

Delaware County Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness

The Delaware County Affordable Housing Task Force is a broad based coalition of both community and faith based organizations working to assess the nature and extent of housing concerns in Delaware County. Since 2001, the Task Force has been developing a structured response to the issue of housing crisis and concern, completing an Affordable Housing Market Study, Emergency Lodging Plan, Count of Homeless Persons and Inventory of Services for persons who are homeless or in housing crisis.

The Task Force is currently participating in the *Rural Homeless Initiative for Southeastern and Central Ohio (RHISCO)*, a partnership with the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation and the National Alliance to End Homelessness, to develop a comprehensive and coordinated plan to end homelessness in Delaware County. Through a series of Committee and Community Stakeholder Meetings, the following four main themes have been identified to end homelessness in Delaware County; each with measurable objectives, action steps, responsible organization and timelines:

Closing the Front Door to Homelessness

Prevention of homelessness by targeting mainstream poverty programs to the community's most vulnerable clients.

Opening the Back Door Out of Homelessness

Providing services to persons to assist them in ending their homeless situation. Facilitating the adequate supply of affordable and subsidized housing. .

Building the Infrastructure

Creating solutions to end homelessness and address the systemic problems that lead to crisis poverty:

- Shortage of affordable housing
- Incomes that do not pay for basic needs
- Lack of appropriate services for those who need them.

Managing for Results

Collecting and maintaining data regarding persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and bringing to the planning table those responsible for mainstream as well as homeless-targeted resources.

Homelessness

Twenty-five years ago there was not widespread homelessness in America. Tonight approximately 750,000 men, women and children will be homeless, despite a two billion dollar a year infrastructure designed to deal with the problem.

While the seeds of homelessness were planted in the 1960s and 1970s with deinstitutionalization of people living with mental illness and loss of affordable housing stock, widespread homelessness did not emerge until the 1980s. Several factors have affected its growth over the last two decades. Housing has become scarcer for those with little money. Earnings from employment and from benefits have not kept pace with the cost of housing for

low income and poor people. Services that every family needs for support and stability have become harder for very poor people to afford or find.

In addition to these systemic causes, social changes have exacerbated the personal problems of many poor Americans, leading them to be more vulnerable to homelessness. These social trends have included new kinds of illegal drugs and more single parent and teen-headed households with low earning power and thinning support networks. These causes of homelessness must be addressed. People who are homeless must be helped. The current system does this reasonably well for many of those who become homeless. But the homeless assistance system can neither prevent people from becoming homeless nor change the overall availability of housing, income and services that will truly end homelessness.

Many people think of homelessness as strictly an urban phenomenon because homeless people are greater in number and are more visible in urban areas, but homelessness, including people who live in housing not meant for habitation, is pervasive in rural areas. The number of people who experience rural homelessness is unknown, but the last national count of homeless people found that 9 percent live in rural areas. In actual raw numbers, this translates into roughly 67,000 people on any given night. (Burt, 1996) Evidence suggests that if the number of people who experience homelessness in rural areas was viewed and counted more accurately, the number would be far greater.

Rural Homelessness

Advocates and researchers often refer to people who experience rural homelessness as the “hidden homeless.” Many people who experience housing instability in rural areas go unnoticed and uncounted because rural homelessness takes shape differently than urban homelessness. Most rural homeless people live in doubled up situations with friends or family or in motels, in cars, campgrounds and other places not intended for habitation. This is largely because most rural areas do not have large emergency shelters systems.

While those doubled up households do not meet HUD’s definition of homelessness, people living temporarily with friends and family are essentially homeless and they experience similar problems with housing instability. Many researchers and advocates argue for expanding this view of homelessness to capture the unique situations rural homeless people face. If the view of homelessness included households who double up, the numbers of people who experience homelessness in rural areas would increase exponentially.

The same structural factors that contribute to urban homelessness, such as a lack of affordable housing and inadequate income to pay for housing, cause rural homelessness. Other predictors of homelessness, such as mental illness and drug abuse, while still present among the rural homeless, are not pervasive. However, people who experience rural homelessness do report higher rates of alcohol abuse and domestic violence than their urban counterparts.

Rural Poverty

Rural poverty has some unique characteristics. Areas concentrated with rural poverty can be identified throughout the South, West and the Midwest of the United States. The scarcity of jobs, goods, and services has caused an outward migration of rural populations to places with more opportunities. As a consequence, the rural communities with high rates of poverty are sparsely populated and their poverty populations are severely impoverished.

High rates of poverty and unemployment in rural areas also drive homelessness. Rural homelessness is most dramatic in areas that experience high rates of unemployment because of declining industries, for example farming, timber, mining, or fishing. (Aron and Fitchen, 1996) The lack of available jobs and steady incomes means that poverty rates are higher in rural areas; the poverty rate in non-metropolitan areas is 14 percent, almost 11.6 percent less than in metropolitan areas. It is not surprising that one in five children living in rural areas is below the poverty line. (USDA Economic Research Service, 2004)

The RHISCO Project Area

Counting and estimating the number of people who experience homelessness is extremely difficult and costly, and even more so in rural areas. Statewide estimates from the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio report that 179,718 people experience homelessness in Ohio over the course of a year and 27,867 Ohioans are homeless on any given night. At this time, estimates from the seventeen rural counties that comprise the RHISCO Project area, the Rural Homeless Initiative of Southeast and Central Ohio, are becoming available.

Counts of homeless people in Southeastern and Central Ohio are being planned and executed presently. The poverty and unemployment rates in these areas suggest that homelessness is prevalent. According to the U.S. Census Bureau (See Table 1, below), poverty rates in the counties of Southeastern and Central Ohio range from 3.8 percent in Delaware County to as high as 27 percent in Athens County. The poverty rates in Appalachian counties tend to be higher than other counties. About half are higher than the national poverty rate of 14 percent. Unemployment rates in rural Ohio counties are also high, ranging from 7 percent to 20 percent. In Meigs and Morgan Counties, the unemployment rates reach 20 percent, 15 percentage points higher than the national average of 5 percent. (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2005) People who live in poverty are at higher risk of homelessness. Although relatively few people of the region are homeless, the problem affects the entire community as a persistent and debilitating social issue.

Table 1

County	Type	Population N	Pop over 65		Pop at or below 100% poverty		Median income \$	Household not in the Labor Force
			N	%	N	%		
Delaware	Rural	125,399	9,833	7.80%	4,118	3.80%	\$67,258	7%
Fayette	Rural	28,176	4,048	14.40%	2,810	10.10%	\$36,735	12%
Knox	Rural	56,037	7,496	13.40%	5,159	10.10%	\$38,877	13%
Licking	Rural	148,731	17,872	12.00%	10,602	7.40%	\$44,124	13%
Madison	Rural	40,365	4,498	11.10%	2,790	7.90%	\$44,212	11%
Pickaway	Rural	53,437	5,842	10.90%	4,402	9.60%	\$42,832	15%
Union	Rural	43,010	4,066	9.50%	1,763	4.60%	\$51,743	10%
Athens	Appalachian	63,266	5,860	9.30%	14,728	27.30%	\$27,322	16%
Fairfield	Appalachian	129,161	14,058	10.90%	7,064	5.90%	\$47,962	12%
Hocking	Appalachian	28,481	3,737	13.10%	3,711	13.50%	\$34,261	18%
Jackson	Appalachian	32,854	4,362	13.30%	5,286	16.50%	\$30,661	17%
Meigs	Appalachian	23,111	3,377	14.60%	4,506	19.80%	\$27,287	20%
Morgan	Appalachian	14,749	2,302	15.60%	2,691	18.40%	\$28,868	20%
Perry	Appalachian	34,408	4,110	11.90%	3,970	11.80%	\$34,383	16%
Ross	Appalachian	74,469	9,048	12.20%	8,120	12.00%	\$37,117	15%

Vinton	Appalachian	13,128	1,597	12.20%	2,529	20.00%	\$29,465	17%
Washington	Appalachian	62,561	9,622	15.40%	7002	11.40%	\$34,275	17%

Delaware County

Demographic, Income and Housing

Delaware County is included in the RHISCO project as many areas of the County are identified as rural, however this status can be misleading when looking at the County as a whole. According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2005 American Community Survey, Delaware County's population of 147,601 made it the fastest growing county in Ohio, and the 11th fastest growing in the U.S. from 2000 to 2004. Its county seat is the City of Delaware⁶, with an estimated population of 31,322.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2004 population estimates, there are 54,906 households residing in Delaware County. According to the 2000 census there are 30,668 families residing in the county. The racial makeup of the county is 94.25% White, 2.52% Black or African American, 0.14% Native American, 1.54% Asian, 0.03% Pacific Islander, 0.38% from other races, and 1.14% from two or more races. 1.01% of the population are Hispanic or Latino of any race.

Of the 54,906 households, 40.10% have children under the age of 18 living with them, 67.70% are married couples living together, 6.70% have a female householder with no husband present, and 22.70% are non-families. 18.10% of all households are made up of individuals and 5.30% have someone living alone who is 65 years of age or older. The average household size is 2.70 and the average family size is 3.09.

In Delaware County the population is spread out with 28.20% under the age of 18, 7.60% from 18 to 24, 32.60% from 25 to 44, 23.30% from 45 to 64, and 8.20% who are 65 years of age or older. The median age is 35 years..

The median income for a household in Delaware County is the highest of the RHISCO projects Counties at \$75,767, and the median income for a family is \$76,453. Due to these high incomes, tremendous disparity exists between those with median incomes and the 4.6% of the population and 2.90% of families living below the poverty line.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, of the 39,674 Delaware County households, 84.6% are homeowners and 19.6 live in rental housing. The median gross rent for renter households is \$639, which is consistent with the Ohio Fair Market Rent cost for a 2 bedroom apartment. For a family of four living below the federal poverty line, this cost would be over 46% of their gross monthly income dedicated to housing costs, which is significantly higher than the targeted 30%. With a vacancy rate for rental housing in Delaware County at 10.2%, one could surmise that many households are unable to afford market rate rental housing that is not affordable for for their household's income.

Needs statement

Delaware County has an increased number of families and individuals who are experiencing homelessness due to the increased gap between household income and affordable housing.

- The housing challenges faced by many households in Delaware County mirrors a national trend in housing instability for low-income families and individuals.
- A growing body of research suggests that the growing numbers of homeless households can be attributed to the following factors¹:

Poverty: In a County whose median income (\$75,767) is one of the highest in the Ohio, 4.6% of the population lives at or below the federal poverty level. Single individuals living below the poverty level have income less than \$8,050 per year, and a family of four living below the poverty level has income less than \$16,450 per year.

Widening Gap Between Living Wage and Housing Affordability: According to NLHHC's annual out of reach report released December 13, based on a housing wage of \$12.14 in Ohio, a family must have 2.4 wage earners working full-time at minimum wage, or one full-time wage earner working 94 hours in order to afford a modest, Fair Market Rent (FMR) two-bedroom apartment at \$631 per month.²

Shortage of Affordable Housing: The Delaware Housing Authority recently re-opened its application process in 10/05 after being closed for approximately two years. The Housing Authority currently does not offer public housing in Delaware County. Although the housing voucher program provides housing subsidy to nearly 400 households, there are over 400 households currently on the 1-2 year waiting list.

Considering the contributing factors described above, it is not surprising that a number of Delaware County households are experiencing homelessness. Recognizing the need for increased affordable housing, the United Way of Delaware County, the Delaware Cares Planning Study³ and the Delaware County Mental Health and Recovery Board have identified affordable housing activities as a critical need area to be addressed over the next several years.

Further complicating the issue of homelessness in Delaware County is the fact that the County does not have an emergency shelter to immediately assist families or individuals who have lost their housing. Homeless households must relocate temporarily to a neighboring County to receive shelter services, which is detrimental to their ability to maintain employment, schooling and support services in Delaware County. There is currently no emergency shelter or transitional housing beds located with the County. The Salvation Army currently operates a Direct Housing Program for 40 homeless families a year, however the issue of emergency housing while the program locates permanent housing for families remains an obstacle.

Results of the 2006 Point-in-Time Report for Homeless and At-Risk Persons show that there are numerous households in Delaware County struggling with homelessness and housing crisis:

¹National Alliance to End Homelessness: 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness. Washington, D.C.

² National Low Income Housing Coalition. Out of Reach 2005. Washington, D.C.

³ 2004 Delaware Cares Planning Study.

Emergency Shelter

- 2 Single Men
- 1 Family

Formerly Homeless – Currently in Permanent Housing

- 16 Single Men
- 14 Single Women
- 20 Families

Households Seeking Supportive Services to deal with homelessness/housing crisis

- 13 Homeless Households
- 98 Households at risk of homelessness

The Continuum of Care Committee realizes that these results may be misleading, as households inability to access shelter within the County may have decreased the numbers able to be counted through the survey process.

Prevention Services in Delaware County

Current Services

- Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds administered by HelpLine
- ODOT Homeless Prevention Program funds administered by HelpLine
- Tenant Based Rental Assistance administered by Delaware Metropolitan Housing
- HOPWA funds administered by Columbus Public Health
- Prevention, Retention, Contingency Funds (PRC) and Family Preservation funds administered by Delaware County Department of Job and Family Services
- Home Energy Assistance Program administered by Community Action Organization
- Columbia Gas HeatShare Program funds administered by The Salvation Army
- Housing Assistance Program Funds (HAP) administered by Central Ohio Mental Health Agency
- Emergency assistance for veterans administered by Veterans Services
- Community Housing Improvement Program funds administered the City of Delaware
- Emergency rental assistance administered by People In Need (PIN) and local churches
- Emergency Food Assistance provided by multiple community organizations and local churches
- Emergency Material Assistance provided by multiple community organizations and local churches
- Home Repair funds administered by USDA and Community Action
- Eviction Process assistance provided by Legal Aid Society
- Information and Referral Services administered by HelpLine
- Free legal clinic administered by Delaware County Bar Association

Gaps and Unmet Needs

Adequate stock of affordable and/or subsidized housing for the general population, seniors and persons with disabilities

- Additional financial resources to assist with eviction/foreclosure prevention
- Quality public transportation and gasoline assistance to households with vehicles
- Case management services, life skills course, household management courses
- Increased awareness of available resources

Prevention Services Gap Strategies

- Affordable Housing – CoC agencies will continue to advocate for the development of affordable housing in various County planning processes and will seek out funding when possible
- Additional Resources - CoC agencies will improve documentation of homelessness and housing crisis and use this information to seek out additional funding when possible
- Public Transportation – CoC agencies will advocate for increased DATA routes in all community planning processes
- Case management – CoC agencies will advocate for these services when applying for funding for homeless and prevention services
- Increased awareness of available resources – CoC agencies will meet monthly to coordinate services among service providers and will discuss ways to provide outreach information to those in need of services

Service Coordination in Delaware County

Current Activities

- Delaware County agencies currently coordinate services in a fairly informal way, through community meetings and planning processes.
- HelpLine is generally the first point of contact for homeless persons as they are the local Information and Referral Source agency, with referrals made to multiple agencies after initial contact.

Gaps and Unmet Needs

- Lack of one stop service center for homeless (multiple front doors)
- Education of Services
- Restrictive funding criteria for homeless assistance

Service Coordination Gap Strategies

- Develop a flow chart of homeless services
- Advocacy and Flexibility between funders and agencies
- Increased training and meeting regarding available community resources
- Incorporate faith based organization services and planning processes into current service system

Outreach Services in Delaware County

Current Services

- Agencies currently outreach to their own target population
- Homeless student liaison in each school district
- HelpLine advertises information line in all areas of County
- SA Direct Housing Program posts fliers in public areas (grocery stores, laundry mats, etc.
- Church groups often provide food and ministry to persons

Gaps and Unmet Needs

- Vast area to cover
- Lack of Resources to conduct outreach activities
- Difficulty meeting needs of persons currently – bring additional persons in for service would be overwhelming

Outreach Services Gap Strategies

- Seek out additional funding, which include outreach activities
- Engage mainstream resources in service coordination discussion to ensure that homeless system is not providing services that should be handled by another agency
- Involve additional providers and church groups to broaden the area for the Homeless Count and service system planning

Workforce Development Services in Delaware County

Current Services

- DCDJFS One Stop Career Center
- ABLE/GED
- MRDD training center
- Temporary Employment Agencies
- Delaware Educational Career Center
- Center for Vocational Alternatives (COVA)
- Goodwill Industries

Gaps and Unmet Needs

- Better wages to afford housing
- Entry jobs with opportunity to advance in a career path

Workforce Development Services Gap Strategies

- Explore customized employment opportunities
- Advocate and educate public for increased living wage in all planning processes

Community Support and Liaison Strategies

Current Efforts

- Government officials, United Way and other community stakeholders are invited to Affordable Housing Task Force and Continuum of Care meetings on a regular basis
- Task Force members routinely participate on local planning process and update the community on housing/housing crisis issues
- Individual agencies work with local, state and federal officials on specific projects

Community Support Gap Strategies

- Work with Marci McCauley, RHISCO Project liaison consultant to improve community coordination with State and Federal agencies
- Improve participation of City and County in Task Force and Continuum of Care planning

Data Collection

Current Activities

In response to requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), a point-in-time count of sheltered and unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness was conducted the last week of January 2006.

In response to these requirements, the Delaware Affordable Housing Task Force (AHTF) approved a Count plan developed by the its Continuum of Care Committee (CoC Committee). The CoC Committee included representatives from the Affordable Housing Task Force, as well as several other community providers.

The plan developed by the CoC Committee was informed by an examination of best practices in other communities and methodologies identified by HUD in their October 2004 publication, A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People, and by COHHIO in their Balance of State Continuum of Care training held in December 2004.

In order to have the most accurate point-in-time count of sheltered and unsheltered persons in Delaware County the following methodologies were identified:

Population	Location	Count Type	Source/Methodology
Sheltered Homeless and persons at-risk of Homelessness	Shelters, Transitional & Permanent Housing Programs, and Community Service Providers	Administrative Records and Enumeration	Survey of community based programs serving homeless or persons at-risk of homelessness
Unsheltered Homeless	Known Locations (street areas, encampments, truck stops, etc.)	Enumeration	Survey completed by Delaware County Sheriff's Office and City of Delaware Police Department

Data Collection Improvement Strategies

- Continuum of Care Committee will use HMIS data and individual agency's statistics on the homeless to gain a better understanding of those persons receiving homeless or prevention services in 2007.
- Continuum of Care Committee will seek to involve members of the faith community in efforts to count and engage unsheltered homeless persons.
- Continuum of Care Committee will improve Homeless Count by adding survey component to gather information on persons' homeless situations, and will conduct Homeless Count training for community organizations.

Sustainability Planning

Funding Strategies

- Continuum of Care Committee will continue to review and endorse applications from agencies seeking Homeless Assistance Funding through the Ohio Department of Development. Currently, HelpLine receives Homeless Prevention Funding and The Salvation Army receives Direct Housing funding in Delaware County.
- Continuum of Care Committee will continue to review and endorse applications from agencies for funding through the HUD Balance of State process administered by the Ohio Department of Development. Currently, The Salvation Army has submitted its Technical Submission paperwork for the development of 10 permanent supportive housing units for homeless families with disabilities. The Continuum of Care will look into the feasibility of applying for Shelter Plus Care funding through the Balance of State process.

Permanent Housing

Strategies

Although the Continuum of Care Committee has conducted a Point-in-Time Count the last two years, the number of homeless persons in the community continues to be a much debated subject. The Committee will develop goals to assist us in accurately documenting the number of homeless persons, which will also include an estimation of persons "doubled up" or living with others, to identify priority homeless populations.

The Committee will seek to identify new permanent supportive housing and shelter plus care projects for priority populations through the HUD Balance of State application process.

In addition, the Committee will continue to focus on advocacy and education to the community regarding the need for development of housing that is affordable to persons at all levels of income.

Implementation Strategy

Goal: Close the Front Door to Homelessness	Action Steps	Responsible Person/ Organization	Target Dates
Increase/Maintain services available to prevent homelessness for individuals and families.	1) Maintain current funding for homeless prevention activities through local and/or state funding processes.	HelpLine People in Need CAO The Salvation Army City/County DCDJFS	January 2008
	2) Identify one strategy to Increase funding for homeless prevention activities.	Continuum of Care Committee	January 2008
	3) Identify one new strategy to address non-financial barriers to maintaining housing; ie Life Skills, employment retention, etc.	Continuum of Care Committee	January 2008
Increase service coordination and awareness of available resources.	1) Hold at least 10 service provider meetings per year to discuss service coordination and available resources.	Affordable Housing Task Force	January 2008
	2) Identify 5 new partners to join the AHTF.	Affordable Housing Task Force	January 2008
	3) Develop Homeless System Flow Chart & Service Fact Sheet.		
	4) Develop CoC Roles & Responsibilities for Committee members.		

Goal: Open the Back Door to Homelessness	Action Steps	Responsible Person/ Organization	Target Dates
Increase the number of safe, decent, affordable permanent housing units available to homeless families and individuals with or without disability.	1) Identify one, new permanent housing project to meet the needs of an identified priority population.	Continuum of Care Committee	January 2008
	2) Develop 10 units of Permanent Supportive Housing for homeless families with disability.	The Salvation Army	June 2007
	3) Identify possible	Continuum of Care Committee	September 2007

Increase housing and other resources for homeless persons.	Shelter Plus Care partners for HUD application 2008. 1)Identify two new resources for homeless persons (non-permanent housing)	Continuum of Care Committee	January 2008
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Goal: Build Community Infrastructure	Action Steps	Responsible Person/ Organization	Target Dates
Increase local, state, and federal legislative support for affordable housing.	1) Identify one strategy to advocate for the development of affordable housing in community planning processes. 2) Identify one strategy to conduct a coordinated effort to inform legislators about need for affordable housing in Delaware County.	Affordable Housing Task Force	January 2008
Increase community awareness on the issue of homelessness.	1) Identify one strategy to increase awareness of homelessness and poverty; ie: Bridges out of Poverty Training, community forum, etc.	Affordable Housing Task Force	January 2008
Increase access to transportation assistance.	1)Identify one strategy to advocate for increased DATA routes in community planning processes.	Affordable Housing Task Force	January 2008
Increase access to employment that pays a living wage.	1)Identify one strategy to advocate for employment that pay fair housing wage in community planning processes.	Affordable Housing Task Force	January 2008
Increase the number of housing to keep pace with service sector workforce.	1)Identify one strategy to advocate for affordable workforce housing.	Affordable Housing Task Force	January 2008

Goal: Manage for Results	Action Steps	Responsible Person/ Organization	Target Dates
Improve data collection methods and analysis to increase understanding of homelessness and housing crisis.	1) Conduct Point-in-Time survey training for community.	Continuum of Care Committee	January 2007 (annual)
	2) Conduct Point-in-Time Count of Homeless Persons	Continuum of Care Committee	September 2007 (annual)

	3) Conduct Review and Update of Inventory of Services for County	Continuum of Care Committee	March 2007 (annual)
	4) Conduct Review and Update of Emergency Lodging Plan	Continuum of Care Committee	October 2007 (annual)
	5) Conduct Review and Update of Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness	Continuum of Care Committee	March 2008 (annual)
	6) Issue Report to Community on Homelessness	Continuum of Care Committee	April 2008 (annual)

Regionalism

Delaware County currently collaborates with organizations in contiguous Counties in an effort to serve persons who are homeless or in housing crisis. The Marion Shelter and Turning Point Domestic Violence Shelter provide services to Delaware County residents who are in need of emergency shelter services. Both of these out of County providers are members of the Affordable Housing Task Force and its planning processes.

In addition, several community agencies operate services in multiple Counties. Agencies are able to represent these neighboring communities and their relationship to Delaware in all County planning processes.

Conclusion

Delaware County has a strong contingency of local providers who are working collaboratively to address homelessness and housing crisis in their community. While the County has few services and programs dedicated exclusively to serving the homeless, local providers and community officials are dedicated to increasing the amount of resources to the most vulnerable of their County. The Delaware County Affordable Housing Task Force and its Continuum of Care Committee have begun working on strategies to identify homeless and at-risk persons, and have engaged in planning processes to meet their needs. Goals and objectives outlined in the County's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness will assist the Task Force to identify new resources to meet gaps in service delivery to assist persons in ending their homeless or housing crisis.

**2006 Delaware County
Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness**

Continuum of Care and Community Stakeholder Meeting Participants

Organization	Individual
Andrews House	Jill Lee
City of Delaware	Jennifer Kiper Jason Bechtold
Columbus Health Department	Susan Villilo
Community Action Organization	Jim Cesa Dawn Chatman Sharon Bach
Council for Older Adults	Fara Waugh
Delaware City Schools	Sharon Bechtel
Delaware County	Dottie Brown
Delaware Health Department	Laurie Thurman
Del-Mor Dwellings	Jim Wilson Anthony Ployhar
Department of Job and Family Services	Mona Reilly Holly Kuba
Habitat for Humanity	Jackie Kuhns
HelpLine	Susan Hanson Mary Damico
League of Women Voters	Karen Rainey
Marion Shelter	Mark Lovett
Mental Health and Recovery Board	Gerrie McDonald
OCCH	Sharon Austin
Ohio Wesleyan	Laura Bange (student)
People In Need (PIN)	Kevin Crowley
RHISCO Project	Cynthia Tindongan
The Salvation Army	Beth Fetzer-Rice
Turning Point	Donna Thomas
United Way of Delaware County	Katherine Tatterson Kreuchauf