

United States Interagency Council on Homelessness



National Project Homeless Connect

Best Practices Colloquy

Toolkit 2.0

August 2008



What are the Characteristics of Project Homeless Connect?

- **Hospitality:** Consumers are Welcomed Guests
- **Immediacy:** Same-Day Results for Consumers
- **Community:** Voluntary Civic Participation
- **Partnership:** Across Agencies and Sectors
- **Excellence:** Rigorous Evaluation and Improvement



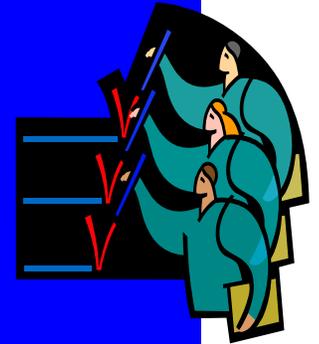
What are Specific Themes of Project Homeless Connect?

- **Not business as usual**
- **No waiting in line. Homeless people do enough of that.**
- **Hospitality from the whole community - jurisdictional and business leaders included**
- **Immediate access - not simply referrals**
- **Quality of life resources - haircuts, massage and foot care, phone calls, eyeglasses, dental and medical care, meals, entertainment, wheelchair repair, etc.**



Why Establish Project Homeless Connect?

- ✓ Enhance quality of life for the entire community
- ✓ Engage civic leaders in solutions to homelessness
- ✓ Seed / improve a results-based 10-Year Plan
- ✓ Transform homeless service delivery systems
- ✓ Increase public knowledge and awareness
- ✓ Debunk myths and stereotypes
- ✓ Increase investment / momentum toward solutions
- ✓ Re-engage our homeless neighbors
- ✓ Offer quality of life resources





The Ten Essential Elements of Project Homeless Connect

1. Political / Community Will

2. Partnership

3. Planning Team

4. Site Selection

5. Volunteers

6. Services

7. Consumer Engagement



8. Media

9. Data and Results

10. Event Execution



1. Political / Community Will: One Leadership from Jurisdictional CEOs



1. Jurisdictional Leadership: Mobilizing Political and Community Will





1. Political / Community Will: One Leadership from Jurisdictional CEOs

Mayor or county official leadership integrates PHC into jurisdictionally-led, community-based, business-oriented 10-Year Plan activities. Jurisdictional leaders and community stakeholders involved in 10-Year Plans are a natural connection and foundation and:

- Re-prioritize local government resources
- Hasten creation of community partnerships
- Catalyze media interest
- Connect provider agencies operating in silos
- Mobilize corporate / local business resources





1. Political / Community Will: Two *Best Practices in Leadership*

- San Francisco Mayor Newsom created the first PHC by taking city staff and programs from City Hall to where homeless consumers live.
- Jurisdictions adopted PHC to support 10-Year Plan activities that reduce and end homelessness.
- Lead PHC sponsors now include universities, businesses, communities, faith groups, and sports teams.





1. Political / Community Will: Three Best Practices in Leadership



- Los Angeles County passed a resolution declaring December 6 Project Homeless Connect Day.
- Rhode Island's Governor unveiled the State Action Plan to End Homelessness at Providence PHC.





1. Political / Community Will: Three Best Practices in Leadership



- Minneapolis/Hennepin County, Norwich, New London, and Columbia SC integrated PHC into their 10-Year Plans.
- Berkeley positioned officials at Youth Connect as Maitre d's to homeless consumers dining at their Connect Café.



Fourth Annual National Project Homeless Connect Week

December 1-7, 2008



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