

National Issues We're Tracking:

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State Issues We're Tackling:

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The Monthly Newsletter of COHHIO, the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio

Countdown to Housing Ohio 2008

We're just days away from our biggest event of the year – *Housing Ohio 2008* – held in the heart of downtown Columbus on April 14 & 15 at the Hyatt on Capitol Square. Learn about innovative housing programs and successful service delivery models and get the latest on state and federal policy issues that affect your work.

We've recently shifted rooms to allow for expanded capacity in a few of our workshops, but we can't do this much longer. Register TODAY to ensure your spot in the workshops of your choice. Visit our website (www.cohhio.org) or give us a call: 614-280-1984.



Here are the many faces of Housing Ohio 2008 (be sure yours is among them!)

Richard Cordray

Elected in 2006, Ohio Treasurer Richard Cordray manages all banking functions for the State of Ohio and an investment portfolio averaging \$18 billion and is taking the lead to implement personal finance education in Ohio's high schools. Cordray served as Franklin County Treasurer, as a State Representative, and as Ohio's first State Solicitor. Cordray received the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation's Presidential Award for his work supporting legal services for the poor. In 2000, the Human Rights Campaign recognized him as its Humanitarian of the Year for his efforts to promote tolerance and understanding in our community. In 2005, he was named

the national "County Leader of the Year" by American City & County magazine.

Dennis Culhane, PhD

Dr. Culhane is a Professor at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Culhane's primary area of research is homelessness, about which he studies the dynamics of public shelter use, health care use, the geographic and housing market factors associated with housing instability, and the design and evaluations of homelessness prevention programs. His projects include studies of the neighborhood origins of homelessness in Philadelphia and New York City. The mental health and substance abuse service histories of homeless adults, and the costs of homelessness to society.

(continued on page 2)



Richard Cordray



Dennis Culhane



Martin Eakes



Brian Hall



Nan Roman



www.ohvotes.org

Now That the Primary Election is Over it's Time to Get to Work!

The results of the March 4th primary election in Ohio have cause for both celebration and frustration. According to Ohio Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner, Ohio set a record in early voting by absentee ballots with an unofficial total of 503,601 ballots cast. However, many problems did occur on Election Day that could have been avoided by voter education throughout our communities. Some of the problems documented on Election Day include:

- Poll worker confusion
- Disability access
- Provisional voting
- Over voting
- Long lines
- Names dropped from voter roster
- Education on and awareness of the many candidates and issues on the ballot

It is important that we begin working immediately to correct these errors in advance of the November 4th General Election. Most of these problems can be resolved by voter education. OhioVOTES is ready and willing to provide the needed voter education and training to non-profit organizations. Please access our website at www.ohvotes.org or call the OhioVOTES Hot Line at 888-VOTE OH.

Ohio will determine the next President of the United States! Let's make sure we are ready!

Countdown to *Housing Ohio 2008* (continued from page 1)

Martin Eakes

Mr. Eakes is the Chief Executive Officer of Self-Help/Center for Responsible Lending (CRL). Mr. Eakes co-founded Self-Help, a community development lender, in 1980. CRL's staff includes attorneys, researchers, and policy analysts in North Carolina, Washington, D.C., and Oakland, CA, who study and report on predatory lending matters and monitor legislative and regulatory activity in state capitols and in the U.S. Congress. To date, the Center for Responsible Lending has helped save American families more than \$4 billion annually. Mr. Eakes began his career in 1980, after graduating from Yale Law School and the Woodrow Wilson School of International and Public Affairs. As a fledgling attorney practicing in Durham, N.C., Mr. Eakes started small-scale initiatives to help low-income North Carolinians buy homes and start businesses – work that ultimately evolved into Self-Help. Mr. Eakes has received a number of awards for his public service, including the MacArthur Foundation Fellowship in 1996.

Brian Hall

Mr. Hall currently serves as an Outreach Specialist at Maryhaven, Inc. in Columbus Ohio where he seeks to connect homeless individuals living on the streets with permanent housing. Prior to Maryhaven,

Mr. Hall worked as the Resident Manager at the Salvation Army's Adult Rehabilitation Center. For many years, Mr. Hall struggled with drug addiction and homelessness, but in 2001 he successfully completed a rehabilitation program and has since devoted his life to helping others overcome similar challenges.

Nan Roman

Nan Roman, President and CEO of the National Alliance to End Homelessness, is a leading national voice on the issue of homelessness. The Alliance is a public education, advocacy, and capacity-building organization with a network of over 5,000 nonprofit and public sector agencies and corporate partners around the country. Under her leadership, the Alliance has developed a pragmatic plan to end homelessness within ten years. To implement this plan, Ms. Roman works closely with members of Congress and the Administration, as well as with cities and states across the nation. She collaborates with Alliance partners to educate the public about the real nature of homelessness and successful solutions. Her unique perspective on homelessness and its solutions comes from over twenty years of local and national experience in the areas of poverty and community-based organizations.



Notes of Faith

from COHHIO's Executive Director

We shored up Wall Street. Can Main Street be next?

In light of last month's surprise extension of the federal safety net to Wall Street, one wonders whether ordinary Americans will receive similar treatment. In its meteoric descent, investment bank behemoth Bear Stearns was offered a soft landing in a \$30 billion, 11th hour negotiation between the Federal Reserve and JP Morgan Chase. Clearly, the Administration feels protecting Wall Street is a priority, while helping Main Street (struggling homeowners) is a bailout.

Finally, it looks like Congress may pass a watered down "Main Street" bill, aka **the Foreclosure Prevention Act**. The bill holds a provision that allows homeowners to access more help through foreclosure prevention counseling agencies. The bill also includes generous tax credits for those buying new or foreclosed homes and appropriates \$4 billion to help states and cities with the flood of vacant properties. Time is of the essence; the HOPE NOW foreclosure prevention hotline struggles daily under the weight of 4,500 crisis calls from homeowners. At the end of each day, 8,000 homes fall into foreclosure.

But while we await federal relief that may actually be forthcoming, it's important for all entities — state and local — to pitch in to help address the problem.

The Franklin County Commissioners recently took a small but important step by dedicating \$300,000 for rescue loans, financial counseling and loan modification work through the **Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**. This program's sustainability, and many others like it all over the state, could be enormously enhanced by a bill currently pending in the Ohio House. **HB 359**, introduced by **Rep. Matt Huffman** (R-Lima), allows millions of dollars in unused Delinquent

Tax Administration and Collection (DTAC) funds to be directed to maintenance of vacant and abandoned properties and prosecution of mortgage fraud cases. HB 359 should be passed quickly but not without an amendment by **Rep. Mike Foley** (D-Cleveland), to allow these funds to also be available for foreclosure prevention counseling and rescue loans. Foley's amendment is essential, because when surplus DTAC funds are combined with millions of federal funds already in the pipeline, as well as \$2 million in freed-up Ohio Housing Trust Fund dollars, we could make substantive progress with thousands of homeowners across the state.

The Governor recently unveiled the **"Save the Dream"** campaign (see also p. 9) places 1,100 volunteer attorneys on the frontline of fighting the foreclosure wave, heaving sandbags in front of clients, one at a time. Let's hope these attorneys can ramp up their mortgage lending foreclosure expertise in time; but let's not forget that homeowners will be best served by the legal community collaborating with the local counseling agencies, who have been in the trenches helping homeowners for several years.

These collaborations can be helped with passage of amended HB 359, which I expect to happen soon. We all need to push hard to allow foreclosure prevention counseling and rescue loans for foreclosure avoidance to be included as eligible uses.

We have a crisis on our hands and a choice to make: do we reduce the foreclosure crisis by helping homeowners negotiate loan modifications, keep people in their homes, keep our tax bases healthy and our neighborhoods safe and secure? Or do we make the crisis more permanent and more severe by foreclosing on Main Street?



Bill Faith
Executive Director

Bill Faith

Payday Mayday: Coalition Gains Momentum for Rate Cap

In late March the 241-member Ohio Coalition for Responsible Lending launched an all-out offensive against predatory payday lending that included a nonpartisan report on industry growth, the reaction to the growth by big-city mayors, and a forum dedicated to payday legislation at the venerable City Club of Cleveland.

The result was an unprecedented media blitz that pummeled the payday loan product and put heat under the House FIRES (Financial Institutions, Real Estate and Securities) committee to take action on HB 333, the bill widely viewed as the only vehicle for true industry reform. Sponsored by Bill Batchelder (R-Medina) and Bob Hagan (D-Youngstown), HB 333 now has a companion bill circulating in the Senate sponsored by Tim Grendell (R-Chesterland) with backing from Ray Miller (D- Columbus) and many other Senators.

A new Policy Matters Ohio report documents that payday industry growth continues unabated, adding 76 new stores statewide in 2007. The number of payday lending stores has increased from 107 stores in Ohio in 1996 to approximately 1,638 stores in 2007. Payday lending continues to spread across the state, Franklin County, Cuyahoga County and Hamilton County again leading the way with over 100 lenders in each. Mayors of Columbus, Cleveland and Cincinnati are among those calling for a rate cap on payday loans.

Ohio's big city mayors responded to the report on industry growth in a unified voice.

"City mayors and council members understand the impact that loans charging 391% interest have on borrowers," said Bill Faith, OCRL legislative chair. "The study confirms that an average family budget cannot accommodate the high interest rate and short loan period. The result is the debt trap. As we try to build our struggling economy," Faith continues, "we need to

rein in predatory lending practices that drag people down. We're hopeful for passage of HB 333 this year."

Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman



voices concern over the fact that Franklin County holds 189 storefronts, the highest number in the state. "High interest rates payday lenders charge keep hard working families in a cycle of debt," says Coleman.

"Columbus families who are trapped in debt are unable to help contribute to the vision of what we hope we can become — America's 21st Century City. I support reasonable efforts to limit interest rates that lenders can charge as a way to protect families."

Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson



says that with 163 Cuyahoga County storefronts, the second highest number in the state, Ohio can't afford to wait on payday lending reform in the same way it did for mortgage lending reform. "The payday lending industry

exploits individuals and diminishes quality of life. The time has come to put these businesses under strict supervision and House Bill 333 would do just that."



Rep. Bill Batchelder and Sen. Ray Miller at the City Club of Cleveland Payday Lending Forum - March 28.



Mayor Mark Mallory of Cincinnati, a former member of the Ohio General Assembly and long time payday lending reform advocate, believes the state needs to act now. "With 125 storefronts, Hamilton County ranks third in the state in the number of payday

lenders. Payday loan debt is not only a problem for the individual. It also affects their families, their neighborhoods, and all of our cities," Mayor Mallory said. "There is simply no justification for the interest rates on those loans. The rates are so high that people are often forced to take a second loan to pay the first. That is not a fair business model. I applaud current efforts to make true reform a reality by capping interest rates at 36% APR."

Dayton Mayor Rhine McLin believes payday lending is curbing her city's economic progress. "The growth of payday lending in Ohio and in Dayton has caused considerable damage to the economic well-being of our citizens," says McLin. "Many

Dayton citizens have been caught in the debt trap that is payday lending. We need fair lending options, not non-competitive storefronts pushing loans at 391% APR. I support state legislation that would cap interest rates." Montgomery County ranks fourth in the state with 89 storefronts.

Akron Mayor Donald L. Plusquellic says that payday lending does not figure in to the economic equation that is creating one of America's most livable cities. Summit County, home to 68 storefronts, ranks fifth in the state. "The high interest rate payday lenders charge

is a net drain on our families and our communities. We've seen from the mortgage meltdown that when families are trapped in debt, the economy as a whole suffers. In Akron, we've made too much progress to let payday lending jeopardize our potential. A rate cap would open the market to fair lending alternatives; those kinds of businesses would be welcomed."

Mayor Jay Williams of Youngstown sees the growth of payday lending as an impediment to his city's revitalization efforts. "Here in Youngstown, we are working diligently to stabilize and rebuild our economic base. The proliferation of payday lending

storefronts and the debt cycle they cause goes against the vision of the Youngstown 2010 comprehensive planning initiative. A rate cap on payday loans would assist in creating and maintaining a healthier, more vibrant economy, and that's exactly what we are working to do. As a former banker, I understand how interest rates can greatly affect the status of both lenders and borrowers. We need to strike an appropriate balance and I am in support of rate cap legislation to achieve this goal." With 50 storefronts, Mahoning County ranks eighth in the state.



Sen. Shirley Smith (D-Cleveland) at the City Club of Cleveland presentation





YEP Trainings a Success!

The Youth Empowerment Program would like to thank everyone who attended our spring training series. We would especially like to thank our presenters for their dedication in helping us provide up-to-date information on teen parenting, homeless education and youth development. We have three remaining trainings on these same topics as well as a variety of state and federal topics at:

- Kent on April 2
- Dayton on April 4
- Bowling Green on April 9

If you attended a training and have additional questions, feel free to contact Nick or Angela at 614-280-1984. We would also like to remind all of our participants and those who were unable to make it to the trainings that we will have the materials online at www.cohhioyep.org/training.html.

FAST FACTS ABOUT YOUTH TODAY

- 60% of current college seniors are planning on moving back home after graduation (Transitional Landscape of America, 2006)
- Americans, 25-26, still get an average of \$2,323 a year from their parents. (Transitional Landscape of America, 2006)
- Average age of financial independence in America is 26. (Transitional Landscape of America, 2006)
- Youth Employment rates are at their lowest since the 1940s (Transitional Landscape of America, 2006)
- There are between one and two million homeless youth between the ages of 18-24. (Healthcare for the Homeless, 2004).
- 25% of youth exiting foster care become homeless within four years (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2007)
- 17% - 35% of homeless youth report being sexually abused prior to leaving home (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2007)
- 15% of all American youth will experience homelessness prior to turning 18 (Youth Housing Summit, Dworsky 2007)

If these fast facts have started you thinking about homeless and transitional youth, check our website or contact YEP for more information. All training materials including studies, resources, and funding opportunities are listed on our website at www.cohhioyep.org

Reconnecting Homeless Youth Act will expand funding for youth homeless services

As the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) is set to expire in September of this year, Congress is seeking to reauthorize and amend the original legislation and fund the act through the year 2013. The new bill, the Reconnecting Homeless Youth Act (H.R. 5524), would double funding for RHYA to provide more resources for

community serving youth and enhance funding for training and research and help establish a National Homeless Youth Awareness Campaign. If passed, approximately \$200 million would be available for youth outreach, transitional housing and shelter services. The bill now awaits action by the U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor.

Hidden Homeless – Ex-offenders

Nationally, more than 650,000 people are expected to be released from prison this year, an increase of over 350% in the last 20 years. It is estimated that nine million each year are released from jails. Of those leaving prison, more than 10% were homeless prior to incarceration. Ex-offenders often experience a culture conflict when they return to freedom, after finding themselves unable to adapt to the social norms of their communities. Many ex-offenders face severe housing barriers and seek support from the social services and faith-based communities to assist them with a second chance to reestablish themselves.

Since summer of 2004, advocates working on prisoner reentry issues have been trying to pass the Second Chance Act. In November of last year, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill and on March 11th, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed the Second Chance Act, H.R. 1593. It is awaiting the President's signature. The bill will provide funding to states for reentry programs, study barriers to successful reentry, study and coordinate policy, and will provide funding to non-profits for reentry programs. This bill acknowledges that housing is key to the reentry strategies.

Ohio Legal Services and Homelessness

By Melissa Will, Attorney, Ohio State Legal Services Association (OSLSA)

Many barriers to becoming and staying housed can be resolved with free civil legal assistance. For instance, a legal aid attorney can help someone fight an illegal eviction or get the public benefits they need to afford housing. Ohio's six legal aid programs provide free legal assistance to qualified low-income persons. Most people experiencing homelessness, or at risk of becoming homeless, are eligible for free legal help. Legal aid can help people with civil issues, such as evictions, lock outs, utilities, public benefits, education, consumer, family, or employment.

Often people experiencing homelessness do not know that free legal assistance is available or how to get free help from an attorney. To better reach homeless persons, the Ohio State Legal Services Association (OSLSA) created a workshop for staff of social service organizations. OSLSA recognizes that the best way to reach people experiencing homelessness, and families at risk of becoming homeless, is through the dedicated case managers, social workers, and staff members who work with these

individuals and families on a daily basis. The goal of the workshop is to better inform front-line employees about legal services so they can refer clients with civil legal problems.

If your organization is interested in OSLSA's free Legal Services and Homelessness Workshop, find out more at www.ohiohomelesslaw.org. The one-hour workshop is presented at your organization's office, and will cover eligibility for legal aid, how to refer people to legal aid, what types of cases your legal aid handles, and other free legal resources in your community. Any Ohio organization that works with families and individuals experiencing homelessness, or at risk of becoming homeless, are welcome to sign up for this workshop. The workshop can be presented to staff at emergency shelters, domestic violence shelters, community action agencies, foodbanks, soup kitchens, substance abuse treatment centers, mental health providers, health clinics, or faith based organizations. To schedule a workshop, contact Melissa Will at 614-221-7201 x123 or mwill@oslsa.org.



Bankruptcy Bill Sails Through Ohio Senate

Senate Bill 281, introduced by Senator Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati), passed the Ohio Senate unanimously last month, just before the Ohio General Assembly broke for spring recess. The legislation increases state exemptions for consumers in bankruptcy to the federal levels and ties future increases in exemption levels to the national consumer price index. Currently, law allows homeowners to keep only \$5,000 in home equity, far below the fed-

eral allowable amount of \$20,200 (\$40,400 per couple). Ohio has not increased its bankruptcy exemption standards in nearly 30 years. The proposed legislation would help homeowners facing bankruptcy retain equity in their properties, enabling them to get back on their feet. The bill was introduced in the House on March 18, though it's not likely to be as straight a path in that chamber; calls to Representatives in support of SB 281 could make a difference.

Stimulus Checks Not Part of Annual Income

In the next few months, residents may report that they have received income because of qualifying for the stimulus package. According to HUD, as documented on the Rental Housing Integrity Improvement Project (RHIIIP) website: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/mfh/rhiip/mfhrhiip.cfm>, income received as a result of the economic stimulus package is not to be included as part of an individual's annual income on their tax returns.

In order to receive a stimulus check, tenants must complete a tax return by April 15th. Property managers are not encouraged to assist residents with preparing tax returns unless they are an enrolled agent, a CPA or an attorney. Contact the local United Way or your local help line for organizations willing to help provide tax preparation services to tenants. Residents also are encouraged to visit their local IRS office, which is legally required to assist with the preparation of tax returns.

HUD'S March Homeless Report Shows Slight Decline

HUD released its Second Annual Homeless Report in March. The AHAR 2 provides information on the characteristics of people who experience homelessness, our nation's capacity for sheltering people, and how homeless people use emergency shelter and transitional housing.

According to the COC application data, the total number of homeless people reported on a single night in January 2006

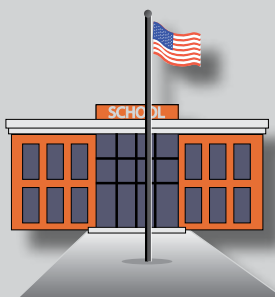
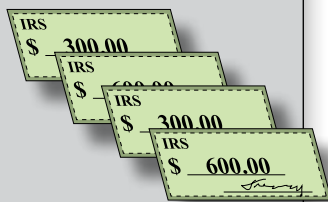
was 759,101. Of those, 56% or 428,000 were sheltered, while 44% or 331,000 were unsheltered. Overall, these numbers represent a slight decrease of 5,909 people from the 2005 point-in-time data.

Of the nearly 428,000 people in shelters, approximately 48% had children. Of those unsheltered, approximately 30% had children. 21% of the total were chronically homeless. For more, Google "2nd Homeless Assessment Report."

Collateral Damage of Foreclosure Crisis Includes Public Schools

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), says that just over one quarter of public schools in the United States are funded via local property taxes. The mortgage crisis is already having an impact on county and city budgets in Ohio and across the country. As more and more homes slip into foreclosure and lie vacant for longer periods, local property tax bases are expected either to remain

stagnant or decrease in some areas. This will undoubtedly have a negative impact on local government and school district budgets, especially in large urban cities like Cleveland where the crisis is larger in scale and where budgets are already strapped. This may lead to larger class sizes, cut backs on books and supplies and additional pressure to raise taxes to fill the gap.



Affordable Housing Becomes Victim of Subprime Meltdown

Nationwide, many projects that are part of the low-income housing tax-credit program are being delayed or cancelled altogether as a result of the housing and credit crisis. Large financial institutions who are garnering lower profit margins than in recent years, are finding the benefits of tax credits to be less than the costs associated with constructing below-market-rent housing. Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and others are cutting back their participation in the program. Nonprofits and developers who have started projects

are faced with trying to find funding to finance the gaps. Without funding to plug in the holes, housing advocates fear this will only compound the housing crisis as individuals are forced from their homes due to foreclosure and into the lower priced rental market, creating an even greater demand for affordable rental housing. The House Ways & Means Committee will be considering legislation that would provide supplemental resources for projects already in the works. Stay tuned!

“Save the Dream Initiative” Announced



In March, the Ohio Department of Commerce announced a new public awareness and legal aid services campaign designed to educate borrowers and homeowners struggling to make their mortgage payments. Part of a statewide effort to prevent foreclosures, the “Save the Dream” initiative consists of radio and television ads advising foreclosure-bound homeowners to contact their lender or

mortgage servicer; and free legal services for low-income homeowners. Through such overtures, some borrowers are expected to be successful in renegotiating their loan terms.

For more information about the “Save the Dream” initiative, visit the Save the Dream website: www.savethedream.ohio.gov or call (888) 404-4674.

HUD Chief Resigns Amid Criminal Allegations



On March 31st, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Alphonso Jackson resigned his post in the wake of criminal investigations and a serious housing crisis impacting credit markets worldwide. Jackson faced concerns regarding favoritism he may have shown to HUD contractors during his administration of the agency, more specifically a contract awarded to a construction manager post-Hurricane Katrina in the amount of \$392,000. Additionally, the agency faces a lawsuit from the Philadelphia Housing Authority, which claims the authority was punished for not engaging in a deal with one of Jackson’s friends and allies. No replacement has yet been named.



**Housing Ohio
2008**

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April 14th & 15th, 2008

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Upcoming Trainings

COHHIO and Governor's Office on Faith-Based Initiatives are pleased to present the following Training Opportunity
Grantsmanship

There is more to grantsmanship than answering a request for proposal and writing the grant. Whether you are looking to write your first grant or fiftieth, these trainings are geared towards non-profit and faith-based organizations that are interested in learning about foundation grantseeking, proposal writing, approaching a funder, budgeting and grantsmanship in general. Three regional trainings will be held at:

Date:	May 20, 2008	May 21, 2008	May 27, 2008
County:	Hancock	Portage	Hocking
Location:	The Family Center	Kent State University Student Center *Bring parking stub into training for validation	Olde Dutch Restaurant
Address:	1800 N. Blanchard St.	106 Kent Student Center, Room 313	12791 State Route 664 S. *Off of US 33 on State Route 664
City-St-Zip:	Findlay, OH 45840	Kent, OH 44242	Logan, OH 43138



COHHIO

**Housing Ohio
2008**

**Register
Online:**

www.cohhio.org

April 14th & 15th, 2008

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- Time:** 9:30am – Registration
 10:00 a.m. – Training Begins
 3:00 p.m. – Training Concludes
- RSVP:** Email rsvp@cohhio.org by May 13th to reserve a seat, indicate which site, and indicate if you'd like lunch ordered for you
- Cost:** \$15.00 (this fee is only for those requesting lunch)
 Submit payment on day of training – checks payable to COHHIO
- CEUs:** CEUs will be provided for Social Workers
- Presenter:** David Holmes

David is the Regional Training Coordinator for the Foundation Center-Cleveland. He was previously employed as a Program Officer for the Stocker Foundation, and as the Director of Grants and Prospect Research at Notre Dame College. David has an MA from Villanova University, and an MLIS from Kent State University.

Contact Jonda Clemings at jondaclemings@cohhio.org if you have questions. Check out COHHIO's calendar of events for additional information on trainings and upcoming events at www.cohhio.org

Preparing for the Continuum of Care Application

Is your agency and local continuum ready for this year's Continuum of Care Application? HUD recently reviewed the 2007 application and discussed overall themes that led to lost points. They noted that there were several charts that were not completed correctly – missing information, incorrect math, "NA" not being noted, boxes not being checked, and goals not being measurable. Insufficient or incorrect data in charts also resulted in lower scores.

In preparation for the 2008 Continuum of Care application, you may wish to consider that:

- Each public and private sector organization should be represented on your local continuum
- Your continuum should have a method to solicit, review and select projects
- The programs listed on the housing inventory charts meet the definition for emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent housing for the homeless
- Your objectives to end homelessness and chronic homelessness are measurable
- Programs have sufficient leveraging funds for their projects (full point is given for \$2-\$1 match; half point is given for \$1 - \$1.99 - \$1match)

- The local continuum is systematically helping homeless persons apply for and receive Mainstream Resources (improve access and participation in mainstream programs; providing training on how to access and identify mainstream programs; analyze how projects are accessing mainstream resources, etc.)
- Continuum members are informed about Energy Star
- Your continuum is reviewing the Annual Progress Report (APR) for all programs asking for renewals to ensure that outcomes are being met or to seek guidance on how to improve program outcomes
- All applicants and sponsors have a DUN's Number
- All applicants have registered with Central Contractor Registration – www.ccr.gov (need to start this now if you have not done so – it may take weeks to confirm registration)

Changes for this year's application submission:

- The application will be completed electronically
- HUD plans an April 2008 online Continuum of Care Registration Training
- HUD plans a June/July 2008 release of the Exhibit I and II application and training



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To update your contact info, please e-mail tomrogers@cohhio.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.cohhio.org

www.cohhioyep.org

www.OHvotes.org

www.ohiodebttrap.org

COHHIO TRAININGS AND EVENTS

Detailed information about all of our training opportunities, including how to register, can be found on our calendar of events at www.cohhio.org.

APRIL 2008

April 2, 2008 - Resources for Homeless and Transitional Youth
Kent, OH • 9:30am – 4pm

April 4, 2008 - Resources for Homeless and Transitional Youth
Dayton • 9:30am – 4pm

April 8, 2008 - HMIS New User Training
Columbus • 10am-3pm
email Paula Jenkins to register (paulajenkins@cohhio.org)

April 9, 2008 - Resources for Homeless and Transitional Youth
Bowling Green • 9:30am – 4pm

April 14-15, 2008 - *Housing Ohio 2008*, COHHIO's Annual Conference
Columbus • Register online at www.cohhio.org

**COALITION ON
HOMELESSNESS
AND HOUSING IN
OHIO**

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COHHIO Trainings and Events

MAY – JULY 2008

- May 13, 2008** - HMIS New User Training
Columbus • 10am – 3pm
email Paula Jenkins to register (paulajenkins@cohhio.org)
- May 20, 2008** - Grantsmanship Training
Findlay • 9:30am – 3pm
- May 21, 2008** - Grantsmanship Training
Kent • 9:30am – 3pm
- May 27, 2008** - Grantsmanship Training
Logan • 9:30am – 3pm
- June 10, 2008** - HMIS New User Training
Columbus • 10am – 3pm
email Paula Jenkins to register (paulajenkins@cohhio.org)
- July 8, 2008** - HMIS New User Training
Columbus • 10am – 3pm
email Paula Jenkins to register (paulajenkins@cohhio.org)

Thank you Housing Ohio 2008 Sponsors!

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