

City of Salisbury's Homeless Initiatives

The City of Salisbury has secured funding to assist with the provision of services and operating expenses for providers of homeless shelters and programs.

In a collaborative effort with the Somerset County Health Department's Tri-County Alliance for the Homeless and Wicomico Ministerial Alliance, the City of Salisbury is providing \$50,840.00 from its 2005 Community Development Block Grant to pay for a Program Coordinator/Case Manager, two outreach workers, a Project Director, Project Coordinator and operating funds to administer the Cold Weather Shelter beginning in January 2006. Additional funding in the amount of \$24,500.00 will be provided by the Somerset County Health Department and Wicomico Ministerial Alliance to cover operating expenses, for a total of \$75,440.00 in assistance, to ensure the Homeless Cold Weather Shelter operations are successful this winter.

The City of Salisbury also applied to the Department of Housing and Community Development's Emergency Shelter Grant Program on behalf of Diakonia, Inc. and the Village of Hope for operating expenses for the 2005 fiscal year. The City was successful in its applications and was awarded \$10,000.00 for Diakonia, Inc. and \$6,000.00 for the Village of Hope for operating expenses as of October 1, 2005, to September 30, 2006. This is the second year that operating funds have been provided to Diakonia, Inc. to offset the costs of services provided to homeless citizens from the City of Salisbury and Wicomico County.

The City is actively involved in finding solutions and resources to address the homeless population within the city and Wicomico County. The Grants/Special Projects Director is a member of the Tri-County Alliance for the Homeless and participated in the development of the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness that was recently submitted to the Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness.

Providing services and programs to one of the most vulnerable segments of the population is an important priority for the City and one that is taken very seriously. For more information, please contact Loré L. Chambers at (410) 548-3100 or Deborah Stam at (410) 334-3031.