



CREATING OPPORTUNITIES

1966 - Present

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

CAMDEN COUNTY COUNCIL ON ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, INC.

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BOARD PRESIDENT
Dwight Anderson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Arnold N. Byrd

AGENCY PROGRAMS

Community Action Services
Weatherization
LIHEAP & ENERGY
Conservation Program
Housing Construction
and Rehabilitation
Emergency Services
Youth Employment
and Training
Services to Homeless
Supportive Housing
Youth Activities
Grandparents' Support
Group
Urban Women's Center
Literacy Training
High School Diploma Training
Adult Basic Education
NJ Shares
PAGE Program
Homeless Prevention
Dollar-to-Dollar
IDA Program

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – January 2, 2019

Camden County OEO Receives \$530,000 Federal Grant to Help Reduce Homelessness and for the Rapid Re-Housing of the Homeless

CAMDEN COUNTY, NJ — Camden County Council On Economic Opportunity, Inc., a private, non-profit agency dedicated to serving and uplifting low-income individuals and families in Camden County, has received a \$530,000 grant from the Federal Government to help reduce the homeless population in Camden County as well as assisting those in danger of becoming homeless.

“Help is available for individuals and families living on the streets or in emergency shelters, up to 90 days,” says Arnold N. Byrd, Camden County OEO’s Executive Director. “Thanks to this grant, Camden County OEO can help obtain permanent housing. We can provide prevention assistance to households facing homelessness due to an eviction notice. Our agency also offers credit repair and eligible financial assistance, including security deposits, rental assistance, utility payments, and moving costs.”

The Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program, commonly referred to as HPRP2, Byrd says, targets two vulnerable populations at-risk of homelessness. First and foremost are individuals and families living on the streets or in emergency shelters (up to 90 days). HPRP2 helps in obtaining permanent housing. The second groups targeted are households facing imminent eviction from their place of residence. Financial Assistance is provided to prevent eviction.

Camden County residents can receive an array of help from the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program at two Camden County OEO

locations: Camden County OEO’s main office located at 538 S. Broadway, Camden City. The telephone number is (856) 964-6887. Office hours are Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The second Camden County OEO office to receive help from the HPRP2 Program is the Urban Women’s Center at 900 S. Broadway, Camden City. Their telephone number is (856) 365-8989. Office hours are Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

HPRP2, as the program is commonly known, is funded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs is responsible for overseeing the program’s requirements in the state’s eligible counties. Besides Camden County, the other counties are Atlantic, Bergen, Burlington, Cape May, Essex, Gloucester, Hunterdon, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Salem, Somerset, and Sussex.

Since 1966, Camden County OEO has provided comprehensive financial, educational and housing services to over a half-million clients and produced more than \$500 million in services to the local economy. Based in Camden City and with offices in other townships and boroughs in Camden County, Camden County OEO says that HPRP2 has as its primary focus housing. Financial assistance is provided to help pay for housing and case management and services are offered to maintain housing for income-eligible clients.



Page 2 Camden County OEO Offers Assistance to Prevent Homelessness

About Camden County OEO

Besides providing programs and services to help clients achieve self-sufficiency, Camden County OEO offers material assistance to low-income persons in emergency circumstances. The agency's comprehensive programs and services include: Community Action Services; Weatherization (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) LIHEAP & ENERGY; New Jersey (Statewide Heating Assistance and Referral for Energy Services) SHARES; (Payment Assistance for Gas and Electric bills) PAGE Program; Housing Construction and Rehabilitation; Emergency Services; Youth Employment and Training; Youth Activities; Homeless Prevention; Services to Homeless; Supportive Housing; Grandparents' Support Group; Urban Women's Center; Literacy Training; High School Diploma Training; Adult Basic Education; and Dollar-To-Dollar Individual Development Account (IDA) Program.

Moreover, the agency provides space at its main office on Broadway in Camden City for other social organizations and youth and community groups, including Narcotics Anonymous.

Camden County OEO's **Urban Women's Center** houses single women, single men and their families. Located at the Center also is **Liberty Place** that provides help to homeless women and children who are eligible for affordable apartments. The Outreach Men At Risk (OMAR) Program is located at 723 Kaighn Avenue, in Camden. This permanent housing program is home to 10 single men.

For 15 year, the agency's Urban Women's Center has utilized federal grants to help underwrite the financial costs for housing single women with children, and single men. In addition, the Center has grown its literacy and youth programs to assist over 170 persons with education. Clients have been helped in achieving their high school diplomas, increase their Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) scores, and find employment. TABE is a placement exam used nationwide to assess students' skills in English, math and reading.

For additional information about Camden County OEO and HPRP2, contact the agency's Housing and Community Initiates Director Barbara Wanzer at 856-964-6887, or bwanzer@cccceo.com; and Case Manager Danielle Majied, also at 856-964-6887.

(For News Media Editors and Reporters contact only: A third news media contact is Communications Specialist Sam W. Pressley at 856-582-3836 or 609-634-6369, sampress@sampress.com.)

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