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Springfield Bureau Serves Youth

Housing and Urban Development Program

The HUD program for homeless youth at the Youth Service Bureau (YSB), provides services to homeless adolescents, including transitional shelter. Our goal is to provide youth with safe, stable shelter, and services that produce a successful transition to independence and permanent housing. It has been our experience that most young adults are not capable of successfully making the transition from temporary shelter to an independent living situation without supportive services.

Rapid Exit Program

Hennepin County, Minnesota

Hennepin County is a state and national leader in developing new tools to rapidly re-house families and individuals experiencing homelessness. The Rapid Exit Program is an innovative program that facilitates rapid re-housing by relying on early identification and resolution of a family’s or individual’s “housing barriers” and providing the assistance necessary to facilitate their return to permanent housing. Based on the assessment of a family or individual’s housing barriers, a referral is made to a subcontracting agency best able to respond to the client’s housing needs. This approach puts “housing” at the front and center of efforts to help people experiencing homelessness, prioritizing the rapid return to housing and providing the assistance necessary to achieve housing stability.

Target Population

The target population of the Rapid Exit Program is those families and individuals who have moderate to severe housing needs. Another means of accessing the program is through self-referral.

The HUD program will serve youth that are not wards of the state, male and female, ages 13 to 24.

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The Illinois Community Action Association has published the Homeless Headlines and the Homeless Hotline since 1991 under contract with the Illinois Department of Human Services.

For a free subscription, contact:
Illinois Community Action Association
3435 Liberty Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62704
Telephone: (217) 789-0125
Fax: (217) 789-0139
www.icaanet.org

CRN Fact Book
Print/Online

The Community Rehab Network’s Affordable Housing Fact Book is available in print and on the web. The Fact Book collects detailed demographic and housing data for Chicago wards and community areas. It also includes data for counties and municipalities throughout the state of Illinois.

In Print

The print edition of the Fact Book comes in three volumes. Volume One provides an overview, with illustrated essays mapping trends in Chicago and Illinois. Volume Two includes detailed fact sheets for community areas and wards in Chicago; Volume Three includes fact sheets for counties and municipalities in Illinois.

Factbook Online: Basic Access

Select fact sheets and maps from the Affordable Housing Fact Book are available on this Web site free of charge. Additionally, each month, new data, maps and analyses will be introduced through our upcoming Factbook Updates section, before being added to the Fact Book Query Builder. To register for basic access, go to www.chicagorehab.org/crn/registration/register.aspx. A preview of the Fact Book Query Builder is also available.

Preservation Database

Registered Fact Book users can also access CRN’s Preservation Database. If you are already a registered user of CRN’s Preservation Database, use your existing log-on information for Factbook Basic Access sections of the site (see above). (You can also keep the same log-on information if you pay to upgrade your registration for Full Access to the Fact Book web-site.)

For further information, call (312) 663-3936.

Rapid Exit

severe barriers to obtaining market housing and are currently residing in the county funded shelter.

Program Description

Within one week of entry to the county funded shelter, the family or individual is referred to a Rapid Exit Coordinator for a housing barrier assessment. The assessments incorporate a locally developed scale that reflects client characteristics and challenges that make local landlords reluctant to rent to a family or otherwise make locating housing difficult. To facilitate client disclosure, the Rapid Exit Coordinator services are sub-contracted to a private, non-profit agency to which the client can feel more comfortable sharing information. The Rapid Exit Coordinator also does criminal, credit and housing checks on the clients that are also likely to be done by prospective landlords.

Based on the assessment conducted by the Rapid Exit Coordinator, the individual or family is referred to one of the agencies Hennepin County has contracted with to provide clients with individualized assistance to locate and secure housing or provide transitional housing. Non-contracted agencies will also accept referrals from the Rapid Exit Coordinator.

The contract agencies will provide individualized assistance to secure and feasible housing. Such assistance may include:

- Direct financial assistance for application fees, deposits and other household “start up” costs.
- Direct financial assistance to resolve other barriers to housing is provided as part of a pilot project and includes activities such as resolving outstanding debt.
- Legal assistance.
- Case management to resolve personal issues that are, or may become, barriers to achieving housing stability.
- Assistance securing furniture and food.

Book data, including data not published in the print version. To purchase the Affordable Housing Fact Book, or to register for Premium Access to the Fact Book Query Builder, go to www.chicagorehab.org/crn/registration/register.aspx. A preview of the Fact Book Query Builder is also available.

Preservation Database

Registered Fact Book users can also access CRN’s Preservation Database. If you are already a registered user of CRN’s Preservation Database, use your existing log-on information for Factbook Basic Access sections of the site (see above). (You can also keep the same log-on information if you pay to upgrade your registration for Full Access to the Fact Book web-site.)

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(Continued from page 1)

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- Assistance securing furniture and food.

(Continued on page 5)
According to an article in the most recent issue of Housing Policy Debate (Volume 16, Issue 1), the public housing “transformation” that has taken place over the last decade, led primarily by the HOPE VI program has “largely failed to address the complex needs of the hard-to-house residents who have relied on public housing as a source of stable, if less than ideal, housing.” The article, by Susan J. Popkin, Mary K. Cunningham, and Martha Burt of the Urban Institute, is based on ongoing research tracking the impact of the HOPE VI program on residents.

The article defines six general groups of the “hard-to-house” from their studies: grandfamilies; households with disabled members; elderly households; large families; families whose members have criminal records; and families with drug or alcohol abuse, education and other problems, so-called multiple barrier families.

The authors argue that these families are either unlikely to qualify or to find an appropriate unit in HOPE VI redevelopments. At the same time, they say, not only was the primary relocation program, the Housing Choice Voucher program, “not designed to serve the neediest families and assumes that participants can negotiate the private market and understand complex program rules” but even when large families, those with criminal records, the elderly, and the disabled are capable of negotiating the system they often can not find a suitable unit in the private market.

The authors suggest a greater commitment to search assistance and postmove support, and counseling for one-strike households. They also

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Youth

(Continued from page 1)

female, all races, low income, between the ages of sixteen and eighteen who are homeless. Eligible youth include those who have been locked out of their homes and cannot be reunited with their families.

In addition to safe shelter, the program will address:

- Individual counseling
- Drug and alcohol assessments
- Tutoring for GED and High School Diplomas
- Training in obtaining and maintaining employment
- Money management
- Basic housekeeping
- Independent living skills
- Linkage and referrals with community resources

Transitional Living Program

The target population of the YSB Transitional Living Program (TLP) is homeless youth between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one, and/or youth under the age of eighteen who are pregnant and parenting. These youth under the age of eighteen and their children will reside at the YSB group home and will be provided with services to address their individual needs.

Homeless is defined as having no legal domicile and/or residing on the street or in an unsafe living environment. Youth will be eligible for transitional living services for up to eighteen months or until their 21st birthday.

Services

The program addresses the needs of the older homeless adolescent and the young adult. The goal of this program is to enable homeless youth to become self-sufficient and to reduce their long-term dependency on public social services. The Program accomplishes these goals by providing eligible participants with

- Safe, stable shelter, services aimed at developing the practical and personal skills needed to live independently,
- Education, information and counseling to prevent, treat or reduce substance abuse,
- Referral and access to medical and mental health services, and
- Training and preparation for obtaining and maintaining employment.

The program provides a cluster of comprehensive services designed to educate and train youth in the skills they will need to live independently. These services include weekly individual and group counseling. The group modules include daily living skills, transportation, community access, consumer skills, cooking, job search skills and good work habits.

The content for individual and group work includes:

- Basic life skills - apartment living, cooking, nutrition, consumer education, budgeting, paying rent and utilities, household maintenance and home safety
- Job preparation and attainment
- Emotional issues - conflict resolution, dealing with isolation, loneliness,
Homeless Headlines

Rapid Exit
(Continued from page 1)

assessment and need to reestablish a stable rental history.

Provision of follow-up case management and referral to stabilize families in their homes following rapid reentry to permanent housing.

With a metropolitan housing vacancy rate under 1 percent, the county and contracting agencies are attempting to find innovative ways to seek and retain affordable housing. Such efforts to expand the supply of housing for very low income and homeless people include:

Intervening to keep housing units affordable when housing developments for low income people are sold to a new owner.

Advocacy to promote the “usability” of Section 8 vouchers by reducing landlord disincentives to entering the program.

Providing dedicated staff time to locating potential housing units and developing an on-going relationship with landlords and responsible landlord association groups in their area.

Paying double security deposits for those with poor rental history.

Providing landlords up front Unlawful Detainer/Eviction costs deposits so the landlord will not absorb all of the risk.

Co-signing leases.

Paying holding fees, a new fee to keep an apartment available while the landlord considers the application of the “troubled” tenant, sometimes refundable, sometimes not.

Remaining responsive and committed to provide on-going case management intervention with the client and assist the landlord in resolving issues that places the client’s housing in jeopardy.

Source of Funding

Minnesota Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) funds were instrumental in the development of the Rapid Exit Program. It continues to fund the Rapid Exit Coordinator and is used to provide the on-going case management and services that help stabilize individuals and families in homes that are not eligible activities or extend beyond the time limits set by HUD programs. Following the successful implementation of the Rapid Exit Program with state FHPAP funds, administrators sought HUD funding. The program relies on two HUD programs, the Supportive Housing Program (SHP) and Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG). As the HUD funding is typically more restrictive, FHPAP funds are used to complement and extend services.

Available Data

Hennepin County contracts with the Wilder Research Center to maintain a data reporting and outcome system on individuals and families served by the Rapid Exit Program. According to the last biennium report, 2,463 families (8,976 members) were screened and referred by Rapid Exit Coordinator and 1,714 families (6,933 members) were served in Rapid Exit Program.

With a program targeted to those with moderate to severe barriers, the outcome data demonstrates great success. Even though 34 percent of families served by the Rapid Exit Program had been homeless before, only 9 percent returned to a shelter after receiving services funded by FHPAP in the following year and 85 percent did not return within two years. For those families that did return, their average stay in homelessness declined by more than half, from 29.5 days to 10 days.

For More Information Contact:

Shirley Hendrickson
Grants Administrator
Adult Housing Program
A1501 Government Center
Minneapolis, MN 55487-0151
Shirley.Hendrickson@co.hennepin.mn.us

[Source: www.endhomelessness.org/best/rapidexit.htm]
Private Resources

The Allstate Foundation
2775 Sanders Rd., Ste. F3
Northbrook, IL 60062-6127
URL: www.allstate.com/foundation

Contact: Jan Epstein, Executive Director

Areas of Interest: Education, safe and vital communities, youth development, economic empowerment, tolerance, inclusion, and diversity, community development, and civic affairs, civil rights; housing/shelter; human services financial counseling; public affairs; safety/disasters; youth development.

Types of Support: Continuing support; employee matching gifts; employee-related scholarships; general/operating support; program development.

Limitations: Giving on a national basis; giving also to regional and national organizations. No support for private secondary schools; international causes; or fraternal or religious organizations. No grants to individuals (except for employee-related scholarships), or for annual campaigns, deficit financing, building funds, capital campaigns, endowment funds, fundraising events, conferences, films, videotapes, or audio productions, travel funds, athletic events or teams, bands, choirs, memorials, or medical research.

Application Information: An application form is not required, but the applicants should submit:

1. Timetable for implementation and evaluation of project.
2. Results expected from proposed grant.
3. Name, address and phone number of organization.
4. Copy of IRS Determination Letter
5. Brief history of organization and description of its mission.
6. Geographic area to be served.
7. Copy of most recent annual report/audited financial statement/990.
8. How project’s results will be evaluated or measured.
9. Explanation of why grantmaker is considered an appropriate donor for project.
10. What distinguishes project from others in its field?
11. Listing of board of directors, trustees, officers and other key people and their affiliation.
12. Name of Contact Person.
13. Copy of current year’s organizational budget and/or project budget.
14. Listing of additional sources and amount of support.
15. Additional materials/documentation.

Initial Contact: Send or take proposal to nearest company facility, proposal to foundation for national or regional organizations. Only one copy of the proposal is requested; the board meets in March, June, Sept., and December. There are no deadlines stated. Final notification will be in thirty to ninety days.

Bank One Foundation
(formerly First National Bank of Chicago)
1 Bank One Plaza, Ste. 0308
Company Chicago, IL 60670
Telephone:(312) 732-8133
URL: www.bankone.com

Contact: Lesley C Slavitt, V.P.

Areas of Interest: Education, the environment, human services, youth services, civic affairs, community development, community improvement and development, community-based economic and housing development in low-income areas, business school/education; civil rights; civil rights race/intergroup relations; government/public administration; shelter development; minorities/minorities/immigrants centers/services; youth services.

Types of Support: Annual campaigns; building/renovation; capital campaigns; continuing support; employee matching gifts; endowments; fellowships; general/operating support; in-kind gifts; matching/challenge support; program-related investments/loans. Both established and start-up organizations are funded. Specifically, the foundation strongly prefers to develop relationships with organizations by funding specific projects/programs designed to meet mutually agreeable goals. As well, the foundation favors programs and projects that move an organization toward self-sufficiency.

Limitations: Giving primarily in areas of company operations including Illinois, with emphasis on the metropolitan Chicago area. No support for fraternal or religious organizations, preschool, elementary or secondary schools, public agencies, or United Way/Crusade of Mercy-supported agencies. No grants to individuals, or for emergency funds, deficit financing, land acquisition, research, publications, conferences, or multi-year operating pledges. No loans (except for program-related investments).

Application Information: An application form is not required, but the
following information should be submitted:

1. Copy of IRS Determination Letter.
2. Brief history of organization and description of its mission.
3. Copy of most recent annual report/audited financial statement/990.
4. Listing of board of directors, trustees, officers and other key people and their affiliations.
5. Detailed description of project and amount of funding requested.
6. Copy of current year’s organizational budget and/or project budget.

Initial contact requested is a letter; only one copy of proposal is needed. The board meets in March, June, September, and December. There are no deadlines stated; final notification is within three months.

**Public Housing**

*(Continued from page 3)*

suggest greater emphasis on and financial support for transitional supportive housing, permanent supportive housing, large and accessible units, and single room occupancy units. Comments by Michael Kelly of the District of Columbia Housing Authority and Carla Javits of the Corporation for Supportive Housing give practitioners views. An appendix to the paper provides anecdotes from the research about three heads of hard-to-house families.

The article can be found at: www.fanniemaefoundation.org/programs/hpd/v16i1-index.shtml.
Headlines Directory

Center for Community Change
1536 U Street NW
Washington, DC 20009
Telephone: (202) 339-9380
http://www.communitychange.org

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
820 First Street, NE, Suite 510
Washington, DC 20002
Ph: (202) 406-1080
Fax: (202) 408-1056
http://www.cbpp.org

Center for Community Change
1536 U Street NW
Washington, DC  20009
Telephone: (202) 339-9300
Fax: (202) 339-9329
http://www.communitychange.org

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
820 First Street, NE, Suite 510
Washington, DC 20002
Ph: (202) 408-1080
Fax: (202) 408-1056
http://www.cbpp.org

Coalition of Citizens With Disabilities in Illinois
300 E. Monroe, Suite 100
Springfield, IL 62701
Telephone: (217) 522-7016
Fax: (217) 522-7016
http://www.inw.net/~ccdi/index.htm

Corporation for Supportive Housing
1 N. LaSalle, 12th Floor
Chicago, IL 60602
Phone: 312 697-6125
Fax: 3123467280
Email: ilc@chh.org
www.chh.org

Food Research & Action Center
1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW, # 540
Washington, D.C. 20009
Telephone: (202) 986-2200
Fax: (202)986-2525
foodresearch@frac.org

Housing Assistance Council
1025 Vermont Ave. NW, Suite 606
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 842-8600
Fax: (202) 347-3441
http://www.ruralhome.org

Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence
601 S. 11th
Springfield, IL 62703
Telephone: (217) 789-2830
Fax: (217) 789-1939
http://www.ilcdav.org

Illinois Coalition for the Homeless
1325 S. Wabash, Suite 205
Chicago, IL 60605
Telephone: (312) 435-4548
Fax: (312) 435-0198
http://www.enteract.com/~cch/index.htm

Illinois Community Action Association
3435 Liberty Drive
Springfield, IL 62704
Telephone: (217) 789-0125
Fax: (217) 789-0125
http://www.icaanet.org

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
620 E. Adams, CIPS-3
Springfield, IL 62701
Telephone: (217) 782-1200
Fax: (217) 782-1206
http://www.commerce.state.il.us/

Illinois Department of Human Services
Homeless Services and Supportive Housing
400 W. Lawrence, 2C
Springfield, IL 62762
Telephone: (217) 782-1317
Fax: (217) 782-6029
http://www.state.il.us/agency/dhs/

Illinois Food Bank Association
P.O. Box 8293
Springfield, IL  62791
(217)522-4022
E-mail: cifbank@aol.com

Illinois Housing Development Authority
401 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 900
Chicago, IL 60611
Telephone: (312) 836-5200
Fax: (312) 836-5200
E-mail: ilhda@aol.com

Illinois Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty
918 F Street NW 204
Washington DC 20004
Telephone: (202) 339-2355
Fax: (202) 268-0471
http://www.lchp.org

Illinois Low Income Housing Coalition
401 S. State St., Suite 200
Chicago, IL 60604
Telephone: (312) 339-2355
Fax: (312) 339-2356
http://www.ilhic.org

Illinois Rural Housing Coalition
1012 14th Street NW, Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20005-3406
Telephone: (202) 737-6444
Fax: (202) 737-6445
http://www.nrhcweb.org

Illinois State Coalition Against Domestic Violence
801 S. 11th
Springfield, IL 62703
Telephone: (217) 789-2830
Fax: (217) 789-1939
http://www.ilcdav.org

Illinois State Coalition Against Domestic Violence
801 S. 11th
Springfield, IL 62703
Telephone: (217) 789-2830
Fax: (217) 789-1939
http://www.ilcdav.org

NATIONAL ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS
1518 K Street, NW, Suite 206
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 683-1526
Fax: (202) 683-4664
E-mail: naeh@naeh.org
http://www.endhomelessness.org/

NATIONAL COALITION FOR HOMELESS VETERANS
333 ½ Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20003-1148
Telephone: (202) 546-1969
Fax: (202) 546-2063
E-mail: nchv@nchv.org
http://www.nchv.org/home.html

NATIONAL COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT COALITION
727 15th St., NW, Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 628-8866
Fax: (202) 628-9800
http://www.tcfe.org

NATIONAL FOOD BANK ASSOCIATION
PO Box 8293
Springfield, IL 62791
Telephone: (217) 522-4022
E-mail: cilbank@aol.com

NATIONAL LAWN CENTER ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY
918 F Street NW 204
Washington DC 20004
Telephone: (202) 339-2355
Fax: (202) 268-2377

NATIONAL LOW INCOME HOUSING COALITION
727 15th St, NW, 9000
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 628-8866
Fax: (202) 628-9800
http://www.nlihc.org

NATIONAL RURAL HOUSING COALITION
601 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 850
Washington, D.C. 20004
Telephone: (202) 339-2355
Fax: (202) 393-3634
http://www.nrhcweb.org

RURAL DEVELOPMENT
2318 W. Park C, Suite A
Champaign, IL 61821
Telephone: (217)403-6222
Fax: (217)403-6231

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS
P.O. Box 955
704 W. Boynton
Marion, IL 62959
Telephone: (618) 993-0094
Fax: (618) 993-4013

STATEWIDE HOUSING ACTION COALITION
11 E. Adams, Suite 1501
Chicago, IL 60603
Telephone: (312) 939-4074
Fax: (312) 939-6822

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROVIDERS ASSOCIATION
3417 North Monticello
Chicago, IL 60618
Telephone: (773) 588-0827
Fax: (773) 267-1294
supportivehpa@aol.com

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
Office of Community Planning and Development
77 W. Jackson 24th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60604
Telephone: (312) 339-2355
Fax: (312) 339-2356