

## **Lancaster County and City, PA Rapid Re-Housing Demonstration Summary**

Community Pilot Serves: **Lancaster County and City, Pennsylvania**

Organizational Lead: **Tabor Community Services Inc.**

Partner Organizations: Service Providers in the Lancaster County and City Continuum of Care

Number of People Experiencing Homelessness in Community: According to the January 2009 homeless count there were 732 persons experiencing homelessness

### **Pilot Program Design**

Annual Number of Families Targeted for Rapid Re-Housing Pilot: about 24 families per year for 3 years. (Caseload of 12 families at a time who participate in the program for a maximum of 6 months)

**Referral Process:** Families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness are referred, by self or agency contact, to the centralized intake process which processes their information and funnels them to the correct prevention or re-housing program in the continuum best suited to meet their needs. Families who are experiencing homelessness with minimal barriers are referred from the central intake to the Rapid Re-housing for Families Program.

### **Services Planned:**

#### *Housing Location Strategies:*

- Landlords—Tabor operates a database of over 300 landlords who have rented to our tenants or would consider doing so in the future.
- Mediation—Tabor works with tenants to advocate with landlords on their behalf to pursue housing options.
- Education—Tabor offers Landlord/Tenant education to tenants in our housing programs to help them live successfully in rental housing.
- Protective Payee—Tabor offers PPP services to help clients with sub-par credit achieve housing quickly.
- Communication—Tabor hosts landlord meetings and provides landlords with a quarterly newsletter to keep housing options open for tenants.
- Networking—Tabor works closely with Housing Authorities and other agencies to identify subsidies and affordable housing options for tenants.
- Other Tools—Budget counseling, credit repair, and follow-up support.

*Rental Assistance:*

Through the RRH Program, tenants will receive up to \$5,200 in targeted rental assistance which can subsidize their rent over an agreed period of time. Other funds will also be available to tenants including assistance in overcoming moderate barriers to housing including: security deposit, application fees, transportation, and childcare assistance.

*Post-Housing Placement:*

Clients in the RRH Program will be able to access follow-up case management for up to 6 months following housing placement. During this time, a caseworker assigned will provide housing and budget supportive services with the ultimate goal of long term housing maintenance and stability. An individualized case plan will be developed with the client to identify barriers and needs and to create a plan to access services within the continuum to meet those needs.

**Additional Information:** Tabor has been in existence since 1968. It always had the “Housing First” philosophy and made every effort to rapidly re-house individuals and families experiencing homelessness since its inception. The agency also values collaboration with all the existing community agencies to attain the permanent housing goal for the participants. Tabor’s programs have the infrastructure to take persons experiencing homelessness to home ownership.

Contact:

Jen Frank, Program Coordinator ([frank@tabornet.org](mailto:frank@tabornet.org))  
Pat Wolf, Vice President ([pwolf@tabornet.org](mailto:pwolf@tabornet.org))  
Tabor Community Services  
(717) 397-5182