

**ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LEHIGH VALLEY COALITION ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING
2009-2010**

DESCRIPTION: The Lehigh Valley Coalition on Affordable Housing (LVCoAH) is a coalition of over 100 individuals, non-profit and advocacy organizations, housing authorities, government officials, elected representatives, universities, hospitals, lenders, developers, realtors, communities of faith, and other civic leaders.

MISSION: The mission of the Lehigh Valley Coalition on Affordable Housing is to ensure that every household in the Lehigh Valley is secure in affordable, safe, sanitary, and appropriate housing.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES: To advocate for change through inclusive collaborative efforts.

STRATEGIC PLAN: II, III

GOALS AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS

GOAL 1 The LVCoAH will generate public funding to enhance the viability of the shelters.

Performance Targets:

- A. The LVCoAH will raise \$42,000 through the Municipal Fund Appeal by making requests of 59 municipalities, maintaining current participation, and adding at least two municipalities.

GOAL 2 The LVCoAH will educate the community and elected officials about affordable housing and homelessness.

Performance Targets:

- A. The LVCoAH will conduct, publish, and distribute the Lehigh Valley Shelter Census.

GOAL 3 The LVCoAH will monitor and assist the Lehigh and Northampton County Housing Trust Fund Advisory Boards in their efforts to promote affordable housing through appropriate and effective distribution of the funds.

Performance Targets:

- A. The LVCoAH will participate on the Housing Trust Fund Advisory Boards, review and rank proposals for county housing trust funds, and make recommendations regarding disbursement of county housing trust funds.

GOAL 4 The LVCoAH will monitor current and future legislation affecting homelessness and affordable housing.

Performance Targets:

- A. The LVCoAH will monitor legislation, disseminate information, and recommend action to coalition members and the community at large.
- B. The LVCoAH will engage in advocacy efforts as needed.

GOAL 5 The LVCoAH will advocate for the passage of National Housing Trust Fund legislation and State Housing Trust Fund legislation.

Performance Targets:

- A. The LVCoAH will collaborate with the National Low Income Housing Coalition to advocate for passage of National Housing Trust Fund legislation.
- B. The LVCoAH will collaborate with the Housing Alliance of PA to advocate for passage of State Housing Trust Fund legislation.

GOAL 6 The LVCoAH will make improvements in the service delivery system for persons who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or living in subsidized housing.

Performance Targets:

- A. The LVCoAH will participate on the Allentown/Northeast Region Continuum of Care Board; collaborate in the implementation of the Allentown/Northeast Region's ten-year plan, "Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness and Move Families and Individuals to Permanent Housing"; and review and rank the Allentown/Northeast Region proposals for HUD McKinney Continuum of Care funds.
- B. The LVCoAH will participate on the Steering Committee of Allentown's Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness and assist in the implementation of this ten-year plan.
- C. The LVCoAH will participate on the Lehigh Valley Local Housing Options Team and assist in its efforts to create more accessible and affordable housing options for persons with disabilities.

GOAL 7 The LVCoAH will collaborate with the county executives, housing, authorities, redevelopment authorities, the offices of community and economic development, and the non-profit housing providers to preserve the current capacity of non-profit housing developers and build capacity for the creation of affordable housing.

Performance Targets:

- A. The LVCoAH will assist the Bi-County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee to implement the recommendations outlined in the plans, “Affordable Housing Policy Recommendations, Adopted June 6, 2007” and “An Affordable Housing Assessment of the Lehigh Valley, Adopted April 4, 2007”.
- B. The LVCoAH will assist the Bi-County Housing Advisory Committee to make recommendations and take action in response to the report issued by the Lehigh Valley Housing Summit Planning Committee regarding the First Annual Lehigh Valley Housing Summit.
- C. The LVCoAH will assist the Bi-County Housing Advisory Committee in the planning of the Second Annual Lehigh Valley Housing Summit.

GOAL 8 The Housing Development Coordinator will build the capacity of the Lehigh Valley to develop affordable housing projects by working closely with local civic, financial, and political leaders and real estate developers to facilitate the development of affordable housing.

Performance Targets:

- A. The Housing Development Coordinator will continue to make contact with area housing developers, public-sector sources of financing, local government, and owners of developable properties to explore affordable housing development opportunities.
- B. The Housing Development Coordinator will facilitate the creation of the Lehigh Valley Community Land Trust by ensuring its incorporation, the formation of its Board, creation of a ground lease, by-laws, accounting systems, homebuyers manual, resale formula, procedures manual, marketing plan, site selection activities, resulting in the rehabilitation of 10 properties and final sale of 7 units to homeowners.
- C. The Housing Development Coordinator will hire and train a VISTA worker to become competent in all aspects in developing affordable housing for a community land trust including working with the Community Land Trust Board, site selection, rehabilitation and marketing of properties.
- D. The Housing Development Coordinator will continue to create a database of properties to promote as prospective sites for affordable housing developments.
- E. The Housing Development Coordinator will present a formal progress report at the Second Annual Affordable Housing Summit or other appropriate setting.