

**City of Danbury  
Department of Welfare & Social Services**

**March 2005**

**Service Activities:** Department staff record activities on a daily basis. Activities can be referrals to other agencies or they can be direct services such as emergency Rx, application completion for state or federal assistance & indigent drug programs & applications for housing; security or back rent payments. These are activities/services performed by staff at 254 Main Street and do not include the activities of the homeless services division, which are reported on separately. Categories into which service activities fall are:

<b>Service activity category</b>	<b>March</b>
<b>Food Assistance</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Housing <i>in addition to those reported on below</i></b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Medical: including assessments for WOW, Americares</b>	<b>139</b>
<b>Indigent Prescription applications</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>Evictions</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>State DSS</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Substance Abuse</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Case management</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Vocational</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Neighborhood</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Social Security</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Energy assistance</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Home Visits</b>	<b>4</b>

**\*The following are people who requested that the City assist them with their housing problems during the month. These individuals were assisted specifically by the department caseworker assigned to housing issues.**

**March**

- 14 were seeking housing & needed housing search assistance; 2 housed, 2 pending, 1 refused; 4 referred
- 5 seeking back rent assistance: 1 granted; 2 pending; 2 referred
- 1 needing housing retention service; 1 retained housing
- 11 received assistance with some other aspect of housing, legal referrals, mediation etc.

**The requests consisted of the following family compositions:**

- 21 Single adults; 1 elderly
- 1 emancipated youth
- 1 adult couple
- 4 single parent families: 9 children
- 4 2-parent families: 8 children

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Retained housing for a mother w/ 3 minor children
- Accessed public housing for a disabled male
- Found market housing for 2 parent family with 1 child

## City's Emergency Shelter

### Day Center:

183 Different homeless people were provided services during the month  
22 initial assessments were completed  
0 persons found housing or were placed in housing programs  
21 referrals for substance abuse treatment were made  
9 Mental Health Referrals  
1 person found employment

### Night shelter:

43 different people utilized the night shelter  
0 people were turned away for reasons other than lack of bed space.  
99% overall occupancy rate for the month.

### Quarterly Data for 1/1-3/31/05

41 Unduplicated persons have used the night shelter; 30 males & 11 females  
11 employed; 5 receiving Social Security; 1 veteran's pension; 3 unemployment  
benefits & 21 have no source of income.

21 have high school diplomas, 6 some college or a degree, 14 did not complete high  
school.

30 people indicated that substance abuse contributed to their homelessness; 10 indicated  
mental illness and 15 indicated that lack of a job or financial resources were the  
contributing factors ( *people could give more than one response*)

### Noteworthy:

- Mayor's Task Force continues to develop 10 year plan to end homelessness
- Department staff asked to meet and share concerns with CHN about the quality of services and providers for SAG medical recipients
- John Sullivan of the Veteran's administration is providing outreach services to homeless vets in Danbury
- Department participated in NRZ walk-about in Blind Brook Neighborhood
- Assistant Director & Mayor's rep have become important advocates for a community resident/property owner involved in the mental health and probate systems