Duncan Plaza Homeless Re-Housing Initiative

A monumental humanitarian achievement unprecedented anywhere in America!

November 21 – February 28, 2008
What New Orleans has accomplished:

- 278 men, women & children (249 households) were homeless in Duncan Plaza in November & December 2007.
- All of them were assisted by UNITY & member agencies to move out of Duncan Plaza and were temporarily placed in hotels.
- 233 are now housed in their own homes – 84% are receiving rental assistance & supportive services to maintain housing
- 20 are still searching for housing while in hotels – 7%
- 7 are institutionalized – 3%
- 13 left hotels and cannot be found – 4.7%
- 3 are back on street – 1%
- 2 died – .3% (both had multiple mental and physical disabilities)

What Did it take to Rehouse Duncan Plaza residents?

- Housing - 24 organizations providing short term or permanent housing assistance
  - Services – 88 social service professionals conducting outreach, case management & housing search
  - Partners - 4 government partners, 27 nonprofit partners & 69 community partners
  - Courage, creativity, dedication & faith!
What Did it take to Rehouse Duncan Plaza residents?

- 20 street outreach workers.
  - Perform individualized client assessments of mental and physical disabilities, strengths and needs; provide supportive services to clients with disabilities and persuade them to accept housing; transport clients out of Duncan Plaza into 8 low-cost hotels

- 24 housing search case managers
  - Recruit 150 landlords, assess clients’ housing needs and preferences, transport clients to look at and choose apartments, perform apartment inspections, negotiate leases, assist clients with moving in and acquiring furniture and household and personal supplies

- 44 stabilization case managers
  - Perform more detailed client assessments and create client plans; visit clients in their hotels and apartments to ensure their needs are being met; link them to mental health care, health care, job search and other programs; do whatever it takes to keep clients stably housed.
Two National Best Practices Used in Duncan Plaza Homeless Re-Housing Initiative Making Wisest Use of Scarce Resources

For clients with serious mental or physical disabilities: Permanent Supportive Housing = affordable apartments coupled with ongoing tenant-based services

- proven in research studies to be cost-effective solution to homelessness for vulnerable people
- services aimed at stabilizing clients, helping them be good tenants, keeping them housed, improving their self-sufficiency

For homeless clients without disabilities:

Rapid Rehousing = short-term rent assistance coupled with case management aimed at achieving self-sufficiency (budgeting, job search, etc.)
Partners

Government Partners:

- **LA Dept of Social Services/LA Recovery Authority**: short-term rent assistance, hotel vouchers, rent and security deposits, housing search case managers through Rapid Rehousing Grant
- **U.S. Dept of HUD**: ongoing salaries of outreach workers and UNITY Housing Link housing search program, ongoing funding of the UNITY Continuum of Care
- **Metropolitan Human Services District**: short-term emergency case management
- **City of New Orleans**: hotel vouchers, case manager supervisor, support for Continuum

Non-Profit Partners:

- UNITY of GNO and UNITY Welcome Home
- Catholic Charities
- Archdiocese of New Orleans
- In This Together
- Covenant House
- Alternatives Living
- Community Service Center
- House of Ruth
- NOPD Homeless Assistance Collaborative
- Odyssey House
- McCaleb Foundation
- Harry Tompson Center
- New Hope CDC
- Hope House
- Desire Community Center
- Total Community Action

- Jefferson Parish Human Services District
- First Evangelist CDC/Magnolia Villa
- Louisiana Public Health Institute
- VOA SRO
- Travelers Aid Society
- New Orleans Mission
- Ozanam Inn
- Salvation Army
COMMUNITY PARTNERS:
- Journey Christian Church
- Campus Crusade for Christ
- Edgewater Baptist Church
- Holy Ghost Church
- St. John’s Catholic Church
- Community Church Unitarian-Universalist
- Trinity Episcopal Church Mobile
- Fishes and Loaves
- Jesus Miracle Power Ministry
- New Orleans Homeless Collaborative
- St Anna’s Episcopal Church
- Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana
- Kingdom Church
- University of California, Berkley
- Midtown Hotel
- Seven Day First Evangelist
- St Joseph’s Episcopal Church
- Terebonne Council on Aging
- Episcopal Diocese – Rebuild Program
- Ozanam Inn
- First Evangelist Community Development Corp.
- Celebration Church
- New Orleans Mission
- Victory Gospel Chapel
- Second Zion Baptist Church
- Just the Right Attitude
- First Presbyterian Church
- Holy Ghost Family Church
- Celebrate Blessings Street Outreach
- Christopher Holmes
- Cabrini High School
- Paradise Valley Worship
- OnSite Relief
- Hands On New Orleans
- AmeriCorps*NCCC
- Bloomin’Deals Thrift Shop
- Judge Zainey’s Office
- Children’s Defense Fund – “Feed the Children”
- Double Tree Hotel
- Westin Hotel
- Second Harvest Food Bank
- Zion Church of North Carolina
- Progressive Baptist Church
- Bible Way Church
- New Zion Baptist Church
- La Quinata Hotel

MAJOR FINANCIAL DONORS:
- Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
- The Olinde Family Fund through GNO Foundation
- Josef Sternberg Memorial Fund of Baton Rouge Area Foundation
- Civil Sheriffs Reserve Deputies Association
- Walters Family Foundation
- Mancini Charitable Foundation
- DynMcDermott Petroleum
- Junior League
- Unitarian Church of Baton Rouge
- Gulf Coast Teaching Family Services
- Church of Christ Holliness USA
- The Tolleson Family Foundation
- New Zion Baptist Church
- The Joe W. and Dorothy Dorsett Brown Foundation
- Ella West Freeman Foundation
- The Rosa Mary Foundation
- Keller Family Foundation
New Orleanians have accomplished what seemed to be impossible: In just 3 months, we resettled 233 people living on the streets into permanent housing.

Now we need the continued involvement of the entire community to:

- Help former Duncan Plaza residents maintain their new housing with the furniture and personal supplies they need.
- Ask national congressional leaders for Permanent Supportive Housing rent subsidies for those with serious disabilities.
- Keep the momentum going as we work to end homelessness throughout our city!
Donations Needed

- New Mattresses
- Kitchen Tables and Chairs
- Small Dressers
- Night Stands
- Bookcases
- Chairs
- Televisions
- Mini-Refrigerators
- Small Appliances (i.e. toasters, radios, coffeemakers, clocks)
- Clothes Hangers
- Cleaning Supplies (i.e. mops, brooms, laundry soaps, etc)
- Personal Hygiene Items (i.e. brushes, shampoo, toothpaste, bathing soap, sanitary products, toilet paper)
- Microwaves
- Futons
- Volunteers to drive their trucks for pickup and distribution of large items
- Monetary Donations