

2011

2012

IN UNITY

THERE IS STRENGTH

ANNUAL REPORT

GREATER CINCINNATI

HOMELESS  
COALITION

# IN UNITY

## FROM THE DIRECTOR



It almost seems too cliché to say, but it really is difficult to believe that a whole year has gone by. One of the interesting things about being a part of a Movement is that every year really builds on the years before it, in preparation for the ones coming after. Actually, each month, week, day, hour, minute do the same. We must view this struggle from a high-up, long perspective. We win one struggle at a time, until eventually we will win the whole thing- the end of homelessness.

Fiscal Year 2012 was an active year to say the least. We completed a comprehensive study of family homelessness and housing stability in Hamilton County, bringing dozens of families and 40 public and private organizations to the table. We again empowered Tenants to organize themselves to struggle against gentrification and forced removal. We worked for equal opportunity in hiring for Washington Park. We lead rallies and marches, including our well attended Homeless Awareness March. With the People's Platform for Equality and Justice we worked to organize people to push for what they want in their own neighborhoods. We took part in Occupy Cincinnati protests, demands, citations and arrests. We spoke against spending millions on the movement of shelter at the cost of housing. We started our series of court-ordered meetings with 3cdc post Metropole- to discuss affordable housing. Markedly, this year we stood with the Women of the Anna Louise. The justice system has shown no justice for the Women. We have taken to the street joined by the faith community and unions, calling on the court of Public strength. The People clearly support the Women.

This year we distributed nearly 80,000 copies of Streetvibes, working to build a platform of supportive citizens. Streetvibes Distributors made approximately \$38,464.50. We strategized with over 50 member-organizations. We hosted 80 students from around the country as they lived and worked with us. We were thankful to have 8 interns. We empowered people experiencing homelessness to speak to more than 4,000 people. We produced yet another beautiful calendar. We collected mail for hundreds of people without a permanent address. We raised money in order to purchase the building we have been in for about ten years. Area people, again chose to take part financially in the Coalition. Fiscal Year 2012 was not only an active year, it was a productive year. The whole time we kept our eyes on the prize- the end of homelessness. We worked to lead, speak properly and loudly, organize, empower and to involve as many People as possible. We believe in People Power.

Looking Forward with You,

Josh Spring, LSW  
Executive Director



# THERE IS STRENGTH

## OUR MISSION

**T**HE GREATER CINCINNATI HOMELESS COALITION IS A UNIFIED SOCIAL ACTION AGENCY, FULLY COMMITTED TO ITS ULTIMATE GOAL: THE ERADICATION OF HOMELESSNESS WITH RESPECT FOR THE DIGNITY AND DIVERSITY OF ITS MEMBERSHIP, THE HOMELESS AND THE COMMUNITY. THE COALITION WORKS TOWARDS THIS GOAL BY COORDINATING SERVICES, EDUCATING THE PUBLIC, AND ENGAGING IN GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING AND ADVOCACY.

## STAFF

JOSH SPRING  
Executive Director

JENI JENKINS  
Director of Education &  
Outreach

CATIE DARGUE  
Director of Development &  
Operations (Nov. 10-May 12)

LESLIE MOORHEAD  
Director of Development  
(June 12- Current)

JASON DEAN  
Streetvibes Editor  
(Aug. 11-July 12)

JEFF KELLEY  
Civil Rights  
Outreach Coordinator

JERRY DAVIS  
Civil Rights  
Outreach Coordinator

RUBY GOODE, Receptionist  
KAREN CHATMAN, Receptionist  
CHRIS FOWLER, Receptionist  
PETE ROPER, Maintenance

## BOARD

STEVE GIBBS, Co-Chair  
FANNI JOHNSON, Co-Chair  
JESSICA POWELL, Secretary  
KATE BENNETT  
STEPHEN JOHNSONGROVE

BILL JOINER  
DAVID KNOLL  
BOB MOORE  
JOHN DOVICH

## FRONT DESK SERVICES:

**T**hough our focus is not direct service, many, many people come in our front door. We have a free, public telephone people can use to complete business- this phone is in almost constant use. We offer coffee and cold water for those in need of a pick me up, as well as microwave to cook a quick meal. In addition we are the mailing address for many people that do not have an address. This allows people to stay in contact with family, business obligations, employment opportunities, etc. The mail for more than 800 people comes to our office- all needing to be organized by name and disbursed. Furthermore, we give information regarding needed resources to thousands of people. We literally serve as an intricate connector.

# COORDINATION OF

## COALITION MEMBERSHIP

**T**HE HOMELESS COALITION FOUNDERS UNDERSTOOD THAT NO SINGLE ORGANIZATION CAN END HOMELESSNESS. THEY BELIEVED **ENDING HOMELESSNESS** IS POSSIBLE WITH A STRONG COALITION OF INDIVIDUALS, SERVICE PROVIDERS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS WORKING TOGETHER TO CREATE POSITIVE, SYSTEMIC CHANGE. SINCE 1984 WE HAVE PROVIDED A SPACE FOR COLLABORATION AND INFORMATION SHARING AND UNITED TO ADDRESS TIMELY ISSUES AND CREATE STRONG BONDS THAT BENEFIT THE COLLECTIVE WHOLE. WE SPEAK UP WHEN OUR MEMBER AGENCIES ARE UNABLE AND STAND STRONG WITH THEM WHEN THEY NEED US. WE MAINTAIN STRONG LINES OF COMMUNICATION WITH OVER 50 SOCIAL SERVICE PROVIDERS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND WORK TO SOLICIT INVOLVEMENT IN SYSTEMATIC WORK THAT WILL BENEFIT ALL. WE ADVOCATE FOR THESE ORGANIZATION AS WELL AS OTHER GROUPS WHO STRIVE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN CINCINNATI.

## GENERAL BODY

**W**e are strong in our heritage. Those that founded us set us up to be an organization guided by and accountable to its membership. This past year we held a membership meeting every third thursday of the month except for July and December. At these meetings we discussed common issues organizations were facing. We spent time looking at homelessness from a macro perspective. General body gives our member-organizations the opportunity to not only inform the actions of the Coalition office, but to take part in those actions. It gives organizations who have to focus on their hard work, the opportunity to work with other organizations to focus on the systematic root causes of homelessness.

## HUMAN SERVICES:

**O**ne-and-a-half percent of the city's general fund is supposed to go to Human Services. Dollars that are spent on housing, shelter, youth services, senior services and the like. For the majority of a decade these dollars have been cut nearly every year by city council. Each year we have organized an effort to call for no cuts and restoration to 1.5%. This year we saw no cut and now are pushing for an increase back to 1.5% from the current at best .4%.

# SERVICES:

## 2011-2012 MEMBERS



Bethany House Services | provides housing and assistance programs to homeless women and children | (513) 921-1131 [www.bethanyhouseservices.com](http://www.bethanyhouseservices.com)

Bill and Suzanne Joiner

CAIN- Churches Active in Northside | provides nutritious food, crisis assistance, resources, and compassion | (513) 591-2246 [www.cainministry.org](http://www.cainministry.org)

Caracole, Inc. | provides safe, affordable housing & supportive services for individuals & families living with HIV/AIDS | (513) 761-1480 [www.caracole.org](http://www.caracole.org)

Cecilia and Tom Kloecker (10 Year Membership Ex. 2021)

Center for Chemical Addictions Treatment | provides a wide range of quality treatment services for alcoholism and other chemical addictions | (513) 381-6672 [www.ccatsober.org](http://www.ccatsober.org)

Center For Independent Living Options | break down architectural and attitudinal barriers, build bridges to understanding, and create options and choices in the continuous process of empowerment of individuals with disabilities | (513) 241-2600 [www.clo.net](http://www.clo.net)

Center For Respite Care | provides quality, holistic medical care to homeless people who need a safe place to heal, while assisting them in breaking the cycle of homelessness | (513) 921-1131 [www.homelessrespite.org](http://www.homelessrespite.org)

Central Parkway Ministries and Compassion Cincinnati Inc. | Healing ministry to a wounded world. | (513) 559-1886 [cpoog.com](http://cpoog.com)

Chaplain Bea Broder-Goldach

Charlie's 3/4 House Inc. | provides affordable transitional housing for up to 50 newly recovering alcoholics | (513) 784-1853 [www.charlies3-4.org](http://www.charlies3-4.org)

Cincinnati Habitat For Humanity | seeks to eliminate substandard housing by building, renovating and repairing homes | (513) 621-4147 [www.cincinnatihabitat.org](http://www.cincinnatihabitat.org)

Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency | advocate, provider and facilitator for the full range of public and private resources, programs and policies which give low- to moderate-income individuals the opportunity to improve their quality of life | (513) 569-1840 [www.cincy-caa.org](http://www.cincy-caa.org)

Cincinnati Health Network | Coordinating services and programs for medically underserved and special population groups of Greater Cincinnati | (513) 961-0600 [www.cinthealthnetwork.org](http://www.cinthealthnetwork.org)

Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority | provides quality, affordable housing for low- to moderate-income families | (513) 421-2642 [www.cintimha.com](http://www.cintimha.com)

Cincinnati Union Bethel | provides supportive services and education programs that assist urban women, children, families, and communities to reach their greatest potential. | (513) 768-6907 [www.cinunionbethel.org](http://www.cinunionbethel.org)

City Gospel Mission | provides daily meals, clothing days, and safe overnight shelter, recovery programs, and other need-based services | (513) 241-5525 [www.citygospelmission.org](http://www.citygospelmission.org)

Community Development Corporations Association Of Greater Cincinnati | the trade association in the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky area for Community Development Corporations | (513) 281-6600 [www.cdccagc.org](http://www.cdccagc.org)

Drop Inn Center (Lifetime Member) | provides basic human services for the men and women of the Greater Cincinnati area who are experiencing homelessness | (513) 721-0643 [www.dropinn.org](http://www.dropinn.org)

Episcopal Church Of The Redeemer | we "Invite and welcome all; inspire growth in faith and knowledge of Jesus Christ; reach out with love and support to those in need" | (513) 321-6700 [www.redeemer-cincy.org](http://www.redeemer-cincy.org)

Faces Without Places | provides enrichment, programming, transportation, uniforms, supplies, field trips, and specialized services to over 3,000 children experiencing homelessness each year | (513) 389-0805 [www.faceswithoutplaces.org](http://www.faceswithoutplaces.org)

First Lutheran Church | a diverse community of disciples, called to follow Jesus in faith, witness, and service | (513) 421-0065 [www.firstlutherancincy.org](http://www.firstlutherancincy.org)

First Step Home | a Residential and Outpatient treatment program dedicated to women-centered care for addictions and co-occurring mental health and trauma related issues | (513) 961-4663 [www.firststephome.org](http://www.firststephome.org)

Franciscan Haircuts from the Heart | restores dignity, self-respect and self-confidence by providing hair care to the poor and homeless | (513) 381-0111 [www.haircutsfromheart.org](http://www.haircutsfromheart.org)

Franciscan JPIC | living with and for the poor, promoting justice, peace and the care of creation, working with all women and men of good will | (513) 721-4700 [www.franciscan.org](http://www.franciscan.org)

Grace Place Catholic Worker House | provides temporary shelter and hospitality for women in transition from homelessness in a setting which is homelike, healthy, loving and supportive | (513) 681-2365 [home.fuse.net/graceplacecw/welcome.htm](http://home.fuse.net/graceplacecw/welcome.htm)

Hamilton County Community Development | provide quality housing, community and economic development opportunities to disadvantaged families and individuals in Hamilton County (513) 946-8230 [www.hamiltoncountyoohio.gov/commdev/v2/](http://www.hamiltoncountyoohio.gov/commdev/v2/)

Hamilton County Tb Control | treats and prevents tuberculosis | (513) 946-7800 [www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org](http://www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org)

Health Resource Center Of Cincinnati Inc. | serves homeless and at risk individuals who are in need of psychiatric or social services and whose needs for service are not being met by other agencies | (513) 357-4602 [www.hrci.org](http://www.hrci.org)

Interfaith Hospitality Network | provides homeless families emergency shelter and hospitality through interfaith communities and works with these families to find and retain stable housing | (513) 471-1100 [www.ihncincinnati.org](http://www.ihncincinnati.org)

Joseph House | meet the needs of the homeless veterans of our community | (513) 241-2965 [www.josephhouse.net](http://www.josephhouse.net)

Intercommunity Justice & Peace Center | educates and advocates for peace, challenges unjust local, national, and global systems, and promotes the creation of a non-violent society | (513) 579-8547 [ijpc-cincinnati.org/about-us](http://ijpc-cincinnati.org/about-us)

Legal Aid Society | works to resolve serious legal problems of low-income people, to promote economic and family stability, and to reduce poverty | (513) 241-9400 [www.lasci.org](http://www.lasci.org)

League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area | a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government | (513) 281-8683 [www.lwvcincinnati.org](http://www.lwvcincinnati.org)

Lighthouse Youth Services | advances the dignity and well being of children, youth and families in need by promoting good citizenship, responsible behavior and self reliance | (513) 961-4080 [www.lhs.org](http://www.lhs.org)

Madisonville Education and Assistance Center | provides vital assistance - including food, clothing, rent, and utility assistance - to individuals and families living in Fairfax, Madison Place, Madisonville, and Mariemont | (513) 271-5501 [meaonline.org/](http://meaonline.org/)

Mary Magdalen House | providing a safe and pleasant place for persons in need, to shower, shave, brush their teeth, use a toilet, have clothes laundered, have use of a phone and have a place to receive messages and mail | (513) 721-4811 [www.marymagdalenhouse.org](http://www.marymagdalenhouse.org)

Mercy Franciscan at St. John | provides individual, family, and pregnancy counseling programs for adoption, family caregiver, parenting, and child development; and other programs | (513) 981-5800 [www.e-mercy.com/social-services-st-john.aspx](http://www.e-mercy.com/social-services-st-john.aspx)

Nast Trinity United Methodist Church | a welcoming and an inclusive congregation. It is a place where all persons are respected and valued - a place where each person comes with something to give and each person leaves with something received | (513) 241-2563 [www.nasttrinity.org](http://www.nasttrinity.org)

NAMI of Hamilton County | improves the lives of families and individuals affected by mental illness through education, support, and advocacy | (513) 948-3094 [www.nami-hc.org](http://www.nami-hc.org)

Over the Rhine Community Housing | provides decent, safe, racially integrated, low-income housing in Over-the-Rhine, especially for homeless or chemically dependent persons. Its co-op structure enhances self-determination | (513) 381-1171 [www.overtherhine.org](http://www.overtherhine.org)

Over The Rhine Kitchen, Walnut Hills Kitchen, Walnut Hills Pantry | alleviates hunger in our community by serving the poor in an environment of respect, care and hospitality | (513) 961-1983 [www.overtherhinekitchen.org](http://www.overtherhinekitchen.org)

Peaslee Neighborhood Center | where residents create and engage in participatory education to foster creative expression, self-determination, and social change | (513) 621-5514 [www.peaslee.org](http://www.peaslee.org)

Prospect House, Inc. | residential treatment home for male substance abusers | (513) 921-1613 [www.prospect-house.org](http://www.prospect-house.org)

Salvation Army of Southwest Ohio-Northeast Kentucky | provides a wide range of supportive services, including emergency shelter, disaster relief, and outreach. (513) 762-5600 [www.use.salvationarmy.org/use/www\\_use\\_cincinnati.nsf/](http://www.use.salvationarmy.org/use/www_use_cincinnati.nsf/)

Sober Living Inc. | provides a safe, affordable, sober housing and structural living environment to individuals recovering from alcohol and drug addiction. (513) 681-0324 [www.soberlivingohio.com](http://www.soberlivingohio.com)

Society of St. Vincent DePaul | provides a unique style of personal assistance with food, clothing, rent, utilities, transportation, and companionship to people facing economic, emotional, or spiritual crises | (513) 562-8841 [www.svdpcincinnati.org](http://www.svdpcincinnati.org)

Southwestern Ohio Nurses Association | advance professional nursing and quality health care through education, communication, collaborating and mentoring | (513) 961-2981 [www.sonanet.org/](http://www.sonanet.org/)

St. Francis De Sales Church | holistic development of persons and families throughout the Cincinnati area: spiritually, mentally and socially. The building of relationships that move across barriers of age, race, sex and economic status | (513) 961-1945 [www.desalescrossings.org](http://www.desalescrossings.org)

St. Fran/St. Joe Catholic Worker House | a safe and dignified environment where homeless men can work on securing immediate needs of housing, employment, drug/alcohol rehabilitation and case management | (513) 381-4941 [www.catholicworkerincincinnati.org](http://www.catholicworkerincincinnati.org)

Stop AIDS | fights against HIV/AIDS by combating ignorance through prevention education and compassionate, confidential, free testing | (513) 421-2437 [stopaidsincy.org/about-us/](http://stopaidsincy.org/about-us/)

Volunteers Of America Of Greater Cincinnati | provides case management and housing to formerly homeless individuals | (513) 381-1954 [www.voacincy.org](http://www.voacincy.org)

Welcome House | provides services for individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless | (513) 431-8717 [www.welcomehouseky.org](http://www.welcomehouseky.org)

YWCA Battered Women's Shelter | provides emergency shelter and transitional housing to victims of domestic violence | (513) 241-7090 [www.ywacincinnati.org](http://www.ywacincinnati.org)

Tender Mercies Inc. | exists to serve homeless persons with histories of emotional and/or mental disabilities by providing them housing and related services | 513-721-8666 [www.tendermerciesinc.org](http://www.tendermerciesinc.org)

West End Emergency Center | provides human services to encourage self-sufficiency and interdependence | (513) 381-5882 [www.sndohio.org](http://www.sndohio.org)



## FAMILY HOMELESSNESS

**A**fter a year of work, in February 2011 we released the **Family Homelessness and Housing Stability Study**. This process brought forty different public and private organizations to the table. Even more importantly, dozens of families were involved through group discussions hosted throughout the county and through surveying done at a variety of locations.

The Study tells the story of the pain families with children are facing in Hamilton County. This story is told both through the experiences of those facing family homelessness, those on the edge of family homelessness,

agencies and governmental entities working to elevate the problem. The Study also shows the current story of family homelessness through numbers. Here is an excerpt from the Executive Summary:

*During the period of 2005-2010/11, the family experience from housing stability to the brink of homelessness is a perilous reality for an increasing number of families in the region. The number of children identified as experiencing homelessness in Cincinnati Public Schools abruptly rose by 42%, specifically the number of children identified as "doubled-up" rose by 192%. This led to more than 9% of the average daily enrollment being defined as experiencing homelessness in the 2009/2010 school year. The number of unemployed workers within the federally defined "civil labor force" increased by 78% between 2005 and 2010. In the same span of time 26% more families in Hamilton County began receiving the life saving essential Ohio Works First/ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families cash assistance.*

*In 2010 24.7% of respondents ages 18 to 64 in Hamilton County Suburbs said they were currently without health insurance or went without health insurance in the past year, compared to 15.7% in 2005, an increase of 9% or 1.6 times more individuals. In the City of Cincinnati in 2005 19.6% of respondents ages 18 to 64 said they were currently without health insurance or went without health insurance in the past year. In 2010, 32.5% of respondents said the same, an increase of 12.9% or 1.7 times more individuals. The number of households receiving Nutrition Benefits or Food Stamps increased by 98%. The number of people waiting for Public Housing grew by 115% in 6 years and in 2011 5,000 more households applied for a Housing Choice Voucher than requested an application in 2007. At the same time foreclosure filings increased by 29%, 2005 compared to 2010. In the draft of the City of Cincinnati's Comprehensive Plan it is documented that between 2000 and 2010, approximately 6,600 housing units for the "city's lowest income renters" were lost. For the full Study go to [www.cincihomeless.org](http://www.cincihomeless.org)*

### Winter Shelter:

**W**inter 2011/2012 was the first time in Cincinnati that we had a cold-weather shelter open for 90 straight nights. This process, spurred on by the Coalition was handled by the Drop Inn Center, the Continuum of Care, St. Vincent DePaul, Warm Hearts, the Health Department, and the Recreation Commission. Price of Peace Lutheran church importantly offered their building as the primary entrance to the shelter, where many people slept. Through St. Vincent De Paul and Warm Hearts many area churches gave dollars to support the Winter Shelter. The Staff of the Drop Inn Center ran the shelter on a nightly basis. In total 869 unduplicated people came through the Winter Shelter. This number included six families with children- a particularly alarming stat, because historically the former version of the Winter Shelter, the Cold Shelter did not serve any families just a few years ago. Majority of the 869 people that came to the Winter Shelter would have slept outside otherwise, and most probably did sleep outside after the shelter closed. This again clearly shows that we have a housing and job crisis. We must work for the prevention of homelessness so that people are no longer in need of place to keep them from freezing.

# EDUCATION

**W**E LIVE IN A CULTURE WHERE THE TERM "HOMELESS" HAS A NEGATIVE PERCEPTION AND STEREOTYPES AND MYTHS FEED INTO A CULTURE OF FEAR AND HATE IN OUR COMMUNITIES. THE COALITION'S EDUCATION PROGRAMS ARE DESIGNED TO BREAKDOWN THESE STEREOTYPES AND ERADICATE THIS MISINFORMATION. OUR EDUCATION AND SERVICE PROGRAMS PORTRAY A MORE ACCURATE AND HOLISTIC PICTURE OF HOMELESSNESS IN CINCINNATI. WE BELIEVE AN EDUCATED PUBLIC IS A COMPASSIONATE PUBLIC WILLING TO DEDICATE TIME AND EFFORT TOWARDS CREATING SOLUTIONS TO HOMELESSNESS.

## VOICE OF THE HOMELESS SPEAKERS BUREAU

**T**he Voice of the Homeless Speaker's Bureau is the most successful of our education programs. Made up of individuals currently experiencing homelessness or who have experienced homelessness, who share their stories. The program is designed to put a face on homelessness and raise awareness about those struggling in our community. The Director of Education & Outreach also attends speaking engagements providing factual information to the public about homelessness locally and nationally. In 2011-2012 the public education programs reached approximately 4,677 students and adults through 109 educational engagements. We are second to the largest Speaker's Bureau in the country, the National Coalition for the Homeless.

## HOMELESS AWARENESS MONTH

**I**n Fall 2011 we collaborated with Faces Without Places and the Mayerson Service Learning Program to coordinate Homeless Awareness Month. This was our local version of the larger National Hunger and Homeless Awareness in November. Groups all over the country mobilized to educate, raise awareness and motivate people to get involved in the fight to end homelessness. 2011 activities included the second annual Homeless Awareness March and the City-Wide Shantytown sleep-out.

## SHANTYTOWN

**T**hinking Outside the Box, City-Wide Shantytown sleep-out is the main event during Homeless Awareness Month where students from through the community raise awareness through a "one night without a home". In 2011, the partnership included 30 school groups and over 1100 student participants in Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky.

## CINCINNATI URBAN EXPERIENCE

**T**he Cincinnati Urban Experience (CUE) provides participants with a combined experience of service and social justice education to motivate them to become active in the fight to end poverty and homelessness. CUE is part of growing movement of service trip programs around the country. We offer a way for high school and college students to get involved and delve into serious issues such as gentrification, economic disparity and the importance of political advocacy.

GCCH arranges for service opportunities with our member agencies. Mornings are spent volunteering and afternoons are filled with educational activities. Groups stay in Over the Rhine from 2-7 days. Between July 2011 and June 2012, GCCH hosted 6 groups totaling 80 students from around the country. These groups contributed 924 hours of service in our community.

## SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

**T**ommy Thompson is a visionary with a desire to help change Cincinnati. He has a gentle spirit, and shares his story in a way that continues to captivate his audience. Formerly homeless, Tommy is a Stretvibes Distributor, but spends a lot of time telling his story and educating the public about homelessness through the Speakers Bureau. He has been going to speaking engagements since 2009.



Photo: Aimie Willhoite

Tommy found the Coalition near the end of his homeless journey. Realizing that GCCH was looking at the big picture, when it came to the eradication of homelessness, he shared his vision and has the opportunity and resources to make it a reality. He is in the process of starting the Tommy Gives Organization (TGO). Although it's still in the start-up phase, it is bound to be a success. Tommy created his organization to help create affordable housing and give men an opportunity to get off and stay off the streets.



# ADVOCACY &

**T**HE COALITION RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC AND ROOT CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS IN ORDER TO INSTITUTE LASTING AND PERMANENT CHANGE. THE COALITION WORKS WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS, COMMUNITY GROUPS AND PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS OR WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS TO: PREVENT HOMELESSNESS, ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS OF HOMELESS PERSONS ARE PRESERVED, THAT THE TREND OF CRIMINALIZATION OF HOMELESSNESS IS REVERSED AND THAT JUST SOCIAL POLICY IS ENACTED TO END HOMELESSNESS.

## OCCUPY CINCINNATI:



**I**n the organizing world we long for a day when suddenly people will "get it" and take to the street with us. One day, in fall 2011, we received a call asking us to take part in the planning of an Occupy Cincinnati march. 1100 people showed up to this march. 1100 people is a very large Cincinnati March. Post that march, a lot happened. There were many more marches and rallies, there were press conferences, police citation after citation, arrest after arrest, meetings, court battles, more marches, strategy sessions... Eventually the group did succeed in creating a 24-hour free speech zone. Far more happened than this, however.

We all learned more about organizing and people than we knew before. Occupy is and was very much a living and growing organism- moving quickly from infancy to action. Many already activists and people that became activists learned about homelessness. As Occupiers slept outside and spent a lot of time outside, were harassed by the police and local government, had no regular place to use the restroom, etc- the plight of homelessness became far more real, especially because housed Occupiers were able to meet and work with un-housed Occupiers. We learned the power of public support- many many people whether on the ground or not, have taken part in Occupy Cincinnati. The ongoing is that we saw our own power, we completely overran the court system and the local governmental system that was causing injustice, and we won- all without violence. We learned to work together as activists to create strategy. Now, at the Coalition, where we have been Occupying for 28 years, we know that when we have an issue, we have far more people we can contact to join us than we did before Occupy. Occupy Cincinnati only began in 2011. In one fashion or another, there is more to come.



## STANDING WITH TENANTS:

**O**ver the past year we have been involved in Tenant struggles. We have worked to organize with people facing mass evictions because of gentrification. We have empowered Tenants to unite and struggle for what they deserve. Successes come in different shapes and sizes, but eventually we will see over all success.



# ORGANIZING



## ANNA LOUISE INN:

**F**or more than two years now, the very financially-wealthy Western and Southern has attempted to displace the Women of the Anna Louise Inn (ALI). ALI was given to its owner, Cincinnati Union Bethel in 1909 for the purpose of providing affordable housing to Women. ALI is still doing that today. Western and Southern have made it clear that they do not want Women with low incomes to live near their offices. They have spent much time criminalizing the women and stating that if the Women were gone then Lytle Park could thrive- meanwhile many other area neighbors have supported ALI. Western and Southern sued Cincinnati Union Bethel and has appealed every decision possible, in an attempt to burn the resources of Cincinnati Union Bethel. The Court found in favor of Western and Southern, sending the Anna Louise Inn back to get city permitting again. The system clearly is not working. Western and Southern is bullying the Anna Louise Inn. We have taken to the streets, organizing in unison with local unions and the faith community. We have brought out hundreds of people to march and rally, we have got press out, collectively we have flown a plan with a banner over the W&S Tennis Tournament- we have stayed vocal and active. Western and Southern much learn that they are too small to win, because so many strong people support the Women of the Anna Louise Inn.

## METROPOLE:

**I**n Fall 2011 the Metropole Tenant Association won the first settlement in favor of displaced Tenants ever in Cincinnati History. A part of this settlement was that 3cdc and Model Management would meet with advocates of affordable housing, including the Homeless Coalition. These meetings have taken place quarterly. They have been an effort to garner proper information regarding how dollars have been spent on housing and other development. We are also working to see 3cdc create a known commitment to not displace people from affordable housing. No such commitment has been made. The conversation is continuing.



## FOCUS ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING:

**O**ver the last year there has been a lot of talk about moving existing shelters. We have been very clear that we, as a Coalition support the movement of the City Gospel Mission as such a move will double their capacity to serve people. We have also been supportive of the movement of the Mt. Airy Shelter, because formerly it was in a forest and there is not much housing and jobs available in a forest, though it is now no longer a shelter. We have worked against proposals to spend dollars that could be spent on affordable housing for the political movement of shelters. We believe without proper dollars for housing, shelters will be overrun with demand- more than they already are. Already in Hamilton County shelters are exiting people on average in 60 days or less, but yet we have the same general number of people in the beds each night. This means shelters are doing what they are supposed to when someone enters their door- assisting them in finding income and housing. The problem lies in our communities- we do not have enough affordable housing and jobs. Affordable housing and jobs prevent and end homelessness.

## PEOPLE'S PLATFORM:

**W**e have continued to work with our organizing group People's Platform for Equality and Justice. This past year the Platform organized primarily around the concept of serving neighborhood run businesses- places where people can work, can afford to shop and have items the community needs. Remaining housed is also about being able to work where you have housing. In Over-the-Rhine people in mass have indentified the desire for a neighborhood run-laundromat. The Platform has put organizing energy directly into this.

## HOMELESS CONGRESS:

**T**he Homeless Congress is a group of people who have experienced homelessness- working against homelessness. This year the Congress put much focus into recruitment and voter registration. Voter registration drives were held in area shelters and eating places. People who were already registered were encouraged to vote. The Congress wants to see everyone who is experiencing homelessness, regardless of party, to vote. Proper voice in the political realm is a part of ending homelessness.

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

**J**erry Davis, a current Street Vibes Distributor, is an active advocate in the community. Jerry recently began volunteering at the coalition and his dedication is un-deniable. He does everything to give back to the community that's done so much for him. His passion is not only evident by his words, but through his actions as well. Jerry spends his days at the Coalition coming and going continuously doing things for the people of the OTR community. He is an unpaid civil rights outreach coordinator. He is also a member of the people's platform, as well as the homeless congress. Everything he does, is for the homeless community in otr. We are thankful for jerry and his positive impact on the community.



Photo: Jeni Jenkins

# STREETVIBES

**S**TREETVIBES IS AN ALTERNATIVE NEWSPAPER AND PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL STREET NEWSPAPER MOVEMENT. FOCUSING ON HOMELESSNESS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES, STREETVIBES REPORTS THE OFTEN-INVISIBLE STORY OF POVERTY IN OUR COMMUNITY. STREETVIBES IS ALSO PROUD TO INCLUDE CREATIVE WRITING, POETRY, ARTICLES, PHOTOGRAPHY AND INTERVIEWS WRITTEN BY INDIVIDUALS WHO CURRENTLY OR FORMERLY EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS. AS A PROGRESSIVE NEWS SOURCE, STREETVIBES SERVES AN EDUCATIONAL FUNCTION, AND ALSO PROVIDES A FORUM FOR DIALOGUE FOR THOSE OTHERS TRY TO SILENCE.

**A**s of March 2011 the price of Streetvibes increased from .25 cents per copy to .50 cents per copy for the Distributors who now sell it for \$1.50 donation. They keep the profit that they have earned. This program has helped hundreds of people find and maintain housing. Streetvibes is open to individuals seeking supplemental income to become self-sufficient. Becoming a Streetvibes Distributor is a unique entrepreneurial opportunity as well as a great way to network and meet people in the community. In 2011, 69 distributors purchased 51,286 newspapers with the potential profit of \$38,464.50. 45 Streetvibes Distributors distribute approximately 3000 papers every two weeks.



SV Distributor James Brown

# FINANCIALS

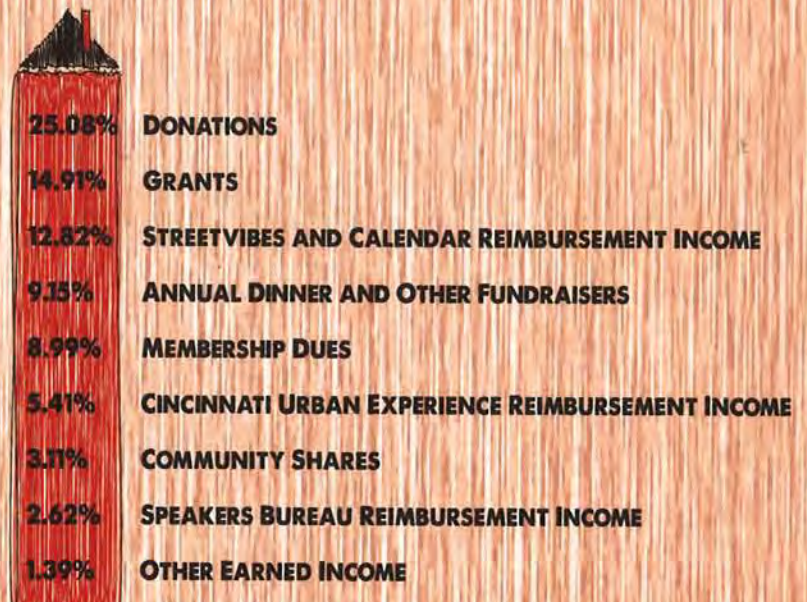


## EXPENDITURES



TOTAL EXPENSES: \$198,442.66\*

## REVENUE



TOTAL REVENUE: \$205,840.89\*\*

\*IN FY2012 WE PAID BACK \$50,288.81 TO THE BANK LINE OF CREDIT

\*\*THE HOMELESS COALITION HAS AN ENDOWMENT FUND WITH THE GREATER CINCINNATI FOUNDATION. WE USE THIS AS A RESERVE FUND. WE ALSO USE A BANK LINE OF CREDIT. IN FY2012 WE WITHDREW \$25,000 FROM RESERVES AND \$9,020.02 FROM THE BANK LINE OF CREDIT.

\*\*\*UNAUDITED FIGURES FOR FY2012 ENDING JUNE 30, 2012

\*\*\*\*WE DO NOT RECEIVE ANY CITY, STATE, OR FEDERAL FUNDING

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:



The Coalition has been renting the first floor of a three-story building for most of a decade. Due to the need to expand into some of the vacant space in the building, growing pressure around us for us to not be where we are and the fact that our wonderful Landlord wanted to move on from ownership, we decided to buy the property. It has not been that easy of course. Dollars do not come easily to the Coalition as is, but this is something we knew we needed to do. This fiscal year we have raised dollars to purchase the building, with the eventual goal of renovating the building. We are joined with the Miami University Over-the-Rhine Center for Community Engagement, who are playing a major role in renovation plans. We must continue to raise dollars to see this plan come to fruition. We plan to double the size of our lobby- currently we cannot welcome people in a comfortable fashion. We plan to create a large meeting hall, so we can host our many meetings at our office and we hope to re do the front of the building to be welcoming to those walking by.

ANNUAL REPORT DESIGN BY JENI JENKINS OF  
**UNCAGED BIRD PRINT & DESIGN STUDIO**

GREATER CINCINNATI

# HOMELESS COALITION

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PERMIT NO. 1133



## JOIN THE FIGHT!!

THE MORE SUPPORT WE HAVE FROM THE COMMUNITY, THE FURTHER OUR EFFORTS REACH. THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN JOIN US IN OUR FIGHT!  
VISIT OUR OFFICE: 117 E. 12TH STREET CINCINNATI, OHIO 45223

(P) 513.421.7803 (F) 513.421.7813  
CONTACT US DIRECTLY BELOW:

*Contact Leslie Moorhead, Ext 11*  
LeslieMoorhead@Cincihomeless.Org

- Membership
- Donations
- Subscribe To Streetvibes
- Fundraising

*Contact Josh Spring, Ext 13*  
Joshspring@Cincihomeless.Org

- General Body (Meetings Are Held The Third Thursday Of Each Month At 1:30 PM. At The Drop Inn Center)
- People's Platform For Equality & Justice (Fridays At Noon At Peaslee Neighborhood Center)
- Join The Listserv
- Civil & Human Rights Advocacy

*Contact Jeni Jenkins, Ext 14*  
Jenijenkins@Cincihomeless.Org

- Voice Of The Homeless Speaker's Bureau Program
- Public Lectures, Talks & Educational Activities
- Streetvibes Distributor Program
- Cincinnati Urban Experience
- Day by Day Calendar Project
- Volunteer/Intern

*Contact Justin Jeffre, Ext 12*  
Streetvibes@Cincihomeless.Org

- Submit Articles, Photographs & Art To Streetvibes
- Letters To The Editor
- Submit Your Events For Publication
- Advertise In Streetvibes

## WWW.CINCIIHOMELESS.ORG