



Pedro E. Segarra
Mayor

HARTFORD AWARDED MORE THAN \$5 MILLION TO CONTINUE FIGHT TO PREVENT HOMELESSNESS

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---

(January 20, 2011)--- Mayor Pedro E. Segarra announced today that 15 Hartford programs dedicated to assisting the homeless in our city have been named recipients of more than \$5 Million *Continuum of Care* funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These grants are part of the Obama Administration's "Opening Doors" strategy, the nation's first comprehensive plan to prevent and end homelessness and this continued funding once again demonstrates recognition by the Federal Government that what we're doing in Hartford is working.

These awards, announced just before the 2011 yearly Point in Time count of homeless individuals and families, are renewed grants designed to maintain the momentum in the number of services available to help reduce homelessness.

"The creation and availability of affordable housing units across our region, coupled with the important services that assist individuals and families to avoid homelessness, are the tools that will make the ultimate difference for our residents. The established and effective agencies that provide services are the backbone of the effort to end chronic homelessness. I applaud their tireless work and congratulate our partners on their continued funding," stated Mayor Segarra.

The City of Hartford works to reduce homelessness by partnering with community based organizations to provide direct services to those most affected. City government in Hartford is also responsible for the availability of the yearly no-freeze shelter space which is opened when frigid weather affects many homeless which creates an overflow of demand for safe beds.

"The announcement of these grants in Hartford is very good news. It is imperative that we continue the fight to end homelessness and that we not lose any ground in our efforts. The HUD grants enable us to do just that," stated Carlos Rivera, Director of the Hartford Department of Health and Human Services.

HUD's *Continuum of Care* grants provide permanent and transitional housing to homeless persons as well as services including job training, health care, mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment and child care. The \$5 Million announced ensure that there is no break in funding for existing programs. New programming will be considered for funding under the "Opening Doors" efforts of the Obama Administration later in the year.

"Much work lies ahead. Hartford is committed to bringing together solutions that are based on best practices and that are holistic in how we help individuals and families build the strong foundation that they deserve for a better future," stated Mayor Segarra.

Other links of interest: [Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#) and www.hud.gov/homelesscount.