

## Goal: Provide Essential Services for Homeless Persons in Okaloosa and Walton Counties

### Objective: Establish Services for Unsheltered Homeless Persons that Alleviate Conditions and Facilitate Transition out of Homelessness

Strategies from 2008	Responsible Person/ Agency	Target Date	Status 6/15/2009
Establish access points at meal sites to provide assistance in linking to mainstream benefits, and keeping homeless apprised of new opportunities for assistance, such as assistance with obtaining funds from economic stimulus package	Resource and Referral Manager, Opportunity, Inc.	4/1/2009	Accomplished: ability to gain IDS at Sunday program; Access Florida dedicated computer staffed by volunteer; Saturday haircuts; awareness of economic stimulus package
Recruit one church or agency to coordinate application and distribution of hearing aids, glasses, work boots, hard hats, tools and other items essential for effective work performance	Executive Director Opportunity, Inc.	10/01/2008	Accomplished: Resource and Referral Manager has list of available services
Negotiate for resources allowing for provision of sleeping bags and tents to homeless	Executive Director Opportunity, Inc.	11/1/2008	Still in planning stage: some Challenge Grant applications propose appropriate funding
Negotiate for location to provide storage facilities for homeless	Executive Director Opportunity, Inc.	3/15/2010	Partially accomplished: some storage available at Opportunity Place
Identify solutions to transportation issues facing homeless, increase utilization of transportation systems already in effect (WAVE vouchers)	Executive Director Opportunity, Inc.	1/15/2009	Partially accomplished: Chamber of Commerce providing some vouchers
Develop funding base for dental services, and publicizing existing services, coordinating with Catholic Charities and Yvonne Franklin at Dr. Allen's office; Choctaw Baptist Dental Van	Executive Director Opportunity, Inc.	1/15/2009	Partially accomplished: Challenge Grant funds used for dental services

Provide literacy services to homeless persons at locations already utilized	Resource and Referral Manager, Opportunity, Inc.	7/1/2009	Planning; Plans underway for services at Opportunity Place
Investigate methods for assisting homeless with child care through Child Care Services; placing funds with OWCCS to provide job-seekers with child care and open up additional slots for homeless working families	Executive Director Opportunity, Inc.	8/1/2009	Planning: Potential for using some economic stimulus funds for child care during job search
Initiate web-based system for coordination, tracking of resource utilization	Director, United Way	5/1/2008	Charity Tracker installed, not widely used; HMIS system being redesigned to offer this service
<b>Additional Strategies for 2009-10</b>			
Utilize homeless prevention/ rapid rehousing funds to address needs of homeless individuals and families affected by economic downturn	HRPR Administrator; Opportunity, Inc.	10/15/2009	Homeless Plan submitted 4-20-09, approved 5-15-09
Locate HRPR staff in Fort Walton Beach, Crestview, DeFuniak Springs to extend Opportunity, Inc. and economic assistance throughout region	Executive Director, Opportunity, Inc.	10/15/2009	Site selection accomplished; awaiting funds to hire appropriate staff
Utilize Opportunity Place as community resource center as well as emergency housing, to include links to mainstream benefits, literacy programs, counseling	Executive Director, Opportunity, Inc.	1/1/2010	Plan to hire program manager to set up full resource center, ensure non-duplication of service
Identify work efforts that homeless participants could engage in to earn income for themselves, homeless programs	Executive Director, Opportunity, Inc.	6/1/2010	Program Manager to seek input from homeless, service providers
Provide HIV-AIDS testing using instant feedback results in several service provider locations	Executive Director, OASIS	1/1/2010	Director has attended conference to explain new tests
Link to economic stimulus funded programs throughout 2-county region, including JobsPlus, Child Care Services, Neighborhood Stabilization as appropriate	Resource and Referral Manager, Opportunity, Inc.	10/15/2009	Attended several meetings at JobsPlus to gain understanding of community programs

