



# NCAB Newsletter

Vol. 1 Issue 4

March 2006

Greetings from the NCAB Chair,

Well it is that time again; we are gearing up for our annual **Health Care for The Homeless Conference**, which will be held in **Portland, Ore. June 8-10,2006**.

If you have noticed within the past two weeks, we have sent out several emails requesting all local Consumers Advisory Boards to send in their nominations for our upcoming elections that will be held at the NCAB business meeting June 9, at 5:30 pm. For the National Consumers' Advisory Board all positions are open for elections: Chair, Two Co-Chairs and Secretary. If you have any interest in running for any of these offices, or you know of any consumer you feel would be interested, please fill out the form attached to this newsletter and send it to:

*NCAB, PO Box 60427, Nashville TN 37206, or faxed to 615-226-1656, or e-mailed to [ncab@nhchc.org](mailto:ncab@nhchc.org), or submitted on-line at [www.nhchc.org/advisory.html](http://www.nhchc.org/advisory.html) no later than April 14, 2006.*

All that is required to run for these positions is the willingness to serve, to be currently homeless or formerly homeless and are or have received services from HCH's Projects. In addition, along with your nominations, you must send a short bio of your story and your involvement with your local CAB experience. In addition, you do not need to be present to be elected to these positions.

Also attached to this newsletter is the form for the local HCH Project directors to submit travel subsidies to help at least one consumer from your local board to go to the HCH Conference in June. In addition, as always I am challenging any of the HCH project directors who can to match the dollars that the council gives, and send another consumer to the conference. One other thing is that you try to send someone that has not been before so they can get the chance to see what the conference is like. ***The National Health Care for the Homeless Council must receive applications no later than Friday, April 14. Applications may be mailed to:***

***PO Box 60427, Nashville TN 37206-0427, faxed to 615/226-1656, e-mailed to [ppetty@nhchc.org](mailto:ppetty@nhchc.org), or submitted electronically on our website at <http://www.nhchc.org/advisory.html>***

Next, I am also encouraging you to please use the attached survey forms to do surveys in your local areas to help us better serve the consumers, and show the government how important the need is to put more money into the HCH program. ***Completed outreach forms should be bundled together and sent by April 15, 2006, to:***

***NCAB Outreach PO Box 60427 Nashville TN 37206***

Last but not least, I just wanted to say this will be my last report as being the chair of the NCAB, for my term is up this year. It has been an honor and a pleasure serving you. I humbly thank you for the opportunity to serve you and to have been given this chance to learn so much. I want to also thank the rest of the board for making my job easy. I want to thank John Lozier and Jean Hochron for their loving support. I want to give a special thanks to the gang Ellen, Sarah and Veronique for their support, friendship and love along the way. I want to thank Bernie, Scott DiMarzio, the HCH team, and the House of Hope, Inc. for their support and understanding. Thank you Geri Pipitone for your support. Because without you all I would not be the person I am today.

In loving Service,

Ulysses Maner

NCAB CHAIR

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**The NCAB Newsletter is produced with support from  
the Health Resources and Services Administration.**

### **Send Us Your Stories**

*We need you!!! Hopefully, in our upcoming issues you, the readers, will send in your personal stories, poems, and articles regarding how you started your board and how it is running today. Please send any helpful comments on what you would like to see in the newsletter that might help others to [ncab@nhchc.org](mailto:ncab@nhchc.org)*



## CONSUMER TRAVEL SUBSIDY INFORMATION

### 2006 National Health Care for the Homeless Conference

Portland, Oregon                  June 8-10, 2006

#### **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

Through a Cooperative Agreement with the Bureau of Primary Health Care, the National Health Care for the Homeless Council provides subsidies to support participation in the National HCH Conference *by consumer members of HCH projects' Boards and Advisory Committees, and by consumer members of the staffs of HCH projects.* Consumers are people who have experienced homelessness personally and have received services of the HCH project. HCH projects that are Section 330(h) grantees or their subcontractors or sub-grantees may apply for these funds.

#### **ELIGIBLE COSTS AND MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT**

A maximum travel subsidy of \$1,000 per grantee or subcontractor will be available to selected projects, on a reimbursement basis. These funds may be used to support travel costs (including transportation, lodging, and meals) of consumers attending the Pre-Conference Institutes on June 7 and the National HCH Conference June 8-10.

HCH projects may wish to consider applying for travel subsidies for more than one consumer, within the \$1,000 maximum per project; in this case, please submit a separate application for each consumer.

#### **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES & PROCEDURE**

Consumers attending the National HCH Conference must register for the conference -- and, if applicable, HCH 101-- using the registration form provided separately by Policy Research Associates (PRA), the conference organizer. (See [www.bphc.hrsa.gov/hchirc/](http://www.bphc.hrsa.gov/hchirc/)) Decisions regarding Consumer Travel Subsidies will be communicated to the applicants by April 28, prior to the May 20 registration cut-off date.

HCH Projects are encouraged to express their commitment to consumer involvement in their governance by paying consumers' Conference Registration fees (and by bringing consumers to the National HCH Conference even without travel subsidies). A limited number of registration fee waivers has been provided by PRA for consumers. If your project CANNOT pay the

registration fee for your consumer(s), please request a registration fee waiver on the Consumer Travel Subsidy Application Form, attached.

## APPLICATION DUE DATE

To be considered, applications must be received by the National Health Care for the Homeless Council **no later than Friday, April 14**. Applications may be mailed to PO Box 60427, Nashville TN 37206-0427, faxed to 615/226-1656, e-mailed to [ppetty@nhchc.org](mailto:ppetty@nhchc.org), or submitted electronically on our website at <http://www.nhchc.org/advisory.html>

## SELECTION CRITERIA

A maximum of 40 travel subsidies will be available. If more than 40 applications are submitted, priority in selection will be given in the following order:

1. consumers who have not attended a previous conference,
2. consumers who have been nominated by a Consumer Advisory Board or Board of Directors of which they are a part,
3. consumers who have participated in the Consumer Participation Outreach process described at [www.nhchc.org/advisory.html](http://www.nhchc.org/advisory.html)
4. consumers representing projects that have not received subsidies for prior conferences,
5. consumers who are formally involved in HCH project governance,
6. consumers who are employed by HCH projects.

## NOTIFICATION

The National Council will notify all applicants of the decision on their applications no later than **Friday, April 28**. This allows three weeks before the **May 20 deadline for registration** for the National HCH Conference. This notification will include decisions about conference and HCH 101 registration fees, when requested in applications.

## HOTEL RESERVATIONS AND REGISTRATION

The conference registration materials from PRA include information about hotel reservations; *hotel reservations and payment are the responsibility of the sponsoring HCH project*. Note that the project will need to provide a credit card at the time the consumer checks in to the hotel, if the consumer does not have one. Hotel costs are eligible for reimbursement from the National Council.

## PAYMENT

Subsidies will be paid to HCH projects on a reimbursement basis (maximum \$1,000 per project) following the conference. Please use your organization's standard travel regulations in determining the cost to be reimbursed. A reimbursement claim form will be provided with notification of subsidy awards; claims must be submitted **no later than June 30, 2006**, three weeks following the Conference and the end of the National Council's fiscal year.

## CONSUMER SUPPORT

A large national conference in an unfamiliar setting is potentially bewildering for any first-time participant. To help assure a positive experience for consumers (and for others for whom the conference is a new experience), we request that another conference participant representing the HCH project be assigned to provide orientation and on-going support for the consumer. Please provide this contact person's name on your application form. Of course, staff of Policy Research

Associates, the National Health Care for the Homeless Council and NCAB will also be available to assist during the conference.

Past experience has taught us that some consumers need to be supplied cash in advance for per diem expenses. Please be sure to address this in your planning for consumer participation.

## **CONSUMER EVENTS AT THE NATIONAL HCH CONFERENCE**

Several events will be of particular interest to HCH consumers.

- A break-out session of HCH 101 on the afternoon of June 7 will focus on the consumer role in governance.
- A meeting of the National Consumer Advisory Board at 5:30 pm on Friday, June 9. **This session is mandatory for recipients of consumer travel subsidies.** Please plan travel accordingly.
- A conference workshop on “Creating and supporting consumer involvement in agencies ” on Friday, June 9 at 10:30 am.
- A conference workshop on “Results of consumer research for HCH programs” on Friday June 9 at 2:00 pm.
- There will also be 12 Step meetings each morning and evening for those consumers and others who are in recovery

## **QUESTIONS?**

Please contact Pat Petty at the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, 615/226-2292 or [ppetty@nhchc.org](mailto:ppetty@nhchc.org)

**CONSUMER TRAVEL SUBSIDY APPLICATION FORM  
2006 National Health Care for the Homeless Conference**

Name of HCH Project: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:  330(h) Grantee     Subcontractor

Individual Completing Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Consumer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark all that apply:

was nominated by Consumer Advisory Board on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

was nominated by agency Board of Directors on (date ) \_\_\_\_\_

has participated in a Consumer Participation Outreach effort

is member of HCH Project's Board of Directors

is member of Advisory Committee or Consumer Advisory Board

is staff member of HCH project

is currently homeless

is formerly homeless

attended previous National HCH Conference

will attend HCH 101 event on June 7

will attend NCAB meeting, 5:30 pm, June 9 (mandatory)

will attend National HCH Conference June 8-10

HCH Project will pay applicable registration fees for this consumer

We request an additional subsidy for registration fees

On-site Support Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Applications must be received **no later than Friday, April 14, 2006**. Please send to National Health Care for the Homeless Council, PO Box 60427, Nashville TN 37206-0427; fax to 615/226-1656; or e-mail [ppetty@nhchc.org](mailto:ppetty@nhchc.org). Applications may also be made at [www.nhchc.org](http://www.nhchc.org) after April 3.

# National Consumer Advisory Board

## NOMINATION FORM

HCH consumers who attend the National Health Care for the Homeless Conference elect the Executive Committee of the National Consumer Advisory Board (NCAB) every two years. The next election will be held on Friday, June 9, 2006, in Portland, Oregon. For information on Consumer Travel Subsidies for this conference, please go to [www.nhchc.org/advisory.html](http://www.nhchc.org/advisory.html)

Any currently or formerly homeless person who is actively involved on an HCH Consumer Advisory Board (CAB) or Board of Directors is eligible to serve on the NCAB Executive Committee and is eligible to make nominations.

The NCAB Executive Committee meets monthly by conference call, and face-to-face when possible. The Chair of NCAB will also serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Health Care for the Homeless Council.

Each nomination should be accompanied by a short (no longer than two paragraphs) biography - stating why the nominee is qualified to serve on the Executive Committee of NCAB.

Nominations must be returned to NCAB, PO Box 60427, Nashville TN 37206, or faxed to 615-226-1656, or e-mailed to [ncab@nhchc.org](mailto:ncab@nhchc.org), or submitted on-line at [www.nhchc.org/advisory.html](http://www.nhchc.org/advisory.html) **no later than April 14, 2006.**

Position: Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Co-Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person (HCH staff or another CAB member) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach short biographical statement.



## **National Consumer Advisory Board Consumer Participation Outreach #2**

Homeless people who advise Health Care for the Homeless projects talked to other homeless people in seven cities last year. We learned that HCH projects are seen as helpful and easy-to-access sources of health care, although long waits for services were sometimes a problem. That information was passed on to the National Consumer Advisory Board and the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, an advocacy organization. As a result, the National Council has worked with the federal government to get more medical staff for HCH projects, and some HCH projects are preparing grant applications now, in February and March 2006.

However, the National Health Care for the Homeless Council has never believed that funding special clinics for homeless people is the best way to deal with the health problems that affect people without homes. The organization has called for the government to use tax money to pay for health insurance for everyone (an approach sometimes called “Single Payer”). Please visit [www.nhchc.org](http://www.nhchc.org) to learn more.

There is a new opportunity to push for universal health insurance through the Citizen’s Health Care Working Group, which is gathering opinions from all sorts of people all over the country, and will make recommendations to the Congress and the President. (see <http://www.citizenshealthcare.gov/> for more information). As the National Health Care for the Homeless Council prepares its recommendations to this group, we want to make sure that HCH positions reflect the ideas of the homeless people that we serve.

We have asked HCH Consumer Advisory Boards all over the country to help us learn what homeless people think about these issues. We hope that many people who have experienced homelessness will talk about the questions on the other side of this sheet, and note their opinions there.

***Completed outreach forms should be bundled together and sent by April 15, 2006, to:***

***NCAB Outreach PO Box 60427 Nashville TN 37206***

THANK YOU!

