

Housing for ALL Floridians 2010

FUND LOCAL HOMELESS COALITIONS AND STATE HOMELESS PROGRAMS

1) **Reinstate GIA for the state's local homeless coalitions to the 2008-2009 funding level - \$1.1 million**

Grants provided to 28 local coalitions to help them in fulfilling state-mandated responsibilities, equip them to mobilize and coordinate local responses to homelessness and provide direct services.

These coalitions are responsible for coordinating the Federal Homeless Assistance programs for their communities. Collectively, these efforts accounted for more than **\$67 million in federal dollars** in 2008 for homeless services in Florida.

2) **Maintain funding for Challenge Grant at the 2009-2010 funding level - \$2 million**

Challenge Grants competitively fund projects to meet the most pressing needs identified in local continuum of care plans including job training, substance abuse treatment, physical and mental healthcare, etc.

The 2009-2010 Challenge Grant funding will help at least **27,228 homeless Floridians**.

3) **Maintain funding for the HHA Grant at the 2009-2010 funding level - \$5 million**

Homeless Housing Assistance Grants (HHA) funds creation, renovation and maintenance of permanent and transitional housing for homeless families and individuals who otherwise would remain trapped in emergency shelters or on the street.

The 2009-2010 HHA Grants will fund **534 new housing units** for homeless men, women and children.

4) **Create a Local Homelessness Prevention Grant with funds from the Emergency Financial Assistance for Housing Program (EFAHP) dollars - \$1.1 million**

Prevention programs are both cost effective and efficient especially when focused at the local level.

A Dakota County, Minnesota study showed that it costs just \$1,600 in financial prevention assistance to keep a family of four from becoming homeless while it cost an average of \$12,000 to assist the same family out of homelessness.

State-funded homeless assistance programs **directly reduce the strain on other publicly-funded systems** including correctional and healthcare systems.

Each dollar of state funding appropriated for homeless programs **allows at least four (4) dollars of federal homeless funds to flow to Florida** and leverages a far greater amount of private funding for homeless services in Florida.

For more information contact: The Florida Coalition for the Homeless at 877.205.0021 or your Local Homeless Coalition.

*Presented by the Florida Coalition for the Homeless
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