

# REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION / CONTRACT CONTROL FORM

**Tracking Number:** 7.

**Date of Request:** November 5, 2007

**Date Request Received:** November 5, 2007

**Board Meeting Date Requested:** November 19, 2007

**Board Meeting Date Assigned:** November 19, 2007

**Short Title:** The Lower Cape Fear 10-Year Plan To End Chronic Homelessness Is Requesting 1) The Board's Endorsement Of The Plan; And 2) \$40K In County Funding Over The Next 2.5 Years: Spiro Macris, Co-Chairman Of The Committee To End Homelessness, Pam Wyatt, President Of The Cape Fear Area United Way & Lillie R. Gray, Community Development Manager, City Of Wilmington.

**Request Status:**  
 Request is proceeding to Board of Commissioners  
 More information is needed – see attached  
 Request on hold – no further information needed  
 Other:

**Background:** On September 4, 2007, the Board received a presentation from Co-chair Spiro Macris regarding the Lower Cape Fear Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. Representatives are returning to request the Board's endorsement of their plan and to present their budget as part of a specific request for funding from Pender County.

*(Administrative Use Only)*

The organization is requesting \$40,000 in funding; with the first installment of \$10,000 payable in the coming weeks to carry them through this fiscal year, followed by an additional \$15,000 the next two fiscal years.

Funding has also been requested from the City of Wilmington, New Hanover County and Brunswick County. According to Mr. Macris, so far the City of Wilmington has committed to this funding.

**Specific Action Requested:** Consider the endorsement of the plan and the request for funding.

Requested by: Lori Brill  
Department: County Manager  
Title:  
Contact Phone: 910-259-1200  
Contact Fax:

## CONTRACT TYPE

- Renewal  
 For Service(s)  
 Intergovernmental – County as Grantee  
 Federal Grantor  
 State Grantor  
 Grantor  
 County as Grantor  
 County Funds  
 Other Funds
- Revision  
 For Equipment

**PURCHASING** Budgeted Item:  Yes  No  
Date Rec'd:  Reviewed and Approved  
 Comments on Reverse

Date Sent:  
Signed:

**ATTORNEY**  Reviewed and Approved  
Date Rec'd:  Legal Problem(s)  
 Comments on Reverse

Date Sent:  
Signed:

**FINANCE** Sufficient Funds  Available  
Date Rec'd:  Not Available  
 Budget Amendment Necessary  
 Budgeted Amendment is Attached  
 Comments on Reverse

Date Sent:  
Signed:

**CLERK** Signature(s) Required:  
 Board Chairman/County Manager  
 Other:

Date Rec'd Approved by Board:  Yes  No  
At meeting on

**Community Services**  
305 Chestnut Street  
PO Box 1810  
Wilmington, NC 28402-1810



910 341 7836  
910 343 4764 fax  
wilmingtonnc.gov  
Dial 711 TTY/Voice



September 24, 2007

Ms. Lori Brill  
County Manager  
Pender County  
805 South Walker Street  
P.O. Box 5  
Burgaw, NC 28425

Dear Ms. Brill:

I am writing this letter to thank you for your communication during and following the brief presentation of the Lower Cape Fear Region 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness Plan to the Pender County Commissioners on September 4.

Per your communication with Dewey Harris, please consider this letter a formal request for funding of \$40,000 for the period January 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010. The enclosed "Attachment A" indicates the revenues and expenditures associated with this regional effort. This funding request also assumes a cost share between Pender County and Burgaw; however, we assume each jurisdiction will want to determine its appropriate contribution. I am enclosing a copy of the full plan for your review. The "Goals, Outcomes, Indicators, & Strategies" section of the plan (beginning on page 30), indicates the deliverables associated with the proposed investment for Pender County and Burgaw. The plan also captures the unique aspects of Pender County beginning on page 11 with "The Cape Fear Region – A Picture in Contrasts".

In consideration of this request, we also ask you to consider allowing us to present the attached plan in more detail to the Pender County Commissioners, and other stakeholders such as elected officials from other Pender County municipalities, law enforcement, Pender Memorial Hospital, and representatives of civic groups you deem appropriate. Based on our participation at an earlier forum in Pender County, the Senior Center would be an ideal location for such a meeting. Again, this is just a suggestion we make for your consideration.

It is time for our community to move from multiple "working together" efforts to working through an integrated community collaboration that focuses and maximizes the community's resources toward clearly defined strategies. These strategies must address the multiple causes of why we have a homeless problem in our community. All elements of our community – nonprofits, public agencies, businesses, educational institutions, economic development, community development, lawmakers, and the faith-based institutions – must work together in a coordinated manner to implement these strategies.

We hope to have the administrative body in place January 1, 2008; that means we must have funding available to hire the plan coordinator and assistant. We do not need the full \$40,000 right away; (see Attachment A – "Budget Request") \$10,000 will be sufficient until July 1, 2008.

Thank you again for consideration. Please feel free to call me at 910. 228.9163, or Dewey Harris (City of Wilmington) at 910.341.5854 should you have questions. We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Spiro J. Macris" followed by a stylized flourish or initial.

Spiro J. Macris, Co-Chair  
Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness Steering Committee

cc: G. Dewey Harris, Director, City of Wilmington Community Services Department

**ATTACHMENT A**

**LOWER CAPE FEAR TEN YEAR PLAN TO END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS**

**BUDGET REQUEST**

Revenue	January 1, 2008- June 30, 2008 (six month start-up)	July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009	July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010	TOTAL
City of Wilmington	\$20,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$100,000
New Hanover County	\$20,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$100,000
Burgaw and Pender County	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$40,000
Leland and Brunswick County	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$40,000
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>	<b>\$110,000</b>	<b>\$110,000</b>	<b>\$280,000</b>

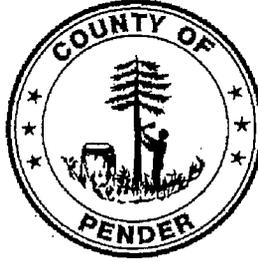
**PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Line-item	January 1, 2008- June 30, 2008 (six month start-up)	July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009	July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010	TOTAL
Personnel Costs	\$25,000	\$52,000	\$53,560	\$130,560
Project Manager Salary	\$7,500	\$15,600	\$16,200	\$39,300
Project Manager Benefits	\$10,000	\$22,000	\$23,000	\$55,000
Administrative Assistant Salary	\$3,000	\$6,600	\$6,900	\$16,500
Administrative Assistant Benefits				
Travel	\$1,200	\$2,400	\$2,600	\$6,200
Mileage, Per Diem, Registration Fees (local and national conferences)				
Office Supplies	\$600	\$1,200	\$800	\$2,600
Computers(2) Equipment/Maintenance	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$6,000
Printing	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$4,500
Phone	\$750	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$3,950
Postage	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$3,000
Marketing and Public Relations	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$15,000
Office Space	in-kind	in-kind	in-kind	in-kind
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$59,550</b>	<b>\$109,900</b>	<b>\$113,160</b>	<b>\$282,610</b>

County of Pender

Board of Commissioners  
F.D. Rivenbark, Chairman  
Norwood Blanchard, Vice-Chairman  
George Brown  
Jimmy Tate  
J. David Williams

Lori Brill, County Manager  
Paul Parker, Assistant County Manager



County Manager's Office  
Post Office Box 5  
807 South Walker Street  
Burgaw, NC 28425

Telephone: (910) 259-1200  
Facsimile: (910) 259-1402

October 26, 2007

Mr. Martin Beach, Interim Manager  
Town of Burgaw  
109 N. Walker St.  
Burgaw, NC 28425

***RE: Lower Cape Fear Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness***

Dear Martin:

On September 4, 2007, representatives from the Division of Community Services of New Hanover County made a presentation to the Board of Commissioners seeking funding with respect to the above referenced.

Attached is additional information they provided since meeting with the Board. The intent is for both the County and the Town of Burgaw to provide funding. Are you willing to provide \$5,000 as the Town of Burgaw's share? Please let me know your thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely,

Lori A. Brill  
County Manager

LAB/gp



# The Street is No Place to Live

## 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness and Reduce Homelessness in the Cape Fear Region

[www.capefearhomeless.org](http://www.capefearhomeless.org)

In January 2007 a Point-In-Time Count measured the size of the Cape Fear Region's (Brunswick, New Hanover, and Pender counties) homeless community... **628** individuals were found.

*A Point-In-Time is only a 'snapshot' and may not capture all who are cycling in and out of homelessness over the course of a specific period. These numbers do not capture those who are 'doubling-up' or staying with another person. The data also does not reflect those considered 'at-risk' of homelessness. Experts suggest that this type of count may exclude as much as half of the homeless population.*

Adults	84%
Children	16%
Women	59%
Men	40%
White	51%
Black	33%
American Indian	6%

## The Face of Homelessness

Many people assume that homeless individuals are only those who sleep under bridges or under tattered blankets at the park, those who have no skills or make no contributions to the community. These are stereotypes commonly held, but the facts are these:

**40%** of the homeless population is employed

**71%** have some high school education, some college, or a college degree.

**15%** are veterans.

**28%** are families.

**16%** are children.

Source: 2007 Point-In-Time Count Survey

## Chronic Homelessness

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development currently defines chronically homeless as “an unaccompanied, disabled individual who has been persistently homeless for more than a year or who has been homeless for four or more episodes over a period of three years.” This definition, after extensive debate within the Federal government, appears to acknowledge that chronically homeless people are highly likely to “cycle” in and out of housing, the streets, emergency shelters, hospitals, mental health facilities, and jail for varying periods of time. Almost **34%** of the homeless in the Cape Fear Region are considered chronically homeless. This population consumes over **50%** of the resources currently expended on services for the homeless population.

The economic cost of this population is high.

- Chronically homeless individuals and families use significant amounts of public funding.
- Approximately 64 man hours by our local law enforcement per day, approximately \$1006 per day based on the average hourly wage.
- Homeless individuals use emergency services at hospitals, clinics and primary care facilities. New Hanover Health Network treated 1,233 homeless patients during 2006 at a loss of \$523,892.

## What are we doing now?

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The current housing options for homeless people in the Cape Fear Region include emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing. The community’s service providers, public agencies, and faith entities have a history of responding to human service needs and are to be commended for their response to the homeless population. Despite their earnest response our residents continue to experience homelessness and for longer periods of time.

- Emergency Shelters in this area include 12 programs providing a total of 315 beds. Of those, 63 beds are specifically for victims of domestic violence and 15 beds for youth.  
**There is an unmet need of 193 beds.**
- Transitional housing in the Cape Fear Region is provided by six agencies through nine programs for a total of 171 beds. Of those, 93 beds are specifically for substance abusers and 28 for victims of domestic violence.  
**There is an unmet need of 84 beds.**
- Permanent supportive housing in our area is provided by seven agencies with eight programs for a total of 106 units, with an additional 11 units under development.  
**This is an unmet need of 200 units.**

*Source: 2007 Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Chart*

## Why a 10-Year Plan?

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Ending homelessness is more cost effective than managing it.

Other communities are finding this statement to be a fact. For example, the *Greater Portland, Maine* area has a population of approximately 230,000 and is similar to the Cape Fear Region. According to a study commissioned by the Maine State Housing Authority, significant savings resulted from 99 formerly homeless people moving to supportive housing. People receiving mental health services shifted from expensive emergency and psychiatric inpatient care to less-expensive outpatient services. Although subsidized housing tenants received more mental health services the year after they found their own units, their overall mental health costs declined by 41 percent. Significant savings also resulted from a reduced need for emergency services, police intervention, and incarceration. The report cites a **60%** decrease in ambulance transports, **52%** fewer emergency room visits, and **68%** fewer police contacts, all of which resulted in reduced costs. The average annual cost of care savings produced by the first year of living in permanent supportive housing was \$944 per person.

The total annual cost savings was **\$93,436** for all 99 tenants.

This cost analysis shows how permanent supportive housing provides significantly more efficient and appropriate service delivery with tangible cost savings.

## The Plan

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The 10-Year Plan is a comprehensive effort of various community organizations, leaders and citizens. Using the expertise of service providers, government officials, and consultants, this plan was designed to specifically address the needs of the Cape Fear Region's chronically homeless and homeless population in order to redirect, minimize, and ultimately resolve the substantial economic and social costs connected with these individuals and families.

**VISION:** Within ten years, every person in the Cape Fear Region will have access to permanent, safe, and affordable housing with the needed resources and support for self-sufficiency and well-being.

**MISSION:** To end homelessness, the Cape Fear Region will provide comprehensive support services and housing opportunities for all residents.

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- Inclusiveness
- Collaborative and coordinated effort
- Outcome-driven
- Research-based
- Maximized resources
- Minimal duplication

## **Goal One** : Prevention, Engagement and Supportive Services

*Provide preventative and supportive services to prevent persons from becoming chronically homeless and enable those who are chronically homeless to move to and remain in a stable housing situation and maximize their self-sufficiency.*

This goal is comprised of 11 outcomes that include 31 strategies for achieving them. These strategies include: addressing the transition of prisoners into society, assisting the 'at-risk' population with financial counseling and assistance, developing ideal avenues for information and referral, building capacity of current service providers, addressing the mental health needs of the population, decreasing inappropriate use of the emergency room, increasing access to dental care, establishing scholarship funds for education and training, and putting case workers in place to assist transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency.

## **Goal Two** : Housing

*Provide permanent housing for the homeless.*

This goal is comprised of two outcomes that include 14 strategies for achieving them. These strategies include: increasing the amount of affordable housing, establishing a community land trust, building the capacity of current providers, developing a Housing First/Housing Plus program as well as a Healthy Build Homes program, work to rehabilitate existing properties and modify current policies to facilitate the creation and preservation of permanent housing for the homeless.

## **Implementation Plan**

Implementation of the *10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness and Reduce Homelessness in the Cape Fear Region* is a substantial undertaking that, to be successful, will necessitate a commitment from local and state elected officials, human service providers, the private sector, faith-based entities, and citizens throughout Cape Fear Region. The Implementation Plan must have a defined structure, clear roles, responsibilities, and a long-term commitment from all partners to achieve our goals. An implementation structure will be established to oversee and administer the plan and directly involve individuals and organizations in New Hanover, Pender, and Brunswick counties who have interests in the outcomes stated in the 10-Year Plan.

An Executive Board will be put in place to provide oversight to this process. It will be responsible for strategic leadership, policy guidance, and monitoring results. In addition, a Community Advisory Committee will be developed to provide guidance and objective perspectives to the efforts that will be undertaken. This will be a volunteer committee of experts and community service providers who will provide valuable information to those involved. The United Way of the Cape Fear Area will partner with the Executive Board to oversee the hiring of the Project Manager. The United Way will also house the project manager and support staff, who will be facilitating the implementation process and who will be accountable to the Executive Board. In addition, volunteer Strategy Teams will be developed to address the key focus areas of the plan including: Prevention and Engagement, Service and Support, Permanent Housing, and Data Collection and Evaluation. These teams will develop and refine the action steps of this plan. These teams will all be comprised of a cross-section of service providers, interest groups and experts in order to provide unique perspective to the implementation process.

Sources of funding potentially include city, county, state, and federal government entities, private foundations and businesses.