

Home Pages

Winter 2000

Licking County Coalition for Housing

Building on Our Strengths: Annual Meeting 2000

"If it weren't for the Coalition, I would be dead if I continued on the path I was on," said Bryan Jacobs, a past participant in the LCCH transitional housing program.

Jacobs spoke from the heart about the issues facing many homeless in Licking County and touched the hearts of more than 100 LCCH friends at the Annual Meeting 2000 held November 20 at the Cherry Valley Lodge.

Upon entering the transitional housing program, Jacobs entered treatment for drug and alcohol issues. Now in recovery, Jacobs enrolled as a student at OSU-N. For 18 months, he lived in transitional housing, worked at the campus, attended OSU-N, and took care of his two daughters. He then found permanent housing. Jacobs will graduate from OSU-N with an Associates degree this winter. He plans to work full-time and continue his education to one day become a lawyer to help low-income families.

Mary Frazell, an independent

meeting and event management consultant, was instrumental in putting together the event. Bob Seith and Shelley Miller produced the 2000 LCCH Annual Report. Frazell worked closely with the Cherry Valley Lodge, who is also very supportive of the LCCH. The Lodge was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for their generosity not only for their help with the luncheon, but also their generous

donations of bed linens and other household items during the past several years.

Several Special Recognition Awards were presented to honor LCCH friends during the meeting. Bill Hammond accepted the honor for the St. Vincent De Paul Society of St. Francis De Sales Catholic Church.

Bryan Jacobs spoke from the heart about issues facing many homeless in Licking County and touched the hearts of more than 100 LCCH friends at the Annual Meeting 2000 held November 20 at the Cherry Valley Lodge.



Special Recognition and Awards for Excellence Honor LCCH Friends at the Annual Meeting 2000

Vince and Maryjane Ghiloni

Ghiloni Custom Builders, Inc., founded in 1997, is well-known for high quality construction of custom luxury homes in the Newark/Granville area. In 1998, they conducted the first Showcase of Homes to benefit LCCH, and have continued to do so on an annual basis ever since, raising nearly \$15,000 for LCCH's programs.

Rev. Jeff Gill and Dr. Joyce Meredith

While serving as Associate Pastor at Central Christian Church, Jeff got involved in the early discussions that led to LCCH's founding in 1993. Jeff served as the first president of the LCCH Board of Directors. After serving a church in West Virginia, he has returned to Licking County to serve as

Pastor for Hebron Christian Church. Once again involved in housing issues, Jeff moderated the Licking County Housing Forum in May, 2000. Joyce holds a PhD in environmental education and currently serves as Director of the Ohio EE 2000. Joyce assisted LCCH in developing its three-year strategic plan.

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LCCH Staff Welcome Three New Employees

The Licking County Coalition for Housing (LCCH) recently hired three new employees to add to its talented staff.

Lynn Davis of Newark came on board in September as the Individual Development Accounts (IDA) Project Coordinator.

The new IDA program helps participants double or even triple the money they save by matching funds at a rate of \$2 to \$1 for



savings to buy a home or \$1 to \$1 to further their educations. Davis recently relocated from Laurinburg, North Carolina and brings 21 years of experience with the Scotland and Richmond Counties Departments of Social Services. She lives in Newark with her husband, Bill and four children, Forrest, Grant, Michael, and Shannon.

Kelli Cox of Heath is the new Fiscal/IDA Assistant. Cox will help Davis by creating



monthly statements that will track savings and matching amounts. Cox brings several years of experience in banking and most recently worked for Core One Credit Union in Columbus as a Member Services Supervisor. She lives in Heath, with her husband, John and two children, Jamie and Bailee.

Laura Day of Millersport joined the organization in September as a Community Services Coordinator. Day brings 10 years experience in social services. Day works one-on-one with Transitional Housing program participants to help them meet immediate

needs as well as address basic issues that may have led to homelessness in the first place. The LCCH currently has two, three, and four bedroom apartments for families. There are one bedroom and efficiency apartments for single adults and couples without children.



All 40 units are completely furnished and located in Newark. Day lives in Millersport with her son, Eli.

Building on Our Strengths LCCH Annual Meeting 2000 Sponsors

Gold Sponsor

Licking Memorial Hospital

Silver Sponsors

Roger's QuickPrint
Wilson, Shannon & Snow

Bronze Sponsors

Calig and Handelman Attorneys
Excel Learning Center
Fraleay Cooper and Associates
Mathis Moving and Storage
Rod's Glass & Mirror
The School House
Sir Speedy
Cynthia McElroy LISW CCDCIII

Thank you!

Annual Dinner Recognition Awards...

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St. Vincent DePaul Society

Organized locally, Vincentians witness God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice. St. Vincent DePaul Society of St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church has a collection of dispatch volunteers who alternate as the contact person for those in crisis. Working closing with LCCH as well as many other agencies, they come to the aid of many Licking County residents, particularly the Homeless.

Jeff Bell

A former news director for Kenyon College, and a local reporter for The Advocate for 9 years, Jeff established a reputation for strong writing based on solid research, presented in a comfortable manner. Jeff developed, edited, and published LCCH's quarterly newsletter, *HomePages*, beginning with the first issue in 1997.

Gloria Allen

A producer, writer and director based in Reynoldsburg, Gloria served as

visual communications coordinator for two video projects at LCCH-one aimed at lifting public awareness and one to introduce prospective clients to the transitional housing program. Winner of numerous film awards, Gloria has produced videos for industrial, corporate and nonprofit clients. The intake video recently won an award for Best Practices from the Ohio Department of Development, Office of Housing and Community Partnerships at the Housing 2000 summit.



Deb Tegtmeier, Executive Director presents an Award for Excellence to Bill Hammond who accepted for the St. Vincent De Paul Society of St. Francis De Sales Catholic Church.

DOUBLE OR TRIPLE THE MONEY YOU SAVE! THINK IT'S TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?...THINK AGAIN!

How would you like to see your savings double or even triple? The new Licking County Individual Development Accounts (IDA) Program is a matched savings program designed to help income-eligible families achieve their long-term financial goals.

For every \$1 you save, the IDA program will match it with \$1 or even \$2. The IDA Program is operated by the Licking County Coalition for Housing in partnership with LEADS Community Action Agency, First Federal Savings and Loan of Newark, Licking/Knox Goodwill Industries, Licking Metropolitan Housing Authority, and the Licking County Department of Job and Family Services.

LCCH's first IDA participant, Rhonda Compton opened her IDA on November 10 at First Federal Savings and Loan. Compton's goal is to purchase a home. She is a mother of 4 and works for a local Licking County company.

Participants in this program can use their savings and match money for one or both of the following goals:

Buying a Home

Match Rate: \$2-\$1

Use your IDA for the down payment and closing costs on a home.

Continuing Education

Match Rate: \$1-\$1

Use your IDA for education for yourself or your spouse. This includes vocational/technical training, community college, 4-year college, or training to obtain a professional certificate or license.

Two new employees at LCCH are facilitating the IDA program. Lynn Davis is the new IDA Project Coordinator and Kelli Cox, new Fiscal/IDA Assistant, will help Davis by creating

statements that will track savings and matching amounts.

Who is eligible to apply for the IDA Program?

1. You must be currently employed;
2. You must have a child under the age of 18 in your household;and
3. Your monthly income must not exceed the following program guidelines:

| Household Size | Monthly Income |
|----------------|----------------|
| 2 | \$1,407 |
| 3 | \$1,769 |
| 4 | \$2,132 |
| 5 | \$2,493 |
| 6 | \$2,856 |
| 7 | \$3,219 |

How does the Program Work?

1. Contact Lynn Davis, IDA Project Coordinator at 349-1918 for an application.
2. Next, open your savings account,

called an Individual Development Account or "IDA", at First Federal Savings and Loan of Newark.

3. You must make regular deposits every month into your IDA Account.
4. For every \$1 you deposit up to \$1,000 per year, for the next 3 years, the Licking County IDA Program will match it according to the schedule listed above.
5. You will attend a series of workshops covering topics such as: money/time management, financial planning, goal setting, home purchasing, and financing your education.
6. You will meet regularly with IDA staff to assess your progress towards achieving your financial goals.
7. When you have met your savings goal, and have chosen a home to purchase or enrolled in school, your IDA funds will be available to defray those costs. It's that simple!



Cindy Mitchell, Vice President First Federal Savings (left) congratulates Rhonda Compton, LCCH's first IDA program participant. Compton is a mother of four and is saving to buy a home.

**LCCH is a
United Way
agency**



United Way

Keely Goumas, LCCH Education Specialist and her students in the SEE program have many things to be thankful for this year. Goumas had several students write what they were thankful for in the feathers of the turkey (center page).

Goumas started her position as the education specialist in July just as summer program was ending and had the opportunity to develop the after-school program.

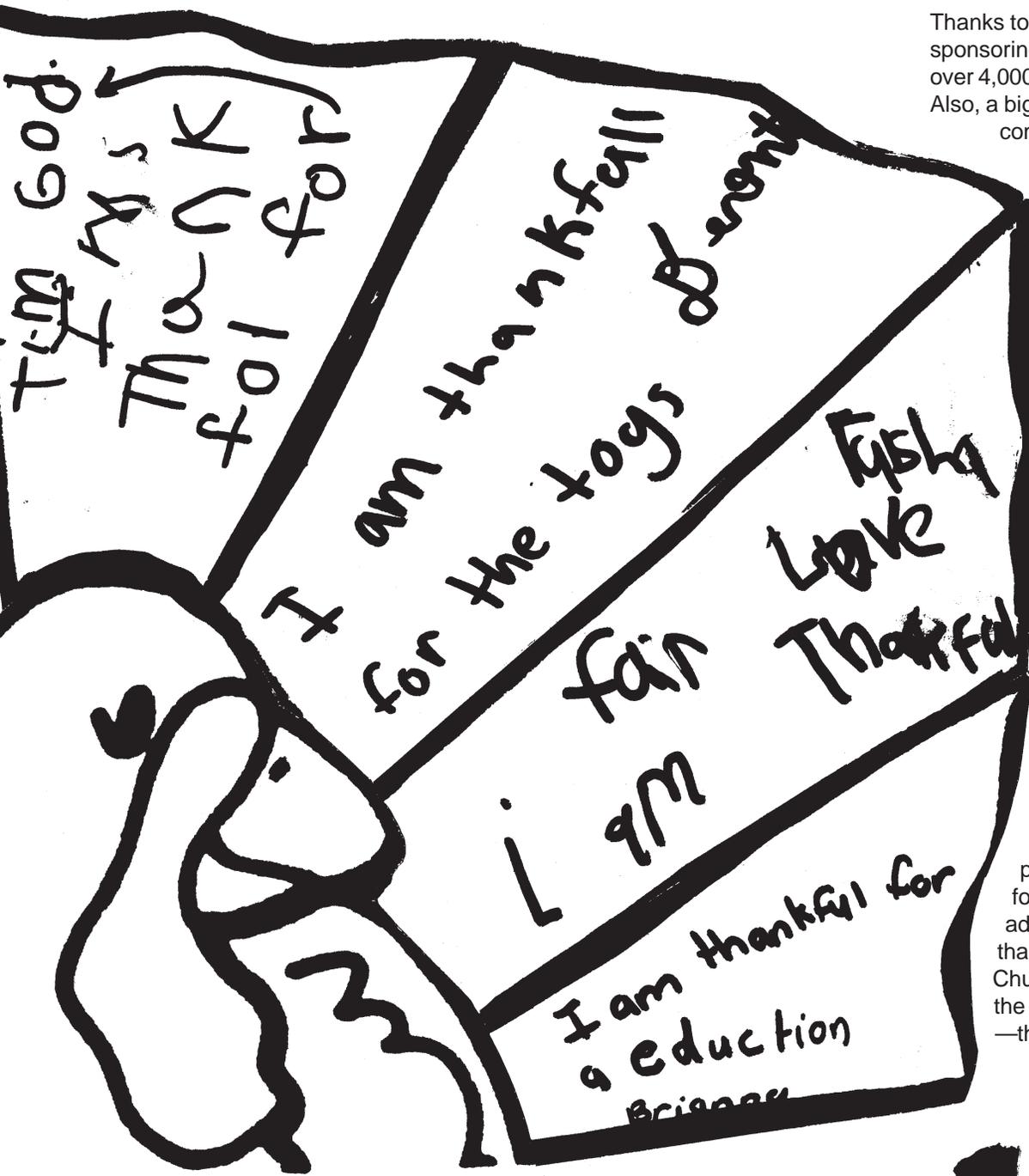
We are thankful for the generous donations of school supplies that were made by Rev. Vicki Zust and the Trinity Episcopal Church congregation. The school supplies got the school year started off on the right foot for the children in the SEE program.

We do Newspaper in Education during the after school program, thanks to Julie Stedman at The Advocate.

We are also thankful for the many volunteers that help us with the program which include 10 volunteers from the Homeless and Hunger Group at Denison University, one OSU student and one from Newark High School.



We are T



Thanks to Pi Beta Phi at Denison for sponsoring a book drive that collected over 4,000 books for the program. Also, a big thanks to the Granville community for their book

donations. With these books and donations from Half-Price Books in Columbus, we are well on our way to literacy for all!

Safe Trick or Treat night held at the Denison University Campus was greatly appreciated by the children and parents in the program which was sponsored by the Homeless and Hunger group at Denison University.

Two Adults successfully completed their G.E.D., allowing one to continue her education at C.O.T.C. and the other to get a higher paying job.

We are in the process of purchasing new computers for use by both children and adults in the SEE program thanks to Trinity Episcopal Church and matching funds from the Licking County Foundation —they are wonderful!

Thankful!

Rite Rug Steps Up to the Mat to Replace 15-Year-Old Carpeting

Many feet had crawled, walked, and played upon the 15-year-old, gold shag carpeting in 14 Transitional Housing units owned by the Licking County Coalition (LCCH) and it showed. Carpet cleaning experts said it just couldn't be cleaned anymore. It was time to be replaced.



Carl Dugan, Maintenance Coordinator and Kristin McCloud, Community Services Supervisor spearheaded efforts with Rite Rug Corporate headquarters in Columbus to step up to the mat to help conquer the huge task of replacing all the carpet in each unit and in all the halls. They provided more than 12,000 square feet of carpeting at a deep discount, which included moving furniture and installation.

"Rite Rug was more than generous," said Dugan. "We greatly appreciated their help."

A representative from The John and Mary Alford Foundation took one look at the carpet and agreed to provide \$13,225 in funding for the much-needed project and to repair the walls in the hallways of the units. The LCCH Transitional Housing program offers temporary housing for people seeking to return to permanent housing. Residents can stay up to 24 months, as long as they continue to move forward with their Individual Service Plans. Six



months of follow-up services are offered when residents leave for permanent housing to ensure they do not become homeless again.

Founded in 1993, LCCH is a one-stop shop for housing in Licking County. As a countywide partnership of businesses, churches, civic organizations, agencies, schools and caring individuals, LCCH provides housing, supportive services, technical assis-



Debi Anglin is a student in the full-time Job Training Program for Adults at the Licking County Joint Vocational School.

She attends classes three days per week and is working two days per week at LCCH as part of her training. She is currently taking on the huge task of updating the filing system, but lends a hand wherever else she is needed. Anglin started at LCCH in September and will be finished with her program in May of 2001.

"Debi has been an excellent student," said Kathy Roderick, Instructor/ Coordinator for the JVS Secretarial and Computer Training program in the Office of Technology. To be admitted into the program, a student must have a High School Diploma or G.E.D., pass an assessment and entrance interview and pay a fee. Financial aid is available.

tance, homelessness prevention services, and educational opportunities to over 1,000 Licking County residents each year, more than half of them children. LCCH is a United Way Agency.

"There is no Room at the Inn"

Over-burdened Emergency Resources Discussed During Roundtable

"There is no room at the Inn." We can appreciate these words even more during this time of the year as we scramble to provide emergency services and housing for families and individuals in need.

Twenty Licking County agencies and churches were represented recently at two Emergency Housing Roundtables held this Fall to discuss the dramatic increase in demand for emergency housing and services in our area. During April through June of this year, LCCH saw a 21% increase in demand

for services over the same period in 1999. During July through September of this year, LCCH saw a 117% increase in demand for services over the same period in 1999. Other agencies and churches reported similar increases in demand for services.

More than 20 recommendations for action were reviewed at the November discussion. The group narrowed down these actions to the following top three:

1. Need better data and data collection systems to describe and assess homeless populations.

2. Need to develop better procedures as a community to use existing emergency funds more efficiently. Consider the development of an Interfaith Hospitality Network shelter system to augment Salvation Army's services.
3. Raise public awareness of the increasing homelessness problem in Licking County. Let people know that the vast majority of homeless individuals (estimate 90 %) are residents of Licking County and not from other communities, as many people believe.

More than 200 Participants Tour "Showcase of Homes 2000"

Autumn leaves rustled under a gorgeous blue sky as more than 200 eager participants streamed up the walkways of three Granville luxury homes constructed by Ghiloni Custom Builders featured in this year's Showcase of Homes held October 20-22.

The effort raised more than \$5,000 through ticket sales, corporate sponsors, a Preview Party, and Silent Auction contributions. All proceeds will be used to benefit LCCH's programs to assist the homeless.

"Vince and Maryjane Ghiloni are wonderful to work with, and we deeply appreciate the tremendous effort they



Linda and Jim Neuenschwander, homeowners

put into this event each year," said Deborah Tegtmeyer, LCCH Executive Director. "We also want to acknowledge all the volunteers who helped and to thank the wonderful home owners who opened their homes for so many to enjoy as part of the Showcase



Ken Kempton, LCCH Board President (left) with Caryl and Ken Kemper, homeowners.

festivities."

The generous homeowners supporting the tour were Ken and Caryl Kemper, 41 Wexford Drive, Jim and Linda Neuenschwander, 362 Bryn Du Drive, and Rod and Cindy Wilkins, 5 Meadow Wood Drive.

A very special thanks also goes to the businesses that joined Ghiloni Custom Builders as sponsors for the Showcase. They are Strait & Lamp Lumber, Paramount Companies, The Park National Bank, Nice Carpets, Albyn's Landscape and Nursery, First Federal Savings and Loan, National City Bank, and Richardson Glass Service. Jeff Bell, Taylor's Drug Store, Granville IGA, and The Imperial Palace helped with publicity, as did Capital Art and Frame Gallery.

Several local contributors made the Showcase of Homes 2000 Silent

Homeless Veterans Fill Goodwill Housing

The doors opened in June of this year at the new transitional housing facility and the clients flooded in. The three efficiency units on the second floor of the building at 47 S. Fifth Street and the four-bedroom house next door at 20 Wilson Street have been filled to capacity with others waiting. Licking/Knox Goodwill Industries owns the building with LCCH serving as a key partner in the venture. Funding for the Transitional Housing program is provided by the Veterans Administration Homeless Veterans Program and HUD.

In honor of the spirit of giving, Thanksgiving meals and Christmas meals, presents and gift certificates were provided for residents of the LCCH/Goodwill facility by VFW Buckeye Lake Post 1388 Ladies Auxiliary.

Auction a success. They included Re/Max Excellence Real Estate, Fackler Country Gardens, Don Pound Studios, Plaza Hardware, Goodyear-Larry Harrer, Inc., Doug Marmie, Lisa Minklei, Marion & Larry Burge, Marion Massa, Marilyn Kasson, and Kevin Clouse.

"Thank you" Sally Schaffer for four years of hard work for the Coalition as a Community Services Coordinator!

Home Pages
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Dr. Perry Watson of Granville Chiropractic hands Carl Dugan, Maintenance Coordinator, one of almost 100 blankets collected from the Granville community. Dr. Watson and his wife, Ann, sent out pleas to area churches and handed out flyers asking for blankets to keep the homeless warm this winter. "The blankets are needed every year because these blankets are given as gifts for the homeless to keep as they continue on their journey to find permanent shelter," said Dr. Watson. This is the second year the couple have reached out to the Granville community and they plan to continue every year because they feel the need is so great.





Kristy McKinney of the Pi Beta Phi sorority at Denison University, sits among the 4,000 books collected during a book drive they sponsored for the SEE program. A big thanks to the Granville Community for their book donations and donations from Half-Price books.

LCCH mission statement

“Our mission is to provide a community forum, to assess housing resources, to identify problems, and to create solutions through collaboration.”

LCCH Board of Directors

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