



Responding to the Needs of the Community

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Homeless and Low-Income Voter Registration Week *Local agencies participate in National Awareness Event*

TAMPA, Fla. – (Thursday, September 21, 2006) – With the general election just over a month away, local homeless service providers want to ensure that homeless and low income citizens know they have a right to vote. At least 10 local service providers will educate their clients about their right to vote and offer them the opportunity to register to vote during the National Homeless and Low-Income Voter Registration Week, September 24 through September 30.

“Our goal is to educate people, especially homeless people, that they can vote and have a voice in government,” said Rayme L. Nuckles, CEO of the Homeless Coalition of Hillsborough County. “A homeless person’s vote counts exactly the same as any other person’s vote.”

The awareness event is part of a national project sponsored by the National Low Income Housing Coalition and the National Coalition for the Homeless. Locally, the events have been organized by the Homeless Coalition of Hillsborough County.

Participating organizations will educate their residents and/or non-residents about their right to vote during this awareness week, depending on the organization’s capacity and services. The following organizations will provide ‘open’ voter education and registration opportunity for anyone who wants to register on the date(s) and time(s) noted.

Alpha House – Wednesday, Sept. 27 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
201 S. Tampania Ave., Tampa 33609

Covenant House of Tampa – Mon., Sept, 25 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
912 East Fairbanks, Tampa

Metropolitan Ministries – Mon., Sept. 25 - Fri., Sept. 29 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
2301 North Tampa Street, Tampa 33602

New Beginnings of Tampa – Tues., Sept. 26 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
1402 E. Chilkoot Ave., Tampa 33612
8535 N. Nebraska Ave, Tampa 33604

Project Return – Mon., Sept. 25 – Fri., Sept. 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
304 W. Waters Ave., Tampa 33604

Veterans' Administration Stand Down – Fri., Sept. 29 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Hyde Park United Methodist Church, 500 W. Platt Street, Tampa 33606

The following agencies will be offering voter registration during the week to their residential and current clients: ACTS, Mary and Martha House, Mental Health Care – The Shop and the Salvation Army.

The Homeless Coalition of Hillsborough County is a 501 (C) 3 organization responsible for establishing and maintaining concentrated strategic efforts to develop long-term constructive solutions that address the underlying causes of homelessness and meet the immediate needs of homeless people. Governed by coalition members, the Coalition promotes collaboration and coordination among social service providers, businesses, funding institutions, housing providers, state and federal agencies, faith-based communities and other supportive organizations and individuals to organize and deliver, without duplication, support services, emergency shelters, transitional housing and affordable housing to meet the specific needs of all homeless people. The Coalition also operates the UNITY Information Network that “virtually” links service providers in Hillsborough County. UNITY offers integrated referrals, creates a base of data to better understand homelessness to plan effective intervention, and shows “real-time” availability of services – all essential to securing funding to meet the level of need within the community. For more information visit www.homelessofhc.org.

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