



Eddie A. Perez
Mayor

PLAN TO END HOMELESSNESS IN REGION TO BE UNVEILED

OCTOBER 9

Hartford CT – More than 150 persons working more than a year have developed an Action Plan to implement the [10-Year Plan to End Homelessness](#) in the Capitol Region. This coordinated and comprehensive plan will be unveiled on Tuesday, 10am, October 9, 2007 at the McKinney Shelter, 34 Huyshope Street in Hartford.

Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez will be joined by Philip Mangano, Executive Director of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, the President's national point person on homelessness along with Mary Tomolonius, First Selectman, Town of Canton, representing the Capitol Region Council of Governments; Carol Walter, Executive Director, Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness; David Martineau, Program Director, Mercy Housing and Shelter, and Co-Chair of the Hartford Continuum of Care; Judy Vasquez, Director of Housing Services, Community Renewal Team and Co-Chair of the Hartford Continuum of Care and William Farley, President CT Region CB Richard Ellis and Chair of the Hartford Commission to End Homelessness.

"I applaud this monumental effort because this will help our 4,000 neighbors who spent time in emergency shelters this past year and the countless more who were turned away," Mayor Perez said. "And it will also help Hartford continue to live up to its name as "The City of Hope and Opportunity."

"More than 300 cities across the country have embarked on efforts similar to what we are doing here in Hartford," William Farley explained. "Philadelphia, Denver, New York, Portland Oregon and many more have all made a commitment to end homelessness in their cities within 10 years. I believe this plan will provide us with a caring and thoughtful way to actually end homelessness in our area," he added.

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"Mayor Perez is to be commended for his leadership in bringing the most innovative ideas and initiatives to Hartford in commissioning a plan that moves beyond the status quo response to fashion new solutions through the Ten Year Plan," indicated Mangano. "He and the Community Champion for the Plan, Bill Farley, and all of the community partners have created a strategy that will result in visible and measurable change on your city's streets while ensuring that the quality of life for all citizens - housed and homeless alike - will be improved."

The featured speaker will be Mr. Mangano. Recently nominated as one of TIME Magazine's 100 Most Influential People, Mr. Mangano has been recognized by mainstream and business media in the United States for his leadership on the issue of homelessness and new results in ending homelessness being achieved in cities across the country through the National Partnership created by the Council. Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government this year named the Council as one of the "Top 50 Government Innovations" in the nation.

Since his appointment in 2002 to lead the US Interagency Council on Homelessness, he has engaged every level of government and the private sector to constellate a National Partnership to end homelessness. The Interagency Council is comprised of 20 Cabinet Secretaries and Federal agency directors who convene regularly at the White House to ensure that Federal resources are more available and accessible to homeless people.

"We believe our plan, called Journey Home, is a realistic, effective, and sensitive plan that will allow the region to meet the goal of ending homelessness in ten years," Mayor Perez emphasized. "It is an excellent first step in that journey," he added.

For more information about the Hartford Commission to End Homelessness and the Ten-Year Plan, call Lionel Rigler, Staff to the Hartford Commission to End Homelessness, at (860) 757-9277.

For more information on the Mayor's role, please contact Sarah Barr, Director of Communications at (860) 522-4888 x6217.