



# 2010 Annual Report



**Preventing and Ending  
Homelessness through  
Collaboration and Coordination**

## Mission Statement

The Homeless Planning Council of Delaware is an independent statewide non-profit that works to strengthen the support system for people who are homeless. Through collaboration with stakeholders, data collection and coordination of funding, the Homeless Planning Council of Delaware strives to create a shared vision to remedy homelessness in Delaware.

## Letter from the President and Executive Director

Dear Members and Friends :

2010 has proved to be a difficult year in many respects. From economic recessions to world disasters, stress and havoc has been upon us. And for those who are at-risk of homelessness or who are homeless, their trauma and pain has been worse during these crises. At the Homeless Planning Council, we know that you hear their stories, you empathize with them, you understand stress from so many levels.

In the midst of the economic recession when resources are becoming more scarce for individuals and organizations, we need to rally together to ensure that an efficient and effective system of care exists. It is our responsibility to ensure that Delaware thoughtfully plans and implements a shared vision that creates a coordinated, seamless system of care for all homeless persons and those who are at-risk of homelessness.

In 2010, the Homeless Planning Council led and participated in many activities and events that helped us to develop this shared vision.

- Planning for Delaware's first Comprehensive Housing Plan
- Centralized Intake Stakeholder Meetings
- Homeless Service Providers Network
- Disability Housing Needs Study working group
- Implementation of the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program
- Education on the HEARTH Act that reauthorizes the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- Homeless Voices: A collaborative video and picture project with students from Delaware College for Art and Design

In 2011, we anticipate more opportunities to coordinate and collaborate with you; our members and our friends.

The Board and Staff of the Homeless Planning Council would like to thank you for your hard work and your support of. The work that we accomplish in support of our vision of preventing and ending homelessness in Delaware is because of you.

*John Teoli*

John Teoli, Board President

*Susan T. Starrett*

Susan Starrett, Executive Director

## What we have been doing this year...

At our Annual Meeting in 2009, the Homeless Planning Council released our Strategic Plan for 2009—2011. Our strategic goals were based on our core strengths and programming that is relevant to the needs of our community and homeless persons. Implementing our Strategic Plan will ensure a stronger Homeless Planning Council which will position us to better serve our stakeholders from around the State.

For the past two years, we have worked on making our strategic goals a reality and to grow our current programs: Continuum of Care Planning and Coordination and Data Collection and Analysis.

Our strategic goals are:

1. Create an advocacy and public education program that helps people understand that homelessness is a housing issue.
2. Lead a community planning process that coordinates homeless services and prevention to review needs, identify gaps, and recommend best practice solutions to end homelessness in Delaware.
3. Coordinate housing efforts to create an infrastructure making housing affordable and available to all individuals and families.

The information included in this Annual Report shows you our successes and challenges in implementing our Strategic Plan during 2010.

## Continuum of Care Planning and Coordination

The Delaware Statewide CoC was awarded \$5,059,280 in 2010 for renewal projects plus an additional \$291,161 for a new project for a total of \$5,350,441. This includes the addition of funding for one new program (Next Step 2 through Connections Community Support Programs) and 19 renewal projects. Grantees for the renewal projects include: Connections Community Support Programs, Delaware Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Gateway House, Ministry of Caring, West End Neighborhood House, and YWCA Delaware.

## Data Collection and Analysis—HMIS

The Homeless Planning Council collects data through two main sources, the Delaware Homeless Management Information System (DE-HMIS) and an annual point-in-time survey.

The DE-HMIS currently has 29 participating agencies with 82 users who input data for 104 different homeless assistance programs. In 2010, a total of 3,269 unduplicated persons were served in HMIS participating homeless housing programs. In 2010, a new version of the HMIS Data Standards were released. And the HPC began planning for an upgrade to the HMIS System.

In 2010, the Homeless Planning Council continued to work with agencies receiving federal stimulus monies through the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). By the end of 2010, the majority of those monies had been distributed and nearly 3,000 persons in 1,365 households received assistance to help them from becoming homeless or re-housed them back into the community.

### Vision

**Homelessness is not a simple problem affecting some but is a complex housing issue that has many causes, solutions and outcomes.**

**HMIS Participating Agencies**

Aid in Dover  
 Be Ready CDC  
 Catholic Charities  
 Community Legal Aid Society  
 Claymont Community Center  
 Connections Community Support Programs  
 Delaware Center for Justice  
 Delaware Teen Challenge  
 Dover Interfaith Mission  
 Gateway House  
 Home of the Brave  
 Homeward Bound  
 Hudson State Service Center  
 Lutheran Community Services  
 Ministry of Caring  
 NAMI—Delaware  
 New Castle County—Office of Community Services  
 Newark Area Welfare  
 Peoples Place  
 Psychotherapeutic Services, Inc.  
 Salvation Army  
 Shepherd Place  
 STEHM  
 Sojourners  
 Sussex Community Crisis Housing Services  
 The Way Home  
 United Cerebral Palsy  
 West End Neighborhood House  
 YWCA Delaware

**Data Collection and Analysis—PIT 2010**

On the last Tuesday night in January, the Homeless Planning Council conducts a Point-in-Time (PIT) count of Delaware’s homeless population. This count gives us a snapshot of our homeless population and is used as a starting point for planning how to prevent and end homelessness in our State.

On January 26, 2010 there were 1,284 persons counted as homeless. Using data collected through the study, we estimate that there are 5,500 persons who are homeless in Delaware throughout the year.

**Community Planning**

The lack of affordable housing has become one of Delaware’s most pressing housing issues. It is the major impediment to the successful reintegration into the community of many groups, including the episodically and chronically homeless, persons with disabilities living in state facilities, foster care youth aging out of the system, people living with HIV/AIDS, ex-offenders, and many others.

The HPC in collaboration with the Delaware Housing Coalition are developing a comprehensive, integrated, statewide community planning effort that is community-based with input and participation from advocates, households and individuals with extremely low incomes, service providers, elected officials, government entities and other stakeholders. This planning effort will address the need for affordable housing for all households including specifically those who are cost-burdened and those who need affordable, accessible and integrated housing because of a disability.

**Collaboration of Stakeholders**

The Homeless Planning Council coordinates stakeholders through a variety of means. Over the past year, the Homeless Planning Council has expanded its outreach to a variety of agencies and institutions. Involvement in new community partnerships and collaboration in 2010 include:

- Extremely Low-Income Working Group
- Delaware’s Veterans Stand Down and Employment Expo
- Department of Education School Survey Planning Group
- Homeless Service Providers Network

The above mentioned collaborative efforts have contributed to the enhanced knowledge of homelessness throughout Delaware’s non-profit and government entities and staff. The Homeless Planning Council has proven the links between homelessness and a variety of conditions and this has enabled Delaware’s homeless citizens to be considered in program design by several agencies.

The HPC advocates that homelessness is a basic human need and as a society we must do all that we can to ensure that we prevent people from becoming homeless and help to end homelessness among our citizens. Our advocacy efforts include:

- Reinvigorating the Homeless Service Providers Network;
- Testifying at OMB and JFC Hearings;
- Conducted 15 different public education opportunities;
- Participated in a work group on creation of a State Rental Assistance Program; and
- Advocated for passage of the first ever Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness and for a change in the definition of homelessness.

## Advocacy Partners

Delaware Association of Rehabilitation Facilities  
 Delaware Interagency Council on Homelessness  
 Delaware HIV Consortium  
 Delaware’s Homeless Service Providers Network  
 Delaware Housing Coalition  
 Delaware Reentry Consortium  
 Mid-Atlantic Regional HMIS  
 State Council for Persons with Disabilities  
 United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

# HPC Resources

The Homeless Planning Council does great work with the support of our funders. We give a special thanks to the Delaware State Housing Authority, New Castle County, the City of Wilmington, and the Delaware Division of Social Services. We also thank our member agencies (HMIS and Continuum of Care participants) for their financial support of the work we do. Below is a comparison of the HPC’s financial statements for our fiscal years 2009 and 2010 (July 1—June 30). The HPC’s finances were audited by the independent firm of Barbacane Thornton and Company LLP.

Financial Statements	Fiscal Year 2009	Fiscal Year 2010
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$199,915	\$190,848
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Contribution and Grants	\$93,700	\$153,409
HMIS Fees	\$27,189	\$27,752
Continuum of Care Fees	\$10,000	\$10,000
Other Revenue	\$1,659	\$1,129
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$132,548</b>	<b>\$192,280</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Personnel	\$77,986	\$94,764
Contractors	\$13,189	\$10,731
HMIS Fees	\$22,671	\$28,200
Operations	\$26,415	\$37,995
Other Expenses	\$1,354	\$1,460
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$141,615</b>	<b>\$173,150</b>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$(9,067)	\$19,130
Net Assets, End of Year	\$190,848	\$209,978



### HPC Staff

**SUSAN STARRETT**  
Executive Director

**JULIE MCINDOE**  
HMIS System Administrator

### SPECIAL THANKS

We would like to pay a special thanks to :

**Marguerite Ashley, Patricia Cobb-Richardson, & Ben Shamburger** who served as Board Members of the Homeless Planning Council in 2010.

**Paula Sims** who worked as a contractor for the HPC during 2010.

### Our Funders:

New Castle County,  
City of Wilmington,  
Delaware State Housing Authority,  
Division of Health & Social  
Services

### Board of Directors

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**TAMARA VARELLA**  
Community Member

**SARA WEIMER**  
Grant Manager, Connections Community Support Programs

**SUE WEIMER**  
Community Member

Thank you to our Members and Friends for your support of our work in 2010.

We look forward to continuing our work with you in 2011.

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