

COUNTY HOMELESSNESS TRUST FUNDS: COUNTY ENDORSEMENTS

Providing counties with flexible and cost-effective resources to help low-income residents achieve self-sufficiency and create stable homes

What County Officials Are Saying:

“The Homelessness Trust Fund has enabled Mercer County to help fund critical supportive services for residents in need of stable housing. These services, which are often difficult to fund with traditional grants, include prevention of homeless services, construction of affordable housing and support services for permanent housing.”

- ***Mercer County Executive, Brian Hughes***

“While \$3.00 is a relatively small fee for those purchasing a home, when those fees are aggregated, they make a huge impact in the community. In the five years since the county’s Homelessness Trust Fund was enacted, we’ve been able to develop an impressive portfolio of housing and services that were not available before including financial literacy training, case management, direct assistance to help veterans with security deposits and first month’s rent, temporary rental assistance, and permanent supportive housing for veterans, individuals with developmental disabilities, and others in need. We were also able to leverage the Fund to acquire additional funding from an external source to generate community-based housing vouchers that can be renewed annually. That \$3.00 fee has certainly made a difference in the lives of countless County residents. “

- ***Somerset County Freeholder Deputy Director, Pat Walsh***

“The decision to create a Homelessness Trust Fund in Hudson County was an easy one for us, and was immediately voted on unanimously by our Freeholders once the law was established. This flexible source of funding has allowed our county to provide supportive services to help residents facing tough times get back on their feet and to prevent homelessness for those individuals and families at risk of losing their housing.”

- ***Hudson County Executive, Thomas A. DeGise***

“As one of the very few county-based agencies which generate significant revenues, the Clerk’s office is in a unique position to assist with critical public service programs. When state law enabled the creation of the Homeless Trust Fund, we could not pass up this opportunity to help those in need.”

- ***Union County Clerk, Joanne Rajoppi***

“Middlesex County was one of the three original counties in the State to establish a Homeless Trust Fund. As public servants, my fellow Freeholders and I believe we must put into place effective programs that truly help those most in need. These funds help us do that.”

- ***Middlesex County Freeholder Director, Ronald G. Rios***

“Many individuals who are homeless are the highest users of emergency care and emergency room facilities. More often than not, it is difficult and often impossible for those who are homeless to be eligible for supportive housing services. Our Homelessness Trust Fund enables these supportive services to be funded.”

- ***Camden County Freeholder, Carmen Rodriguez***