

## [CSB BUDGET UPDATE]

### Fewer Dollars available for CSB's FY13 Budget

Working to develop a balanced budget for FY13, CSB is caught in a vice grip between two forces: the sharp spike in demand for emergency family shelter and the end of federal funds from the economic stimulus program that supported homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing for the last two years. The federal homeless prevention and rapid re-housing (HPRP) funds helped thousands of men, women and children leave shelter and get back into stable housing. The funds are expiring but the investment leaves a legacy: What we learned about prevention and rapid re-housing will transform our crisis response system for single adults and shape our priorities and funding allocations for the coming years.

With the economy still uncertain, we don't see the light at the end of the tunnel for families struggling to meet basic needs. With significantly less federal funding, we have to walk a tightrope to manage the needs of families and the needs of single men and women.

CSB established the Coordinated Point of Access to create a single "front door" for emergency shelters for adults, which HandsOn Central Ohio is now managing. The program will be funded in FY13 by reallocating money from the shelter intake operations at Lutheran Social Services and Southeast that are now no longer needed. Initiated by CSB as a pilot program two years ago, HUD now requires that communities have a coordinated entry point for people accessing shelter.

Prevention and rapid re-housing programs for single adults funded through HPRP will cease to operate due to lack of funding. We will continue to help single adults through a rental assistance program that is proving to reduce street homelessness.

In addition to HPRP-related program cuts, FY13 program reductions will total \$382,000 – money which will be reallocated to pay for proven, cost-effective approaches to reduce homelessness and *will not require partner agencies to cut safety-net services*. Some of these funds will support family emergency shelter so no family in crisis will be turned away. CSB will continue investment in innovative solutions to reduce shelter demand, such as kinship care, a new program that provides supports for family members who take in relatives who are experiencing homelessness and staying at the YWCA Family Center.

CSB is identifying sources to replace the loss of HPRP funds. We are also increasing requirements that partner agencies focus on cost-effective strategies for high-impact outcomes that put taxpayer and philanthropic dollars to best use. CSB is doing its part to hold the line on expenses, budgeting no increase in internal costs over last year.

## [ADVOCACY]

### Federal Stimulus Funds = Big Impact

As federal stimulus dollars run out, CSB is reflecting on the major impacts these funds had on our homeless system over the last three years. The Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program funds allowed the unprecedented opportunity to test out new programs in our community. Thousands of households benefited from these funds. In an environment where the effects of the recession were just starting to affect the homeless system, these funds helped counteract a sudden increase in homelessness and positively affected the outcomes of those that experienced homelessness.

A description of the programs that were funded and the results achieved are contained in the report, [Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program Review](#).

The HPRP funds gave our community the unprecedented opportunity to test new prevention programs, design new rapid re-housing programs and implement a coordinated point of access for crisis response services for single adults. CSB thanks and congratulates its partner agencies that collaborated in this work to bring vitally-needed services to people experiencing homelessness. Partner agencies worked hard to meet HUD requirements. CSB also thanks the City of Columbus and Franklin County for their continued support and assistance in the implementation of the HPRP funded programs.

### HEARTH ad hoc committee on CoC/RLFC structure

In preparation for requirements and changes under HEARTH, an ad hoc committee convened on March 5 to discuss restructuring the Continuum of Care Steering Committee (CoC SC) and the Rebuilding Lives Funder Collaborative (RLFC). Members of the ad hoc committee were representatives from the City of Columbus, Franklin County, The Columbus Foundation, Community Housing Network, the Community Shelter Board Citizens Advisory Council, the Affordable Housing Trust for Columbus and Franklin County, United Way of Central Ohio, Columbus Coalition for the Homeless, the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Board of Franklin County and CSB staff. The group reviewed a proposed restructuring model that will combine the two policy making entities to meet HEARTH guidelines. The structural change will be presented to the CoC SC on April 10 and the RLFC on May 17. The group recommended that the CSB Board of Trustees make the final decision on the restructuring at its May 25 meeting and that implementation begin in July 2012.

## [CRISIS RESPONSE]

### Winter Overflow

The Adult Shelter System Alternate Site Overflow ended on March 15. While the alternate site overflow services end, the shelters will continue to stretch their internal capacity utilizing extra space to accommodate homeless individuals over their regular capacity until April 15.

CSB thanks the YMCA and YWCA for serving as alternate site winter overflow providers for single adults this year. Collaboratively, they were able to provide a warm place to sleep, access to showers and light refreshments for those seeking shelter when existing shelters did not have space available. We also express appreciation to St. Stephens and the Mid-Ohio FoodBank, who provided space for overflow.

Lastly, we acknowledge Lutheran Social Services/Faith Mission and HandsOn Central Ohio for their excellent around-the-clock work managing the Coordinated Point of Access for all individuals seeking shelter in Franklin County.

Anyone in need of shelter can contact the Coordinated Point of Access at 1-888-474-3587.

## [GATEWAY]

### Gateway Applications under Review

The Gateway process for the upcoming fiscal year is underway. FY13 Gateway applications were completed last week and all applications are being reviewed by CSB staff. Next month, the annual spring 1-on-1 meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss each agency's application and opportunities for continual quality improvement. Final funding awards and partner agency contracts will be issued in late May. Any questions or concerns about the Gateway process should be directed to Noel Welsh, Grants Administrator, at [nwelsh@csb.org](mailto:nwelsh@csb.org) or (614) 221-9195.

### Citizens Advisory Council

The Citizens Advisory Council will take a three-month break from meetings while the facilitator, Tiffany Nobles, is on maternity leave. **Meetings will not be held in April, May or June.** The group will resume its regular meeting schedule on Monday, July 9 at 5:30 pm.

## [IN THE SPOTLIGHT]

### Atlanta and Orange County Study the CSB Model

CSB hosted two delegations this month – from Atlanta, Georgia and Orange County, California – to provide an overview of Columbus’ collaborative model to end homelessness. Representatives from the Atlanta Mayor’s Office visited on March 5 to discuss inter-agency alignment between local, state, and federal governments; our model for permanent supportive housing and our use of shared data and tracking to monitor case management and vacancy control.

The Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness visited on March 13 to discuss our coordinated intake method and performance management tools. We are proud to be a leader in homelessness solutions and to serve as model for communities across the country.

### Norfolk Regional Conference

Michelle Heritage served as a presenter at the South Hampton Roads Regional Conference to End Homelessness in Norfolk, Virginia on March 8. She shared CSB’s founding story and its accomplishments achieved through moving to a performance-based system.

### Development & Communications Administrator

Carrie Mularz joined CSB on March 16 as its part-time Development & Communications Administrator. Carrie worked at Huckleberry House for many years and has a great deal of experience with databases, reporting and project planning. She will support a wide range of development and communications activities for CSB.

#### Upcoming Meetings

- ⟨ Check out the interactive calendar at [www.csb.org](http://www.csb.org) under Resources for our Partners < Meetings

#### Enclosures

- ⟨ Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program Review