



JUST THE FAX

1300 South 4th Street, Suite 250
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www.louhomeless.org

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Louisville, Kentucky 40208
February 18, 2011

THIS WEEK'S LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Below please find updates relating to Senate Bill 26 (identification cards), House Bill 182 (Cap on Payday Lending), House Bill 239 (the Clean Energy Bill), and the I Love Mountain's Day Lobby and Rally. For more information pertaining to any of these bills, or others that are introduced this legislative session visit www.kftc.org, www.kysea.org, or www.ilovemountains.org. These are just a few resources that you can utilize to obtain additional information on any of the bills listed or being supported by these organizations.

HOMELESS SUMMIT - PART TWO

On Monday, March 7, 2011, The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and The Coalition for the Homeless will be sponsoring Homeless Summit - part two. This event will include a summit of community leaders in the morning working to coordinate services to serve the homeless. The afternoon will be an open event to outline changes in HUD and Continuum of Care priorities and to outline how Louisville leaders have agreed to work together toward these goals. This day's events will be held at the Metro United Way. **See the attached invitation.**

STATEWIDE CASE MANAGEMENT CURRICULUM

Anyone interested in helping to create statewide on-line case management training, should attend the Kentucky Interagency Council on Homelessness Service Committee at KHC in the West Annex, April 12, 2011 at noon. The group will order pizza and work through lunch.

The [MUW Volunteer Connection](#) is pleased to announce that we will now be sending monthly newsletters. This is our way of sharing information on upcoming opportunities, spotlighting volunteers, and spreading the word on events and activities happening at your agencies and around the community. To kick off, we have two amazing opportunities for you...

Do you need help with landscaping, painting, cleaning, interacting with your clients, sorting/organizing, etc?
Below are two GREAT opportunities that you won't want to miss!

Church of the Latter Day Saints Day of Service – Saturday April 9, 2011

Hundreds of local volunteers are devoting this day to do service in our community. Submit your projects now – [click here for the online submission form!](#)

Nazarene Youth Conference – Wednesday July 6, 2011

Thousands of youth ages 14 – 18 (with adult chaperones) will be in from all over the country! This group is ready to get to work on your projects. As a bonus, there is potential to get help supplying materials needed to get these projects done. **Contact Aubrey Tavares today!** 913-577-2954 or atavares@nazarene.org

**both opportunities are open to our entire seven county area!*

ATTACHMENTS BELOW WITH JUST THE FAX

- SOAR REGISTRATION FORM
 - SUMMIT INVITATION
 - LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

SOAR TRAINING, MARCH 23-24, 2011

Would you like to learn how to assist your clients in applying for Social Security Disability?
Are you confused about the process of application for SSI or SSDI?
Would you like to increase success in your applications?
Come to the next SOAR (SSI/SSDI, Outreach, Access and Recovery) Training Workshop
Hotel Louisville, 2nd Floor, Ballroom A
Corner of 2nd and Broadway
9:00 – 4:00 each day

See attached registration form below for details

SOAR - SSDI OUTREACH, ACCESS, AND RECOVERY)

Have you attended a SOAR training but are having problems getting started with your first SSI/SSDI application?

Do you have questions about the process?

Do you need answers from Social Security or DDS people?

Do you need help doing the Medical Summary and Functional Report?

If you responded "yes" to even ONE of these questions, we invite you to our monthly SOAR Planning Committee meetings held every second Thursday of the month (11 a.m. – 12 p.m.). The next meeting will be held on February 10, 2011 at the Seven Counties building located at 2650 West Broadway behind the Kroger Shopping Center, in the back near the Laundromat. It is a small, off-white 1-story building. If you get lost, call 589-8723. See you there!

SAVE THE DATE FOR RAISIN' THE RENT

The holidays are here and it won't be long until 2011 is upon us. That's why it is important to mark Feb. 26 on your calendar. Our largest annual fundraiser, *Raisin' the Rent*, will be held on that date at The Olmsted, 3701 Frankfort Avenue, from 7-11 p.m. Tickets are for \$25 each. Sponsorships are available. It will be an evening of fun, food, friends, silent and live auctions, music, dancing and games of chance. Get all the latest information about this important St. John Center event on our website, stjohncenter.org or on Facebook.

MENTAL HEALTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE MEETING

The Mental Health Substance Abuse Meeting will be March 8, 2011 beginning at 11:30 am. The topic will be "Eating Disorders." Everyone is welcome. Please RSVP by e-mail to pams@thehealingplace.org.

Women's Healing Place
1503 S 15th Street

Upcoming Meetings

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Board of Directors | March 18, 2011 | 8:00 a.m. |
| Executive Board | April 20, 2011 | 8:00 a.m. |
| Service Provider, CWF | March 8, 2011 | 9:30 a.m. |
| Continuum of Care, MUW | March 7, 2011 | 3:30 p.m. |

THE COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS STAFF

Natalie Harris, Executive Director nharris@louhomeless.org

Pat Facktor, Continuum of Care Assistant Pfacktor@louhomeless.org

Roman Vodacek, HMIS Coordinator rvodacek@louhomeless.org

Marsha Bailey, Office Manager mbailey@louhomeless.org

Merritt Gill, HMIS Assistant / HMIS Assistant mgill@louhomeless.org

Senlin Ward, Assessment & Agency Resource Coordinator sward@louhomeless.org

Becki Winchel, Development/Community Relations Manager bwinchel@louhomeless.org

Mary Frances Schafer, Director of Community Coordination mfschafer@louhomeless.org

ATTACHMENTS WITH JUST THE FAX



The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Louisville Office and The Coalition for the Homeless would like to invite you to join in an upcoming training –
Community Solutions to Homelessness in Metro Louisville

This local training event will be based on the national HEARTH trainings held in late 2010 and will be led by consulting firm ICF International. The agenda will include a synopsis of the upcoming changes to federal homeless programs to take place through the Hearth Act, discussions of new expectations and objectives, and planning for future partnerships and programs. We will also have the opportunity to hear what local leaders are doing to try to address these national objectives.

Please join us at the Metro United Way, 334 E. Broadway at 1:00 on March 7, 2011. RSVP to Natalie Harris at nharris@louhomeless.org or 636-9550, extension 11 to let us know if you can attend. If your attendance is not possible, we hope you can send a representative to share your ideas and hear about things to come.

Sincerely,
Krista Mills, Field Office Director
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Natalie Harris
The Coalition for the Homeless



SOAR Training

SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery

Sponsored by Kentucky Housing Corporation
and the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Save the Date! March 23-24, 2011

Assisting People Applying for SSI/SSDI Disability Benefits

Workshop Highlights

- An in-depth, step-by-step explanation of the SSI/SSDI application and disability determination process
- Strategies for working with homeless persons with serious mental illness and co-occurring disorders – only a fraction of this population receives the benefits to which they are entitled
- Exercises and worksheets provide practical application tools
- Release-of-information samples, sample reports, letters, assessment forms, SSA forms with explanations

Featured Trainers

Janice Downs
Phoenix Health Center

Garry Jones
Family and Children Place

Workshop Location

Hotel Louisville
2nd Floor, Ballroom A
120 W Broadway
Louisville, KY 40202
502-582-2241

Dates & Times

March 23-24, 2011
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Attendance both days is required
(Lunch is on your own)

Registration

Please complete attached registration form. Conference is free to Kentucky residents. Hotel, meals, and transportation costs are the responsibility of the participant.

How is this model different?

- Case managers actively assist applicants
- Focuses on the initial application – “Get it right the first time!”
- Avoids appeals whenever possible
- Focuses on documenting the disability to reduce the need for consultative exams
- Leads to savings – the San Francisco Department of Public Health estimates that their SSI outreach project saves the city \$27 million annually in recouped Medicaid and state-funded General Assistance alone

Assisting People Applying for SSI/SSDI Disability Benefits

Registration Form

March 23-24, 2011
Hotel Louisville, 2nd Floor, Ballroom A
120 W Broadway, Louisville, KY
502-582-2241

This completed registration form must be returned by
March 1, 2011

One registration per person

Registrant Information:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

Please indicate if you need special accommodations (ADA) _____

PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING BOTH DAYS FOR THE ENTIRE TIME. THE TRAINING ASSUMES ATTENDANCE AT THE ENTIRE EVENT

If you have any questions, call Richard McClain at (502) 564 -7630 ext 388
or e-mail rmclain@kyhousing.org

Return this registration form by March 1, 2011 to
Richard McClain, KHC, via fax at (502) 564 – 6173

This Week's Legislative Update

Senate Bill 26: Identification Cards

Good news!!! After seven years of lobbying for the reduction of fees for identification cards for homeless persons the bill has passed the committee with all members voting YES!!! The bill reduces the fee from \$12 to \$4 for someone who does not have a fixed, permanent address. The overall budget remains the same for the state, because the id will have to be renewed every year instead of every four years. This has been a great achievement. Now people who have had difficulties in obtaining their id to accomplish their goals of continuing to seek employment, search for housing, accessing benefits, opening a bank account, or availing one's self of court services may now move forward.

The bill was heard this morning in the Judiciary Committee, chaired by Senator Tom Jensen. During the hearing three statements were provided to the member from both urban and rural shelters. The bill will be placed on the Senate's consent calendar. Senate Bill 26 may be voted on by the Senate as early as Friday or Monday. Good work everyone!!!

House Bill 182: Cap of 36% on Payday Loans

This bill was introduced to force payday lenders to place a cap of 36% on loans provided. Many people in our communities utilized the services of payday lenders to cover costs for basic needs such as food and housing. These companies have been preying on people making loans that its costumers can't afford. A bill was created to prevent lenders from rolling over loans, and created an electronic database that gathered information pertaining to loans that were given. The information that was obtained from the database, from May thru September, showed that 83% of the loan industry's revenue was generated by borrowers who took out five or more loans. Generally borrowers would pay off the short-term loan, but would then borrow more loans to cover costs of their housing expenses. By continuously taking out loans it would generate 400% annual interest.

On February 16 there was a hearing about House Bill 182, but unfortunately it did not pass. The Housing and Homeless Coalition of Kentucky (HHCK) and the Kentucky Coalition for Responsible Lending (KCRL) will continue its efforts in getting this bill passed in the future.

House Bill 239: Clean Energy Bill

The Housing and Homeless Coalition of Kentucky (HHCK) and the Kentucky Sustainable Energy Alliance (KySEA) are continuing to support the on-going effort to change the way we consume energy resources in our state. The bill was introduced by Representative Mary Lou Marzian. The bill would implement two new policies: a Renewable and Efficiency Portfolio Standard (REPS) and feed-in tariffs (FITs), which support clean energy production. Some utilities in the state would be required to meet specified energy efficiency and renewable energy goals, and

would have to meet at least 10% of the energy efficiency goal through programs that assist low-income households at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

The bill would save Kentucky families money and create thousands of clean energy jobs. The bill would create wind and solar manufacturing jobs, reduce utility costs, and protect the health of our residents. Kentucky lost over 3.5 million in contracts to out of state companies for solar installations done in Kentucky. In Kentucky electricity rates for the average household has risen 41% over the last 5 years. By implementing renewable energy sources in our communities it would reduce pollution which is the leading cause of asthma attacks, cardiac arrest, cancer, and delayed mental development.

In the hearing held on Thursday February 10, two legislators, Tom Burch and Tom Riner, agreed to co-sponsor the bill. The bill was assigned to the House Tourism Development and Energy committee where it will hopefully have a hearing later this month.

I Love Mountain's Day!!

In Kentucky alone, over 290 mountains have been destroyed by mountaintop removal, and more than 2,000 miles of headwater streams have been buried and polluted in Appalachia. This has not only caused problems to the land, forests and streams in Kentucky and several other states, including West Virginia, but it has also caused health concerns for its residents. I Love Mountain's Day was a huge success. The event started off on Friday, February 11, with about 14 supporters having a 'sit-in' at Governor Beshear's office. Among the group of supporters were native and author Wendell Berry. The group demonstrated opposition to the governor's administration in support of their decision to partner with the coal industry and to file a suit that opposed the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) efforts to protect the health and water of coalfield residents.

The protest continued on Monday, February 14 with a rally that began at the Kentucky River up to the steps of the state capitol. There were over 1,400 supporters of this bill. They received support from people across the nation, including support from Germany and Argentina. Activists are holding Governor Beshear accountable for a pledge he made to travel to Eastern Kentucky within 30 days to personally inspect damages caused by mountaintop removal.