

# DELAWARE'S HOMELESS ADVOCACY NETWORK



HOMELESS PLANNING COUNCIL OF DELAWARE

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The purpose of this publication is to inform Delawareans of the homeless situation in our State and to give you tools to advocate for additional funding, services, and resources so that we can remedy homelessness in the First State.

## Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act Passes U.S. House

Sponsored by Representative Chris Murphy (CT), the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act aims to provide more supportive housing for individuals with disabilities by updating the Section 811 statute, the sole federal housing program designated for such purposes. The bill, which passed the U.S. House by voice vote, provides \$85 million more to create 4,000 new units of supportive housing across the country. The legislation now goes to the U.S. Senate for a vote.

Section 811 funds have helped the Ministry of Caring, Connections CSP, NAMI, and ARC construct housing for persons with disabilities. It is imperative that additional resources support this program.

**Please contact Senator Biden and Senator Carper's offices and ask them to support the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act.**

**Senator Biden's Office:** (202) 224-5042

**Senator Carper's Office:** (202) 224-2441

## Delaware Budget Office Budget Hearings

Each year, Delaware's Budget Office holds Budget Hearings in November. These hearings are an opportunity for each state division to justify the upcoming years budget. The Governor and Budget Office then consider each budget with the state's revenue and present the Governor's Budget in January. The legislature then holds Joint Finance Committee hearings from February-April. The legislature has to approve a final budget by June 30th of each year. Two Budget Office hearings that will effect housing and services for the homeless are the Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) and the Office of Community Services (OCS).

**Please attend both of these hearings so you can learn what the state's priorities are for housing in FY10 (July 2009—June 2010).**

**DSHA Hearing**—November 18th; 3 pm; Legislative Hall

**DHHS Hearing (Including OCS)** - November 24th; 12:30 pm; Leg. Hall

## JANUARY 29, 2008 POINT IN TIME STUDY RESULTS

- 1,556 HOMELESS PERSONS IN DELAWARE
- 76% WERE SHELTERED
- 10% WERE DOUBLED-UP
- 5% WERE UNSHELTERED
- 82% WERE ADULTS
- 57% MALE / 42% FEMALE
- 60% BLACK / 32% WHITE / 4% HISPANIC
- 13% WERE VETERANS
- 39% WERE CHRONICALLY HOMELESS
- 44% HAD MONTHLY INCOMES BELOW \$500

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