



Photos from Mercer County's Project Homeless Connect

On January 25, 2007, the Trenton/Mercer Continuum of Care (a consortium of homeless service providers) held the first ever Trenton/Mercer Project Homeless Connect event at the Trenton YWCA. The day-long event provided those experiencing homelessness with access at a single location to dozens of services, including housing referrals, medical care, legal services, food, clothing, and dental care. Over 525 individuals attended, 300 of whom were homeless.

Mercer County's Project Homeless Connect was conducted in partnership with statewide efforts to offer similar one-day, one-stop events for the homeless on January 25th, in counties throughout New Jersey. The event coincides with the state's annual homeless count, when volunteers band together to count and survey each county's homeless.

71 volunteers staffed the Mercer event, which was co-chaired by Tarry Truitt of the Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness, and Cleophis Roper, Director of Community Development for the City of Trenton.



Notre Dame School teacher Judy Salcewicz and students, with the lunches they made for the event



Sister Loretta Maggio of Mt. Carmel Guild donates personal care kits.



Stephanie Wolcott of Tyco International, surveys the homeless.



Donte, a local barber, provided over 50 haircuts to the homeless



Nonprofit organizations offer housing services



Alice Ann Kroesen from Matossian Eye Associates offers vision screenings



Cortland Coleman of the Social Security Administration helps an individual access benefits



Ed Mazzeo, Veteran Services of Mercer County, supports local veterans seeking assistance



Heather Schulze and Cynthia Seda Schreiver of Central Jersey Legal Services provide legal assistance to attendees



Mercer Alliance Board Member Stephanie Wolcott observes the event with Todd Weakley and Assemblyman Reed Gusciora.



Ron Cefalone from the Mercer County Clerk's office helps individuals obtain identification cards.



Students from Temple University Dental School offer dental hygiene advice



Lee Heather of Child Care Connection provides childcare information



Vernett Sherrill, City of Trenton and Kendra Basnight, Mercer County One Stop, offer information on asset building classes and employment opportunities



Mike Aucott, Jeff Griesemer and Kris Geller perform music during lunch



Jonathan Magobet, Rebecca Sylvan and Susan Jones (not shown) serve lunch



Susan Ford, DC performs massages



Individuals exiting Project Homeless Connect receive food and other giveaways



Project Homeless Connect planning committee and volunteers

Organizations sponsoring and/or participating included:

Tyco International, City of Trenton, Mercer Alliance To End Homelessness, Rescue Mission of Trenton, Anchor House, ARC of Mercer, Mercer County Department of Human Services, United Way of Greater Mercer County, Greater Trenton Behavioral HealthCare, Catholic Charities, Isles, YWCA, Mercer County Board of Social Services, Mercer County Libraries, Veterans Services, and One Stop Centers, New Jersey HMFA, Henry J. Austin Health Center, Amani House, Volunteers of America, Escher Street SRO, Matossian Eye Associates, Susan Ford, DC, Mercer Street Friends, Womanspace, Salvation Army; Legal Services of NJ, Community Law Project, TASK, Cindy Lorz Hoge, DMD, Temple University Dental School, Mt. Carmel Guild, Capital Health Services-MICU, Planned Parenthood, Dunham Hall, HomeFront, Dunkin' Donuts, Ewing ShopRite, Trenton Family Preservation House, Princeton Monthly and Trenton Monthly Meetings, Princeton Friends School, St. Matthews Church, Notre Dame School, Craft Cleaners, and Salvation Army.

Those interested in supporting or participating in the January 2008 Project Homeless Connect should contact Tarry Truitt at (609) 844-1008, truitt@merceralliance.org.