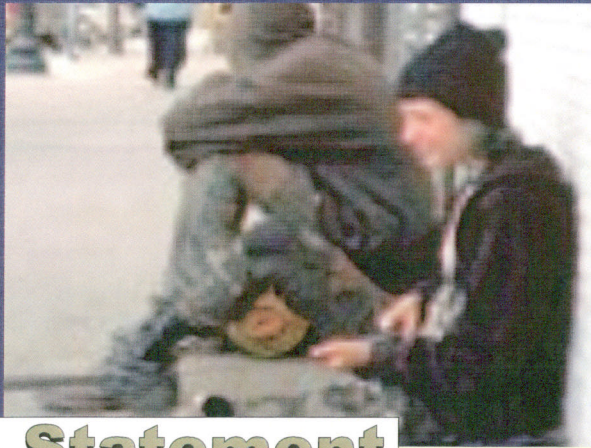




COMMUNITY ALLIANCES AND STRATEGIC EFFORTS

CASE PLAN

TOLEDO/LUCAS COUNTY PLAN TO PREVENT, REDUCE AND END HOMELESSNESS



CASE Plan Vision Statement

All citizens of Toledo and Lucas County desiring to be 'homed' will be.

"Homed" is living in safe, affordable permanent housing with adequate resources and support systems so as to achieve one's potential and contribute to the well-being of one's immediate household and the community at large.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- * *Ending homelessness is the responsibility of our entire community - everyone has a role to play.*
- * *The experience of homelessness will be tolerated for the shortest time possible.*
- * *Outcomes are client and data driven.*
- * *Consumers must be involved in the decision-making process, including the development, implementation, and evaluation of the CASE Plan.*
- * *Best-practice models will be used and adopted to meet the needs of our community.*



July 2008

Goal #1 - Homeless Prevention

Homeless Prevention provides both financial and support service resources deemed necessary for people to either obtain or maintain permanent housing.

Objectives:

1. *For those households at imminent risk of losing housing:*

- Develop assessment tools for first responders to best identify needs to maintain and sustain housing.
- Increase financial resources to households so that they are able to afford the cost of housing.
- Provide comprehensive case management services to ensure sustainability and access community resources.
- Educate the community about legal and structural causes of homelessness and barriers to becoming *homed*.

2. *For those persons exiting shelter/transitional housing:*

- Develop a client-driven service plan to address and support financial stability including employment, education, benefits, childcare and transportation, and to manage household well-being in the areas of mental and physical health, social interaction and accessing community resources.
- Assist households to secure stable, permanent housing and ensure households are adequately furnished.
- Provide comprehensive follow-up services for a minimum of six months after permanent housing placement.

3. *For those persons released by public institutions without permanent housing placement:*

- Develop a discharge-planning model from the criminal justice, medical and behavioral health systems that provides for follow-up and flexibility in individual housing plans.

4. *For adequate community response in the areas of housing, education and employment:*

- Secure local and other nonfederal funding resources for homeless prevention activities.
- Ensure availability of:
 - Supportive services to address social, medical, and behavioral health-care needs.
 - Job placement and training assistance to equip individuals to secure employment.
 - Resources to assist individuals achieve General Education Development (GED) certification, higher education and /or skilled-trades training.
- Enhance community efforts in identifying and assisting homeless youth and young adults at risk of becoming homeless.



Goal #2 - Coordinated Homeless Services

Services provided within the Toledo/ Lucas County Continuum of Care will address the basic needs of all (food, shelter, basic healthcare, public benefits) and the particular needs of special subpopulations (e.g., safe houses, group homes, addiction services). Services will be delivered seamlessly and in coordination so as to eliminate homelessness effectively and permanently for individuals and families.

Objectives:

- Establish Standards for Homeless Service Providers, Case Management, Housing Placement and Homeless Prevention programs.
- Develop and implement a Centralized Intake System to gather consistent verifiable information, assess stabilization needs, determine special population service needs, and identify temporary and permanent housing needs.
- Incorporate the value and practice of including consumer decision-making and service evaluation in all homeless services provided by the Toledo/Lucas County Continuum of Care.
- Implement HMIS data collection in all organizations serving homeless persons and families.
- Develop and implement housing strategies and support services that move homeless persons into permanent housing rapidly.

Goal #3 - Sufficient Affordable Housing

Homeless households and those precariously housed and at risk of becoming homeless will be able to access housing options that are safe, affordable and accessible. Community Housing Strategies will target persons who are experiencing homelessness or are at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

Objectives:

- Encourage and support the improvement of current rental housing so as to make it affordable and accessible.
- Encourage and support Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority to preserve and expand current numbers of federally assisted housing units in Lucas County.
- Assist in securing additional public and private housing subsidy for those homeless households most at risk of remaining homeless.
- Encourage and support the Toledo Lucas County Housing Trust Fund to create *communities of choice* in affordable housing units are included.
- Develop and implement broad range of opportunities for residents to achieve the level of income required to sustain the household.

Goal #4 - Community Engagement, Coordination and Oversight

Efforts undertaken will be both responsive to community needs and designed to embrace broad community participation. Everyone in Toledo and Lucas County can play a role in preventing, reducing and eliminating homelessness. Four specific areas of access will provide broad and comprehensive engagement.

Objectives:

1. *Toledo/Lucas County Homelessness Board*

- Oversees the coordination, implementation and evaluation of the *CASE Plan*, monitors and reports on results, leads process for review and revision, and engages stakeholders in the implementation of the *CASE Plan*. Four areas of particular emphasis are: Continuum of Care, Resource Development, Performance Measurements and Data Management, and Facilitate Stakeholder Collaboration.

2. *Toledo Area Alliance to End Homelessness (TAAEH)*

- Brings together organizations to work collaboratively to serve people at risk of or experiencing homelessness by providing leadership, training, and advocacy.

3. *Public, Government and other Stakeholder Entities*

- Are committed to a solution-oriented planning process that takes responsibility for developing the most efficient and effective homeless system possible and are encouraged to incorporate key elements of the *CASE Plan*, as deemed appropriate and relevant within their own planning processes.

4. *Consumer Groups*

- Consumers and advocacy groups shall be encouraged to broadly participate in all elements of the *CASE Plan*.



From right to left: Carla, Anissa and Jennah.
(Son Jamie, 8 months, not shown)

“I came to Toledo with my children in June 2008 for a job interview and got the job, but my children and I were homeless. Thanks to the help received from caring homeless providers in the Toledo community, we have been sheltered and are entering a transitional housing program. We are going to be okay and make it. We will never forget where we came from because it will remind us where we are going.”

Carla Morrow

Introductions



Carleton S. Finkbeiner
Mayor, City of Toledo

"The City of Toledo is committed to working in a public/private partnership to advance the objectives of the CASE Plan to prevent homelessness; to deliver quality, coordinated, and comprehensive services to those facing homelessness; to provide a sufficient supply of safe, decent, and affordable housing; and to be responsive to the community's needs. Cooperative implementation of the plan will have a positive and lasting impact for the most vulnerable members of our community."



Joe McNamara
Chair, Community & Neighborhood Development Committee, Toledo City Council

"The Toledo-Lucas County community is blessed with respect to the fact that we have many passionate advocates for the disadvantaged and the homeless. The TLCHB CASE Plan sets the noble goal of ending homelessness. The plan is a tool to harness our community passion and channel it into an agreed upon strategy. This collaboration is an exciting approach to addressing a problem for which we must all take responsibility. As chairman of the Toledo City Council Community & Neighborhood Development committee, I am proud to be part of this effort and proud that our community is working together to better the lives of our brothers and sisters."



Tina Skeldon Wozniak
President, Board of Lucas County Commissioners

"It's essential that we strive to make life better for everyone in our community, especially those who are most vulnerable. We simply must do all we can to coordinate our efforts, seek out partnerships, and provide pathways out of poverty so that we may someday soon end homelessness in our community once and for all."



Clement Cybulski
Executive Director, Lucas County Veterans Service Commission

"The Veterans Service Commission is dedicated to working with the TLCHB to address the issues of homelessness in Toledo and Lucas County, taking special interest in the needs of homeless who are veterans of U.S. Military Service."



Bill Kitson
President & CEO, United Way of Greater Toledo

"The CASE Plan aligns with and furthers United Way's working of creating financial stability. These are the type of comprehensive, long-lasting solutions our community needs in order to advance the common good."



Jane Moore
President, Toledo/Lucas County Homelessness Board

"Homelessness is not a problem any one person or even one group can solve on its own. That's why, by sharing this plan, the Board hopes to engage the entire community in working together to ensure better lives for all residents of Toledo and Lucas County."



Paula D. Lewis
TAAEH President

"Ending homelessness is the responsibility of our entire community. We, as service providers, see daily the effects of people experiencing homelessness and we strive to serve them well and hope to see an end to homelessness."

HMIS participating agencies report the following in 2007

Gender	#
Male	1,820
Female	939
Age Range	
Under 18	581
18-30	570
31-50	1,062
51-61	342
62+	33
No Date of Birth	171
Households	
Average HH size	3.07
*Veteran	8%
*Mental Illness	22%
*Substance Abuse	17%

*2007 Needs Assessment

Continuum of Care Bed Availability 2007

	Emergency Shelter
Individuals	247 (167 male only)
Families	197 (69 units)

	Transitional Housing
Individuals	180 (67 women only)
Families	209 (69 units)

	Permanent Supportive
Individuals	82
Families	123 (54 units)

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