



1234 Massachusetts Ave NW,
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www.dccfh.org



Welcome and thank you for your support of the Coalition for the Homeless! In order that we may keep you more fully informed about how our programs are doing, and share some of our accomplishments with you in a more timely fashion, we have decided to publish the newsletter twice a year and follow-up with our soon to be launched E-Friends initiative. I hope you will enjoy hearing from us regularly and learning how your contributions help so many people in need. Please feel free to email us your comments and questions to info@dccfh.org and we will do our best to respond promptly.

The Coalition soon will launch a brief electronic newsletter and we want you to be included. Please share your email address with us so you don't miss any of the Coalition's news. Send an email to amoffatt@dccfh.org and put "E-Friends" in the subject line. Thank you!

THE CFH WEBSITE: A VIBRANT NEW LOOK



What is former President Clinton doing on the Coalition's website homepage? Take a peek at www.dccfh.org to find out. And while you're there, check out our new 'look.' In honor of the slow but unmistakable arrival of spring, the Coalition for the Homeless has begun an 'extreme makeover' of its website.

When you visit the site, you will enter a calm blue space that frames lots of smiling faces. The list of options on the left sidebar makes it easy to navigate around the 'rooms' on the site. The "Contact Us" page has full names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses for each of our 13 program sites as well as the Headquarters office. You can find up-to-the minute program descriptions, an easy way for individuals to donate and for groups to support us. One new feature is the opportunity to sign up to receive the newsletter online. You can do that with the click of a button at the bottom of the left sidebar.

Success stories of former clients are front and center (literally) on the homepage. Read their own words about how the Coalition has helped them. You will also learn how determined each has been, with Coalition support, to move out of homelessness to the stability of a place to live, a job, and a new outlook on the future. Want to see who the Coalition's 2008 Employee of the Year is? Here's a hint—click on the 'Accomplishments' page and check out the pictures.

Looking for a job where you can make a difference in people's lives? You can learn more about that by going to the "Careers" page. The Coalition is fortunate NOT to be laying people off, but rather having job opportunities for qualified applicants. One of these positions may be of interest to you.

The site is still a work in progress, so 'click' back often and tell your friends to learn more about the Coalition at www.dccfh.org.

DELUCCI+ : IN THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLIDAYS!

During the holiday season last December many individuals and organizations gave generously to charitable organizations like the Coalition. This was especially appreciated during the recent economic crisis that is still affecting many people in our community who have not in the past needed the services of the Coalition.



According to Christine L. Delucchi, President & CEO of Delucchi+ strategic communications, the Delucchi+ staff decided last December that instead of having their traditional holiday party, they would donate the funds to a charitable organization. A number of worthy organizations were put into the prospective pool and ultimately the Coalition was selected and received the wonderful and unexpected gift of \$2,500. Delucchi+ is an innovative, full-service, strategic real estate marketing firm located in Washington, D.C. Please visit their website at www.delucchiplus.com

The Coalition thanks Ms. Delucchi and her staff for thinking of those less fortunate than themselves during these critical economic times. They are a sterling example of the caring and giving spirit that exists in our community. Bravo!

MICHAEL FERRELL PRESENTS PRELIMINARY HOMELESS COUNT RESULTS

On April 8, Michael Ferrell, Coalition for the Homeless' President and CEO, and chair of the Council of Government's committee responsible for preparing the annual regional homeless enumeration report, presented the *Preliminary Results of the 2009 Point in Time Homeless Enumeration for the Washington Metropolitan Region* to the Board of the Council of Governments. Mr. Ferrell reported that on January 28: 5,263 people in families, including children were homeless up from 4,566 a year earlier; 12,012 people in the metro region were counted as homeless; and that in the District of Columbia alone, the rate of homelessness rose 3 percent in one year. He also noted that 79.1 percent of single homeless adults and 63.5 percent of homeless adults in families were unemployed. Of the Recommendations to Reduce Homelessness section of the report, Mr. Ferrell emphasized four key points: 1) the need for more targeted resources to prevent homelessness (emergency rental assistance, short-term support); 2) follow a Housing First Approach – placing people in housing first instead of emergency shelter and provide them with supportive services; 3) provide jobs that pay a living wage – increase incomes; and 4) create affordable housing opportunities at ALL income levels. More information on the preliminary report can be found at www.mwcog.org The full, detailed report will be available later this summer.

CFH SUCCESS STORY! MR. ERIK LAWSON OF EMERY HOUSE

On October 29, 2008 Mr. Erik Lawson, who was employed at the Department of Transportation, entered Emery House Work Bed Program. During his stay at Emery, Mr. Lawson participated in the Substance abuse program, met weekly with a case manager, and visited with his parole officer. From the time he entered Emery until Marcy 26 when he completed his program, Mr. Lawson saved \$2,300 allowing him to move to a one bedroom apartment. Mr. Lawson was a model client because he was able to stay focused yet open to the guidance of his counselors. We celebrate his determination and wish him continued success in the future!

COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS: (December 1, 2007 - November 30, 2008)

- ✓ 1,600 men, women and children were directly provided food, shelter, housing and supportive social services.
- ✓ The Coalition served an average of 550 persons daily.
- ✓ 311 Families and Individuals obtained permanent housing and are no longer homeless.
- ✓ 223 Individuals and heads-of-household obtained employment.
- ✓ 51 Families and Individuals were provided financial assistance to prevent them from becoming homeless.
- ✓ Program participants collectively earned \$3.4 million in taxable income annualized.
- ✓ Program participants collectively saved more than \$60,000 in escrow. These funds were used to pay for security deposits, first month's rents, moving expenses and household furnishings.

APPRENTICESHIP RECRUITMENT FAIR

Apprenticeship Opportunities and information for people at least 18 years old who have a high school diploma or GED

Wednesday, April 22, 2009 • 9:00am – 1:00pm

At the Charles Sumner School, 17th & M Streets, NW
(Farragut North Metro)

Participants will meet members from local unions to learn more about on the job training programs

For additional information contact

Ms. Linda Fields 202-347-8870 or
lfields@dccfh.org



DONORS

The Coalition for the Homeless would like to thank the following contributors for their generous support from November 2008 through February 2009:

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Look around on your way to work tomorrow or as you head back home in the evening after your child's basketball game. Look around as you leave the office at noon to hit the gym or meet a friend for lunch. And, look around this weekend as you bustle off to the grocery store, the playground, or the local family diner. How many homeless people did you see?

The Coalition for the Homeless recently sent its spring appeal. **Please consider a generous tax-deductible contribution to the Coalition for the Homeless now.** Typically we appeal to our friends at the end of the year, but making a gift today will ensure that we have the resources to provide our clients with the best programs and assistance that we can in 2009. Thank you!