

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS more than 2 million Americans across our country each year experience homelessness in our local communities, compromising the quality of life of the person, and the community; and

WHEREAS as elected County Officials, we are on the frontlines of homelessness and accountable to our communities for the well-being of all citizens; and

WHEREAS we recognize that no one level of government can remedy homelessness alone; and

WHEREAS we affirm that we will work together with our partners in state and federal government as well as in the foundation community and private sector to maintain and enhance the sustainable investment of resources needed to respond; and

WHEREAS we have taken action to create jurisdictionally-led, community-based 10 Year Plans to end chronic homelessness in our communities in partnership with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM), and the National Association of Counties (NACo) to end the disgrace; and

WHEREAS this matter was reviewed and approved by the Freeholder Human Services Committee on July 31, 2008;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED we resolve to work together in a national partnership of every level of government and the private sector, with our fellow cities and counties and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness to identify,

adopt and create innovative initiatives to advance the following principles and actions:

1. End the homelessness of our most vulnerable and disabled citizens who reside on our streets and in our shelters, those experiencing chronic homelessness, especially including homeless veterans.
2. With the support of our partners work to shorten the time any person is homeless.
3. Accept jurisdictional responsibility for accountability and results in the broader partnership that includes other levels of government and the private sector for an issue that is visible, expensive, and unacceptable in our communities.
4. Affirm our jurisdictionally led, community-based 10 Year Plans as the community's primary planning strategy to effect accountability and results in ending and preventing homelessness.
5. Develop these plans to ensure that the measurable outcomes are sustainable and render lasting solutions to homelessness.
6. Endorse housing solutions as our primary investment to end homelessness, recognizing that shelter and punitive responses are often expensive and ineffective in reducing numbers and restoring lives and affirm that permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing models offer our most disabled citizens the housing and services they need in a cost effective response.

7. Affirm the work of faith and community based agencies for the work they have done on the frontlines for decades and partner with them to fashion innovative responses that are results-oriented.

8. Invite the business and philanthropic communities to be a partner in our efforts, especially local business associations, foundations, Business Improvement Districts, the United Way, and Chambers of Commerce.

9. Work with the United States Interagency Council on Homeless, the United States Conference of Mayors Task Force on Hunger and Homelessness, the National Association of Counties (NACo), and the Partnership to End Long Term Homelessness to assure rapid dissemination of innovations that ensures that every community will have equal access to the best ideas that create results in ending homelessness.

10. Create Project Homeless Connect events, the one-day, one-stop, targeted to homeless people in offering an array of housing, employment, and treatment services along with quality of life resources, as a component of our 10-Year Plan response.

11. Support all local, state and federal legislation and resources that will offer new capabilities for investment in results.

12. Invite other communities to join us in this national effort.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Passaic, do hereby commit to this Statement of Principles and Actions, embrace its goals, and

announce our intention to work in partnership in bringing the homelessness of our most vulnerable and disabled neighbors to an end in the United States.

JDP:lc

This resolution was requested by:

Berna James

Reviewed by:

[Signature]

ANTHONY J. DE NOVA
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

[Signature]

WILLIAM J. PASCRELL, III
COUNTY COUNSEL

RECORD OF VOTE

Freeholder	Y	N	NV	ABS	RES	SEC
Duffy	X					
Gallagher	X					
Hannigan	X					
James	X					X
Lepore	X					
Way	X				X	
Dir. Rosado	X					

Y=yes N=no NV=not voting
ABS=abstain RES=moved
SEC=seconded

Dated: August 12, 2008