

## 2006 Annual Meeting

### Committee Meeting Dates

#### Leadership

Mon. - March 27 - 1:00 p.m.

#### Education

Mon. - March 13 - 2:00 p.m.

#### HMIS-Needs Assessment

Thurs. - March 23 - 10:00 a.m.

#### Housing-Discharge Planning

Wed. - March 1 - 10:00 a.m.

#### Plan to End Homelessness

Wed. - March 8 - 2:00 p.m.

#### Support Services

Tues. - March 14 - 9:30 a.m.

### Events

*Project Homeless Connect—  
Open Door Day  
May 15, 2006*

*Housing Committee  
“Get on the Bus” Tour  
Wednesday, June 7, 2006*



### Agency Spotlight

*MorningStar Mission’s  
New Drop In Center*



The Will County Continuum of Care entertained the 2006 Annual Meeting on January 23, 2006 at Trinity Services Cherry Hill Conference Center in Joliet. Leadership Committee Chair Ronald Pullman, Will County Community Development Department Director, welcomed 70 guests. Michael Hennessy, United Way of Will County Executive Director, gave an update on

the United Way Community Needs Assessment that will be soon published. The focus of the program was the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and exciting new features other communities are utilizing. Many thanks to Trinity Services for hosting the meeting, as well as to the Leadership Committee who provided a wonderful lunch.



Ronald Pullman, Leadership Committee Chairman



Michael Hennessy, United Way

## 2005 SuperNOFA Awards Announced

In 2005 the Grants-Funding Committee again provided oversight of the SuperNOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) application process for homeless assistance through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Since 1997 the Will County Continuum of Care has received just under \$14 million to provide housing and support services to persons who are experiencing homelessness.

We are pleased to announce that, in the 2005 SuperNOFA competition, the Continuum received \$2.7 million to continue funding its existing projects, along with one new project. The breakdown of funding is:

Cornerstone Services, Inc. ~ New Project \$49,410.00  
 CFM Lamb's Fold Women's Center/Trinity ~ Renewal \$250,000  
 Cornerstone Services, Inc. ~ Renewal \$1,412,607  
 Cornerstone Services, Inc. ~ Renewal \$261,836  
 Catholic Charities Diocese of Joliet ~ Renewal \$754,500

The 2006 SuperNOFA process will soon be underway. Emails will be disseminated just as soon as the 2006 competition is announced.

## Education Committee

### *WILCO Training Expanded*

Once again this year, through the generosity of Will County, we were able to provide not one but two *WILCO Area Career Center* adult training programs. Working cooperatively with area shelters, we offered *Food Sanitation* training to 12 participants and a *Welding Program* to another twelve adults currently living in shelters. As in the past, evaluation forms will measure progress toward specific goals. Through the collaborative partnership of WILCO, the Community Development Department of the County of Will, and the Will County Center for Community Concerns, accompanied by Education Committee expertise, we have now entertained three years of successful training to those who would not have had this opportunity.

### *Passport to Your Child's Success*

We are now in our third year of presenting "*Passport to Your Child's Success*", a one-hour presentation designed to help homeless parents establish a better connection to their local school district. This year's presentation will take place at Lamb's Fold Women's Center in late February. In addition to the presentation, two or three books appropriate to the age level of the children will be given to everyone in attendance.

## Leadership Committee Announces 2006 Chairs and Co-Chairs

### *Leadership Committee*

Chair, Ronald Pullman    Vice Chair, Lois Goldman

### *Education Committee*

Chair, David Levek    Co-Chair, Melissa Brown

### *Grants-Funding Committee*

Chair, Bette Reed    Co-Chair, Lorri Nagle

### *HMIS-Needs Assessment Committee*

Chair, Sandi Perzee    Co-Chair, Pamela KostECKI

### *Housing-Discharge Planning Committee*

Chair, Franca Liburdi    Co-Chair, Deb Darzinskis

### *Plan to End Homelessness Committee*

Chair, Lois Goldman    Co-Chair, Ronald Pullman

### *Ranking Committee*

Chair, Ronald Pullman    Co-Chair, Lois Goldman

### *Support Services Committee*

Chair, Cynthia Ketcham    Co-Chair, Gloria Murtaugh

## MorningStar Mission's *New Day Drop In Center*



The *New Day Drop In Center* is located at 360 East Washington Street in Joliet, next door to MorningStar Missions' main building. The Center is open to men, women and children who are experiencing homelessness and/or are low income. The mission of the *New Day Drop In Center* is to provide daily services to individuals that will preserve their human dignity and promote a positive direction in the lives of the guests, as well as being a safe place to be during the day. The Center allows case managers to foster a relationship of trust with those experiencing homelessness. In addition, the *New Day Drop In Center* will provide assistance in the following areas:

- Outreach case management
- Employment skills/education
- Adult daily living skills and management
- Substance abuse education and counseling
- Housing information
- Medical and social referral assistance to community agencies
- Laundry facilities
- Showers

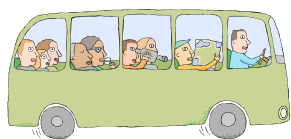
The *New Day Drop In Center* has a Computer Learning Center where guests will have access to computers, email, telephones, word processing, copier, and will offer an address to receive mail. Computer learning classes and seminars will also be offered. For individual computer assistance, an appointment is recommended.

The *New Day Drop In Center* and Computer Learning Center are open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



## Affordable Housing Week

*Affordable Housing Week Illinois* is March 19-25, 2006. The Continuum will receive a Proclamation at the Will County Board meeting on March 16, 2006 marking this event. While it seems that we have limited affordable housing options in Will County, we definitely have many exciting initiatives that we take pride in. The Housing Committee is planning to host



a "*Get on the Bus*" Tour on June 7, 2006 to highlight several Affordable Housing options in our community.

## Thank you!

The Leadership Committee and the Plan to End Homelessness (PEH) Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank the City of Joliet and the County of Will for funding the Project Homeless Connect—*Open Door Day* events for 2006. Without this funding, we could not offer this unique intervention opportunity to those who have no place to call home. Thank you for your ongoing support of this exciting intervention opportunity!



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*Working in  
partnership to  
build a  
comprehensive  
service delivery  
system that leads  
individuals and  
families from  
homelessness to  
self-sufficiency.*



### ***Project Homeless Connect—Open Door Day***

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**—The Plan to End Homelessness (PEH) Committee of the Will County Continuum of Care will again host two *Open Door Day* events this Year (May 15 and October 16) at MorningStar Mission that will serve as specialized outreach to persons who are experiencing chronic homelessness in our area.

At the *Open Door Day* events, free health and HIV screenings, lunch, haircuts and showers will be provided, as well as offering assistance to procure a State ID card, Mainstream Benefits enrollment information, Veteran's benefits, employment/training information, and more. This outreach initiative is designed to take the intimidation out of receiving services by those who otherwise are not receiving benefits they may be entitled to.

We have the collaboration of agencies in the Continuum that provide the specific type of services these individuals may need. The City of Joliet, County of Will and many agencies in the Continuum are contributing funding, clothing, food, and services, to name a few. This is a prime example of what the Continuum does best—collectively striving to improve the lives of those who are experiencing homelessness.



If you have any questions or would like an opportunity to participate, please call Mary Gajcak at 815/722-0722 x222.