

Exhibit 3

Homeless Services in Cuyahoga County

An Overview of Needs, Services, Trends and Funding

Advisory Board of the City of Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services

July, 2010

Introduction

Cuyahoga County and its public and non-profit partners provide homeless individuals and families with a wide range of housing-focused services: from outreach to permanent housing. Recent economic changes make this mission a community priority.

Priorities: Cuyahoga County is refocusing its priorities from creating and sustaining shelter beds to **preventing homelessness and providing permanent housing**. This change has dramatic impact upon costs. Not only are shelters and transitional programs costly, but homeless persons use the most expensive elements of the health and human services system. Once homeless persons are housed, however, their housing costs and their use of expensive emergency services drop sharply.

Funding: The City of Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services (budget \$400,000) coordinates nearly \$31million in public funding (details p.3).

Who are the Homeless?

6,066 persons were served by Cuyahoga County Homeless Service System in '09:

- 1,380 People in Families (471 adults, 909 children)
- 4,686 Singles

Women & Families

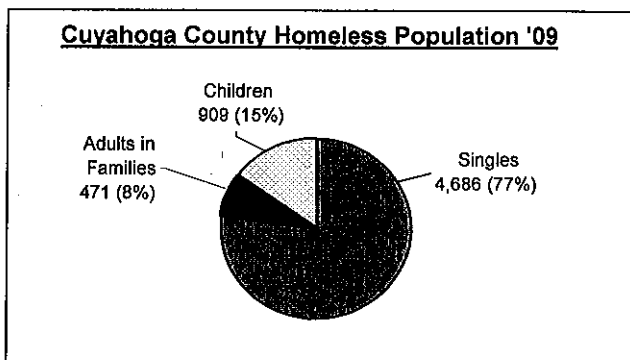
- 29% of single homeless people are women
- 22% of homeless *persons* are part of a family (9% of homeless *households* are families)
- Many other families are "doubled up" temporarily with family or friends, or move from place to place.

Ethnicity

- 14% White
- 72% African American
- 3% Hispanic
- 4% Several Ethnicities
- 7% Unknown

Special needs

- Disability: Over 50% of single homeless adults self-report as having a disability or special need: - Mental illness, - Alcohol or Drug Addiction, - Physical Disability, - HIV/AIDS, - Domestic Violence
- Veterans: Approximately 20% of homeless persons are veterans.
- Chronically Homeless: 25% of those who are homeless are long-term, or "Chronically Homeless". These individuals have been homeless for more than a year, or multiple times over several years.



Cuyahoga County Homeless System of Services

The Office of Homeless Services (OHS) was created in 1992 by Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland. OHS coordinates the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Continuum of Care, to develop a coordinated and comprehensive long-term approach to homelessness. Continuum providers plan, organize and deliver housing and services to either prevent homelessness or to assist people during homelessness and facilitate their move to stable housing.

The Office of Homeless Services has an Advisory Board made up community representatives, service providers, advocates and consumers that offers recommendations and support to OHS.

Continuum of Care

Services range from street outreach to permanent housing, provided by an array of private organizations and faith communities. Key components include:

Homelessness Prevention

There are about 12,000 evictions each year in Cuyahoga County. The following services prevent homelessness or divert households away from shelter:

- Short-term rental and utility arrearages assistance to prevent imminent eviction
- Foreclosure prevention mortgage assistance
- Security deposits or first month's rent to help homeless families move to apartments
- Mediation programs to resolve landlord-tenant disputes and avoid evictions
- Legal services to assist indigent tenants in eviction proceedings
- Other innovative programs to prevent homelessness

Emergency Shelter

Facilities with temporary overnight sleeping accommodations and case management, with stays of less than 90 days. Shelters may be for the homeless in general or for specific populations of individuals and families.

Transitional Housing

Housing and supportive services provided for up to 24 months with the goal of preparing homeless individuals or families for independent living.

Permanent Supportive Housing

Long-term community based housing and supportive services for homeless persons with disabilities.

Public Housing

CMHA owns and manages property and administers rent subsidy programs to provide eligible low-income persons with safe, affordable housing. Other CMHA services include assistance with employment and other training needs and home ownership opportunities for qualified families.

Housing Choice Voucher Program

Housing Choice vouchers (formerly "Section 8 Program") from federal government may be used to subsidize rent in tenant selected private housing.

Permanent Housing

These programs assist eligible individuals and families to secure permanent homes through home ownership.

Evolving Service Trends

Prominent changes in federal funding are driving change locally. New approaches draw upon *national best practices* aimed at reducing the occurrence and duration of homelessness. Cuyahoga County is working to create a system-wide approach to make these changes, lower the shelter census, and ultimately end homelessness in our community.

Housing First

- The Housing First model rapidly provides permanent housing and supportive services to avoid shelter entry or dramatically reduce shelter stays for homeless singles and families.
- The model looks primarily to community resources, rather than the homeless service system, to address the non-housing needs of homeless individuals.

HPRP: Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing

- Federal Stimulus funding has allowed Cuyahoga County to organize and fund an extensive Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program. The HPRP program prevents persons from becoming homeless, and helps those in shelters to quickly access permanent housing.

“Upstream” Investment

- Upstream investment in prevention saves money and helps reduce suffering. Those at risk of homelessness are frequent users of public systems of care, including mental health, public health, welfare, veterans, criminal justice, and child protective services. Homeless service providers become responsible for these individuals by default, when other systems shift the responsibility to serve them to these underfunded programs. (eg., releasing individuals from long-term incarceration with no housing plan or funds.)

HUD HEARTH Act

- This new Act represents the **most significant change in federal homeless policy in 20 years**. New tools and incentives for systems-change emphasize prevention, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing. Future federal funding depends on individual provider and system-wide success. To maximize funding, Cuyahoga County must forge collaborative planning for a system-wide approach to leverage resources and cooperation among agencies, government, and the community.

Annual Public Funding Streams*

- The City of Cleveland/Cuyahoga Office of Homeless Services (budget \$400,000) coordinates almost \$31 million in public funding for homeless services.

City of Cleveland	Cleveland	Metropolitan State	Metropolitan State	Permanent Programs	Other
\$1.5 million	\$2 million	\$4.5 million	\$9.5 million	\$15 million	\$12.5 million
<p><u>Federal:</u> HUD McKinney Vento funds, Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA), ADAMHS Board (also funded in part by state and county)</p> <p><u>County:</u> Levy</p>	<p><u>Federal:</u> Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing (HPRP); Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF)</p>	<p><u>Federal:</u> Emergency Shelter Grant to City of Cleveland; FEMA; McKinney Vento funding</p> <p><u>State:</u> Ohio Department of Development/ Housing Trust Fund</p> <p><u>County:</u> Levy (funds 3 shelters)</p>	<p><u>Federal:</u> McKinney Vento funds</p> <p><u>State:</u> Ohio Department of Development/ Housing Trust Fund</p> <p><u>County:</u> Levy (funds 1 transitional housing program)</p>	<p><u>Federal:</u> McKinney Vento, Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Admin. (SAMSHA), Medicaid, Home Loan Bank, tax credits</p> <p><u>State:</u> Ohio Department of Development, Housing Trust Fund</p> <p><u>County:</u> Department of Development</p> <p><u>City:</u> CDBG City Home Funding</p>	<p><u>Federal:</u> Medicaid health care for the homeless; Veterans services; HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People with Aids)</p>
	1,500 households	1,122 households (at a time)	868 households (at a time)	2,652 households	

*Totals exclude veteran service funding

- Federal stimulus funding of \$14.5 million received for 2009-2012 to fund Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Project (HPRP).
- County levy funds 3 large emergency shelters and 1 transitional shelter

Additional Resources

- Cleveland/Cuyahoga Office of Homeless Services (216) 420-6844 www.ohs.cuyahogacounty.us
- Coalition on Housing & Homelessness in Ohio (COHHIO) www.cohhio.org
- National Alliance to End Homelessness www.endhomelessness.org