

**NOTICE TO PUBLIC AVAILABILITY  
OF  
HOMELESS EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND RAPID TRANSITION TO HOUSING  
(HEARTH); DEFINING “HOMELESS”  
Docket No. FR-5333-P-01**

**PURPOSE:** To provide citizens the opportunity to examine and comment on the new definition of “homeless” as outlined in the HEARTH ACT. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has proposed legislation to elaborate on the definition of “homelessness”. Specifically, the legislation provides guidance on determining whether a person is homeless through four (4) broad categories.

**BACKGROUND – HEARTH ACT**

The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) was enacted into law on May 20, 2009. The HEARTH Act consolidates three homeless assistance programs administered by HUD under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act into a single grant program; creates the Emergency Solutions Grant (formerly known as Emergency Shelter Grant) and the Rural Housing Stability Program; codifies in statutory law the Continuum of Care planning process, a part of HUD’s application process to assist homeless persons by providing greater coordination in responding to their needs; defines the terms “homeless”, “homeless individual,” “homeless person” and “homeless individual with a disability”

A copy of the Federal Register (<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2010-04-20/html/2010-8835.htm>) including the proposed definition of “homeless” will be available for public review and comment at the City of Lansing City Clerk’s Office at City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave, Department of Planning and Neighborhood Development, 316 N. Capitol, Lansing, MI and department website at: [www.lansingmi.gov/pnd/development](http://www.lansingmi.gov/pnd/development), at the Capital Area District Library (Reference Desk, 2<sup>nd</sup> flr.), 401 S. Capitol Ave, Lansing, MI.

The Continuum of Care, the Greater Lansing Homeless Network (GLHRN) for Ingham County, a organization involved in addressing the needs and causes of homelessness, is interested in gathering feedback from residents in the community regarding the proposed legislation so that we can formulate a response to HUD on behalf of the community’s input and opinion of the proposed changes. Please forward any comments by June 14, 2010 to: Doris Witherspoon, Senior Planner, City of Lansing, Michigan, Department of Planning and Neighborhood Development, 316 North Capitol, Suite D-1, Lansing Michigan 48933-1236. Telephone (517) 483-4063. or email at [dwithers@lansingmi.gov](mailto:dwithers@lansingmi.gov). Also additional information regarding the HEARTH Act is available at [www.HUDHRE.info](http://www.HUDHRE.info)

The comment period for the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing: Defining “Homeless” Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP) is due to HUD **June 21, 2010**.

Interested persons are invited to submit comments, by referencing the document name and title, by the aforementioned date regarding this rule to:

Regulations Division  
Office of General Counsel  
Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SW., Room 10276  
Washington, DC 20410-0500  
Or electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>

