

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries <jheight@nazarene.org>

Reply-To: jheight@nazarene.org

July Resource eNews - Homelessness and Housing

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



July 2013

In This Issue

[Signature Theme: Homelessness and Housing](#)

[Tell Us About Your Efforts](#)

[Homelessness and Housing Funding Opportunities](#)

[Ten Essentials Guide for Communities](#)

[Current Funding Opportunities](#)

About NCM USA/Canada

NCM partners with local Nazarene churches around the world to clothe, shelter, feed, heal, & educate the least of these.

Mission

Following the example of Jesus, NCM partners with local Nazarene congregations around the world to clothe, shelter, feed, heal, educate, and live in solidarity with those who suffer under oppression, injustice, violence, poverty, hunger, and disease. NCM exists in and through the Church of the Nazarene to proclaim the Gospel to all people in word and deed.

Churches

Local churches are the primary avenue for Nazarenes to reach out to those in their communities. Nazarene Compassionate Ministries seeks to support churches in starting and

My Fellow Leaders,

In this issue we wanted to speak on the growing issue of homelessness. Over the past several years, the face of the homeless has changed - and now, so must we. **We must change how we help those living in homelessness and the challenges that come with finding sustainable housing.**



I hope you will find the following information and resources on homelessness helpful to you and your ministry. **Please send us your success stories** so we can share what God is doing across the nation - in homelessness and every other area of ministry. We will do our best to feature those stories in upcoming resource e-newsletters.

Let us know in what other ways we can assist you, as we all work together to live out the calling to help to those in need.

Your partner in ministry,

Jay Height

jheight@nazarene.org

Coordinator, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries

maintaining ministry to the underserved and marginalized. We believe every church, no matter size or budget, can find ways to meet needs in their community with compassion, creative, and the firm foundation and life-changing power of the Gospel message.

CMCs- Compassionate Ministry Centers

A Compassionate Ministry Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to meeting the needs of the under-resourced in the community. While these organizations are often affiliated with a specific local church, they are in a strategic position to unite others in their community around a high-needs cause.

NDR- Nazarene Disaster Response

Nazarene Disaster Response is Nazarenes mobilizing for disaster through Readiness, Response, and Recovery. Local Nazarenes are in a unique position to understand, serve, and remain with disaster victims in their own neighborhoods. In large-scale events the denomination can come alongside local efforts with the support of volunteers and donors from across the country and through our strong partnerships with other disaster relief agencies. NDR serves victims regardless of race, creed, or economic status by concentrating on assistance to the poor, elderly, and handicapped.

W&W- Work & Witness

Work & Witness provides opportunities for Nazarenes to serve together in support of existing ministries such as churches, CMCs, and Nazarene Disaster Response. Work & Witness can be any type of project, from construction to evangelism to compassionate outreach.

Signature Theme: Homelessness and Housing

Best Practices, Innovations, Funding Opportunities

Homelessness occurs when people or households are unable to acquire or maintain housing they can afford. A person is considered homeless when he/she resides in (1) places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned buildings; (2) an emergency shelter; or (3) transitional housing for homeless persons.[1]

In the United States, approximately 634,000 people experience homelessness on any given night, of which 38% are people in families and 62% are individuals[2]. Although the "chronically homeless" are often the public face of homelessness, less than 16% of the homeless population falls into this group. Special populations that make up a large portion of the homeless are veterans (13%), domestic violence survivors (12%), unaccompanied youth, and formerly incarcerated individuals who are re-entering society.

Three complementary approaches effectively reduce homelessness:



Housing First: Uses housing as a tool for recovery by first providing permanent housing and then providing additional services as needed and requested. This approach requires developing affordable, permanent housing through marketing to landlords to develop a base willing to work with the Housing First program and partnering with local public housing authorities to dedicate resources such as housing vouchers and subsidies to homeless populations. The service package includes assisting low

income individuals and families in identifying affordable housing, providing access to funds for security deposit and first month's rent, subsidizing rent either short or long term, assistance to increase household income through work earnings (intensive employment services) or public benefits (benefit advocacy), and home-based case management to link families to community-based services to meet their ongoing needs.

Rapid Re-Housing: Based on the premise that most households become homeless as a result of a financial crisis that prevents them from paying the rent or a domestic conflict that results in one member being ejected or leaving with no resources or plan

Contact

Toll Free Number: 1-800-306-9950

Fax: (913) 577-0893

General Email:

ncmusacan@nazarene.org

Coordinator: **Jay Height**

Direct Line: (317) 281-6768

E-Mail: jheight@nazarene.org

Field Support Coordinator:

Keith Davenport

Direct Line: (913) 577-2876

Email:

kdavenport@nazarene.org



Like

for housing, most households have already lived in independent permanent housing and can generally return and remain stably housed with limited assistance. Returning people to permanent housing as quickly as possible reduces the period of time people experience homelessness and minimizes the associated negative outcomes.

Homelessness Prevention: Helps to reduce the size of the homeless population by helping households to preserve their current housing situations, reducing demand for shelter beds. **Homelessness prevention is based on the following basic guiding principles [3]:**

(Principle 1) Crisis resolution - Rapid assessment and triage, focus on personal safety, de-escalation of emotional reaction, definite and achievable action steps, assistance with actions the individual is temporarily unable to attempt, and returned control over problem solving.

(Principle 2) Client choice, respect, and empowerment - Emphasis on client goals, choices, and preference is essential for empowerment and restored self-efficacy.

(Principle 3) Provide minimum assistance necessary for the shortest time - Providing just enough to prevent homelessness enables a program to help far more people in crisis.

(Principle 4) Maximize community resources - Coordinate effectively with mainstream assistance programs to ensure that quality services are provided to people at risk of homelessness. Do not duplicate efforts.

(Principle 5) The right resources to the right people at the right time - Target people at highest risk of becoming homeless, but a good chance of remaining housed if they receive assistance.

Homelessness Prevention interventions to retain current housing:

1. Housing advice
2. Legal services
3. Credit repair and budgeting
4. Employment services
5. Financial assistance to prevent eviction (Household resources and informal support networks, Public assistance, One-time assistance with rental and utility arrears, Rental assistance, Utility assistance)
6. Resolving a conflict that could lead to homelessness (Landlord-Tenant Conflict, Host-Guest Conflict, Intra-Household Conflict)
7. Housing stabilization through case management and creating a housing plan (Home visits, Landlord-Tenant communication, Landlord-Tenant rights and responsibilities, Referrals to mainstream resources)

Homelessness Prevention interventions to relocate without homelessness:

8. Assess housing barriers
9. Recruit landlords
10. Weigh the choices
11. Financial assistance for housing start-up
12. Once housed, return focus to prevention

Design housing strategies to fit specific target populations:

Chronic homelessness is defined by HUD as long-term (continuously homeless for a year or more) or repeated homelessness (at least 4 episodes of homelessness in the past 3 years).^[4] Chronically homeless people also have a serious physical or mental disability, including mental illnesses like schizophrenia and/or alcohol or drug addiction.

Permanent supportive housing

is a proven strategy for ending chronic homelessness and preventing incurrence of public costs, and is most effective when focused on people who are leaving hospitals, psychiatric facilities, substance abuse treatment programs, prisons, and jails.

Most families who experience homelessness are in shelter for a brief period of time and do not become homeless again. Family homelessness^[5] is typically caused by some unforeseen housing or financial crisis, with families moving on once the temporary problem is resolved.

The solution to family homelessness is often rapid re-housing to provide stability necessary to achieve independence. Prevention efforts also help end family vulnerability by improving income and work support needs of very poor families and affordable housing facilitating availability of affordable housing.

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth are at greater risk for physical and sexual abuse, mental health and substance abuse issues, and death. Nearly 1.7 million U.S. youth under age 18 are homeless and approximately 380,000 youth remain away from home for over one week while 131,000 stay away for over one month.^[6]

Three types of homeless youth are defined:

"Low Risk" youth are younger, have more stable relationships with their families and schools, and experience the least amount of homelessness over time.

"Transient" youth have less stable connections, and are repeatedly homeless.

"High Risk" youth are likely to have dropped out of school, have unstable family relationships and mental health or substance abuse issues, and are homeless for longer periods.

Effective strategies to address youth homelessness include:

Early, intensive intervention and family reunification to address abuse and dysfunction, reduce family conflict, and preserve families.

Long-term housing options (group home, shared house, supervised apartments, and scattered-site apartments) should provide self-sufficiency services and positive youth development activities to build youth life skills for independent living.

Domestic Violence Survivors are primarily women who are isolated from support networks and financial resources,



preventing them from obtaining steady income, employment history, credit history, and landlord references that are necessary to secure housing, and placing them at risk for anxiety, panic, depressions, and substance abuse.



Interventions for addressing homeless domestic violence survivors include **short-term, immediate safe housing away from the abuser**, and **access to safe, stable, affordable housing** through prevention and rapid re-housing. Approaches include: financial assistance to pay back rent and utilities, short term rental assistance, case management and legal assistance to remain in current housing, and assistance to obtain new housing without entering a shelter.

One in five people who leave prison become homeless soon after re-entry because they have low income and lack the ability to obtain housing through normal channels.[7] Homelessness increases the chances that these individuals will return to prison.

Effective models preventing homelessness during re-entry include:

Re-entry Housing provides subsidized housing with intensive support services such as job training, housing assistance, health services, case management, substance abuse and mental health treatment, and provision of community mentors.

Supporting extended families of people leaving prison stabilizes the home, and prevents homelessness and recidivism.

Intended homelessness and housing program outcomes include:

- (1) Prevention of homelessness
- (2) Reduction in the length of time of homelessness
- (3) Decreased recidivism/recurrence of homelessness

Additional Resources and Data:

[Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Youth Program Models](#)

[Homelessness Data Exchange](#) (local data)

[1] **[Homelessness Resource Exchange \(HUDHRE\)](#)**

[2] **[Homelessness Data Exchange](#)**

[3] **[Homelessness Prevention: Creating Programs that Work](#)**

[4] **[Homelessness Resource Exchange \(HUDHRE\)](#)**

[5] **[National Alliance to End Homelessness: Families](#)**

[6] **[An Emerging Framework for Ending Unaccompanied Youth Homelessness](#)**

[7] **[National Alliance to End Homelessness: Re-Entry](#)**

**Tell Us About Your
Homelessness and Housing Efforts!**

To share innovative work that is being done by your compassionate ministries centers to serve the homeless and help us better match your work to donor interests, please complete our

[Homelessness and Housing Strategies Survey](#).

(Expected time: < 10 minutes)

Homelessness and Housing Funding Opportunities

TD Charitable Foundation's Housing for Everyone Grant Competition aims to improve affordable housing in TD Bank business communities. For more information, click **[here](#)**.

Time-frame: June - August, Annually

Bank of America Charitable Foundation will issue its Critical Needs RFP on July 8, 2013 for projects that provide access to emergency shelters and housing, and transition individuals and families to financial stability by providing integrated wrap around services. **[Click here to apply](#)**.

Deadline: August 2, 2013.



[Bank of America Charitable Foundation also issues an annual RFP for Community Development projects that focus on preserving neighborhoods by helping distressed individuals stay in their homes and increasing access to affordable housing. Monitor website for current deadlines.]

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Grants **[Click here to check for annual NOFA](#)**.

Supportive Housing Program (SHP) - Matching funds for creation of transitional/permanent housing (1:1) and provision of supportive services to homeless individuals and families (80:20). For more information, click **[here](#)**.

Continuum of Care Program (CoC) - Funds for rapid re-housing, improving access to mainstream programs, and optimizing self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness. For more information, click **[here](#)**.

Kresge Foundation supports safe and healthy housing in low income communities through the Advancing Safe and Healthy Homes Initiative. For more information, click **[here](#)**.

Wells Fargo Housing Foundation supports local non-profit housing organizations that serve low income people. For more information and to apply, click **[here](#)**.

Application Deadline: July 31, 2013

McCormick Foundation supports programs focusing on homelessness prevention, supportive housing and transitional shelter through its partnerships with media outlets and sports teams. For more information on partner

funding priorities and application process in targeted communities (*Chicago, Denver, Fort Lauderdale, Long Island, Los Angeles, Orlando, and Washington, DC*) click [here](#).

JPMorgan Chase creates pathways to opportunity by funding organizations that address need for transitional, permanent supportive and affordable housing. For more information, click [here](#).

Ten Essentials Guide for Communities on Effective Permanent Solutions to Homelessness

1. Plan - collaborate with community representatives to create a comprehensive, systematic approach to addressing the various aspects of homelessness.

2. Data - review the local Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) to gain a complete understanding of the local homeless populations and their specific needs.

3. Emergency Prevention - connect vulnerable populations with emergency services, temporary cash assistance, and case management.

4. Systems Prevention - create a clear path to housing from institutions (jail, foster care, mental health programs, and medical care facilities) to housing through case management, access to services, and housing assistance programs.

5. Outreach - identify homeless individuals in the community and connect them with low-demand housing and services.

6. Shorten Homelessness - minimize length of stay in shelter and reduce repeat homeless episodes by ensuring immediate access to housing and home-based case management.

7. Rapid Re-Housing - designate housing staff to search local housing markets, build relationships with landlords, and creatively use housing vouchers, subsidies, and incentives for landlords to identify affordable housing for low income clients.

8. Services - connect homeless families and individuals to mainstream assistance programs.

9. Permanent Housing - invest in creating affordable housing, including supportive housing.

10. Income - help formerly homeless people build skills to increase their income through employment services, federal and state cash assistance, and Workforce Investment Act.



Current Funding Opportunities

DHHS Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Basic Center Program supports community-based organizations that meet the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth by providing emergency shelter, food, clothing, counseling, and referrals for health care. Program goals include promoting social and emotional well-being of children and youth who have experienced maltreatment, exposure to violence, and/or trauma, building skills and assets for healthy, productive adulthood, and reunification of young people with their families. [For more information, click here.](#)

Application Deadline: July 22, 2013

Award Amount: \$50,000 - \$200,000 per year

Project Duration: 3 years

Matching Requirement: 10% of total project cost

Ruddie Memorial Youth Foundation Seeks Applications for Innovative Youth Programs. Grants for "new, uncommon, unconventional, or untested" youth programs aimed at identifying effective practices that lead to breakthrough results in supporting underprivileged youth in greater Baltimore, Boston, Los Angeles, Madison, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and/or Washington, D.C. [Apply.](#)

Application Deadline: July 17, 2013

Award Amount: \$25,000

NBCUniversal Foundation Invites Applications for 21st Century Solutions Initiative. Non-profits serving populations in targeted metropolitan areas with innovative programs in the following focus areas: civic engagement, education, environment, job and economic empowerment, media arts, and technology are eligible to apply. [Click on the NBC affiliate serving your metro area to apply.](#)

[Bay Area](#)
[Chicago](#)
[Connecticut](#)
[Dallas-Fort Worth](#)
[Los Angeles](#)
[New York City](#)
[Philadelphia](#)
[San Diego:](#)
[South Florida](#)
[Washington, D.C.](#)

Application Deadline:

July 31, 2013

Award Amount:

\$25,000 - 100,000



DHHS Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Planning Grants to develop a model of intervention for youth and young adults with Child Welfare involvement at-risk for homelessness. Program activities are expected to produce the following outcomes: stable housing, permanent connections, education and employment, social-emotional well-being. Engagement points include youth in child welfare who are most at risk for homelessness, youth aging out of foster care, and youth/young adults who are homeless and were involved in

child welfare. **[For more information, click here.](#)**

Application Deadline: July 22, 2013

Award Amount: \$180,000 - \$360,000 per year

Project Duration: 2 years

Matching Requirement: None

USDA Utilities Program Rural Housing Preservation Grants

for non-profits to assist very low- and low-income homeowners in repairing and rehabilitating their homes in rural areas or assist rental property owners and cooperative housing complexes in repairing and rehabilitating their units if they agree to make such units available to low- and very low-income persons. **[For more information, click here.](#)**

Application Deadline: August 2, 2013

Award Amount: \$50,000

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries

Global Ministry Center
17001 Prairie Star Parkway
Lenexa, KS 66220, USA

Phone: 1.800.310.6362 * Email: ncmusacan@nazarene.org

[Forward email](#)

