

Connecticut Alliance For Basic Human Needs

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Dear Friends:

As we begin a new year, CABHN once again asks that you make a donation to support our work and the publication and distribution of *CABHN Fever*. Your contribution is very important - it will enable us to continue to remain active around poverty issues. Right now, the information and advocacy provided by CABHN are crucially important, as state legislators debate how to balance the state budget and programs to protect Connecticut's neediest residents are at risk.

We are pleased to report that in the past year, with your help, we have:

- Collaborated with other groups, such as One Connecticut and One Connecticut East to organize events throughout the state at which residents were able to tell legislators about the impact of legislative actions on individuals' lives.
- Continued to inform and mobilize people around TANF re-authorization. CABHN took a lead in organizing a national action in Washington, DC, *The Shirt Off Our Backs Day*, to illustrate the detrimental effects of current TANF policies and the proposed TANF Re-Authorization Bill.
- More effectively communicated to members of Congress and the General Assembly the hardships families are facing in these terrible economic times in Connecticut through the use of direct mail, the media, and *CABHN Fever*.
- Held a screening of Welfare Made A Difference's video "*Once Upon a Time, Welfare Made A Difference*" at the General Assembly's TANF Council. At this event, CABHN released the new booklet, "*Jobs First, (Families Last?)*", which outlines the stories of families who lose cash assistance because of time limits.

Today we are asking you to contribute to CABHN so that we can continue and expand our efforts in the coming year. For the past eleven years, the printing and mailing of CABHN Fever has been made possible because organizations and individuals like you have recognized its importance and made donations to CABHN.

We are doing our best to control the cost of producing and mailing CABHN Fever. But we want to be able to distribute this important resource widely. Please help us continue this important effort. We are asking that individuals consider a contribution of at least \$25 and that organizations who receive multiple copies of CABHN Fever for their staff contribute at least \$100. If you make a \$30 donation, you will receive a free copy of Mapping Change, the latest summary of the programs affecting people with low incomes, when it is published early this year.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. We look forward working with you in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Jane McNichol
Coordinator, CABHN
Executive Director,
Legal Assistance Resource Center of CT

Deborah Noble
Community Liaison, CABHN

Help set CABHN's Direction for the 2004 General Assembly's Session

Please tell us what you think CABHN should focus on in the coming year:

Rank these issues in order of importance 1-6, with 1 being the most important and 6 being least important. Would you like CABHN to focus on:

_____ Eliminating co-pays, premiums, and reductions of medical benefits for Medicaid, HUSKY, and SAGA clients

_____ Reducing homelessness among families and supporting the Reaching Home Initiative

_____ Restoring programs and services that have been cut back or eliminated by budget cuts, such as the Safety Net Program and Care 4 Kids

_____ Protecting and expanding programs for low-income residents; i.e. HUSKY, TFA, Care 4 Kids, benefits to legal immigrants

_____ Developing education and training programs for TFA recipients and other low income residents

_____ Improving wages and other working conditions in low wage jobs

Please check the appropriate boxes:

' I've enclosed a donation of _____
(A copy of *Mapping Change* will be sent to those making a donation of \$30 or more)

' I will contact my legislators about key issues; add me to CABHN's legislative alert system.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Day Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

FAX: _____

Return this form and a contribution if possible to:
CABHN, c/o LARCC, 80 Jefferson St., Hartford, CT 06106-5050. Make checks out to CABHN

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!