



National Alliance to End Homelessness
National Conference on Ending Family Homelessness

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Partnering With Community-Based and Faith-Based Organizations

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Homelessness
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About the Community Partnership

- Founded in 1989
- 501 (c) 3 non profit
- Intentional partnership structure
- Under contract with District of Columbia government through the Department of Human Services and
- Manages HUD Continuum of Care
- Annual portfolio of \$50m

Family Homelessness in the District of Columbia

- On a given day, there are 600 homeless families in the District of Columbia
- These families include 700 adults and 1,200 children
- 80% of households are headed by a single female, generally in her late 20s or early 30s

Family Homelessness in the District of Columbia

- Homeless families in the District of Columbia live on an income that is 80 to 90% lower than the area median income
- For most homeless families, the primary source of income is public benefits

[Family Homelessness (continued)]

- In FY 08, 1084 families applied for shelter
- 121 families made more than one application for shelter
- Applications for shelter decreased by 8.5% between FY07 and FY08 (due to increase in prevention resources and permanent supportive housing)
- Nearly 1500 families received rental assistance at the intake center

[Housing]

- Maintaining housing has become increasingly difficult – FMR for a 2 bedroom apartment has increased by 58% since 2000
- Income has lagged behind the cost of housing

[CHANGE WE CAN BELIEVE IN]

Mayoral Initiative to transform shelter system
using permanent supportive housing

Model based on national best practice

Community Care Grant Program model

-Program started in 1994 as alternative to
shelter

-Utilizing funding from the District of
Columbia, the Partnership engaged 8
community-based organizations

A Model Community-Based Partnership

- The Community Care Grant Program, now known at the System Transformation Initiative, is a collaborative effort between the District of Columbia government, the Community Partnership and neighborhood based organizations including 8 Family Support Collaboratives

A Model Community-Based Partnership

- The cbos receive a payment to provide case management services to families in scattered-site apartment housing.
- The families receive either a locally-funded housing subsidy or a federally-funded housing voucher
- Landlords are key partners to this effort
- More cost-effective as well as gives better program outcomes

[Faith-Based Partners]

Partial List

- Capitol Hill Group Ministries
- Catholic Charities
- Christ House
- First Seventh Day Adventist Church
- Georgetown Ministries
- Gospel Rescue Ministry
- New Hope Ministries
- Northwest Church Family Network
- Salvation Army
- Transitional Housing Corporation
- Way of the Word Community Development Corp.

What Makes a Good Partnership

- **SHARED:**

- **Values**

- **Vision**

- **Mission**

- **Goal(s)**

- **Need/ Challenge or Adversary**

[Key Elements]

- Understanding and Accepting Roles of Partners
- Accountability Measures/Process
- Flexibility
- Open and Honest Communication
- Cultural Competence
- Adequate Resources
- Realistic Expectations that Are Mutually Understood and Accepted

[Challenges]

Achieving key elements poses the challenges

- Coordination of efforts
- Not all partners are equal at all times
- Politics and politics

Challenges offer opportunities to achieve key elements of success