

Accomplishments



Promotion of *Destination: Home*

- An Education Specialist began in March 2006 to focus on the promotion of *Destination: Home* to the community and coordinating the educational strategies outlined in the plan
- A bi-monthly progress report is produced and made available to interested persons.
- Endorsements for *Destination: Home* have been obtained from 55 organizations and 14 individuals.
- *Destination: Home* presentations have been made to two state-wide groups, one other community, a number of state legislators, and to over 41 groups, churches and organizations.
- Dedicated website has been established: www.destination-home.info

Increase Coordination of Existing Services

- Veterans Homeless Network Group meets quarterly
- United Way of Southwestern Indiana's 2-1-1 information and referral service continues to operate to provide access to information about resources for assistance
- Use of the Hoosier Information Management System has been expanded to other HUD grant recipients, emergency shelter grant recipients and the school corporation.
- Development of PlaySpaces, a coordinated early childhood development program in six existing homeless programs, is moving forward with two pilot sites opened in Sept. 2006.



Increase Training for Existing Providers

- *Bridges*—A *Community Response to Poverty* training has generated first year funding (\$25,000) and the Advisory Group has developed an activity and training schedule for 2007. Members of the Advisory Group also attended a Bridges Institute to meet with nine other communities instituting *Bridges Out of Poverty* at a community level.



- The Training and Certification Committee has surveyed local shelters to determine the use of a training program and has developed a list of topics most needed. Quarterly trainings are



being held with a variety of shelter staff attending.

Develop Resources

- The *Bike to Work* program provided over 116 bikes to homeless veterans to help with employment in 2005. The program continues to operate into 2007.
- Vectren initiated a pilot program called the Universal Service Program, providing natural gas assistance to low-income households year round in 2005. Vectren has been granted approval to continue the program until May 31, 2007.
- Work is continuing to develop a rating scale to identify those at-risk of losing their housing.
- ECHO Housing has committed to the development of 100 units of Supportive Single Room Occupancy units over the next 3 years. A collaborative proposal for an initial project with 20 Supportive Housing units for families was submitted to HUD in May 2006.
- A community discharge policy has been approved by both the city and county aiming to prevent individuals from being released from institutions into homelessness