



## Taking Good Faith's Message to the Council

Faith communities taking action with and for persons who are homeless in the District of Columbia

"A high-quality family homelessness system should provide year-round access to decent shelter when it is needed, and sufficient case management and services to help families quickly move from shelter to a safe and stable home. Unfortunately, this hasn't happened for the past several years in DC."   
 Helping Families Home: A Roadmap for the District

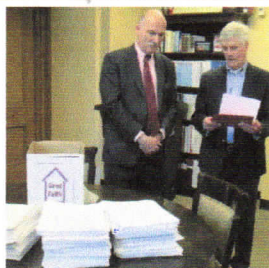
May 21, 2014

### PUTTING NUMBERS TO THE HOMELESSNESS CRISIS!

**NEED:** 13% increase in homelessness across populations in the past year, 25% increase in families.

**FUNDING:** The Council can add to, or change, the Mayor's proposed budget in these final weeks of the session. On May 15 each Council committee gave its final recommendations on how they recommend moving forward the agency budgets under their purview. The good news is that additional funding was found for programs that address homelessness: \$1 million for youth homelessness; \$1.5 million for the Rapid Re-Housing pilot for individuals; \$500 thousand for Emergency Rental Assistance; \$200 thousand for assistance to students who are homeless.

**A GOOD START, BUT A LONG WAY TO GO:** "When all resources available in FY2014 are considered, the Mayor's FY2015 proposed budget for homeless families represents a decrease of \$11 million or 20% from the FY 2014 adjusted budget, after adjusting for inflation." (DC Fiscal Policy Institute) **Tackling youth, single and family homelessness will require a greater investment in proven strategies and programs than the Mayor and Council have proposed.**



**GOOD FAITH DELIVERS.....3,200 letters from Good Faith in 75 congregations hand delivered to the Council Chairman on May 8. John Hisle makes clear Good Faith's deep concern for the homeless - and a simple message, "WE MUST DO BETTER AS A CITY IN ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS."**

**SEND THE COUNCIL A MESSAGE BEFORE THE FINAL VOTE ON THE BUDGET MAY 28 - on your personal commitment to end family and chronic homelessness in DC.**

OR

**[Sign the petition supporting Helping Families Home: A Roadmap for the District.](#)** The Roadmap not only recommends the funding necessary to make an impact on homelessness, but also details performance measures as well as management and oversight requirements. This plan originated with DCFPI and is supported by Good Faith and more than 20 advocacy and service providers in the District.

### [The Way Home](#)

Homelessness is not just about families. On any given night in the District, nearly 1,800 chronically homeless live on the streets and in shelters. Most homeless for years struggle with significant mental and chronic health conditions.

Good Faith is working with the *The Way Home*

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

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campaign to end chronic homelessness by 2017. Good Faith supports the campaign's FY 2015 budget requests.

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