



## Interagency Council on Homelessness and Affordable Housing Fact Sheet

The Interagency Council on Homelessness and Affordable Housing (ICHAH) was established by Governor Strickland's Executive Order 2007-08S, as signed on April 23, 2007 with the mission of uniting key state agencies to formulate policies and programs that address affordable housing issues and the needs of Ohioans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Comprised of 16 state agencies and eight advocacy groups, the ICHAH is charged with making recommendations to assist the Governor in "...devising and implementing a long-term plan to support affordable housing and to end chronic homelessness." In fulfilling its obligations, the ICHAH has facilitated the implementation of several initiatives, including:

**Family Homelessness Prevention Pilot Project:** A pilot program which allows nonprofits to offer a number of support strategies to families who are in eminent danger of homelessness. So far more than 400 families have been served with more than 275 exiting successfully.

**Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Ohio Project:** An electronic platform modeled after the Ohio Benefit Bank designed to expedite the SSI/SSDI process for homeless individuals. The program, currently administered by COHHIO, had successfully served nearly 450 clients by March of 2010.

**Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Policy Framework:** Based on recommendation from the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) report to the Council, the ICHAH has approved the PSH Policy Framework, which includes a statewide definition for permanent supportive housing, clear target populations and specifications for service delivery. This framework sets the foundation for a more unified and coordinated statewide effort in supportive housing.

**Looking to the future,** the ICHAH is making progress on several additional initiatives, including:

- Implementation of the PSH Policy Framework, which includes building local/state partnerships for the production of an addition 6,000 units of PSH across the state
- Development of a web-based toolkit designed to simplify the Medicaid billing process for PSH providers
- Collaboration with other statewide coalitions to raise the awareness of homelessness and affordable housing issues throughout the state

*"All Ohioans need and deserve decent, safe and sanitary housing."  
– Governor Ted Strickland*