

NORTH SHORE FAMILY HOUSING GROUP

I. Regional Housing Partnership:

The North Shore Family Housing Group, formed by North Shore Community Action Programs (NSCAP), Help for Abused Women and their Children (HAWC), Citizens for Adequate Housing and Wellspring House, started a collaboration with other regional organizations to ensure that the North Shore has a place at the policy-making table as approaches to affordable housing development and homelessness undergo re-organization on the State level. While working locally and recognizing each member organizations' expertise, the partnership advocates for regional solutions to the housing crisis and hope that cities and towns across the North Shore will commit to ending homelessness.

II. Vision

To formulate and implement a North Shore regional plan to end homelessness and to reduce the risk of Homelessness that is local in nature, comprehensive in scope, locally accessible, regionally linked, flexible and responsive to the unique economic and social needs of the North Shore to ensure economic prosperity and stability in our region.

- ✓ Vision includes the implementation of workforce development initiatives
- ✓ The partnership will work in conjunction with the state to design a housing system that serves low-income and poor families. The partnership will also monitor state policy to shape legislation around housing issues.

III. Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness

The North Shore Family Housing Group and its partners are in the process of formulating a 10 year plan to End Homelessness in our region. This is the first time numerous entities and organizations are working together to gather information and share resources to put together a feasible, viable and sustainable plan to end homelessness. The partnership includes organizations from the North Shore, Cape Ann and Merrimac Valley.

Organizations working to develop 10 year plan to end Homelessness:

North Shore Community Action Programs- (NSCAP)	Wellspring House
North Shore Habitat for Humanity	North Shore United Way
Salem Mission	Help Abused Women and Their Children (HAWC)
Catholic Charities North Shore	Citizens for Adequate Housing
Beverly Affordable Housing Coalition	Turning Point
North Shore Continuum of Care	FBC Property Management Corp
Emmaus House	North Shore Community College Policy Institute
Beverly Affordable Housing Coalition	

IV. Housing Forum held November 16, 2007

- Solving the problem of homelessness is complex but attainable. It requires a clear look at the factors that cause it: recognizing the high cost of living on the North Shore, increasing worker skills that lead to higher incomes, understanding the role that education and training opportunities play on the economic prosperity of the region, developing affordable rental housing, subsidies or both.

Priorities established at the forum:

- Need for affordable housing, including affordable rentals
- Need for affordable childcare
- Need to educate community (awareness is lacking)
- Need for transitional services
- Need for a responsive criminal justice systems/processes (related to abuse issues)
- Need for jobs that pay living wage
- Need for increased federal, state and municipal funding
- Need for jobs and employment/training programs
- Need to push political leaders
- Need for more wrap around services
- Understanding economics of the living wage
- Need for creative solutions
- Need to lessen restriction on land use
- Need to change zoning laws
- Need to coordinate resources
- Education for employers needed (interventions)
- Coordination of resources – DSS, police, housing, other

V. Contact Information:

To learn more about the **North Shore Family Housing Group** and its work, please contact: Tatiana Espinal, Development Director at NSCAP. Tel: (978) 531-0767 ext. 104 or email: tburgospinal@nscap.org. To learn more about NSCAP visit www.nscap.org