

CITY OF BALTIMORE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Baltimore City Receives \$18.4 million in Federal Funding to Support Local Homeless Programs

(January 2, 2008) -- On Friday, December 21, 2007, Baltimore City received notice of \$18,444,023 in funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to support housing and supportive services for individuals experiencing homelessness. Baltimore City also received Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) funds in the amount of \$1,030,440.

This funding represents a \$1.6 million increase over last year. It will support 76 local projects that provide essential services and shelter to vulnerable city residents. Among the projects funded is the expansion of the Housing First Initiative project operated by Saint Vincent de Paul of Baltimore. The \$1,193,381 2-year project will complement the agency's and the City's Housing First Initiative. Housing First provides funding for real property leasing, supportive services and operations to serve chronically homeless persons in scattered site units throughout the city.

"This significant increase in federal support adds to the momentum in the city leading up to the release of our 10-year plan to end homelessness," said Mayor Sheila Dixon. "I appreciate the hard work of so many people to make this application a success."

"I am looking forward to working with our strong network of housing and social service providers in 2008 to make real progress on homelessness," said Diane Glauber, President of Baltimore Homeless Services. "I am especially pleased that the Housing First proposal, which will directly reduce street homelessness, was funded this year."

The State of Maryland received a total of \$41,512,026 - \$39,094,845 in the Homeless Competitive Continuum of Care Awards and \$2,417,181 in Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) Allocations. Baltimore City's allocations for the two programs represent 47.1% and 42.6% of the total awarded to the State of Maryland.

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