

HOMELESS ACTION COMMITTEE

393 NORTH PEARL ST.
ALBANY, NY 12207

Office (518) 426-0554
FAX 462-5839

www.homelessaction.com

SLEEP-A-THON 2011 REPORT

Thank you to everyone who participated and/or supported HAC's Eighteenth Annual Sleep-a-thon and making it a successful event! This year's Sleep-a-thon had a large number of participants- **150 people attended!** Compared to other nights this winter, the weather wasn't so bad. A total of 7 people stayed out all night.

Thanks to each of you, we have raised **\$18,878** thus far from this event. If all outstanding pledges of \$955 come in, our total raised will be **\$19,833**. Last year we raised \$22,000 and are hoping we can surpass that goal this year! After the event, we usually receive additional pledges from participants as well as other donations from supporters on our mailing list. Hopefully, we will surpass our goal of \$22,000 in the next couple of months. This will assist in helping to meet our budget gap for 2011. HAC's 2011 budget calls for raising \$113,000 in donations, an overwhelming burden for a non-profit organization. This year, it is expected to be an extremely difficult year as our revenues have been decreased over \$50,000 due to rental cuts and NYS budget cuts so it is critical that we surpass our goal.

This year's Sleep-a-thon was full of energetic people, all uniting for a common goal of helping people who are homeless. Signs were held to oncoming traffic, horns honked in unison in support, and an amazing **\$1,218 was collected from the traffic alone!** A special thanks to everyone who helped to collect this money. The event was covered by Channel 13.

Participants at the Sleep-a-thon included the following individuals/groups:

- U.S. Congressman Paul Tonko
- Albany County Executive Michael Breslin
- Albany County Legislators Chris Higgins and Ryan Horstmyer
- Albany Common Council members Anton Konev, and Michael O'Brien
- First Church of Albany
- St. Paul's Church
- St. John's/St. Anne's Church
- Albany College of Pharmacy
- HVCC students
- SUNY Service is Key; SUNY students
- Christian Brothers Academy students
- United Tenants of Albany
- CARES
- Equinox
- Capital District Center for Independence

The participants who raised the most pledges this year were as follows: Dan Wilcox at \$1125, Chris Chale at \$1010, and Sean Moran at \$1000. Several individuals who were not able to attend, also raised pledges for HAC.

I would also like to extend our appreciation to all volunteers who helped that night! Special thanks to our Overall Coordinator that night, Lisanne Forgione. In addition, thank you to: Kate McGuirl, who was our press spokesperson and greeter; Julie Ramos, and Rachel Fitzpatrick, our clipboard people; Stephanie Canham, Amanda Burt, Chris Bottini, Katie Carhart, and Georgia Fishburn, our registration volunteers; Sr. Honora Kinney, who staffed the HAC literature table; Sean Moran, our announcer/MC, HAC speaker & greeter; Libby Alois, our Music Coordinator and Sound System Security; Grace Mattoon, Mike Allen, & Graham Haley, who were our peacekeepers; Service Is Key at SUNY & MaryAnn Denniger, our sign coordinators; Michaela Whalen- the coordinator of the money collection from the public and clean-up coordinator; and Service is Key, our leafletter coordinator. **Thank you to everyone who collected the money from the public in the cans- \$1218 total!**

Thanks also to Chris B, Lisanne, Libby, Mandy, and our staff who helped in advance of the event. Chris Bottini and Cat Hobbs and our Program Assistants did a phenomenal job phonebanking in advance to our mailing list. They also enabled us to get halfway through calling the mailing list twice! HAC's staff at our housing program also helped phonebank to everyone on our mailing list this year, as well as helped with the mailing. Phonebanking is a difficult task, yet is critical in increasing participation and raising funds. Everyone involved helped to make this event the success that it was!

Please check our website soon for photographs of the event at www.homelessaction.com .

Thank you so much for making HAC's Eighteenth Annual Sleep-a-thon a huge success! We appreciate your support and look forward to your continued involvement with HAC next year!

Sincerely,



Donna DeMaria
Executive Director