



Catholic Charities

SOCIAL CONCERNS • PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



Legislative Education Group
Over 33 years of advocacy for Marylanders in need!

March 2010

L.E.G. ALERT

Help Save Service-Linked Housing Program

Dear L.E.G. Member:

The FY2011 State budget introduced by the Governor eliminates all funding for the Service-Linked Housing Program (SLHP). Catholic Charities and 20 other organizations in the state provide SLHP services to almost 3,000 clients. We ask that you contact the Governor and your legislators and ask them to restore funding for Service-Linked Housing.

SLHP is designed to help formerly homeless individuals or low-income Marylanders who are at high-risk of homelessness remain in their permanent housing. Eliminating this program will be devastating to the vulnerable Marylanders it is designed to protect. SLHP provides funds for caseworkers to connect these clients with health services, education programs, job training, employment, addiction treatment, and other counseling services. I have enclosed a fact sheet about the program.

Please let the members of the Senate Budget & Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee know how important this program is to protecting vulnerable Marylanders especially during these difficult economic times. A list of legislators who serve on these committees is included. If your legislators do not serve on either of these committee, please send a note to the Chairpersons.

You can send an email by visiting our Action Alert Center at <http://ow.ly/1c0yJ>. If you would prefer to mail a letter, a "Sample Alert Letter" is enclosed on the following page.

Thank you for your willingness to speak out in support of this vital program that keeps vulnerable Marylanders from experiencing homelessness.

Sincerely,

Sr. Joan Marie Stief, OSB
L.E.G. Coordinator / Parish Social Ministry
410.261.6872 / jstief@cc-md.org

SAMPLE ALERT LETTER

Delegate's Name
House Office Building, Room #
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Senator's Name
Miller Senate Office Building OR James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: RESTORE FUNDING FOR THE SERVICE-LINKED HOUSING PROGRAM

Dear Delegate OR Senator,

I am writing to ask you to restore funding for the Service-Linked Housing Program (SLHP) in the Department of Human Resource's Office of Grants Management budget. The proposed FY 2011 budget eliminates all funding for this critical program which helps keep low-income Marylanders at-risk for homelessness stably housed.

SLHP provides funding in 13 jurisdictions to approximately 20 organizations to employ resident advocates. The resident advocates help formerly homeless and at-risk families and individuals obtain much-needed support services that will allow them to stabilize their situations and remain in permanent housing. These services include access to healthcare, job training, life skills courses, pro bono legal services, energy assistance, and GED classes.

With a budget of only \$1.1 million in fiscal year 2009, this program had a widespread impact. Almost 3,000 Marylanders were assisted in 13 jurisdictions (Anne Arundel County, Allegany County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Caroline County, Carroll County, Frederick County, Garrett County, Harford County, Howard County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, and Washington County).

During these challenging economic times, I understand that difficult fiscal decisions must be made as you work to balance the State budget. However, this is not time to eliminate a program that keeps low-income Marylanders in their homes. SLHP provides invaluable support services to some of the most vulnerable Marylanders. Please find a way to save the Service Linked Housing Program. Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely

Your Name
Address

Senate Budget & Tax Committee

<p>Chairman Ulysses Currie 3 West Miller Senate Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3127</p>	<p>Senator Richard S. Madaleno, Jr. 203 James Senate Office Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3137</p>
<p>Senator David R. Brinkley 403 James Senate Office Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3704 or 410-841-3704</p>	<p>Senator Nathaniel J. McFadden 422 Miller Senate Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3165</p>
<p>Senator James E. DeGrange, Sr. 101 James Senate Office Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3593 or 301-858-3593</p>	<p>Senator Donald F. Munson 401 James Senate Office Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3609</p>
<p>Senator George C. Edwards 322 James Senate Office Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3565</p>	<p>Senator Douglas J. J. Peters 121 James Senate Office Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3631</p>
<p>Senator Verna L. Jones 420 Miller Senate Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3612</p>	<p>Senator James N. Robey 120 James Senate Office Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3572 or 410-841-3572</p>
<p>Senator Edward J. Kasemeyer 3 West Miller Senate Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3653 or 301-858-3653</p>	<p>Senator J. Lowell Stoltzfus 323 James Senate Office Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3645</p>
<p>Senator Nancy J. King 222 James Senate Office Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3686</p>	<p>Senator Bobby A. Zirkin 301 James Senate Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3131</p>
<p>Senator Rona E. Kramer 214 James Senate Office Bldg. 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3625</p>	

**Please write to your legislators to help save
the Service-Linked Housing Program!**

Or visit <http://ow.ly/1cOyJ> to send an email.

House Appropriations Committee

<p>Chairman Norman H. Conway 121 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3407</p>	<p>Delegate Adelaide C. Eckardt 213 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3343</p>	<p>Delegate Murray D. Levy 410B House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3325</p>
<p>Delegate Susan L. M. Aumann 303 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3258</p>	<p>Delegate Tawanna P. Gaines 416 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3058</p>	<p>Delegate Heather R. Mizeur 219 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3493</p>
<p>Delegate Gail H. Bates 202 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3556 or 410-841-3556</p>	<p>Delegate Melony G. Griffith 207 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3557</p>	<p>Delegate James E. Proctor, Jr. 121 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3083</p>
<p>Delegate Wendell R. Beitzel 320 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3435</p>	<p>Delegate Ana Sol Gutiérrez 220 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3181</p>	<p>Delegate Barbara A. Robinson 315 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3520</p>
<p>Delegate John L. Bohanan, Jr. 350 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3227</p>	<p>Delegate Guy Guzzone 206 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3471 or 301-858-3471</p>	<p>Delegate Steven R. Schuh 156 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3206 or 301-858-3206</p>
<p>Delegate Talmadge Branch 151 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3398</p>	<p>Delegate Keith E. Haynes 424 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3801</p>	<p>Delegate Theodore J. Sophocleus 162 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3372 or 301-858-3372</p>
<p>Delegate William A. Bronrott 411 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3642</p>	<p>Delegate Henry B. Heller 429 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3528</p>	<p>Delegate Nancy R. Stocksdales 322 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3077</p>
<p>Delegate Galen R. Clagett 410A House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 301-858-3436</p>	<p>Delegate Mary-Dulany James 404 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3331</p>	<p>Delegate John F. Wood, Jr. 422 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3170</p>
<p>Delegate Steven J. DeBoy, Sr. 306 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3328 or 301-858-3328</p>	<p>Delegate Adrienne A. Jones 312 House Office Bldg. 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991 410-841-3391</p>	