. The funds are available for repair, renovation, or improvement of existing emergency shelters serving homeless persons. The deadline to submit an application for the Emergency Shelter Rehabilitation request for proposal is 5:00 pm on May 27. Details can be found [here](#). Please contact CSB Grants Administrator Noel Welsh at (614) 221-9195 or nwelsh@csb.org with any additional questions.

HUD Announces Funding Awards for New Homeless Programs

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will be releasing \$216 million to assist nearly 700 new homeless programs across the country. Columbus and Franklin County were awarded \$424,210 for National Church Residences' Commons at Third, which will provide 100 units of permanent supportive housing for single adults. Sixty of these units are dedicated to persons who have experienced long-term homelessness.

[HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION & RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM]

Stimulus Dollars Must be Spent

CSB is carefully tracking the expenditure of federal stimulus dollars through the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program – HPRP. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires that 60% of HPRP funds be spent by 7/31/2011. So far, our community has spent 54% of State HPRP funds, 49% of County HPRP funds, and 41% of City HPRP funds. Only 3 months remain to meet the 60% spend-down requirement. These funds are to be used only for prevention and rapid re-housing related services for families and individuals at risk of homelessness or currently homeless. All programs that were initiated due to the availability of the HPRP funds are now operational.

[ADVOCACY]

Good News Follows Release of 2011 Budget by Congress

After a long, tedious debate, the budget for the 2011 fiscal year is finalized. The funding bill is one for the history books, as its contents include the largest non-defense spending cuts in American history. As partisan debate rambled and kept millions of Americans in suspense, House and Senate leaders announced their agreement with a final compromise of \$40 billion dollars in cuts to programs and agencies across the board. Both Republicans and Democrats sacrificed and negotiated to a final working budget.

Though substantial cuts were made, and with good reason, we are pleased that McKinney-Vento programs including the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) and Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) programs both received an INCREASE in funding. The increase is not the amount that was hoped for, but we are grateful for the amount we did receive when so many social programs across the board lost substantial funding.

Thanks to this increase in funding, more than 60,000 additional people will be assisted this year nationally. However, this is only a dent in the work that still needs to be done. We still need additional funding for McKinney-Vento programs in order to effectively implement the HEARTH Act passed in 2009. Though the current increase in funding is crucial as we move forward, we will need substantial growth in the upcoming years.

[CRISIS RESPONSE]

System-wide practice changes aimed at reducing length of stay in shelter

CSB is gearing up to implement system-wide practice changes intended to decrease lengths of stay in adult shelters. At the end of the overflow season, we are already experiencing a waiting list for shelter directly related to capacity issues caused by longer lengths of stay. Because of this, we are making changes to the certification standards and the funding structure to decrease lengths of stay and increase positive housing outcomes.

- ⟨ The certification standards for FY12 are being changed to require 1) goal plans with clients that must be finalized within 5 days of entry to shelter, and 2) a client will have 30 days to show some progress on their goal plan or be exited from shelter.
- ⟨ Performance-based funding will be implemented in FY12 for single adult shelters. A portion of each shelter provider's funding will be dependent on meeting a 30-day average length of stay and 25% successful housing outcomes.

These changes were discussed with partner agencies during Gateway meetings in April.

Out-of-County residents in shelters

CSB has seen a trend upward over the last 3 years of non-Franklin County residents using our shelters in the adult single system. This is an issue that warrants careful consideration, especially during a time of high demand for shelter services in our community. We are concerned about making sure critical safety net services are available for Franklin County residents. Michelle Heritage has formed an ad hoc committee to strategize a policy decision on this issue, with representatives from the City of Columbus, Franklin County, ADAMH, Affordable Housing Trust, The Columbus Foundation, Southeast and Veterans Service Commission.

Collaborative Outreach Services Put Out for Bid

The Rebuilding Lives plan calls for a new, collaborative system of outreach to persons who are not accessing shelter. Our community needs a collaborative service delivery system that allows for coordination of outreach services to ensure optimum efficiency.

CSB released a competitive request for proposals and received applications from three agencies. An ad hoc committee with representatives from the City, providers and homeless advocates reviewed the proposals and will make a recommendation for consideration by CSB's Board of Trustees in May.

Winter Overflow Plans Underway for Next Season

CSB requested proposals for the provision of winter overflow services for the 2011 – 2012 overflow season. The YMCA of Central Ohio submitted an application to provide management and staffing of the process for single adult men for the upcoming season. The YMCA and CSB are currently in discussions to develop plans for the implementation of critical overflow services. CSB is continuing discussions with providers for the provision of overflow services for single adult women.

[GATEWAY]

Gateway Update

CSB staff has now completed all spring meetings with our partner agencies. As a result, the Gateway application process is complete and all FY12 funding awards will be presented for approval by CSB's Board of Trustees at its May 24 meeting. Once approved, CSB staff will promptly issue new partnership agreements to all our partners.

We thank all of our partners for making the application process as smooth as possible this year. We appreciate your hard work and patience.

[IN THE SPOTLIGHT]

Appointed to Community Research Partners

Michelle Heritage was recently been appointed by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to serve on Community Research Partners' Board of Trustees.

United Way Excellence Award

CSB's staff was honored with an Excellence Award from United Way of Central Ohio, recognizing employee volunteerism. We are thrilled to be recognized for giving back to the community through volunteer service at various programs. Our staff members participate in many service and philanthropy activities – some that relate directly to CSB's mission and some that are meaningful to employees during their free time. Our 20 employees are currently volunteering their time for 14 different community causes, including homelessness, diversity, and the arts, among others.

We have proudly held an employee giving campaign every year for the past 15 years. We have a long-standing tradition of having 100% employee participation in these giving campaigns. Over the last 15 years, our employees have given over \$92,000.



Model Program Visits

Michelle Heritage was invited to present at a Seattle/King County, Washington strategic planning charrette on April 25. Her presentation focused on performance measures and accountability in homeless services planning. While in Seattle, she was able to visit and tour several programs including a women's referral center, several transitional age youth programs and a large men's shelter.

On April 15, Michelle joined Franklin County Commissioner Marilyn Brown and Ohio Supreme Court Justice Yvette McGee Brown for a trip to Dayton to tour Daybreak, a homeless program for transitional age youth.

Tours

In April, CSB co-hosted a tour with National Church Residences of Commons at Buckingham for Steve and Cindy Rasmussen, Lynn Greenstein, Larry Hilsheimer and Chad Jester from Nationwide. In preparation for the 2011 Together Rebuilding Lives event, we provided a tour for Grange Insurance and PNC Bank in early May. Tom Welch and Mark Russell visited the YWCA Family Center and Community Housing Network's East Fifth Avenue apartments. Mike Gonsiorowski and Pat Cash toured the YWCA Family Center and National Church Residence's Commons at Buckingham.

[STAFF UPDATE]

Our Help with Operation Feed

Operation Feed is an initiative led by the Mid-Ohio Foodbank that joins forces with local organizations to raise food and funds to aid individuals and families in need. To aid in the efforts of this noteworthy cause, CSB partnered with the Mid-Ohio Foodbank to help raise funds. The Foodbank set a goal for CSB staff to raise funds for 1,320 meals. We were able to surpass this goal, raising funds for 2,000 meals. In total that comes to 92 meals raised per staff member. Big thanks to Melanie Woodrum for organizing an engaging, fun and very successful campaign.

Housing Inspector

Mike Boothe joined CSB as its new Housing Inspector in April. With knowledge of federal standards regarding housing habitability and rent reasonableness, Mike will ensure appropriate housing for recipients of CSB-funded services. Mike gained housing inspection experience at 1st Inspection Services, the Brickkicker, and as an independent contractor.



Finance Administrator

After 6 years of service, Tina Rowe has tendered her resignation as CSB's Finance Administrator and will join the City of Cincinnati. We appreciate the many contributions she made during her tenure and wish her all the best.

Resumes are being accepted for the Finance Administrator position. We are looking for candidates with knowledge of not-for-profit accounting, budgeting, and finance. See the [position description](#) for more information.

Upcoming Meetings

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

Enclosure

- ⟨ Finance Administrator posting
- ⟨ System & Program Indicator Report, FY2011 Q3