

THE MISSION OF CATHEDRAL HEALTH MINISTRIES IS TO PROVIDE FREE HEALTH SERVICES TO HOUSTON'S POOR AND DISADVANTAGED, BOTH AS A MEDICAL OPERATION AND AS THE BASIS OF A COMPREHENSIVE AND INTEGRATED MINISTRY, PROACTIVELY MEETING HEALTH NEEDS OF BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT.

CATHEDRAL CLINIC

A CATHEDRAL HEALTH MINISTRIES Program

THE NEED...

- ❑ 12 million adults in the US are homeless or have been homeless at some point in their lives. An estimated 637,000 adults in the US are homeless in a given week, with 2.1 million experiencing homelessness over the course of a year. (1, 2)
- ❑ It is estimated that on any given night, there are between 12,000 and 14,000 homeless individuals in the Houston Metropolitan area. (2)
- ❑ Over 50% of homeless persons in the Houston area have mental health issues; slightly more have substance abuse issues. (2)
- ❑ The risk for persons with serious mental illness (SMI) to become homeless is more than 10X greater than the risk for the general population, making mental illness among the top causes of homelessness. (1, 3, 4)
- ❑ Although less than 5% of the total population suffers from SMI, approximately 25% of the homeless population has a persistent SMI. Only about 50% of all homeless people with SMI receive appropriate treatment. Between 50% and 70% of these individuals have a chemical dependence diagnosis; only 5.7% need to be institutionalized. (1, 2, 3)
- ❑ One of the greatest gaps in homeless services in Houston is mental health treatment. Harris County MHMRA can serve only about 10% of those in need of treatment. (2, 5)
- ❑ The supply of beds for local mental health patients is 60% below national standards for a population of this size. (3, 5)
- ❑ Those in Houston / Harris County needing behavioral healthcare who are not in crises wait 3+ months for an appointment. (5)
- ❑ Half of all mental disorders go undiagnosed in primary care. (3)
- ❑ Considering the stigma that is still attached to mental health care, studies show that patients are more likely to see a mental health provider who is introduced to them by a primary care provider. (3)
- ❑ 46% of the homeless population have chronic health conditions. (1, 4)
- ❑ One-third of all chronically ill homeless patients have co-occurring depression. (3)
- ❑ People who are homeless often depend on the costliest public service systems (e.g.: ERs, hospital psychiatric beds, detox centers, Residential Treatment Centers, jail cells, etc.), which place high and unnecessary burdens on health, mental health and correctional systems. (1, 2, 3)
- ❑ Being homeless creates health risks such as chronic respiratory infections, asthma, wounds, lesions and skin infections. (1)
- ❑ According to the US Census Bureau, 17% of Americans, 25% of Texans and 28% of Houstonians are uninsured.

Reference Sources:

1. National Coalition for the Homeless
2. Coalition for the Homeless of Houston / Harris County
3. National Mental Health Association
4. Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

QUICK FACTS

- √ Opening January 2007
- √ Will provide behavioral and related health services for Houston's downtown homeless population
- √ Will reside in John S. Dunn Outreach Center
- √ Healthcare for the Homeless—Houston (HHH) will be the primary contract provider of clinical health services

SERVICE MODEL

HOLISTIC HEALTH:

- ⇒ Emphasis on behavioral and mental health
- ⇒ Will address other health issues as appropriate
- ⇒ Priests and pastoral care volunteers will provide support through mentoring and counseling as appropriate

CLIENT BASE:

- ⇒ Walk-Ins
- ⇒ Self-referrals
- ⇒ Dunn Center referrals
- ⇒ Referrals from other HHH clinics
- ⇒ Mobile street outreach
- ⇒ Pastoral care & clergy referrals
- ⇒ Referrals from other community agencies

CATHEDRAL HEALTH MINISTRIES (an affiliate of Christ Church Cathedral) has effectively developed its model for health care delivered in a pastoral context, combining the strengths of a large urban parish with those of experienced providers and other community partners, resulting in programs that are more effective than any one organization could offer alone.

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In accordance with our philosophical platform, CHM will soon formally launch our second major collaborative health services program. The

CATHEDRAL CLINIC will serve the health needs of Houston's downtown homeless population. The collaborative nature of this project has been evident beginning with the planning stages, as CHM sought input from 24 secular and faith-based healthcare and outreach service providers, as well as members of the street community, in the vision for this comprehensive health center.

The **CATHEDRAL CLINIC** will provide this disenfranchised and needy population with health services. Under construction as part of the Cathedral's new **John S. Dunn Outreach Center**, this clinic will be an integral component in serving the multifaceted needs of the homeless. Though the emphasis will be on behavioral and mental health, the clinic will also address other health issues, bearing in mind that the different aspects of health are intricately intertwined. **Healthcare for the Homeless – Houston (HHH)*** will be the primary contract provider of clinical health services. This exciting collaborative venture with HHH also includes fundraising and shared costs of direct medical / health and related services. The clinic will rely on self-referrals and referrals from other HHH clinics, mobile street outreach and community agencies providing care to the homeless. Priests and pastoral care volunteers with CHM and the Cathedral will identify people in need of health services through personal interaction in outreach center activities, facilitating clinic referrals and ongoing involvement for continued support through mentoring and counseling.

***THE MISSION OF HEALTHCARE FOR THE HOMELESS IS**

TO PROMOTE HEALTH, HOPE & DIGNITY FOR HOUSTON'S HOMELESS THROUGH ACCESSIBLE & COMPREHENSIVE CARE.

FUNDING PARTNERS

- Baxter Trust
- CHRISTUS Fund
- Houston Endowment, Inc.
- Medallion Foundation
- Swalm Foundation

BUDGETS

2006 Budget /

Start up costs:.....\$88,506

2007 Budget:.....\$441,053

Clinic Health Service:.....\$365,578

Other related:.....\$75,475

The CHM / HHH collaboration includes fundraising and shared costs of clinical services.

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