

CENTRAL CITY HOUSING VENTURES WISHES TO THANK

The Chicago Christian Industrial League, our joint venture partner in this project

OUR MEMBER CONGREGATIONS

Chicago Sinai Congregation	Holy Name Cathedral
Chicago Temple/First United Methodist Church	LaSalle Street Church
Christ the King Lutheran Church	St. Chrysostom's Church
Church of the Ascension	St. James Catholic Church
Fourth Presbyterian Church	St. James Episcopal Cathedral
Grace Episcopal Church	St. Peter's Church in the Loop
	Second Presbyterian Church

OUR PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

City of Chicago Department of Housing	Illinois Housing Development Authority
Corporation for Supportive Housing	LaSalle National Bank
Episcopal Diocese of Chicago	Presbytery of Chicago
Federal Home Loan Bank	The Interfaith Council for the Homeless
Illinois Department of Energy & Natural Resources	The Chicago Coalition for the Homeless
	The Jewish Council on Urban Affairs

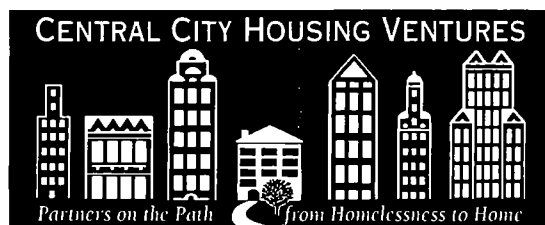
OUR DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Consulting Developer	Architects	Legal Counsel
William & Nichols Co.	McBride & Kelley	Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal

OUR COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

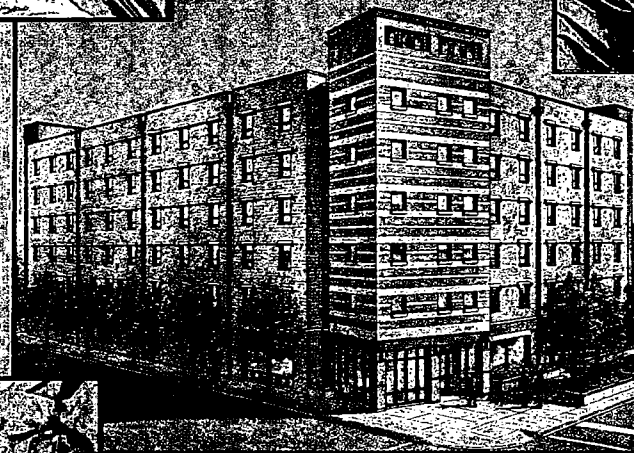
Landon/Gordon	Rock, Paper, Scissors	Creative Printing
Public Affairs	Communication Design	Service, Inc.

This brochure was produced with a grant from the Shelter Committee of the Chicago Temple/First United Methodist Church. Photos are courtesy of The Chicago Coalition for the Homeless and The Chicago Christian Industrial League. We are grateful for their dedication and assistance.

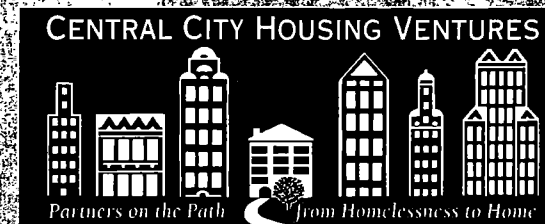


For more information or to make a donation please call Jacqueline Miranda,
Executive Director of Central City Housing Ventures at (312) 357-0990
77 W. Washington Suite 1124 Chicago, IL 60602

BUILDING A FOUNDATION



FOR HOPE





CENTRAL CITY HOUSING VENTURES

Partners on the path from homelessness to home.

Central City Housing Ventures is a unique not-for-profit interfaith effort that brings together Chicago's religious, service, and financial communities in a powerful coalition to preserve and expand affordable housing in central Chicago.

Formed to help address the difficult challenges low-income men and women face finding a home in Chicago, *Central City Housing Ventures* strives to achieve the following goals:

- To meet the housing needs of low-income wage earners, those precariously housed, and those currently homeless
- To preserve and expand the availability of safe, affordable, and permanent SRO housing in Chicago's central area
- To provide SRO residents with access to on-site supportive and social services
- To educate and advocate for the importance of maintaining affordable housing options, including SRO, multi-family, and single family communities

"Chicago's need for safe and affordable housing is alarmingly acute. Our city's population of homeless and precariously housed individuals has exploded in the last 20 years as federal funding for housing has been slashed."

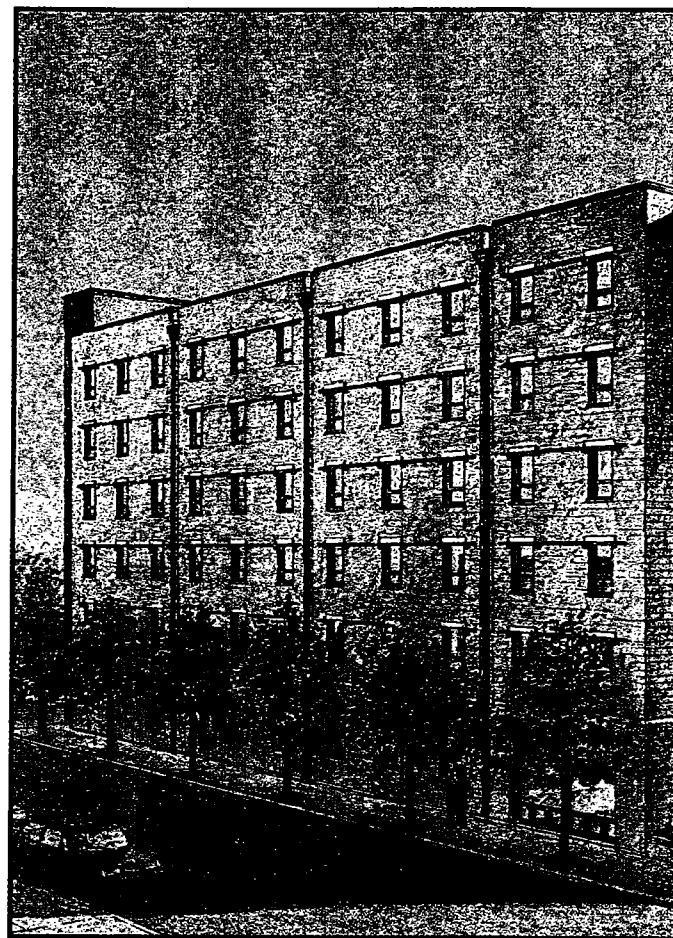
Father Ted Curtis, President of Central City Housing Ventures



THE SECURITY, STABILITY, AND DIGNITY OF A PLACE TO CALL HOME

With funding from both private and public sources, *Central City Housing Ventures* is planning to build a new six-story, 170-unit building at 18th Street between Michigan and Wabash in Chicago's near South Loop.

Designed by leading architects in affordable housing development, this residence will be the first new SRO built in Chicago's South Loop in more than 50 years, and the first to offer comprehensive on-site support, training and counseling services.

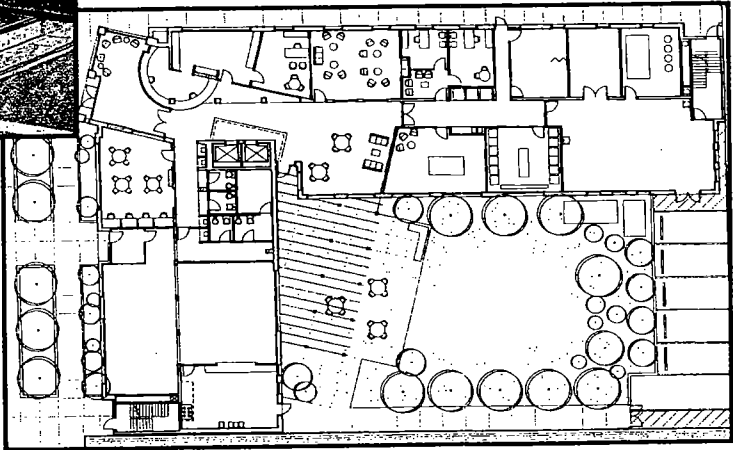


THE FIRST NEW SINGLE ROOM BUILT IN CHICAGO'S SOUTH LOOP

FROM OCCUPANCY RESIDENCE TO BE LOOP IN DECADES



This new SRO residence will be the first facility in Chicago's South Loop to offer comprehensive on-site counseling and supportive services. It's innovative design features flexible community areas, a resource library, and a protected outdoor courtyard for rest and recreation.



DESIGNED FOR SUCCESS

The building will include a pleasant and protected outdoor courtyard for recreation, and mixed-use common areas adaptable to a wide variety of supportive activities necessary for maintaining a healthy residential community.

Individual units will be fully furnished and include cooking facilities, bathroom, and generous storage. The building's design conforms to the accessibility and adaptability requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and features state-of-the-art security, maintenance, and energy efficient utility systems.



PLEASE HELP US. JOIN US ON THIS PATH FROM HOMELESS- NESS TO HOME



"It may seem like a small thing, but just knowing I have a safe place to sleep at night and a chance to move my life forward makes a big difference."
—Chicago Christian Industrial League program participant

We've received support from many concerned people and organizations, but we still have a long way to go before this much-needed new residence is complete. That's why we're asking you to become a partner with the thousands of Chicagoans who are helping to build this foundation for hope.

Your gift—whether \$50 or \$500—will make a difference in the lives of people whose most basic needs are going unmet.

You can mail your check made payable to Central City Housing Ventures to the address listed on the back of this brochure, or if you belong to one of our member congregations, send it to your church or temple. Your gift is tax deductible as provided by law.

"This new residence will help ensure good quality of life and economic integration in our revitalizing South Loop community. The City of Chicago is proud to be a partner in this project."
—Chicago's Mayor, Richard M. Daley

A PLACE FOR LASTING CHANGE



On-site resident services will be provided by The Chicago Christian Industrial League, which has been helping return the homeless and dispossessed to independent living for more than 80 years. Services will include job skills training, communica-

tion and relationship skills counseling, substance abuse counseling, and job placement resources.

For many residents this new home will be much more than physical shelter. It will be a place to break patterns that contribute to homelessness, a chance to make real, sustainable life changes. A chance (perhaps the first chance of their lives) to feel security and hope for the future.

WE ALL WALK CHICAGO'S STREETS TOGETHER,



BUT MOST OF US DON'T HAVE TO SLEEP ON THEM.

In the last twenty years housing options for low-income families and individuals in Chicago have drastically declined. More than 25,000 single room occupancy (SRO) units have been lost in the city since 1975.

And this trend is not improving.

The stability, security and dignity of a place to call home that most of us take almost for granted is becoming an all-but-impossible dream for low-income individuals, particularly in Chicago's downtown area.

ROUTING SLIP

DATE: 12/29/95

FROM: STEPHEN B. SILVERMAN
Deputy Assistant to the President and
Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet

SUBJECT: FYI / Monkeys Issue in Seattle: Fed. govt. helps find solution

John Angell	178 oeob	_____	Lorrie McHugh	166 oeob	_____
Don Baer	g fl / ww	_____	Janet Murguia	112 ew	_____
Jeremy Ben-Ami	218A oeob	<u>X</u>	Jennifer O'Connor	111 oeob	_____
Erskine Bowles	1 fl / ww	_____	Tom O'Donnell	320 oeob	_____
Susan Brophy	2 fl / ww	_____	Leon Panetta	1 fl / ww	_____
Gabrielle Bushman	197 oeob	_____	Ron Klain	276 oeob	_____
Barbara Chow	107 ew	_____	Nancy Soderberg	g fl / ww	_____
Michael Deich	233 oeob	_____	Patti Solis	185.5 oeob	_____
Rahm Emmanuel	1 fl / ww	_____	Doug Sosnik	g fl / ww	_____
Janice Enright	1 fl / ww	_____	Gene Sperling	2 fl / ww	_____
Jason Goldberg	2 fl / ww	_____	George Stephanopoulos	1 fl / ww	_____
Pat Griffin	2 fl / ww	_____	Todd Stern/Phil Caplan	g fl / ww	_____
Marcia Hale	2 fl / ww	_____	Stephanie Streett	g fl / ww	_____
Karen Hancox	g fl / ww	_____	Ginny Terzano	g fl / ww	_____
Nancy Heinrich	1 fl / ww	_____	Kim Tilley	287 oeob	_____
Alexis Herman	2 fl / ww	_____	Melanne Verveer	100 oeob	_____
Kitty Higgins	160 oeob	<u>X</u>	Michael Waldman	214 oeob	_____
Harold Ickes	1 fl / ww	_____	Ann Walley	g fl / ww	_____
Tim Keating	2 fl / ww	_____	Dan Wexler	117 oeob	_____
Gelene Wamach		<u>X</u>			

Comments:

Murray
Full



U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Seattle Regional Office
1200 Sixth Avenue, Ste. 1805
Seattle, WA 98101-1128

FAX TRANSMISSION SHEET

Date: 12/29/95 Time: 11:28 PST

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	<u>Person's Full Name</u>	<u>Office/Firm</u>	<u>FAX Number</u>	<u>Voice Number</u>
TO:	Steve Silverman	Cabinet Affairs	202 456-6704	456-2572
FROM:	Gretchen Sorensen Regional Administrator	Seattle Regional Office	206-553-4155	206-553-0291

Optional Message:

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SBA Form 959 (10-93) Previous Editions Obsolete. This form replaces CO 959.

Feds housing homeless

By opening an overnight shelter in the Federal Office Building in Seattle, the regional office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has shown it comprehends the true meaning of its No. 1 priority — helping the homeless.

It is the first such building in the country to be used this way, and the service to 20 adults three nights a week continues even as the federal government shutdown nears the end of its second week.

By this action — the brainchild of HUD regional representative Bob Santos — the federal government becomes a full partner, along with the city of Seattle and King County, in providing the most basic emergency service to the most vulnerable among us.

Santos' idea to devote public space to members of the public, while hardly a radical concept, had to overcome some hurdles. Some tenants in the Federal Office Building were apprehensive about security in light of the April bombing of a similar facility in Oklahoma City.

But Santos was persistent, as was his forte as a community activist in the International District for many years before he was tapped to be HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros' representative here.

Now, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, the federal government plays host to overnight guests who enter about 9 p.m., bed down with blankets on four-inch-thick foam mattresses and leave by 6 a.m. As a precaution, the men are prescreened by Seattle Housing and Resources Endeavor, which runs the shelter on a contract with the federal government.

Counting Uncle Sam's contribution to the cause, there are about 2,000 shelter beds available on any given night during winter months. Other public partners are the city, which houses the homeless at City Light and the Municipal Building, and the county, which provides space in the To-shiro-Kaplan building.

What makes the emergency shelters successful is the team approach to running the facilities; the three levels of government contract with nonprofit agencies, such as Downtown Emergency Services Center, Catholic Community Services and the YWCA, to manage them.

Already this year, public-private partnerships have brought an unprecedented number of federal dollars to aid the homeless in Seattle and King County. It is fitting that the federal government now participates by sharing space as well as money.

Seattle P.I.

Friday, December 29, 1995

A-16

ROUTING SLIP

DATE: 12/29/95

FROM: STEPHEN B. SILVERMAN
Deputy Assistant to the President and
Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet

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Seattle P.I.

Friday, December 29, 1995

A-16



RUTH SCHWARTZ
Executive Director

523 West Sixth Street, Suite 616
Los Angeles, California 90014
(213) 688-2188, Ext. 15 FAX (213) 689-3188





Developing Housing and Resources for the Homeless

Shelter Partnership, established in 1985, is a unique, (501)(c)(3), nonprofit organization which develops resources and short-term and permanent housing for the growing number of homeless families and individuals in Los Angeles County. Shelter Partnership provides a variety of support to hundreds of agencies, free of charge. Shelter Partnership also serves as a resource to public agencies, the business community, local and national media, and community members involved in the issues of homelessness and the creation of permanent, affordable housing.

Over the last several years, the homeless population has grown annually by 13% percent. Shelter Partnership's most recent study found that there are as many as 83,000 people homeless each night in Los Angeles County. Of this population, 9,000 are children. This continuous rise in homelessness is primarily due to the increase in poverty, the lack of available affordable housing, increasing family instability, and the decrease in the availability of social services.

Shelter Partnership's work is crucial in creating positive solutions to this growing homeless population. To that end, Shelter Partnership's work falls into the following main areas.

The Shelter Resource Bank

The Shelter Resource Bank project solicits and distributes new, excess merchandise to over 200 homeless shelters and social service agencies in Los Angeles County. The project provides, on a regular basis free of charge, desperately needed new goods to these front-line agencies. Additionally, the project provides goods to families moving into permanent housing and also to major area community based organizations serving people in dire poverty. To date, the project has secured over \$30 million in new, usable goods.

Product donors receive above-cost tax deductions, free up warehouse space, and participate in corporate philanthropy. Both national and local companies contribute to this project. Participating companies include Clorox Company, G&M Mattress & Foam Co., Gillette Co., Kimberly-Clark Corp., K-Mart, Lever Brothers, National Sanitary Supply, Neutrogena, Nike, Ortho Mattress, Inc., Papermate, Patagonia, Scott Paper Co., Sebastian International, St. Ives, and many more.

The project also responds to emergencies in the community and most recently, the Shelter Resource Bank delivered over \$100,000 in new merchandise to agencies serving people made homeless by the Northridge earthquake.

Technical Assistance

Shelter Partnership was instrumental in the development of a proposal to award our community \$20 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. As an "Initiative City", this funding will be for innovative approaches to address the needs of homeless persons who are mentally ill or living in encampments, and also for families.

Shelter Partnership was recently instrumental in the development, organization, and approval of a new program, Support for Homeless Re-Entry (SHORE). This program makes public transportation available for those homeless persons who are participating in a transition to stability through case management and supportive services. The program was awarded \$615,000 as a 14 month demonstration program and 30 participating agencies receive bus tokens for their clients.

Short Term and Transitional Housing

Shelter Partnership provides ongoing technical assistance to agencies providing short-term and transitional housing for homeless people. An example of our recent work is in assisting FASGI (Filipino-American Service Group, Inc.) in securing the funding, packaging and ongoing project management for rehabilitation of their transitional housing project which houses 20 elderly homeless, including seniors with mental and physical disabilities. We are also assisting them in securing ongoing operating support for the project.

Permanent Housing Development

Shelter Partnership's current work focuses on creating permanent affordable housing with supportive services for homeless people. Through Shelter Partnership's efforts, thousands of local homeless families have moved into housing and are spending no more than 30 percent of their income on rent. We have assisted a number of organizations in the development of their permanent affordable housing projects which opened in 1994 including *A Community of Friends*, *Hillview Mental Health*, *Portals Mental Health*, and *Step Up on Second*, among others.

Donor Assistance

Shelter Partnership acts as a matchmaker between private donors and nonprofit agencies serving the homeless. These matches have led to the opening of new shelters, the development of affordable housing, and have provided needed services to the homeless. Over \$1 million in funds have been provided through Shelter Partnership's efforts. Each holiday season, we work with the Los Angeles County Bar Association Barristers to connect law firms and other companies with local homeless service agencies. Through our annual "wishlist project", over 30 agencies receive their "wish" from local firms. The firms purchase new items which include refrigerators, freezers, copy machines, typewriters and more.

Public Policy Program

Shelter Partnership conducts research and publishes studies on the number of people homeless in Los Angeles County, the costs of operating homeless shelters, a directory of short-term housing programs in Los Angeles County, and other areas of concern. Shelter Partnership also works to educate and motivate local, state and national officials to create policy responses and consensus on the issue of homelessness. As a way to educate the service delivery system and others on the issues, Shelter Partnership sponsors conferences on strategies for developing housing for special needs populations, job training programs, moving homeless people into permanent housing, educating homeless children, and disabled access requirements, among other areas.

For additional information, please contact:

Ruth Schwartz or Mindy Kaufman
Shelter Partnership, Inc.
523 W. Sixth Street, Suite 616
Los Angeles, California 90014

Telephone: 213/688-2188
Fax: 213/689-3188

January 1995

Los Angeles Times

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1994
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Making a Difference

Shelter Partnership:

'Life-Preserver' Helps Keep Homeless Agencies Afloat

The homeless population in Los Angeles has grown an estimated 10% annually for the last several years, according to figures from various city and county agencies. There are scores of missions, shelters and social service providers trying to stem the tide, despite unpredictable public and private funding and wavering support from a citizenry weary and impatient with an unending social crisis. One steady helper that the shelters and agencies can depend on is the Los Angeles-based Shelter Partnership, established in 1985 with the help of United Way and then-Mayor Tom Bradley's office. It has offered assistance to more than 200 homeless shelters and organizations throughout Southern California by finding grants and donors, acting as a clearinghouse for donated goods and services, and developing community support.



JONATHAN ALCORN / For The Times

From left Jeffrey Schaffer, Shelter Partnership associate director, and Jerry Ayala, warehouse manager, confer as Jose Chavez loads donated soap, shampoo and detergent from the partnership's Bell distribution center for the Gramercy Place Shelter in Los Angeles.

PRAISE FROM A PARTNER

Marlene Singer, director of Jewish Family Services' Gramercy Place Shelter, a social service agency and shelter that's been open to homeless families throughout Los Angeles County since 1987, comments on Shelter Partnership support and resources:

"Not only do they bring providers goods and supplies—that alone has been worth many thousands of dollars to us—but they also point providers like us

toward funding for services. They've helped us stay afloat on more occasions than one.

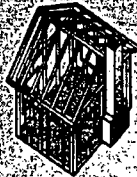
"They're an intervener, a connector—that's their service. The partnership is a life-preserver for our families. They've linked us with some county rehabilitation money, and we're now adding onto our shelter 15 new beds, a Head Start site and an early infant development room."

HOW THE PARTNERSHIP HELPS



Shelter Resource Bank

Solicits and distributes new surplus merchandise from donors who receive tax deductions and free up warehouse space. Nearly \$30 million in merchandise, from shampoo to socks to mattresses and bedding, has been distributed to more than 200 social service organizations and shelters since 1987.

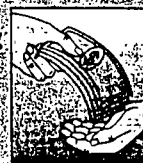


Short-term, transitional and permanent housing development

Helps groups apply for private and public funding, secure zoning approval and building permits and establish other needed services, such as job training, child care, drug rehabilitation and mental care programs. Partnership efforts have linked more than \$300 million in public and private funds to nonprofit homeless service providers.

Donor matchmaking

Connects private donors with nonprofit homeless service agencies. An annual "wish list" project, co-sponsored with such organizations as the L.A. County Bar Assn., provides scores of agencies with donations of large-scale goods such as refrigerators, computers, sewing machines and fax machines.



Education and outreach

Conducts research and publishes studies about the homeless in Los Angeles County and sponsors events to educate local, state and national officials on the issue of homelessness.

TO GET INVOLVED

Call (213) SHELTER, which translates to (213) 743-5837

SMALL BUSINESS / JANE APPLIGATE

Simple Charity for Shelters Can Be Rewarded by an Extra Tax Deduction for Firms

Ricardo Villanueva had a big problem. His workers had just finished 500 twin mattress sets for a major discount chain when the store canceled the order. Having no other outlet for the beds, Villanueva was about to donate them to his favorite charity when Kris Ockershauser, product donations manager for the Shelter Partnership's Resource Bank, made him an offer he couldn't refuse: The beds would be put to good use in area homeless shelters, while Villanueva's small company would be entitled to a generous tax deduction.

Based on this simple concept, the Shelter Partnership has collected about \$20 million worth of new goods and equipment since 1988. The donated merchandise helps reduce the cost of operating about 200 homeless shelters and social service agencies throughout Los Angeles County.

"We've been going like gangbusters because everybody wins in the deal," Ockershauser said.

Mattresses, bedding, underwear,

socks, shoes and diapers are high on the Shelter Partnership's wish list.

"Shelters need everything that a hotel needs—shampoo, soap, dishwashing detergent, cleaning supplies and paper supplies," said Barbara McMahon, executive director of the Rio Hondo Temporary Home, located on the grounds of Metropolitan Hospital in Norwalk. "If you make anything that can be used in an apartment, hotel or restaurant, we can use it."

McMahon, whose 100-bed facility is filled to overflowing every night, said that because of the weak economy, the shelter is serving people who have never been homeless before.

According to a recent study by the Shelter Partnership, the number of homeless people in Los Angeles County jumped 13% over 1992 estimates. On any given night, there are between 43,200 and 77,100 homeless men, women and children in the county and between 21,500 and 39,000 in the city. About 10,000 homeless children are in-



TONY BARNARD / Los Angeles Times

With infant Deirdre are, from left, Ricardo Villanueva of G&M Mattress and charity officials Kris Ockershauser and Barbara McMahon.

cluded in those totals.

Helping homeless children is one of Ricardo Villanueva's main goals.

The founder and president of City of Commerce-based G&M Mattress and Foam Co. has become so in-

involved in the Shelter Partnership that he now serves on its advisory council.

"When I went to the open house at Shelter Partnership's warehouse, and the homeless kids told me, 'We don't have to sleep on the floor anymore, we've got a mattress,' it was really great to hear that," Villanueva said.

While small businesses such as Villanueva's contribute excess inventory, big companies like Clorox Co., Nike, Kimberly-Clark Corp., Kmart, Neutrogena, Patagonia and National Sanitary Supply are also strong supporters.

"When we have excess materials, it's very difficult to sell them or send stuff back to the mill, because we'd have to pay restocking charges," said Everett Sanborn, vice president of Ingram Paper Co.'s industrial paper division. He said Ingram has donated about \$60,000 worth of paper products to the Shelter Partnership, which stores donations in a 30,000-square-foot warehouse in Bell. The warehouse is provided free by the U.S. Gener-

al Services Administration.

Sanborn said he is impressed with the way the organization handles donations, including the requirement that donors submit a detailed list of what they want to donate and the prices before the donation is accepted. "They are very well-managed, and you get the feeling they are serious and careful about what they accept and what they do with it," Sanborn said.

While the shelters benefit, businesses do too. Companies donating excess inventory to the nonprofit organization can often deduct up to twice the cost of the goods donated, under Section 170 (e)(3) of the tax code. In order to qualify for this type of deduction, the law requires that the donation, generally speaking, be made by a C corporation, not an S corporation; be used by the organization that collects the donation, and not be resold.

Jane Applegate welcomes your letters and story ideas. Write to her at the Los Angeles Times, Times Mirror Square, Los Angeles, Calif. 90053.



Ruth Schwartz, executive director of Shelter Partnership stands with Howard Roeder, president of Ortho Mattress, Inc. which is making a donation to Schwartz's organization which aids homeless shelters.

Mattress company springs to help homeless group

By Ian Fried
Staff writer

Shelter Partnership, an organization that helps the homeless, plans to spring into action after receiving a donation from Ortho Mattress.

The agency, which distributes merchandise to over 200 shelters throughout the Los Angeles County, received 50 new mattress sets valued at \$20,000.

Among the local groups it helps, Shelter Partnership provides goods to the Glendale YWCA, Glendale Salvation Army, Catholic Charities-Loaves and Fishes, Burbank Temporary Center and Door of Hope.

The destination of the mattresses is unclear, but they will be distributed to area shelters over the next several months on the

basis of need, according to a statement.

The donation is the first installment of a continuing program to benefit the homeless. Ortho expects their contribution to eventually exceed \$60,000.

Ruth Schwartz, executive director of Shelter Partnership, said Ortho had made smaller donations several years ago and recently contacted her about their current gift.

Ortho representatives said the donation is part of a longstanding commitment to the homeless and also fits with the company philosophy which stresses the importance of a good night's sleep.

The downtown Los Angeles-based Shelter Partnerships began its resource bank project in 1988 and has been providing other services since 1985.

Shelter Partnership provides technical assistance to short-term and long-term shelters, training for shelter employees and working to influence public policy.

Daily News

SERVING THE SAN FERNANDO AND NEIGHBORING VALLEYS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1991

Corporate donations to needy increase

Shelters reap bounty of free merchandise

By Beth Laski
Daily News Staff Writer

At a time when donations of food and used clothing are down to agencies serving the homeless, non-profit groups are getting a boost from corporate donors.

From tennis shoes and toys to even toilet paper, bulk donations from manufacturers distributed through Los Angeles-based Shelter Partnership almost have doubled from last year, with more than \$4.1 million worth of unused goods being collected so far this year.

"There's a huge difference between putting on someone else's shoes and putting on new shoes," said Arnold Stalk, executive director of L.A. Family Housing, a non-profit group with a shelter in North Hollywood that receives some of the donated goods. "Part of the esteem-building for these people is trying to get them new things."

Blaming a sluggish economy, directors of local shelters and social service agencies say donations of food, used clothing and money are declining this year, making the need for other assistance greater.

"Financial and food donations are down and there is no way to meet everybody's needs," said Theresa Burks, a regional coordinator for Catholic Charities USA, which operates shelters and service centers in Van Nuys, Glendale and San Fernando.

"It's nice every once in a while to provide brand-new clothing, a pair of shoes or blankets," Burks said.

Operating as a liaison between corporate donors and shelter programs, Shelter Partnership's 3-year-old Resource Bank has provided about \$8 million worth of merchandise to 180 shelters and charities throughout Los Angeles County, said Ruth Schwartz, executive director of Shelter Partnership, which runs the program.

"This is a cost-effective way for manufacturers to dispose of excess inventory, and it allows companies to feel good about giving away their excess goods," Schwartz said. "The items go to truly charitable organizations that serve the needy and homeless."

An Internal Revenue Service code also allows many companies to take up to twice the tax benefit for donations of excess inventory. Resale or trade of the donated goods is prohibited under the law.

When the Resource Bank was started in mid-1988, more than \$267,000 worth of goods were distributed to the needy. In 1989, the value of items distributed soared to more than \$1.2 million, Schwartz said. In 1990, more than \$2.3 million in merchandise was doled out.

So far this year, more than \$4.1 million worth of products have come into the Resource Bank, and Schwartz said she believes contributions could reach as much as \$5 million by year's end.

From admission tickets to the Movieland Wax Museum, to athletic shoes from NIKE Inc. and diapers from Kimberly-Clark Corp., donations come in from manufacturers throughout the country, said Kris Ockershauser, product donations manager for Shelter Partnership.

Contributions of children's art

supplies have come from the Hollywood Arts Council, cleansers and soaps from Los Angeles-based National Sanitary Supply, razors and writing pens from Boston-based Gillette Co., and hair products from Canoga Park-based Redken Laboratories.

Charles Lynch, general manager of Kimberly-Clark, described the Resource Bank as a mutually beneficial program. He said the company has donated about \$150,000 worth of merchandise since in 1989.

"It's a win-win situation," said Lynch. "We use them as a resource of inventory that may have become obsolete, and they need

the items to distribute throughout their shelters."

The Resource Bank has donated warehouse space in the city of Bell, its own pick-up trucks and staff to solicit for goods.

Bob Fletcher, donations coordinator for Beaverton, Ore.-based NIKE Inc., said the company's excess inventory comes mainly from close-outs, which can be of great use to the homeless.

The company has donated about \$300,000 worth of clothing and shoes.

"The need is just so great that regardless of size, style and color, there is usually someone who can use the products," Fletcher said.



Ruth Schwartz of the Shelter Partnership shows stacks of paper towels that a manufacturer has donated for distribution to the needy

Tokens for the Homeless

Transportation Program Targets Job Seekers

A unique union of local transit agencies and social service providers is moving forward with the goal of getting homeless people to jobs. SHORE, which stands for Support for Homeless Re-Entry, is the brainchild of LACTC Central Area Project Director A.R. (Ralph) de la Cruz, Downtown's Shelter Partnership homeless providers and other Skid Row service groups. The plan is to provide funding toward purchasing transit tokens and distributing them (via homeless agencies) to get homeless clients to medical appointments, job interviews, job training and initial phases of employment.

All homeless clients would be in case-management programs supervised by service agencies: they wouldn't be just passed out to anybody.

Shelter Partnership Associate Director Jeff Schaffer explains the need: "Because shelters are scraping by just to keep doors open, they don't have sufficient transportation money for their clients. But for a client who is in a program, the cost of transportation is critical. And while clothing and other essentials can be donated, they still have to get the money to pay for bus fare.

"This program provides funding for that critical element, the help a family or individual achieve self sufficiency. We can see that it's been needed for a number of years."

The project also involves the mayor's office and the Department of Transportation, as well as the homeless providers who will directly administer the funds in the form of RTD tokens. The Central City Association has also expressed support. A board composed of members of Los Angeles Emergency Food and Shelter will approve the particular service



photo by John Chacon

**Shelter Partnership Associate Director Jeff Schaffer:
*They still need bus fare.***

providers. It may sound like an overdose of bureaucracy for a simple cure—getting down-and-outers on the bus and to an interview—but says de la Cruz of LACTC, the program would bridge a crucial transportation gap for the homeless.

"The ability to move and get access to jobs is critical in the first six months before one becomes long-term homeless. So we nosed around and hooked up with (Executive Director) Ruth Schwartz of Shelter Partnership."

The proposal goes to the LACTC board on June 23 for consideration and could be in effect by the fall.

—Jack Skelley

Los Angeles Times

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1993

METRO NEWS

County's Homeless Population Up 13%, Private Study Says

■ **Poverty:** More than 77,000 people were believed to be living on the streets in mid-1992. Blaming government policies, analysts expect the number to rise.

By ANDREA FORD
TIMES STAFF WRITER

The number of people who live on the streets of Los Angeles County continued to grow last year, increasing at least 13% from mid-1991 to mid-1992, according to a private study released Tuesday.

The study, by Shelter Partnership Inc., a support agency for homeless programs, estimated that there were as many as 77,141 people—including nearly 11,000 children—without homes in the county on any given night during the study period.

The homeless figure, the most recent total available, compares with the estimated high of 68,600 homeless people Shelter Partnership had found in the previous 12 months.

Ruth Schwartz, the group's executive director, attributed the increase to high rates of joblessness, cutbacks in government social service programs and tighter eligibility rules for aid.

Phillip Nichols, a Shelter Partnership board member, said even larger increases are expected once the organization measures the impact of recent social service cutbacks, such as last December's reduction in general relief grants to unemployed single adults from \$341 to \$293.

"Current [government] policies are leading to an increase in homelessness rather than long-term solutions to the core problem of poverty," Nichols said.

In addition to government policy, other factors, such as last spring's civil disturbances in Los Angeles, are certain to have had a negative impact on homelessness, Schwartz said.

The true level of homelessness may be higher than the figures indicate, she said. The statistics in the study came primarily from government-sponsored programs and excluded some categories of the homeless—undocumented aliens, those who do not seek public aid and people who do not qualify for aid, such as those who retain

some assets.

Schwartz and Nichols called on President Clinton and Los Angeles Mayor-elect Richard Riordan to work together on the homelessness problem.

"The problem can't be solved solely at the local level," Schwartz said. "We would hope the new mayor will be inspired to provide leadership to seek some of the resources from the Clinton Administration."

Charles King, operations manager of the Midnight Mission in downtown Los Angeles, said his facility has not experienced the increases cited in the study. "You see a greater increase at certain times of the month," but, overall the number of people served by his agency remains steady, King said. The mission provides 150 beds for

'Current [government] policies are leading to an increase in homelessness rather than long-term solutions to the core problem of poverty.'

PHILLIP NICHOLS
Shelter Partnership official

homeless people each night and 1,500 meals daily.

Kimberly Mason, a manager at the Downtown Women's Center, which provides shower and bathroom facilities on an "in-and-out" basis to about 50 women daily and residential facilities to an equal number, said she only has to walk downtown to see that there has been a significant increase in the number of women on the street.

"Lots of homeless women never use our facilities," she said, "but they are out there."

This is the third year Shelter Partnership has published studies on the number of homeless people in Los Angeles County. The first study, for the period spanning June, 1989, to July, 1990, found as many as 59,000 people living on the street any given night.

In contrast to the one-night figure, there were 120,000 to 222,000 homeless at one time or another in the county during the most recent study period, compared with 114,000 to 183,000 in the first survey.

EDITORIALS of THE TIMES

Hard Times: Hardest on the Homeless

Job growth remains the best answer to rising total of adults and children on the streets

Nearly 11,000 children are without a home on any given night in Los Angeles. As more families are forced into homelessness, more women and children compete for shelter. Tonight, how many will do without?

Between 4,000 and 77,000 homeless people are on the streets on any night over the course of a year. The huge range in the numbers indicates the difficulty in establishing accurate statistics on the homeless.

Since last year the total of homeless men, women and children has risen in the county by perhaps even more than 10%, according to an annual survey by Shelter Partnership Inc., a support agency for homeless programs.

Those numbers are expected to worsen as services are slashed to compensate for deep budget cuts in Sacramento. Any reductions to health and other social services could contribute to greater homelessness.



A fight to survive: Pain for the young.

Consider that general relief, the welfare check of last resort for single men and women who receive no other form of assistance, has already been reduced from \$341 to \$293. Thousands of poor people would be forced into the streets if that pittance disappears.

Answers? Obviously, the best one is jobs. Perhaps more than anything else, the homeless need regular pay-

checks. President Clinton and Mayor Richard Riordan have promised to create more jobs.

Another obvious solution is more housing. Affordable apartments, which by current definition rent for less than \$500 (rooms, no more than \$250), are scarce. Fortunately the Clinton Administration supports the permanent extension of the low-income housing tax credit, which generates investments for the construction or renovation of low-rent housing. Congress should make that tax break permanent.

Homelessness is a symptom of poverty, unemployment, illness, drug abuse and alcoholism. Whatever the cause, the cure appears increasingly out of reach for a growing number of homeless adults and children. Despite the bad times, government must do all it can—as everyone hopes for an end to the recession and the beginning of new job growth.

METRO

TUESDAY

JULY 14, 1992

CCT

Los Angeles Times

Donated Motel to Serve as Shelter for Homeless

■ **Philanthropy:** A nonprofit group in South Los Angeles will turn developer's 22-room gift into apartments for mentally disabled people.

By JOHN L. MITCHELL
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Developer Mort LaKretz wanted to give something back to the community, something that would benefit a group that helps the homeless. So he donated a \$1-million motel, complete with a pool.

LaKretz donated the 22-room Sky Terrace Motel, at Normandie Avenue and Washington Boulevard in South Los Angeles, to the Mental Health Assn. in Los Angeles County, a nonprofit organization that plans to renovate the rooms and turn them into apartments for homeless people who are disabled by mental illness.

"I have been considering it for a long time," said LaKretz, who owns and manages several properties, including Hollywood's landmark Cross Roads of the World office and shopping complex.

Converting the motel rooms to apartments "is a perfect use for that property, a good marriage," he said. "It will be a halfway house for someone seeking to move up."

LaKretz, who built the Sky Terrace in 1960, said the motel has no permanent residents, and rooms rent on a daily and sometimes hourly basis.

"A lot of people may be somewhat disappointed that it is no longer there," he said jokingly. Although the hotel has not attracted problems over the years, LaKretz said nearby residents will not mind the change.

The motel will even keep the pool, said Martha Sherwood, an association spokeswoman.

"I would assume it would stay there and be available for the tenants," she said. "We have been joking around the office that now suddenly our members are going to have a pool, and no one on our staff has a pool."

As part of the deal, the mental

health agency will receive a portion of a \$3.7-million Shelter Plus Care grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to subsidize rents. The funds are being shared by seven agencies and will enable the city to help more than 100 people find permanent housing.

The city of Los Angeles and Shelter Partnership, a nonprofit agency that helps the homeless, competed for the federal grant. "There are between 20,000 and 30,000 people who are homeless" in Los Angeles, said Ruth Schwartz, executive director of Shelter Partnership. "The need is substantial."

In addition to the Mental Health Assn., shelter funds will be distributed to the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Hollywood Community Housing Corp., the Salvation Army, Los Angeles Men's Place, Valley Housing Corporation/Hillview Mental Health Center, and Venice Community Housing Corp. The subsidized housing will be part of an overall program that also provides counseling and job training.

Ann Stone, an associate director of the Mental Health Assn., said the aim of the program is to help mentally disabled people live independently. The federal subsidy will allow tenants to spend no more than a third of their income on rent.

Stone said that some homeless people do not manage well in shelters or group homes, but are able to make the transition to independent living in their own apartments.

"The shelters are often too crowded, and the only thing that will work for them is their own apartment," she said.

Pearl Johnson, a 62-year-old mentally disabled woman who has lived on the streets with the sky as her roof more times than she cares to remember, has her eye on one of the units in the motel.

Just recently, Johnson said she was almost forced back to the street when she was unable to stretch her monthly check of \$615 to cover rent in her Baldwin Village apartment complex.

"When they start taking down the list of people, I want my name to be first," she said.

The WHO, WHY and HERE Of homelessness

Without access to affordable housing, homeless shelters and programs have no way of achieving permanent stability for their clients.

**By Ruth Schwartz
and Anita R. Savio**

In trying to comprehend homelessness, the questions most immediately asked are: Who are the homeless? Why did they become homeless? Where should we, as a society increasingly characterized by homelessness, be headed in terms of public policy?

Shelter Partnership's most recent study of the homeless population estimates that between 38,000 and 69,000 people are homeless in Los Angeles County on any given night of the year. This breaks down to 5,500 families, or about 15,000 family

members, and from 28,000 to 53,000 adult, unattached individuals. Of the family members who are homeless, approximately 11,000 are children and the remaining 4,000 are parents.

In thinking about homelessness, it would be simplistic to focus on the personal problems of the homeless to the exclusion of social and economic factors, or to commit the reverse error, of focusing on the social and economic to the exclusion of personal issues. This type of thinking can lead us into the "deserving" versus "undeserving" view of the homeless which, while it wraps the problem up in a neater package, doesn't get us much closer to a real solution. A more comprehensive approach, which also gives us the tools to devise programmatic responses, recognizes that homelessness is caused by an interweaving of personal and societal factors.

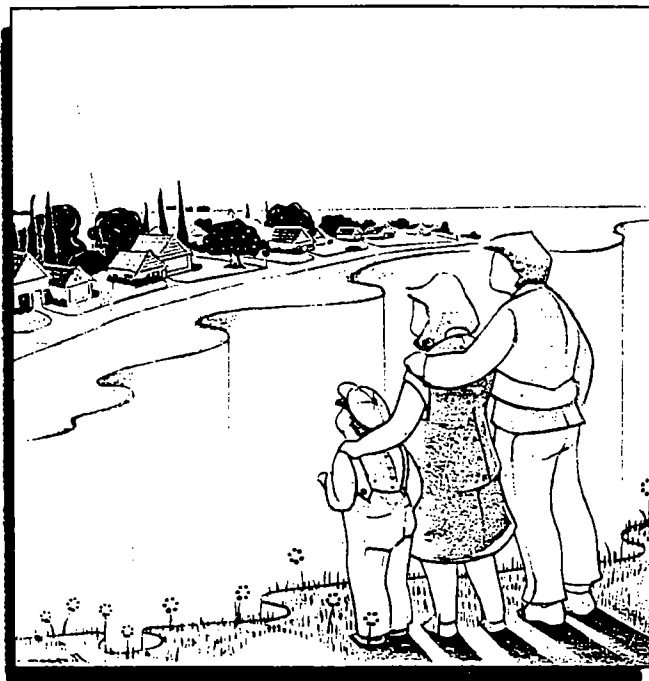
Economic factors

Economic factors which explain homelessness are poverty and the lack of affordable housing. The nation's broad economic shift toward a service economy has meant a loss of hundreds of thousands of higher paying in-

dustrial jobs, leaving more and more of the low skilled dependent on low or minimum wage service jobs. Additionally, the cash assistance grants that are available for poor people have significantly declined in the past 20 years. During that period, the inflation adjusted level of grants under Aid to Families of Dependent Children (AFDC) has fallen sharply, to a national average 43% lower in 1991 than in 1970. In California, the state has just cut benefits again, so that a family of three receives only \$633 a month plus food stamps, leaving the family at 70% of the federal poverty level.

The other is the crisis in housing affordability. To understand the depth of this crisis on the local level, we can look at the recent report by the Center on Budget Priorities on housing in Los Angeles. The Center found that 292,000 individuals and families in the Los Angeles area households were living below the poverty line (\$9,885 for a family of three). And on average, poverty level renter households pay an

Schwartz is executive director and Savio, project manager of Shelter Partnership.



incredible 77% of their income on rent. The report also found that the typical rent paying burden of poor households was dramatically higher in Los Angeles than in other areas of the nation. So for these households, a job layoff, major illness, or other catastrophic event inevitably results in the loss of their housing. Those who do not have access to a couch at the home of a relative or friend—or who overstay their welcome—end up on the street.

Of the homeless population, about one third—mostly unattached individuals — are estimated to be afflicted with severe mental illnesses. And for about one half or more, their mental disability is complicated by abuse of alcohol or drugs. The national study, *Outcasts on Main Street*, points out that, for some, drug or alcohol abuse is a cause of homelessness, for others a result, and for others, an attempt at self-medication. The disease of drug and alcohol addiction, in reflection of its increasing incidence throughout our whole society, is estimated to affect anywhere from 20% to 45% of the total homeless population. Usually these are homeless who are on their own, either men, women, or increasingly, runaway and homeless youth.

Among women, both individuals and those who are family heads, a history of battering or abuse is a common characteristic. No national studies exist. But various city studies have indicated that between 20% and 50% of homeless women have been involved in an abusive relationship. In some cases the battering was not the immediate cause of homelessness, but was the start of a downward spiral of welfare or personal distress which eventually led to the homeless state.

Runaway and homeless youth, often referred to as "unaccompanied youth," end up on the

streets for a multiplicity of reasons. A 1991 survey among youth shelters in Los Angeles County found that 33% of the youth were 15 years old or younger, 37% had a history of abuse or neglect, and the great majority, 73%, were not good candidates for family reunification, either because they had no home to return to or because of their chronic runaway status.

Programs that work

The preceding overview of homelessness, while by no means an in-depth exploration, indicates the main issues facing the homeless: battering, child abuse, mental illness, drug and alcohol abuse, poverty, lack of affordable housing, low job skills and wages, unemployment. Based on this analysis, many non-profit and public sector programs are operating in Los Angeles County to effectively move people out of homelessness and into permanent stability. Following are a few examples.

In downtown Los Angeles's Skid Row, an organization called LAMP works with mentally ill homeless, many of whom also have drug and alcohol abuse problems. The emphasis at LAMP is on the slow but rewarding process of establishing trust and empowering clients. LAMP operates four projects: a daytime drop-in center, usually the point of first entry for its clients; an emergency shelter; a transitional housing facility which includes three very small businesses to teach job skills; and a permanent, affordable, single room occupancy residence, currently managed by a gentleman who is one of LAMP's many "success stories."

Los Angeles Family Housing, often cited as a model for assisting homeless families, provides a comprehensive social service support system, including: case management, health care, mental health counseling, parenting skills, money management,

Battered women, homeless kids shelters funded

A shelter for homeless adolescents and two for battered women and their children received \$70,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds from the Fourth Supervisorial District. The funds were issued by the CDC to the 1736 Family Crisis Center in Redondo Beach.

Services provided by the non-profit agency include shelter, food, hotline, clothing, and extensive case management, according to the organization's executive director, Carol Adelfkoff.

"We also provide emergency walk-in assistance and survival training," she said. The latter includes helping clients find jobs and a place where they can be safely housed.

job training and job placement. For the children, Family Housing provides learning and play activities with lots of individual attention. The organization's One Room Schoolhouse, operated by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) provides on-site instruction to kindergarten through 8th grade. Like LAMP, Family Housing has a staged system for stabilizing its clients, and operates two shelters, transitional facilities, and several permanent housing developments which require that families pay no more than 30% of their income for rent.

A highly regarded program for recovering addicts is run by Beacon House, in San Pedro. Beacon House provides support groups and an alcohol and drug free living environment. In addition to helping addicted, homeless men reclaim their lives, Beacon House has also been responsible for helping to reclaim its immediate San Pedro

(Please turn to page 20)

Homelessness

(Continued from page 15)

neighborhood. Graduates of the program live in master-leased apartments clustered around the main facility, and have been responsible for significant renovation of many formerly rundown buildings.

A prime example of a partnership between the public sector and the private, non-profit sector is the recently funded job training program for the homeless which will be operated by the LAUSD, in cooperation with several shelters. Homeless clients referred by the shelters will enter the district's regular job training program, but will be provided an extra hand up through counseling, assistance with job seeking expenses, and other special services.

What is needed

These model programs, and many others, give us an important clue to the end of endemic homelessness: a combination of job skills and access to income, supportive services and affordable housing is what's needed to get most people off the streets, and indeed to keep them off the streets in the first place. But public sector funding, as well as public policy support, is essential to support and enhance these efforts. Because of the multifaceted nature of homelessness, public funding must allow creativity and flexibility at the local level. Too often, regulatory rigidity makes it difficult to access funding sources or use them to their best advantage. And the homeless themselves must be involved in program planning, to achieve maximum responsiveness to their needs.

Employment and training programs can help increase people's income potential in a shifting job market, yet federal funding for employment and training has fallen by more than half in the past 10 years. Due to the small

amount of funding available, the LAUSD program mentioned above will help only 43 homeless people over a six month grant period. We need to dramatically increase funding for such programs. An increase in the federal minimum wage, expansion of the federal earned income credit, and funding of public works projects are examples of important strategies needed to generate jobs and income growth.

Income supports, such as AFDC, Supplemental Security Income (for the elderly and disabled), and General Relief must be raised to liveable levels. At the same time, public policy needs to follow the direction indicated by the model programs discussed above, and fund the child care, health care, mental health counseling, and other support services people need to help them achieve maximum economic independence and stability.

Finally, drastically increased funding for low and very low income housing is essential, both through capital subsidy and rental subsidy programs. Without access to affordable housing, homeless shelters and programs have no way of achieving permanent stability for their clients. And public funding for social services needs to routinely accompany funding programs for low income housing. These services are needed to keep the homeless, and people at risk of homelessness, in their housing, permanently.