

County Housing Trust Fund Legislation

New Jersey Advocacy Network to End Homelessness

September 15, 2009





Goals

- Support projects in counties that have completed and endorsed a plan to end homelessness
- Target the homeless or formerly homeless
- Create permanent affordable housing
- Enable self-sufficiency





Eligible Recipients

Community Based Organizations:

- Non-profit private or public organization
- Funded with public/private funds
- Providing housing and services to families who are homeless



Local Task Force

Administer County Homeless Grant Program:

- Voluntary participation
- Advise local government on the creation of homeless housing plans and programs
- Assess priorities for funding
- Review applications
- Prepare an annual report
- Measure utilization



Homeless Housing Plan

- Plan developed *or* approved by a local government to address housing for homeless persons.
- Must include measurable and achievable objectives.



How Money Can Be Used

1. Acquisition, construction or rehabilitation of housing projects or units that supply permanent affordable housing for homeless persons or families, including those at risk of homelessness.
2. Rental Assistance Vouchers, including tenant and project-based subsidies



How Money Can Be Used

3. Supportive Services as may be required by homeless individuals or families to obtain or maintain permanent affordable housing
4. Prevention services for at risk homeless individuals or families so that they can obtain and maintain permanent affordable housing



How Fund Is Funded

- Recording Fee of \$3.00 per document on all documents recorded in the County
- 5% of funds collected may be used to cover administrative costs



Grants Awarded Should

1. Measurably reduce homelessness
2. Demonstrate government cost savings over time
3. Employ evidence-based models
4. Show they can be replicated in other counties
5. Include an outcome measurement component
6. Be consistent with the local homeless housing plan.



Ongoing Management

- Each County Trust Fund shall transmit information concerning the uses of the funds to the NJHMFA
- County may collaborate with another county that has established a Trust Fund to provide joint funding for projects



How Much Money Does This Represent?

	2008	2009 projections
Atlantic	\$270,000	\$270,000
Burlington	\$266,850	\$277,826
Mercer	\$237,330	\$240,000
Middlesex	\$289,764	\$290,000
Passaic	\$211,323	\$210,000

Nationally, funds are leveraged 5:1



Implementation Steps

- Complete and endorse plan to end Homelessness
- Pass an ordinance to create the Homelessness Trust Fund Task Force
- Homelessness Trust Fund Task Force coordinates matching opportunities and local priorities

