

COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 2002

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**OFFICE ON HOMELESSNESS
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES
1317 WINEWOOD BOULEVARD
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COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS 2002 ANNUAL REPORT

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2002 COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEMBERSHIP

Department of Children & Families	Jim Clark, Assistant Secretary for Programs Ken DeCerchio, (May-August 2002)
Department of Community Affairs	Shirley Collins, Director of Housing & Community Development
Department of Corrections	Richard Nimer, Director of Program Services
Department of Health	Dr. Bonnie Sorensen, Deputy State Health Officer
Department of Veterans Affairs	Rocky McPherson, Interim Executive Director Jennifer Carroll (January-June 2002)
Workforce Florida, Inc.	Mike Switzer, Vice President, Policy and Programs
Florida Housing Finance Corporation	Mark Kaplan, Executive Director
Florida Association of Counties	Paul Owen, Commissioner, Osceola County
Florida Coalition for the Homeless	Greg Mellowe, Executive Director
Florida State Rural Development Council	Catherine Hanks, Deputy Director Karen DeRosier (January-September 2002)
Florida Supportive Housing Coalition	Maria Pellerin-Barcus, President

Governor's Appointees:

Bishop Thomas Wenski Archdiocese of Miami	Lisa DeVitto Attorney at law
Ju'Coby Pittman Clara White Mission, Jacksonville	Neil Bryant Waterfront Mission, Fort Walton Beach

Office on Homelessness Staff

Thomas Pierce, Executive Director	Jerry Smith, Senior Management Analysis
Sharon Linton, Administrative Assistant	Maryanne Hoffman, Community Social Service Specialist

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In its first full year of operation, the Council on Homelessness has taken important steps to enhance the partnership of the state with both its federal and local partners to address homelessness in Florida. The Council has met on six occasions over the year and its eight working committees have held monthly conference calls and meetings to develop proposed policies.

The mission of the Council on Homelessness is to develop and coordinate policy to reduce the prevalence and duration of homelessness, and work toward ending homelessness in Florida.

In pursuing this mission, the Council's guiding principle is that the role of the state must be to support the work of the local service providers, to carry out their community's homeless assistance continuum of care plan. For the state to be effective in its mission, the local homeless service network must be successful in helping each man, woman, or child who has become homeless.

GOAL ADOPTED

By 2006, reduce the homeless population in Florida by twenty percent.

STATE'S PLAN FOR HOMELESSNESS

The Council has adopted its Strategic Plan, establishing the framework for the state's coordinated and collaborative plan to address the needs of the homeless, or those at risk of becoming homeless.

STATE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

- Continue the current funding levels for the state's targeted homeless assistance programs administered at the Department of Children and Families.
- Increase state spending for three programs in particular.
 1. Local Homeless Coalitions. Increase the budget by \$75,000 to enable three additional local coalitions to receive \$25,000 each to support a staff position.
 2. Homeless Housing Assistance Grants. Increase the spending by \$500,000 to fund more permanent and transitional housing for the homeless.
 3. Emergency Financial Assistance for Housing. Increase the total budget to \$1.8 million for this homeless prevention assistance, helping keep families in financial crisis from losing their homes or apartments.
- Revise authorizing legislation to expand the eligible uses of the Homeless Housing Assistance Grant to cover pre-construction costs of land purchase, design and related fees, in addition to building costs.
- Expand statutory authorization for state agencies to collect and report information on the housing status of the persons they serve.

FEDERAL POLICY INITIATIVES RECOMMENDED

- Support new federal housing production legislation to create 1,500,000 new affordable housing units over ten years.
- Support predictable and stable sources of funding to renew permanent, supportive housing projects that serve the homeless.
- Revise federal matching fund requirements to allow for more flexibility, including use of in-kind services as match.

- Support a new supportive housing production initiative to help achieve the President's goal of ending chronic homelessness in ten years.

ENHANCED STATEWIDE INFORMATION ON HOMELESSNESS

- Adopted a standardized operational definition of homelessness for use by state and local organizations.
- Created a standardized survey instrument for use by all local entities in doing point-in-time counts of those persons who are homeless.
- Coordinated the state information needs with the federal and local homeless management information systems.

COMMITMENT OF NEW STATE PROGRAMS TO LOCAL NEEDS

- Both the new homeless assistance Challenge Grant and the Homeless Housing Assistance Grant programs were made operational in FY 2002, and the \$9.0 million appropriated was fully used to help:
 1. Implement eighteen local homeless continuum of care plans.
 2. Serve over 10,700 persons who were homeless.
 3. Create 472 permanent and transitional housing units for the homeless.
- Reviewed, revised, and approved grant application policies to expedite the award of the FY 2003 grant budgets totaling \$9.0 million to:
 1. Continue the implementation of sixteen continuum of care plans.
 2. Provide services to over 19,000 persons who are homeless.
 3. Create another 375 new permanent and transitional housing units reserved for the homeless.

IMPROVED ACCESS TO STATE RESOURCES

- Monitored and supported program improvements to the Emergency Financial Assistance for Housing Program to assure the full obligation of the assistance, and more timely approvals of that assistance, to help families stay in their homes.
- Distributed guides to the local provider networks on how the homeless can better use the Food Stamp and welfare benefits under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families programs.

Finally, the most important result of the Council's working together this year is the enhanced cooperation and closer working relationships among our member state agencies and the local homeless provider community. It will be these relationships that will foster the greatest results in the effort to reduce homelessness in Florida.

The Council on Homelessness still has much to do in 2003 and beyond. The strong foundations laid in 2002 will enhance our efforts to attain our goal and objectives to reduce the number of men, women, and children who will become homeless in Florida. The Council reaffirms its dedication to this end.

SECTION ONE

EVALUATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PERFORMANCE IN FULFILLING THE STATUTORY DUTIES OF THE OFFICE.

Section 420.622 (9), Florida Statutes, requires the Council on Homelessness to include in its Annual Report, an evaluation of the performance of the Executive Director of the Office on Homelessness, in fulfilling the statutory duties of the office. The Council has delegated the responsibility of drafting an evaluation of Mr. Pierce's performance to the Chairperson, Lisa Kane DeVitto. Ms. DeVitto's review, concurred in by the Council, is below.

Executive Director's Performance:

The statutory responsibilities of the Office are varied and wide-ranging. To fully accomplish all these duties each year are perhaps beyond the scope of resources that the State currently is able to dedicate to the task. Tom Pierce has done an excellent overall job of carrying out his responsibilities.

In the past year, Tom has seen that work on each statutory responsibility has been addressed either by staff or by the Council, and advanced to the maximum degree possible. In the second year of the existence of the Office on Homelessness, all grant programs appear to be running smoothly with appropriate monitoring. Of special note this year, Tom initiated the first statewide workshop for stakeholders, in Orlando, which was very successful. A summary of the workshop is included at the end of this report. The Office, under Tom's direction, has provided excellent staff support to the Council, making sure that meetings are well noticed, materials prepared and distributed in advance, and that the needs of the members and the committees are met.

Tom is an able administrator, who has set priorities for the Office, and used resources efficiently to accomplish them. The Office and its staff appear to be ably carrying out all of their administrative responsibilities in an exemplary fashion, under Tom's leadership. Tom has identified areas for contractual services, and has identified potential contractors with appropriate expertise, in the State University System, and with a private nonprofit organization, to conduct performance evaluation activities, and policy research. Of special note, one of Tom's first actions last year was to apply for Florida's participation in a federal policy academy. As a result of that application, Florida has been selected to participate in a federal policy academy on homelessness. The Office on Homelessness is preparing for Florida's participation in an Academy in January 2003; participation by state agency staff and Council members will be funded by the federal government.

Tom and the staff of the Office on Homelessness should be commended for the successful implementation of the Challenge and Homeless Housing Assistance Grant programs. His work resulted in the distribution of \$9.0 million annually in FY 2001-2002 and FY 2002-2003 to local communities to address the problem of homelessness.

Tom exercises leadership, resourcefulness, creativity and initiative in his role, and has done an excellent job at outreach and coordination with state agencies, private organizations, and local coalitions. He stays informed about important developments at the state, local, and federal levels, and communicates about them appropriately. He uses his position to serve as an advocate for homeless services. Tom has a good understanding of the scope of the Office's responsibilities, and is able to conduct the advance planning needed to carry them out. The work of the Office and the Council are enhanced by Tom Pierce's managerial and strategic planning abilities. The State, the Council, and the community of those interested in reducing homelessness are fortunate to have Tom in this position.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICE ON HOMELESSNESS 2002 STATUS OF ACTIONS

The following summary details the statutory duties and responsibilities of the Office on Homelessness, as specified in section 420.622(3), Florida Statutes.

- (a) Coordinate among state, local and private agencies to produce a consolidated program and financial plan for the state's system of homeless programs.

STATUS: The framework for the state's plan has been created, with the Council on Homelessness' adoption of its strategic plan. This strategic plan sets forth the goal for reducing homelessness in Florida, along with six objectives to be attained in the process of reducing homelessness. A copy of the Council's strategic plan is found in Exhibit 1.

The Council's committees, staffed by the Office, continue to develop recommended work tasks and strategies to attain the respective objectives. A final version of the Council's Strategic Plan is expected to be submitted with Council's 2003 annual report.

- (b) Collect, maintain, and make available information concerning persons who are homeless or at-risk for homelessness.

STATUS: The Office surveyed the twenty-eight local homeless coalitions beginning in January 2002, soliciting the local estimates on the number of persons who are homeless, the causes of their becoming homeless, along with an inventory of available beds to serve these individuals and families. Based on the responses from the twenty-eight local coalitions, the Office prepared the Department of Children and Families annual report on homeless conditions in Florida for fiscal year 2001. This report was submitted to the Governor and Legislature in June 2002.

Based on that report, the number of persons estimated to be homeless in Florida on any given day is 67,981. This number represents an increase of 3.6 percent over the prior year's estimate. While single adult males remain the dominant type of homeless persons, homeless families now make up over a third of the overall homeless population. The available inventory of emergency shelter and transitional housing beds to serve our homeless can only accommodate 20,121 persons nightly. This is only three out of every ten persons homeless on any given night.

The Office is preparing its annual survey for the fiscal year 2002 and is expected to be transmitted to the local homeless coalitions early in 2003.

In addition, the Council on Homelessness has taken several actions to improve the accuracy and uniformity of the data collection on homelessness in 2002. The Council took the following steps:

- Adopted an operational definition of homelessness, consistent with a federal definition, to provide uniformity in data collection.
- Coordinating a state level homeless information system with the network of local homeless management information systems being created by the continuums of care across Florida.

- Adopted a standardized survey instrument to be used in conducting local homeless point-in-time counts.
 - The Office is revising its survey of local coalitions to mirror the data fields in the standardized survey instrument.
 - Recommending legislative action to ensure that all state agencies are gathering information on the housing status of the persons they serve and to require sharing that information with the Office and the Council.
- (c) Annually evaluate state and local services and resources, and develop a consolidated plan for addressing the needs of the homeless, and those at-risk of homelessness.

STATUS: The Council has focused its attention on evaluating three mainstream programs in 2002. These include the homeless prevention program, Emergency Financial Assistance for Housing Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families welfare program, and the Food Stamp assistance program.

The Emergency Financial Assistance for Housing Program was an area of interest with the program's inability in recent years to commit its full budget appropriation to families facing eviction. As a result of the Council's oversight, and the Department of Children and Families efforts to address program operations, the level of approved assistance has increased significantly. Efforts continue to seek further improvements to the time needed to process the request for assistance.

The Council has also prepared two guides on improving access by the homeless to mainstream assistance programs. The first guide addresses the welfare reform program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). The second focuses on access to food stamps by the homeless. Both include common questions and answers on whether the homeless are eligible and if so, how to apply for that assistance. These guides have been distributed to the statewide network of local homeless coalitions, as well as to the lead agencies of the homeless continuum of care planning areas. Exhibit 2 contains the guide on the TANF program.

- (d) Compile and disseminate information on public and private sources for programs serving the homeless, including providing technical assistance in applying for such funding.

STATUS: The Office has disseminated an overview of the major federal and state programs to assist the homeless to all of the local homeless coalitions covering the state. This material was included in the Department's annual report on homeless conditions in Florida. This information was sent out in July 2002.

In addition, the Office conducted pre-application workshops for the designated lead agencies of the continuum of care planning areas and the local provider agencies interested in the state's Challenge Grant and Homeless Housing Assistance Grant. A series of three workshops were held around the state in February for the FY 2002 application cycle. A second set of two pre-application workshops was held in July for the FY 2003 application cycle.

Ongoing assistance from the Office was available throughout the year by phone and by emails to all interested parties. Finally, the Office has retained the Florida Coalition for the Homeless as a technical

assistance provider, to help the local homeless coalitions and lead agencies develop grant proposals, and create the continuum of care plans for their areas.

- (e) Monitor and provide recommendations for coordinating the activities and programs of local homeless coalitions to promote program effectiveness.

STATUS: The Office has provided continued funding to local homeless coalitions to underwrite a staff position and operating costs of the coalition. Building staff and organizational capacity at each of Florida's 28 homeless coalitions is an essential base from which to build coordination between and among the local coalitions and state office. Toward this end, the Council recommended the redistribution of the budgeted resources in FY 2003 to enable all twenty-eight local coalitions to be funded to help build staff capacity.

The Office maintains ongoing communication and information sharing with all of the homeless coalitions, and the designated lead agencies of the local homeless continuum of care plans. The Office has also added contract staff to begin to conduct monitoring of the local coalitions and funded lead agencies to assure that the programs funded are meeting the performance expectations. On-site monitoring will begin the last quarter of 2002. In addition, the Office is soliciting proposals from the state university system to assist in developing a program evaluation process for the Office and its grant programs. This work is expected to begin in 2003.

- (f) Provide technical assistance to establish, maintain, and expand local homeless assistance continuums of care.

STATUS: In 2002, the Mid-Florida Continuum of Care was created as a result of the staffing grant to the local homeless coalitions. The new Mid-Florida plan covers the four counties of Lake, Sumter, Citrus, and Hernando. In addition, the continuum of care with the Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council was expanded to add Martin County.

The Office and the Council created an incentive in the FY 2003 Challenge Grant process to encourage new or expanded continuum of care plans. This incentive provided a bonus-scoring factor in the quality of service preference criteria. The Council on Homelessness has also identified as an issue to be addressed, the balance of the counties that are still not covered by a continuum of care plan. The Office has also secured the technical assistance from the Florida Coalition for the Homeless to help local coalitions and interested parties develop such plans.

- (g) Assist in the coordination of policies and procedures related to the discharge of persons who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness from state supported or state regulation mental health institutions.

STATUS: The Council's Discharge Planning committee has focused on this issue, evaluating the new transition assistance planning program instituted at the Department of Corrections. This program is developing individual case plans for each offender being released from state correctional facilities. Transitional housing beds are also being provided to house those who may not have a place to go to on their release.

The committee is also conducting a survey of the mental health facilities and institutions to determine how they are implementing the voluntary discharge planning procedures established in section

420.626, Florida Statutes. A preliminary evaluation of the survey should be available in late 2002, or early 2003.

The Council on Homelessness has focused on the issue of discharge planning as a critical element in their strategic plan to achieve a goal of reducing homelessness. Specifically, the Council adopted an objective to: "By 2006, reduce the percentage of Florida's homeless population that exit the care, custody, or serve of state administered or state funded programs and institutions into homelessness by 25%."

- (h) Spearhead outreach efforts to maximize access for the homeless to state and federal programs and resources.

STATUS: The primary focus in 2002 by the Council and the Office on improving access to mainstream programs has been on the welfare assistance under TANF, and nutritional assistance from the Food Stamp program. The Office has issued guides to the local homeless coalitions and lead agencies on both of the programs, to help remove obstacles to access.

The State of Florida has also accepted an invitation to participate in a federal-state initiative to improve access to mainstream programs to serve the chronic homeless, especially those who suffer from mental illness and/or substance abuse addictions. The initiative will bring a team of ten senior officials from Florida together with teams from several other states and our major federal agency partners (Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Veterans Affairs) to develop action plans to improve access for our chronic homeless to mainstream housing and human service programs. This policy academy is scheduled to take place in January 2003. The resulting action plan will become an essential part of the Council on Homelessness' strategic plan. Specifically, it should define specific actions to move the state forward toward the Council's objective to increase the percentage of Florida's homeless population assisted by targeted mainstream programs by 25% by 2006. Further, it will also detail actions to achieve a second objective of ending chronic homelessness in Florida by 2002.

- (i) Promote a federal policy agenda responsive to the needs of Florida's homeless population.

STATUS: The Council has identified several issues involving federal programs and policies for which recommended actions have been adopted. In 2002, the Council has recommended the following actions for federal homeless initiatives.

- (1) Endorsed the creation of a National Housing Trust Fund to support the development of 1.5 million affordable housing units over a ten-year period to ease the critical shortage of housing for the working poor.
- (2) Recommend that Congress pass FY 2003 appropriations that fund the renewal of permanent housing projects in the Shelter Plus Care program out of the Section 8 funding, in lieu of out of the homeless assistance budget line item. This change will allow the funding of new permanent housing projects under the federal homeless, McKinney Act budget.
- (3) Recommend that Congress enact language in the appropriations act implementing proviso that would authorize the projects in the Supportive Housing Program to use and count in-kind services as well as cash to meet the matching fund requirements for the supportive services.

- (4) Endorsed the campaign by the Corporation for Supportive Housing to create 150,000 units of permanent supportive housing to families and individuals who are homeless for the long-term. This initiative is intended to coordinate with the federal policy direction to end chronic homelessness in ten years.

The Office has submitted these recommended federal policy and program changes to the Florida Washington Office for review, approval, and transmittal to the state's congressional delegation.

- (j) Develop outcome and accountability measures and promote their use to evaluate program effectiveness.

STATUS: The Office has initiated discussions with representatives of the state university system, seeking qualified teams to assist the Council and the Office with developing outcome measures for the state's homelessness programs. The negotiation of a contract with this university partnership will also help design and implement an evaluation system at the local level to measure the achievement of the outcome measures. Proposals are expected to be received and under review in the last quarter of 2002, with a contract in place in early 2003 to begin the development of the outcome measures and evaluation system.

In addition, the Office has contracted with the Florida Coalition for the Homeless to research and develop a policy paper to suggest alternative outcome performance measures for application to local coalitions and lead agencies. This input is expected to be available for Office, Council, and university partner discussions in February 2003.

- (k) Formulate policies and legislative proposals to address the needs of the homeless and coordinate implementation of the state and federal legislative policies.

STATUS: The Council has identified both substantive legislation action needed to improve authorizing laws, as well as budget actions, that are intended to improve the state's ability to help serve the homeless. The specifics of the Council's recommendations are outlined in Section 3 of this annual report.

The Office has communicated these recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of Children and Families for inclusion in the department's legislative budget request and legislative bill package for the 2003 session.

- (l) Convene meetings of stakeholders to develop and review policies, services, activities, coordination, and funding efforts to meet the needs of the homeless.

STATUS: The Council and Office held a stakeholder forum in October 2002, in conjunction with the annual statewide homeless conference sponsored by the Florida Coalition for the Homeless. The forum provided the opportunity for any interested person to provide both verbal and written comments or testimony to the Council and Office staff. Exhibit 3 contains the minutes of that workshop along with a summary of the written comment received. As a result of this session, the Council will be taking more of its meetings around the state to improve opportunities for local agencies to participate in the Council's discussions, as well as enhance communication to the local coalitions and homeless advocates on state level issues.

- (m) Conduct or promote research on the effectiveness of current programs and propose pilot projects aimed at improving services.

STATUS: To assess effectiveness of existing programs, the Council and Office have focused attention in 2002 on monitoring the utilization of the Emergency Financial Assistance for Housing Program. This housing assistance payment is designed to help keep families from being evicted due to financial crises. The Council is monitoring not only the level of payments approved, to assess the program's ability to utilize its full appropriation, but also is tracking the time needed to process and make the payments. The Council's committee to assess performance has adopted specific benchmarks. The area of concern remains the time needed to process the applications and making the payments.

In addition to this focused program review, the Council has undertaken several research efforts. These have included:

- surveying how state agency programs are serving the homeless and capturing information on the homeless served.
- surveying the implementation by mental health facilities in Florida of the voluntary discharge planning guidelines.
- review of research on ways to redesign Medicaid to improve service funding to homeless persons living in supportive housing environments.
- researched best practices used in other states for discharge planning to prevent homelessness.
- assessed the barriers to participation in applying for housing resources reserved for projects to serve the homeless.

The engagement of the state university system team to help develop outcome measures and local evaluation systems may also include research on program effectiveness. This effort will begin in 2003.

The evaluation of program performance and continual improvements will be an ongoing role and duty of the Office and the Council.

- (n) Investigate ways to improve access to participation in state funding and other programs for faith-based organizations.

STATUS: Faith-based organizations are a significant part of the homeless service provider network and are being funded with the programs administered by the Office. This includes the federal Emergency Shelter Grant, and the state funded Challenge Grant and Homeless Housing Assistance Grant.

The Office has contracted with the Florida Coalition for the Homeless to develop a policy paper in early 2003, to assess potential barriers that keep faith-based organizations from using specific programs, and suggestions for strategies to overcome those barriers. This policy paper will be shared with the Council on Homelessness to focus discussion on this charge in 2003.

- (o) Designate lead agencies for homeless assistance continuum of care.

STATUS: In January 2002, the Office made its initial designations of the lead agencies of the local continuum of care planning efforts. In consultation with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the local homeless coalitions, twenty-four lead agencies were designated for the FY

2002 application cycle. In July 2002, the Office made its second designations to be applicable to the FY 2003 grants. The Office designated twenty-five lead agencies for FY 2003.

- (p) Designate continuums of care catchment areas.

STATUS: The Office designated the planning catchment areas for the local continuums of care at the time of the designation of the lead agencies. With the designations in July for the FY 2003, thirty-seven counties are now covered within the designated continuum of care catchment areas. Of the remaining thirty counties, most are rural, small counties. The Council has begun to investigate options to ensure that all counties are part of a continuum of care planning area. This will help ensure that all counties can seek both federal and state grant programs, where having a local continuum of care plan is a prerequisite for funding consideration.

- (q) Supply a standardized format for written plans for local continuums of care.

STATUS: The Office and the Council have not adopted a standardized format for local continuums of care plans. Development of standards for such plans is in process, as part of the development of the quality of service preference criteria in the Challenge Grants. In this regard, the Office and Council have begun to focus on the procedural guidelines for creating the plan.

In addition, the Office contracted for and received from the Florida Coalition for the Homeless, an analysis comparing the federal requirements for a continuum of care plan, with the minimum standards or elements of such a plan detailed in section 420.624, Florida Statutes. The Office and the Florida Coalition will continue this effort with a second policy paper in 2003 to suggest model formats and a guide for local use in how to prepare the plan.

- (r) Administer the Challenge Grants to lead agencies for homeless continuums of care.

STATUS: In April, the Office awarded the FY 2002 grants to 18 lead agencies, obligating the full \$3,838,799 available. These lead agencies fully expended the grants to carry out the full array of services to over 10,000 homeless persons.

In October 2002, the Office awarded the FY 2003 grants to fund sixteen lead agencies. These grants will serve an estimated 18,900 homeless persons by June 30, 2003, with the \$3,838,799 in funding awarded.

The Office will begin to monitor the Challenge Grant projects early in 2003. A complete list of the Challenge Grant recipients can be found in the exhibits.

- (s) Administer the Homeless Housing Assistance Grants to lead agencies of local continuums of care.

STATUS: In May 2002, the Office awarded the grants to eleven housing projects to build or repair 472 housing units for the homeless. The full \$5.0 million in budget authority was obligated and expended by the end of FY 2002.

In November 2002, the FY 2003 awards were announced to fund seventeen projects with the \$5.0 million appropriated. These awards are expected to create 375 housing units for the homeless once

construction is completed by July 2003. A listing of the 2002 and 2003 grant funded projects can be found in the exhibits.

The Office will initiate monitoring of the grant program recipients in 2003, to assure that the project is carried out consistent with the application intent.

- (t) Monitor the Challenge Grants and Homeless Housing Assistance Grants to ensure proper expenditure of funds and contract compliance.

STATUS: The Office was successful in recruiting an OPS employee to assist in the area of grant monitoring. The Office is developing its monitoring assessment tools and will initiate site visits in 2002. On-site monitoring of the Challenge Grants and Homeless Housing Assistance Grants will occur in 2003. District staff monitoring of the lead agencies under the grant agreement will also occur in 2002 and continue in 2003.

- (u) Department of Children and Families, with input from the Council, shall adopt rules for the Challenge Grant and Homeless Housing Assistance Grant, and related issues.

STATUS: The Office, working with the Office of the General Counsel of the Department, researched the need for rules. A legal opinion was issued that given the level of specificity in the enabling statutes, no rules were necessary to implement the FY 2002 grants. The Office and Council reviewed the need for rules prior to the FY 2003 grant cycle and the Council determined that rulemaking was not needed for the 2003 cycle.

The Office and the Council continue to monitor to see if policy issues arise in either grant for which rulemaking would be warranted. This will continue to be an issue to be monitored in 2003.

SECTION TWO

SUMMARY OF THE COUNCIL'S RECOMMENDATIONS

In accordance with section 420.622(9), Florida Statutes, the following is a summary of the Council's recommendations to the Office on Homelessness and the corresponding actions taken by the Office.

During 2002, the Council conducted six meetings of the full Council, as well as holding monthly conference calls for its working committees. The Council has been very active on a number of issues related to its charge to develop policy recommendations to reduce homelessness in Florida. The Office on Homelessness works closely with the Council and has been able to carry out the recommendations from the Council. The actions are summarized below in the following topics:

- Florida's Homelessness Plan
- Data Collection
- Florida Legislative Proposals
- Federal Homeless Policies
- State Program Policies

Florida's Homelessness Plan

The Council has devoted a significant part of its efforts to develop the framework for Florida's plan to reduce homelessness. The Council has adopted as its goal, to reduce the homeless population in Florida by 20 percent, by 2006.¹ The Council has also adopted a mission statement, guiding principles, and six objectives to guide the state's efforts to achieve the goal. The Office has published and disseminated the Council's strategic plan framework to the local homeless coalitions, designated lead agencies, and to the local service providers. The Office continues to work with the Council's respective committees to develop the action tasks and strategies necessary to carry out the objectives. This will be an ongoing work of the Office and Council, as the strategic plan is fully developed into Florida's Homelessness Plan.

Data Collection

The Council has taken a number of steps to improve the quality and consistency of data being collected on homelessness. The Council recommended that the operational definition of "homeless" promulgated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development be used for Florida's data collection efforts. The Office has implemented this recommendation, including promulgating the definition in the annual survey sent to the local homeless coalitions for the Department's annual report.

The Council also recommended that a survey be conducted on the primary state programs, which can assist the homeless. The Office sent out the survey early in 2002, received responses from ninety-eight programs, and has collected and disseminated the responses to the Council for review.

On the charge for the Council to evaluate the need for a statewide homeless management information system (HMIS), the Council has worked on the design of the interface with the local homeless management information systems that the lead agencies are creating to meet a federal mandate. One of the Council's initial

¹ Council member, Lisa DeVitto, respectfully dissented from the twenty percent figure; recommending a higher figure of thirty to fifty-percent.

recommendations was to encourage the 2002 grantees of the state homeless funding to participate in the state HMIS workgroup sponsored by the Florida Coalition for the Homeless. The Office has communicated this encouragement to the funded lead agencies and they have been participating in the statewide workgroup. The Office has also disseminated proposed minimum data standards for a Florida HMIS to all local homeless coalitions and lead agencies for comment. Central to the standard is the determination that the state would not create another separate or statewide information system. Rather, the state will access the local homeless management information systems to capture summary data on the persons served to address statewide information needs.

As a part of the effort to obtain better and more reliable data on who is homeless in Florida, the Council has recommended that the local coalitions and continuums of care carry out local point-in-time counts of the homeless on the streets and in the homeless service network of providers. The Office has made this a policy direction in the review and ranking criteria for the award of the Challenge Grant. Specifically, the quality of service ranking criteria includes a factor on whether the continuum of care has carried out a point-in-time count and has adopted policies to do such a count at least every two years. The Office captures information from each local homeless coalition in its annual survey on whether the coalition's estimate of the homeless population is supported by point-in-time surveys.

To further strengthen this point-in-time count, the Council has developed and adopted a standardized core survey instrument to be used by all entities across the state. The Office is transmitting this core survey instrument to all local coalitions and lead agencies for voluntary use in late 2002 and 2003 survey efforts at the local level. The Office is also modifying its annual survey on homeless conditions to ensure that the data fields conform to the adopted core survey instrument. Training on the use of the core survey instrument was initiated in October 2002. Training manuals will be provided to all local coalitions and lead agencies in late 2002 or early 2003.

The Council has also identified the need for state agencies to better track the housing status of the persons and families accessing program benefits. Data on whether the persons are homeless at the time they enter the services, as well as whether they may have no place to call home when they leave state programs, is critical. Toward this end, the Council will be developing in 2003 memoranda of agreements with key state agencies to address this data collection need and for that information to be shared with the Council and Office.

Florida Legislative Proposals

The Council has made recommendations on specific homeless programs funding levels for Fiscal Year 2003-2004, as well as changes to the enabling legislation in Chapter 420 for homeless assistance. The details of these recommendations are outlined in Section 3 of the Council's annual report. The Office has submitted the budget recommendations to the Secretary of Children and Families for consideration in the agency's legislative budget request and supplemental budget request. Likewise, the statutory changes were submitted for review and inclusion in the Department's recommended legislative package for the 2003 session.

Federal Homelessness Policies

Over the series of meetings in 2002, the Council has reviewed and adopted recommendations on federal homeless programs and appropriations. The recommendations include:

- (1) Endorsement of the legislation to create a National Housing Trust Fund to create 1.5 million new affordable housing units over a ten year period.
- (2) Recommend changes in federal law regarding matching funds for supportive services in the Supportive Housing Program, to allow in-kind services to be counted toward the match. Currently, only cash is allowed to count toward the match.

- (3) Recommend that Congress fund the renewal of the Shelter Plus Care permanent housing projects from the Section 8 rental assistance program appropriation, instead of from the annual appropriation of the McKinney-Vento homeless assistance budget.
- (4) Endorse an initiative sponsored by the Corporation for Supportive Housing to develop 150,000 housing units targeted to serve the chronic homeless – those individuals and families who have been homeless for the long term. This initiative intends to support the Administration’s goal of ending chronic homelessness in ten years.

The Office has forwarded these federal policy initiatives to the Department’s legislative affairs office and to the Governor’s Washington Office for review and adoption. The Office has worked with the Washington office staff to provide additional background on the issues and respond to questions or concerns.

State Program Policies

The Council has been actively involved in reviewing and providing policy recommendations on the state’s homeless assistance programs.

- (1) Staffing Grants for Local Homeless Coalitions.

The Council made a recommendation on the 2002 contracts to encourage the local coalitions to complete their contracting with the Department by the end of February, or forfeit their grant. The Office communicated this policy to the coalitions, and all coalitions were able to meet the deadline recommended by the Council.

For the fiscal year 2003 grants, the Council recommended a funding allocation method to enable the budget to fund all twenty-eight local coalitions in 2003. The Office accepted this allocation recommendation and followed that plan in contracting with all twenty-eight coalitions for FY 2003. A list of the coalitions funded for staffing assistance can be found in the exhibits.

- (2) Challenge Grant.

The Council reviewed the 2002 grant process and made a series of recommended policies to guide the 2003 grant application cycle. The policies covered issues such as the maximum award level, whether to pursue rulemaking, the indicators of quality of service, measures of leveraging other funds, and the need for homeless assistance. The Office adopted all of the Council’s recommendations in the 2003 Application Instructions.

As a result of the 2003 policy recommendations, a couple of positive trends are noted. First, the recommendations on maximum grants and tying preference criteria to the population of the area served, has promoted maximum coverage of the awards across the local planning areas. Second, the refinement of specific expectations for what constitutes quality of service provision in the continuum of care areas, has prompted actions at the local level to ensure broader participation, to adopt formal standards of care, and to adopt performance measures of outcomes.

- (3) Homeless Housing Assistance Grant.

Like the Challenge Grant, the Council made a series of policy recommendations to the 2003 grant process. These covered the definition of a “project,” the maximum award per catchment area, the need for rulemaking, changes in the leverage ratio calculation, and revised measures of need. The Office incorporated all of the policy recommendations in the 2003 Grant Application Instructions.

(4) Emergency Financial Assistance for Housing Program.

As a result of monitoring the utilization and approval rates for this homeless prevention program, the Council has made some recommendations to improve the program's operation. These address staffing levels and resources to improve the timely receipt of information from the families facing a housing emergency. The Office has communicated these program recommendations directly to program and department management. These improvements are supported by the program and the department, and are being implemented.

Other Council Findings and Accomplishments

- Based on research of 1990 Census data and testimony to Congress by officials with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in May 2001, Florida is one of the five states with the most severe shortage of housing affordable to extremely low income renters. Specifically, in Florida there are only sixty-four units available for every 100 renters who have an income at or below the thirty percent of the area median income.
- There is a need to find or to restructure funding sources to assist with operating subsidies and supportive services linked to housing for the homeless.
- The Council recommends that the Legislature initiate an interim project to do an oversight review of Florida's affordable housing programs and policies, and report its findings to the 2004 Legislature.
- Under the federal funding allocation methods in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, there are bonus allocations available to a limited number of states based on the level of current and former TANF cash assistance recipients who are receiving Food Stamps. Under the High Performance Bonus measures, \$6 million is to be awarded to three states with the highest score for participation rate of low income working households with children receiving Food Stamps. An additional seven states will receive a total of \$14 million that document the greatest gain in Food Stamp participation over the prior year. Efforts to increase the number of households with children eligible for and receiving Food Stamps can increase the federal funding for Florida under the TANF grant. Expansion of categorical Food Stamp eligibility to additional families not currently covered could be investigated by the state.
- The state has made good progress in creating local continuum of care plans for coordinated homeless services. Thirty-seven of Florida's sixty-seven counties are covered by such plans and these counties comprise nearly ninety percent of Florida's population. Thirty counties still have yet to engage and adopt continuum of care plans for homeless service.
- In 2000, only 8.6% of Florida's indigent population had community access to dental care.
- A pilot project is being discussed to create a health care person in the regional workforce one-stop centers to assist the clients seeking employment service with referrals to health care providers, as appropriate.
- A feasibility review is underway to assess whether local correctional facilities can institute a discharge planning program for persons being released to avoid homelessness. The model is based on the Department of Correction's (DOC) transition planning program.
- Linkages were facilitated between the DOC transition planning program and local homeless coalitions, community mental health providers, and the workforce regional boards.
- The process to determine the eligibility for disability benefits under Social Security is lengthy, with low approval rates. The initial determination phase usually takes three to four months and results in only a 47% approval rate (240,000 claims filed each year). Appeals of initial denials can take another eighteen to twenty-four months and result in only another 17% approved.
- Of the sixty plus federal programs identified by the General Accounting Office and the Florida LCIR that potentially serve the homeless, none are going untapped. The challenge is to increase access by the homeless to the benefits under many of these known sources.

- Endorsed the linkage of the 2-1-1 certification state rules with local homeless information systems to maximize outreach to potential homeless persons or families for referrals to local service providers.
- Secured enhanced technical assistance from federal contractors to Florida's homeless coalitions on implementation of homeless management information systems and the related computer hardware and software needs.
- Identified the critical need to secure sources of funding for operating costs and supportive services linked to affordable housing targeted to the homeless.
- Explored options that will promote and assist local policy makers in the approval and siting of homeless facilities.

Summary

The Office has accepted and acted positively upon all of the Council's recommendations in 2002. This close working relationship between the Office and the Council is ensuring that progress is being made to achieve our common goal – serve the homeless to end their homelessness.

SECTION THREE

COUNCIL'S 2003 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

This final section of the Council's annual report outlines the recommendations to the Legislature for proposals to reduce homelessness in Florida.

Homeless Conditions in Florida

The number of individuals and families who are without housing in Florida continues to increase. Following a fourteen percent increase in the estimated numbers of people who were homeless a year ago, in reaction to the recession and terrorist actions of 2001, the homeless population grew again in 2002 by another 3.6 percent. A growing trend is the increase in the number of families with children now facing homelessness. Based on the 2002 reports, families now make up over one-third of the total homeless population of almost 68,000 on any given day in Florida.

While efforts continue to increase the supply of emergency shelter beds and supportive housing units dedicated to serve those who are homeless, there is only enough bed space to serve three out of every ten people who are homeless. The critical shortage of affordable housing for those individuals and families at the lower income levels (those on fixed incomes, working at minimum wages or on SSI) remains a driving factor contributing to homelessness.

FY 2003-2004 Budget Recommendations

The Council has reviewed the spending levels of essential state homeless programs and is recommending the following budget levels for FY 2003-2004.

Agency: Department of Children and Families

<u>Program</u>	<u>FY 2003 Budget</u>	<u>FY 2004 Recommend</u>
Challenge Grant	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000
Homeless Housing Assistance	5,000,000	5,500,000
Homeless Grant-in-Aid	1,185,990	1,185,990
Coalition Staffing Grants	625,000	700,000
Emergency Shelter Grants	3,034,474	3,034,474
Emergency Financial Assistance for Housing	1,619,586	1,800,000

The Council recommends continuation spending levels for most of these programs with modest increases in the following three programs.

Homeless Housing Assistance Grant \$5,500,000

The Council is recommending a ten-percent increase in this grant to construct or repair permanent or transitional housing for the homeless. The increase of \$500,000 would be funded by an increased transfer of revenues from the Local Housing Trust Fund at the Florida Housing Finance Corporation. This trust fund is supported by the document stamp tax. The Florida Housing Finance Corporation has reviewed the proposed increase in the transfer and is not opposed to the increase. Demand for these housing development grants in both FY 2002 and FY 2003 exceeded the funding available. In FY 2002, the \$5,000,000 expended helped create or repair 472 housing units.

The recommended awards of the FY 2003 grants are expected to create another 375 housing units for the homeless.

Coalition Staffing Grants

\$700,000

The Council is recommending increasing the grants to help support a staff position and related administrative costs in each of the local homeless coalitions in Florida. The original funding proviso language in FY 2002 funded 25 coalitions with \$25,000 each. With 28 local homeless coalitions in Florida, three coalitions were not assisted. The increase of \$75,000 would enable all 28 coalitions to receive \$25,000 in staffing grants. The funding source for these grants is general revenue.

Emergency Financial Assistance for Housing

\$1,800,000

The Council is recommending increasing the funding, to restore the budget to FY 2001 levels. The budget was reduced in the current year. The program is funded by a transfer of revenues from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation in the amount of \$900,000 (doc stamp revenues), and a portion of the state's TANF grant for the balance. While the program did not fully expend its budget the last couple of years, the program is now approving assistance payments to households with children, who are facing eviction or loss of utility service due to financial crisis, at a rate that will fully utilize the FY 2003 budget. This is an important homeless prevention program, and the increased budget recommended will enable the state to help another 450 families cover their rent or utilities, and stay in their current homes.

Agency: Department of Corrections

<u>Program</u>	<u>FY 2003 Budget</u>	<u>FY 2004 Recommend</u>
Transition Planning Assistance		
Salaries	\$3,107,440	\$3,107,440
Expenses	288,676	288,676
Contracted Services	2,920,000	2,920,000

The Council supports the continuation budget request by the Department of Corrections for its transition planning assistance unit, and the funding for 400 faith-based and 400 other beds for those persons released from the correctional facilities who may need support for drug abuse treatments. This transition-planning program is a critical piece of a homeless prevention strategy to help ensure that there is a plan for where the person will live upon their release. Where there may be no identified housing placement upon release, the program is providing early notice to the local homeless coalitions and providers that an individual may be seeking shelter from them.

Agency: Florida Housing Finance Corporation

<u>Program</u>	<u>FY 2003 Budget</u>	<u>FY 2004 Recommend</u>
State Apartment Incentive Loan Program	Homeless Setaside	Homeless Setaside
	8%	8%

The Council is recommending that the Corporation retain the current level of funding reserved for sponsors who provide housing to the homeless as a tenant group. In the 2003 program cycle, the eight percent setaside for homeless housing, equates to an estimated \$5,000,000. The Council has recommended that this eight-percent reservation level be retained.

Proposed Legislative Changes to Florida Law

The Council has two recommended changes to propose for legislative action in the 2003 session. The first recommended change relates to the need to improve information from state agencies on how they are serving the homeless. The second relates to expanding the eligible uses of the grants under the Homeless Housing Assistance program.

Homeless Information Proposal

The Council conducted a survey of state agencies and their programs, which have the potential to serve the homeless, or those persons who are at high risk of becoming homeless. The survey responses from ninety-eight programs, indicated that seventy-eight of the programs were available to serve the homeless under the eligibility criteria. Of the responses, however, only 21 programs indicated that they were tracking service to the homeless as a client group and had information available on service to the homeless.

The Council has identified the lack of service data across state programs on benefits being provided to homeless persons as a critical need. Without this data, the Council will not be able to get a good assessment of how well existing state resources are being used to serve the homeless. This will further limit the Council's ability to develop a coordinated and collaborative state plan to assist Florida's homeless population.

The Council recommends adding language to Section 420.627, Florida Statutes, to authorize the Office on Homelessness and the Council to require state agencies to collect homeless service information and to submit that information to the Office.

Recommended Statutory Language

420.627 Uniform Housing Status Tracking Initiative.

- (1) Each state agency that administers or monitors programs with the ability either to serve persons who are homeless or to prevent the discharge of persons from their programs into homelessness, as well as each state-funded entity with statewide contracting and oversight responsibilities with similar ability, shall undertake efforts to determine the extent to which individuals and families served are homeless at the time of program entry and, to the extent that agency or entity in its sole discretion deems it feasible and relevant, whether such individuals and families are homeless at other points during the period they are served by the program or become homeless at or soon after the time of program exit. These agencies and entities shall include, but are not limited to: the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Community Affairs, the Department of Health, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Education, the Department of Elderly Affairs, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of Law Enforcement, the Department of Transportation, Workforce Florida, Inc., and the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.
- (2) The information described in subsection (1) shall be collected as an integral part of the overall management information system(s) structure of the agency or entity and, effective as of a date said agency or entity deems it feasible, shall be transmitted to the Office on Homelessness on no less than a quarterly basis.
- (3) The specific format for and content of collection and reporting of the information described in subsection (1) shall be developed in consultation with the Office on Homelessness, using a uniform operational definition of homelessness elaborating on the basic definition set forth in s. 420.621.
- (4) Each agency and entity described in subsection (1) shall designate a liaison to the Office on Homelessness for purposes of coordinating its information collection and reporting efforts with respect to homelessness.

- (5) Each applicable state agency and entity shall subsequently consider the need to adopt or modify performance measures in order to promote increased responsiveness to the needs of individuals and families who are homeless as well as those facing the prospect of discharge into homelessness.

Homeless Housing Assistance Grant Proposal

The Homeless Housing Assistance grant was authorized in 2001 legislation and was funded and administered beginning in FY 2002. Based upon input from the lead agencies of the local homeless continuums of care and the sponsors of housing to serve the homeless, there is a need for funding sources to help pay for front-end housing development costs, including property purchase, design and permitting costs, and other pre-development expenses. As currently authorized, this Homeless Housing Assistance grant shall be used to assist the construction or rehabilitation of transitional or permanent housing for the homeless.

In FY 2002, there were applications received requesting over \$13 million for the housing construction grants, with \$5.0 million available. The 2002 awards resulted in the creation of 472 housing units for the homeless. In the 2002-2003 grant cycle, applications totaled nearly nine million dollars, competing for the \$5.0 million available. The awards made in the 2002-2003 cycle will create additional 375 homeless housing units. There is a clear demand for the program and the grant is achieving the desired goal of increasing the supply of housing targeted to serve the homeless.

The Council recommends a change in the statute authorizing the Homeless Housing Assistance grants to clarify that the grant can be used to not only cover hard construction or repair costs, but also to pay for other related pre-development costs. This would give the local homeless sponsors additional flexibility in how the grant can be used to leverage other federal or private financing to create housing for the homeless.

Recommended Statutory Language

420.622(5) is amended to read:

The State Office on Homelessness, with the concurrence of the Council on Homelessness, may administer moneys appropriated to it to provide homeless housing assistance grants annually to lead agencies for local homeless assistance continuum of care, as recognized by the State Office on Homelessness, ~~to~~ for all activities relating to the construction or rehabilitation of transitional or permanent housing units for homeless persons, which would include land acquisition and pre-development costs. Those moneys shall consist of any sums that the state may appropriate, as well as money received from donations, gifts, bequests, or otherwise from any public or private source, which money is intended to construct or rehabilitate transitional or permanent housing units for homeless persons.

Recommendations from 2001 Council Report

The following are recommendations that the Council made in 2001, for which legislative implementing actions were not passed in the 2002 session. They are restated in the 2002 report to keep them before the Legislature and for consideration in the 2003 session.

The Council recommends that the Legislature appropriate the Homeless Housing assistance grant as a fixed capital outlay budget line item in the FY 2003 budget.

These grants are used to build housing units for homeless people to occupy. The FY 2002 appropriation for the program was placed in a grant-in-aid line item. This allows for the grants to be awarded within the twelve months of the fiscal year and for the grants to be fully expended no later than six months after the end of the fiscal year.

A fixed capital outlay appropriation is intended to fund capital construction type activities. The construction of housing meets this intent. In addition, this type of budget item allows a longer time period to obligate and expend the grant, consistent with the time required to construct facilities and buildings. This change in budget category would help implement the Homeless Housing Assistance Grant funded housing projects, allowing additional flexibility on the time to fully expend the grant on eligible construction costs.

Legislative Changes to Florida Statutes

The Council recommends that section 420.623(4), FS, be amended to change the date that the Department of Children and Families' annual report on homeless is submitted to the Governor and Legislature to correspond to the date of the Council's annual report.

Currently the report from the Department is due June 30 of each year. The Council's report is due December 31 each year. The recommendation is to change the due date for the Department's report to December 31 each year.

This change would place both reports in the hands of the Governor and Legislature at the same time to focus on the needs of Florida's homeless. Having both reports available at the same time will better coordinate the data and recommendations submitted for reducing homelessness in Florida.

The Council recommends a technical amendment to section 420.622(2), FS, to correct a name of an organization specified as member of the Council on Homelessness.

The statute cites as a member the Florida Coalition for Supportive Housing. This entity's legal name is the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition. The change would clarify and correct the member entity's name, to avoid any confusion or question on who the member represents on the Council.

EXHIBITS

COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STRATEGIC PLAN

GOAL

By 2006, reduce the homeless population in Florida by 20%, using the 2003 data on homeless population as the baseline.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Council on Homelessness shall develop and coordinate policy to reduce the prevalence and duration of homelessness, and work towards ending homelessness in Florida.

DEFINE SUCCESS – BENEFITS AND REASONS TO REDUCE HOMELESSNESS

- This form of human misery can no longer be tolerated.
- Homelessness creates a sizeable drain on our social and economic resources.
- Homelessness constrains economic growth, frustrates legitimate commerce, and is an obstacle to community development.
- Reducing homelessness enables people to enjoy a better quality of life.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Council on Homelessness has identified the following principles to guide the development of its strategic plan.

- Ensure that existing laws are enforced.
- The role of the state is coordination, aligned with the local continuum of care planning process, to link state resources to support the local continuum of care, and to leverage other federal resources.
- For the Council to be effective, the local homeless service network must be effective.
- The Council's plan shall promote innovation and technology transfer of best practices.
- The plan must recognize the need of the individual homeless person or family at the time they seek help and provide the appropriate level of services consistent with their needs. Recognize the continuum of need, from basic food and shelter to self-sufficiency, and match resources to the need.
- The plan shall be statewide in scope and diversity and must recognize the difference between urban, suburban, and rural areas, as well as the diversity of Florida's population.
- The plan must reduce fragmentation of programs.
- The plan must maximize the current available resources, while exploring new resources.

OBJECTIVES

To adopt policy recommendations to bring about the following objectives:

1. By 2006, increase the percentage of Florida's homeless population assisted by the following targeted state-administered or state-funded mainstream programs by 25% over 2003 levels:
 - a. Food Stamps
 - b. TANF
 - c. Medicaid
 - d. KidCare
 - e. Mental Health and Substance Abuse Block Grants
 - f. Veterans Services
 - g. Workforce

- h. Community Health Centers
- i. Public housing Authorities, including Section 8 rental assistance
- j. Low Income Housing Tax Credit
- k. SSI Disability
- l. State Housing Trust Fund Programs
- m. State & Local Emergency Management Program

NOTE: Assumes that reliable baseline data can be collected from the relevant entities regarding participation of homeless people by 2003.

2. By 2006, reduce the percentage of Florida's homeless population that exit the care, custody, or service of state-administered or state-funded programs and institutions into homelessness by 25%.

NOTE: Assumes the standardization of local homeless service delivery system data is completed by 2003 and the need to capture this discharge information in point-in-time surveys and homeless management information systems.

3. By 2006, achieve the subgoals adopted by each of the following state or local agencies. Each of the agency subgoals shall be negotiated and a memorandum of agreement executed between the agency and the Council.

State Agencies:

- A. Department of Children and Families
- B. Department of Community Affairs
- C. Department of Health
- D. Department of Corrections
- E. Department of Veteran Affairs
- F. Workforce Florida, Inc.
- G. Florida Housing Finance Corporation
- H. Agency for Health Care Administration
- I. Department of Education

Local Agencies:

- A. Local continuum of care
- B. Public Housing Authorities
- C. Sheriffs
- D. Workforce Boards
- E. County veterans service agency
- F. Educational boards, especially vocational education
- G. Local homeless coalitions
- H. Local government planning and zoning

NOTE: Assumes that each targeted agency will adopt measurable goals and establish the capacity to capture reliable baseline data necessary to measure progress by 2003.

4. By 2006, increase the number of beds (emergency shelter, transitional housing, or permanent supportive housing) by 25% over 2001 levels.

5. By 2006, reduce the length and number of homeless episodes by 25%.

NOTE: Council to define the term homeless episode.

6. End chronic homelessness in Florida by 2012.

**USE OF THE TANF PROGRAM
TO
ASSIST THE HOMELESS**

OCTOBER 2002

Council on Homelessness
and
Office on Homelessness
1317 Winewood Boulevard
Bldg. 2, Room 103-A
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0700
850/922-4691

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) An Overview

[PROFILE]

This document was created to provide the basic eligibility requirements for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and to list the services available for TANF eligible families.

A TANF eligible homeless family that meets the requirements can access services that are listed. The One-Stop system may also serve as a referral point for homeless persons who are not part of TANF eligible families (i.e. Veterans, Able-Bodied persons). Those referral services can include Food Stamps, Medicaid and community based support services and may be co-located.

Workforce TANF funds are primarily utilized to obtain employment, retain employment, and move towards self-sufficiency.

Basic Eligibility Requirements for TANF

Family must include a pregnant woman or a parent with one or more minor children or a caretaker with one or more minor children. Note: Minor child means a child – living at home with the parent or caretaker – under 18 years of age, or under 19 years of age if the child is a full-time student in a secondary school or at the equivalent level of vocational or technical training, and does not include anyone who is married or divorced. TANF eligible families can be:

- Applicants (which means that they are applying to receive cash assistance);
 - Current participants (which means they are currently receiving cash assistance);
 - Former participants and currently earning up to 200% of the poverty level;
 - Eligible families who have never been on cash assistance, are TANF eligible as described above and are earning up to 200% of the poverty level;
- or
- A non-custodial parent of a child who is TANF eligible.

Services Available for TANF Eligible Families

(Current/Former Temporary Cash Assistance Recipients and Transitional Clients)

- **Career Management Services** – services to enable employable adults to become employed, remain employed, or pursue career advancement.
- **Support Services** – includes support services that are work related or for work activities compliance.
- **Childcare** – includes services for childcare that is work related or for work activity compliance and childcare provided during a temporary period of unemployment.
- **Transportation** – includes services for transportation that are work related or for work activity compliance.
- **Education/Training** – includes job training/education as well as secondary education including alternative programs.
- **Teen Pregnancy Prevention** – includes services provided to reduce and avoid welfare dependency.

- **Relocation Services** – services to assist families in relocating to communities with greater opportunities for self-sufficiency.
- **Transitional Education/Training Childcare** – childcare services for employed transitional families to enable clients to enroll in and complete transitional education and training.
- **Transitional Education/Training Support Services** – support services necessary to enable transitional clients to enroll in and complete transitional education and training.

(TANF Eligible Families Not Receiving Cash Assistance)

- **Relocation Services** – services to assist families in relocating to communities with greater opportunities for self-sufficiency.
- **Upfront Diversion Services** – services to assist Temporary Cash Assistance eligible applicants with non-recurring short-term benefits in the form of cash payments, vouchers, or other similar forms of payments to deal with a specific crisis situation or episode of need will allow them to focus on obtaining or continuing employment and divert them from going on cash assistance. (*Cash payments are from DCF TANF funds.*)
- **Diversion Services** – services to assist TANF eligible families with non-recurring short term benefits in the form of cash payments, vouchers, or other similar forms of payments to deal with a specific crisis situation or episode of need that will allow them to focus on obtaining or continuing employment and not to exceed 4 months. (*Payments are from RWB TANF allocation.*)
- **Career Management Services** – services to enable employable adults to become employed, remained employed, or pursue career advancement.
- **Support Services** – includes support services that are work related.
- **Childcare** – includes services for childcare that are work related and childcare provided during a temporary period of unemployment.
- **Transportation** – includes services for transportation that are work related.
- **Education/Training** – includes job training/education as well as secondary education (including alternative programs).
- **Teen Pregnancy Prevention** – includes services provided to reduce and avoid welfare dependency.

**STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP MEETING
KISSIMMEE, FL
OCTOBER 8, 2002**

Council on Homelessness Participants: Greg Mellowe, Maria Pellerin Barcus, Lisa DeVitto, Commissioner Paul Owen, Richard Polangin, and Steve Auger

Council Members Participating by Phone: Mike Switzer

This is a summary of the verbal comments received at the workshop. Detailed minutes of the meeting are available from the Office on Homelessness.

Opening Comments by Lisa DeVitto, Council Chair:

This meeting is a Stakeholder Workshop conducted by the State Council on the Homeless. For those who may not be familiar with the State Council on the Homeless, we were created by the Legislature about a year and a half ago. We are a 15 member Council attached to the State Department of Children and Families. We are composed of representatives of several state agencies, including the Housing Finance Corporation, Department of Community Affairs, Department of Children and Families, Department of Health, Department of Veterans Affairs, and several voluntary agencies including the Florida Coalition for the Homeless. There are four open representative spots appointed by the Governor for one and two year terms. You may want to take note of this because those unaffiliated spots come open every year or so. Our responsibility is to try to provide policy advice to the legislature and state agencies on homelessness through a variety of means. One thing we are supposed to do is hold workshops and symposiums for the general public and stakeholders on the issue of homelessness. This is the first time we have tried to do that. We appreciate everyone coming.

We are mandated to meet four times a year. We do an annual report. We have sub-committees and all our meetings are noticed in the Florida Administrative Weekly. Greg is with the Coalition for the Homeless and he participates in almost every committee that we have. Members of the public are most welcomed to attend these meetings. We have materials out front that explain who we are, who the members are, and how to contact the Office on Homelessness. There are three staff members who are within the Office on Homelessness, which are permanent staff members in DCF.

What we are here for today is to hear public comments. We would like to start out by allowing members of the Council to introduce themselves and tell you who they are. When you speak, explain who you are and whom you represent.

Stakeholder Issues/Comments:

Bert Tanner – The Salvation Army, Sarasota, FL

1. Please find other ways to interface with service providers on the local level. Have other council members attend local meetings of local coalitions in order to hear more of what's going on in their own environment?
2. Funding for faith-based initiatives and their programs. During the last year and a half the creation of several "faith-based" organizations and the change of organizations that have not been faith-based are now deciding they are faith-based. Please be cautious of these organizations and what the intent is for these organizations. It's not the name, it's the method of operation and the motivation the individual groups have towards service that makes them faith-based.

Steve Werthman – Florida Coalition for the Homeless, Orlando, FL

1. Thanks the Council for their support of the National Housing Trust Fund Initiative. Access to affordable and supportive housing is the top strategic goal and priority for the issue of addressing homelessness.
2. Support for legislation to curtail what appears to be a proliferation of local ordinances that criminalize homelessness throughout the state. It is very important to remember this is not only a justice and fairness issue, but it confronts local communities to do constructive things on behalf of the homeless. It has a double benefit in that respect. Fourteen million dollars annually to assist the homeless can be traced in the opening of five 200-bed new homeless assistance centers, which were built directly to curtail criminalization of homelessness.
3. The Council should support the uniform housing status tracking initiative.
4. The Coalition supports the goal of increasing the funding for state homeless assistance programs by ten percent across the board.

Alan Levine – Advocate of Palm Beach County, West Palm Beach, FL

1. The information handed out at the meeting did not have the contact information for the council on it, nor was it on letterhead. How can we communicate with the council? (**NOTE:** Handouts were provided to attendees with this information.)
2. The Council's good work should be introduced to the media. This could be done by television and local newspaper coverage as to exactly what the mission is and what is planned to accomplish. Work with the local chambers of commerce across the state who seem to be prevailing and winning with city attorneys in creating ordinances that restrict or make homelessness such as panhandling and so forth illegal, particularly if they are downtown. If this could be countered from Tallahassee, this would have a great deal of impact. The same goes for input to local sheriff's and police chiefs. The council should make the public aware of the success that Miami-Dade has had and the number of dollars coming into this state as a result of tourism. If there were constant communication in all the local papers about the negative impact of homelessness and the lack of any action from Tallahassee on the issue, the council is hurting themselves and the citizens. With the use of email, the council could post the minutes of each meeting. The local coalitions could then circulate the minutes and get impact from them. In Palm Beach County there are seven commissioners that have to be individually convinced that there is a homeless problem although there are three thousand on the streets. The county administrators would listen to directive or information coming through from a reliable source. They look at the Florida Coalition for the Homeless as one that represents all the coalitions, so it is a very strong entity. If the council would back them up from Tallahassee, it would help the guy from under the bridge that may simply need medicine and come off the streets.

David McVey – Volusia/Flagler County Coalition, Daytona Beach, FL

1. Please support the 30/30 initiative of Volusia/Flagler County Coalition.
2. Is there a rule regarding residency of individuals receiving help from public health departments and residences?

Sandra Higgs – Rural Health Network of Monroe County, Key West, FL

1. The issue of stability of funding – being awarded a grant today and having it taken away two months from now. The dollar that comes down from the state goes through districts and the districts deal with sub-districts before it even gets to the agencies. The process was extremely difficult last year. It was a brand new process, but we can't emphasize to the council enough how making government efficient is the key and critical. The social service programs that are dealing with front-end services are being asked to provide those services in a stable manner so that they can deal with the most difficult segment of the population. Homeless individuals and people who are on the verge of homelessness are the most difficult people to reach. Communication is a major issue. Sometimes they don't have telephones, they don't read newspapers, and they don't have radios, so they

can't receive the messages in a traditional way. When we gear up based on yearly funding issues, it is disheartening to have to direct ourselves in a different way or to cut out funding altogether. We can't plead with the council enough to stabilize funding.

2. The issue of communication. There were no lists provided of the names or the contact for the council members provided. You are considered partners with the community in trying to address the needs of the people throughout the state. In the Keys, we are the most costly place to deliver services.

(NOTE: The full list of Council members was provided in the handouts provided.)

Jean Worrall – Ovieda, FL

One of the guiding principles is for the council is to be connected to the local homeless service network to be affective. We would urge the council to pay attention to some of the local issues. Part of the frustration is knowing that things are very different in Miami than they are in Pensacola; the same from Broward County to Jacksonville. We need to pay attention to the urban areas and the rural areas to make sure that the distribution of program services becomes a little fairer. Places like Miami and Broward County have a very big voice. Please pay attention to all the local homeless networks by asking the local homeless networks to make some written comments to the council. It is very important that you hear the voice of the whole state.

Beth Eschenfelder – Pinellas County Coalition for the Homeless, St. Petersburg, FL

1. The council needs to understand that one model cannot fit every coalition. They are all different, from all areas. If each council member were assigned to get to know very intimately two coalitions, they could really be represented strongly by sharing that information to the entire council.
2. The quality of service indicators in this year's Challenge Grant doesn't fit all coalitions well.
3. Thanks to the council for addressing the issue of homeless count. Pinellas County is one of the counties that have not used a multiplier in the homeless count, which has hurt in funding decisions. Pinellas County is a very small, densely populated county. Coming up with a multiplier has been difficult.

Louise Hubbard – Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council, Vero Beach, FL

1. Two things that have been very supportive in areas that were previously inaccessible primarily due to the way funding is structured, were the Challenge and Homeless Housing Assistance Grants. Those two things have done more in the last two years to initiative programs in small communities. In particular the key issue of the Challenge Grant is the flexibility. The opportunity for a community to say although they do not meet Miami-Dade or Jacksonville's standards or abilities to provide service, we have a continuum of care that works together and has a plan. The council needs to do everything possible to facilitate the continuation of both of those funding initiatives.
2. My experience with Tom Pierce and his staff has been extraordinary. Between Greg, Tom, and his staff, there was consistent responsiveness to issues.

Bill Gasparavic – Manatee Coalition for the Homeless, Bradenton, FL

I find the models the coalitions follow are confusing. What works with each community is fine. The Council is heavily based as an interagency council, like the President's Council that we were introduced to. You are heavily based in Tallahassee, or Miami, or some place similar. The possibility for the council to expand in order to be geographically represented. Either do the DCF districts or put more work on the council to try and familiarize themselves with an organization that is a hundred to two hundred miles away. Or, the other problem is the size of the urban areas. Urban, rural, suburban, coalition, population wise adding a few more seats that would represent the urban areas. That would help the legislature get to know the council and the council to get to know the constituents.

Bert Tanner – The Salvation Army, Sarasota, FL

In the interest of the council trying to reach the issues, what I've observed today of the information that those of us here are sharing, have so much to do with the various agencies, which are represented on the council, but if we look at the makeup of those of you who are sitting there today, maybe two actually represent the person assigned to the state agencies. Of the fifteen members there maybe three that are actually here representing the group that the Governor and the legislature assigned to this council. That makes a strong statement about whether or not those agencies are really going to work together to bring about the things we need on the local level looking at the issues of the homeless on a statewide basis.

Pamela Scala – Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council, Vero Beach, FL

My perspective could be different than that of those who have spoken. I just wanted to assure the council that there are thousands of volunteers across the state and since there is power in numbers, I wanted to let you know that there are many people across the State of Florida for whom the cause and eradication of homelessness is very dear. The homeless cause is probably the least popular cause one could champion. Going forward as a volunteer, I have found that little funding to help our local cause. I was always up against the warm and fuzzy causes. The Humane Society in our county is often times listed as the designee of funds and memorials in the obituaries. I rarely see the Coalition for the Homeless or the Homeless Assistance Shelter being named there. In our county, the Humane Society receives over a million dollars a year. Yet we only receive fifty thousand dollars a year.

**COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS
STAKEHOLDERS' MEETING
OCTOBER 8, 2002**

The following is a summary of written comments received at the workshop.

1. What are the most important issues related to homelessness and its impact on your life, agency, or community that you believe the Council on Homelessness must understand?

Bob Rogers

Living Wage

Transportation

Health Care

Communication and Council participation with local Coalitions

Affordable Housing

Childcare

Criminalizing Homelessness

Pamela Scala

- Without a state mandate to seriously address homelessness, it is extremely difficult to be heard at the local level. If the Council can put a face on homelessness, our work will be taken seriously.
- The Florida Coalition for the Homeless has provided us in Indian River County the technical assistance and education necessary for us to form our continuum and receive HUD funding. It would have been impossible without their assistance. Please support them. They provide a service that is not and cannot be duplicated.

Steve Werthman

- Critical lack of affordable housing
- Critical shortage of mental health and substance abuse treatment
- Discrimination against the homeless in housing and daily life activities due to stigma of homelessness

Bob Kiefer

- Homelessness does not happen in a vacuum. The entire fabric of the community contributes to it.
- The long-term effects are ideally met by the integration of "homeless" services into the overall fabric of local communities. Continue to support efforts to network, integrate services to address this problem.

Toni Surrus-Baker

- To actively support affordable housing legislation, livable wage and curtailing criminalization of homelessness.
- Support legislation to prevent discharging from mainstream services i.e., mental health, prisons, and hospitals, and foster care to homelessness.
- To actively support the full funding of the Florida Coalition by DCF at the full amount of last year's award to allow the Coalition to continue its vital work.

Marilyn Gordon

- More coordination of mainstream resources, i.e., WIA, WTW, Kid Care with service providers and lead agencies. In many cases we must advocate to receive these services for our clients.
- More resources to create affordable housing.
- Funding crisis for mental health services in Florida.

Meg M. Geltner

- Increase in the amount of homeless families
- Affordable housing
- Living wage
- Employability
- Community awareness and education regarding the issues facing persons without housing.

No Name

- We need more affordable housing – short term
- Reduce barriers to access mainstream services, i.e., living wage, universal health care – long-term

Sandy Baar

- Work with the state to better define (lobby) incentives with local governments and contractors to help to attain more affordable housing.
- 30/30 Incentive
- Livable Wage

Jennifer Connors

- Long-term housing solutions for homeless persons must take into consideration both the affordable housing supply, especially for extremely low-income households, and the service needs of the people who are overcoming the barriers that led to their homeless experience. The linkage between housing affordability and individualized services is key to long-term housing solutions.

Sandra Higgs

- The funding issues – stability of funding. Funding for rural communities.
- Communication – email information and the actions of the Council.

2. What should the priorities or key actions of the Council on Homelessness be to reduce or prevent homelessness? Please be specific as possible.

Bob Rogers

- Help provide the minimal funding needed to keep the offices of the Florida Coalition for the Homeless open.
- “30/30 Vision” for housing assistance as promoted by the agencies of the Florida Coalition for the Homeless.
- Help reduce barriers to faith-based organizations.

Pamela Scala

Under Florida Statutes sections 420.621-420.625, Duties & Responsibilities, 4. ...Info on funding sources and technical assistance (FCH); 6. Technical assistance to establish, maintain, and expand local continuums (FCH);

9. Promote federal policy; 11. Formulate policies and legislative proposals; 14. Advocate (FCH); Most important – funding.

Steve Werthman

- Increase access/funding for affordable housing for homeless
- Increase funding/access to treatment for homeless
- Curtail ordinances around the state that “criminalize” homelessness

Bob Kiefer

- Support living wage legislation for local communities to impact the issue of attainable housing.
- Support financial support for those “unfunded” mandates like a statewide database.

Toni Surrus-Baker

- To actively advocate for and support affordable housing and livable wage, and to prevent discharge to homeless by mental health, prisons, and foster care.
- To actively advocate for the complete restoration of the DCF funding of the Florida Coalition at last year’s rate to allow the Coalition to continue its vital work. If this funding is cut to the proposed amount, the current staff (Greg Mellowe) will be eliminated. Please help.

Marilyn Gordon

- Make EFAHP funds more accessible, i.e., either allow Florida Coalition for the Homeless to administer the funds or administer the funds at the DCF District level. These funds are very hard to access and take much too long to receive. These are emergency funds to assist people in crisis and they are very difficult to access and could make a tremendous difference in preventing homelessness.

Meg M. Geltner

- Continue to work closely with FCH since the state coalition works with a cross section of persons without housing, service providers, and advocates.
- Assist with legislative agenda brought forth by FCH.
- Improve communications to and from the COH – especially local coalitions.
- Assume current funding and continuum of care standards are maintained.

No Name

- Living wage would prevent/reduce homelessness in a manner that would preserve the dignity of our clients.
- Universal healthcare would allow employers to pay living wage.

Sandy Baar

- Enact programs to assist coalitions in getting law enforcement support to address homeless issues.
- Explore private funding options statewide for service providers and coalitions.
- Develop list of “best-practices” of other coalitions/service providers.

Jennifer Connors

- Acting as a catalyst for new projects and programs.
- Coordinating and consolidating related funding sources, outcome measurement, and planning.

- Mapping funding streams for housing and services for homeless persons and making rule change recommendations (e.g. to State Medicaid plan) to link housing and services.
- Create zoning guidelines that aid housing providers in effectively fighting NIMBY challenges (e.g., fast-tracking special needs projects).

Sandra Higgs

- Maintain ESG funding for emergency shelters, not transitional housing.

Public Comment Listing

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**LOCAL HOMELESS COALITIONS
RECEIVING STAFFING GRANTS**

<u>COALITION</u>	<u>FY 2002</u>	<u>FY 2003</u>
Escarosa Coalition on the Homeless	\$25,000	\$23,500
Okaloosa Coalition on the Homeless	25,000	23,500
Tallahassee Coalition for the Homeless	25,000	23,500
Homeless & Hunger Coalition of Northwest Florida	25,000	23,500
Alachua County Coalition for the Homeless and Hungry	25,000	23,500
Emergency Services and Homeless Coalition of Jacksonville	25,000	23,500
Emergency Services and Homeless Coalition of St. Johns County	25,000	23,500
Coalition on Homeless of Hillsborough County	25,000	23,500
Manatee Community Coalition on Homelessness	25,000	23,500
Pinellas County Coalition for the Homeless	25,000	23,500
Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County	25,000	23,500
Sarasota County Coalition for the Homeless	25,000	23,500
Homeless Services Network of Central Florida	25,000	23,500
Brevard County, Housing & Human Services	25,000	23,500
Southwest Florida Coalition for the Homeless	25,000	23,500
Lee County Coalition for the Homeless	25,000	23,500
Charlotte County Homeless Coalition	25,000	23,500
Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County	25,000	23,500
Broward Coalition for the Homeless	25,000	23,500
Miami-Dade Homeless Trust	25,000	23,500
Southernmost Homeless Assistance League	25,000	23,500
Volusia/Flagler County Coalition for the Homeless	25,000	23,500
Mid-Florida Homeless Coalition	25,000	23,500
Homeless Coalition of Polk County	25,000	23,500
Coalition for the Homeless of Indian River County	25,000	----
Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council *	----	23,500
Suwannee Valley Coalition for the Homeless	0	12,500
Collier County Hunger and Homeless Coalition	0	12,500
Marion County Coalition for the Homeless	0	12,500

*Indian River County Coalition was changed to become the Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council and also incorporated the Martin County Continuum of Care Coordinating Council.

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CHALLENGE GRANT RECIPIENTS

<u>CONTINUUM OF CARE RECIPIENT</u>	<u>COUNTIES SERVED</u>	<u>FY 2002 AWARD</u>	<u>FY 2003 AWARD</u>
Alachua County Coalition for the Homeless & Hungry	Alachua	\$250,000	\$250,000
Homeless & Hunger Coalition of Northwest Florida	Bay	0	241,450
Brevard County	Brevard	250,000	0
Broward County Homeless Initiative	Broward	250,000	250,000
Charlotte County Homeless Coalition	Charlotte	0	250,000
Mid-Florida Homeless Coalition	Citrus	Not Yet	0
	Hernando	Formed	
	Lake		
	Sumter		
Collier County Hunger & Homeless Coalition	Collier	0	0
Emergency Services & Homeless Coalition of Jacksonville	Duval	250,000	250,000
EscaRosa Coalition on the Homeless	Escambia	141,306	158,319
	Santa Rosa		
Homeless Coalition of Polk County, Inc.	Hardee	249,999	0
	Highlands		
	Polk		
Homeless Coalition of Hillsborough County	Hillsborough	250,000	250,000
Treasure Coast Homeless Services	Indian River	250,000	245,207
	St. Lucie		
	Martin		
Lee County Human Services	Lee	227,098	250,000
Tallahassee Coalition for the Homeless	Leon	247,926	0
United Way of Sarasota County	Sarasota	77,330	0
	Manatee		
United Way of Marion County	Marion	0	0
Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust	Miami-Dade	248,457	250,000
Southernmost Homeless Assistance League	Monroe	250,000	250,000
Okaloosa Coalition on the Homeless	Okaloosa	0	250,000
	Walton		
Homeless Services Network of Central Florida	Orange	249,983	0
	Osceola		
	Seminole		
Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County	Palm Beach	250,000	0
Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County	Pasco	98,414	250,000
Pinellas County Coalition for the Homeless	Pinellas	246,311	250,000
Emergency Services & Homeless Coalition of St. Johns County	St. Johns	51,975	193,823
Coalition for the Homeless Volusia/Flagler	Volusia	<u>0</u>	<u>250,000</u>
TOTAL AWARDS		\$3,838,799	\$3,838,799

HOMELESS HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANT PROJECTS

FY 2002 AWARDS

<u>RECIPIENT</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>GRANT AWARD</u>	<u>HOUSING UNITS</u>	<u>HOUSING TYPE</u>
United Way of Palm Beach	Palm Beach	\$200,446	26	Permanent
Homeless Coalition of Hillsborough Co.	Hillsborough	472,500	16	Permanent
Miami-Dade Homeless Trust	Miami-Dade	750,000	149	Permanent
Tallahassee Coalition	Leon	745,500	20	Permanent
Lee County	Lee	288,897	16	Permanent
Pinellas County Coalition	Pinellas	750,000	88	Transitional
United Way of Sarasota	Sarasota	498,465	26	Transitional
ESHC of Jacksonville	Duval	384,131	75	Transitional
Miami-Dade Homeless Trust	Miami-Dade	750,000	92	Transitional
Southernmost	Monroe	117,404	44	Transitional
Homeless Services Network of Central Florida	Orange	<u>37,500</u>	50	Permanent
TOTAL		\$5,000,000		

FY 2003 AWARDS

Charlotte County Coalition	Charlotte	\$89,000	14	Permanent
ESHC of St. Johns County	St. Johns	32,235	5	Transitional
ESHC of Jacksonville	Duval	24,725	14	Permanent
Miami-Dade Homeless Trust	Miami-Dade	375,000	66	Permanent
Charlotte County Coalition	Charlotte	51,400	9	Transitional
ESHC of Jacksonville	Duval	409,000	16	Permanent
Collier County Coalition	Collier	745,500	22	Transitional
Homeless Services Network	Orange	750,000	72	Permanent
Brevard County	Brevard	110,250	9	Transitional
Pinellas County Coalition	Pinellas	161,700	16	Permanent
Southernmost	Monroe	300,000	10	Permanent
Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach Co.	Palm Beach	149,481	14	Permanent
Homeless Coalition of Hillsborough Co.	Hillsborough	264,810	16	Transitional
Alachua County Coalition	Alachua	262,500	10	Transitional
Brevard County	Brevard	634,211	14	Transitional
Tallahassee Coalition	Leon	<u>265,189</u>	45	Permanent
TOTAL		\$5,000,000		

CONTINUUM OF CARE DESIGNATED AGENCIES

CONTINUUM OF CARE LEAD AGENCY

CATCHMENT AREAS

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CATCHMENT AREAS

Citrus, Hernando, Lake, & Sumter

Collier County

Duval

Escambia & Santa Rosa Counties

Hardee, Highlands, & Polk Counties

Hillsborough County

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CATCHMENT AREAS

Indian River, Martin, & St. Lucie Counties

Lee County

Leon County

Manatee & Sarasota Counties

Marion County

Miami-Dade County

CONTINUUM OF CARE LEAD AGENCY

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CATCHMENT AREAS

Monroe County

Okaloosa & Walton Counties

Orange, Osceola, & Seminole Counties

Palm Beach County

Pasco County

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CATCHMENT AREAS

Pinellas County

St. Johns County

Volusia County