

## PROJECT H3: Home, Health, Hope



### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Project H3 Seeks to Save Valley's Homeless

*Workers, volunteers conduct survey to find the most vulnerable*

**PHOENIX (April 21, 2010)** – A coalition of government, private and faith-based organizations has joined hands this week to identify the 50 most vulnerable homeless individuals in Maricopa County, and get them help and housing before they die on the streets.

A 1994 study in Philadelphia found that the average life span for a homeless person is less than 45 years, compared with the average U.S. lifespan of 77.9 years. **Project H3: Home, Health Hope**, is a grass-roots, collaborative effort involving 50 government, faith, and business groups in the Greater Phoenix area led by the Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness. They are using a pioneering approach developed by [Common Ground](#), a national organization seeking to end homelessness in America by putting these individuals into housing and finding them the services they need to stay alive.

"Project H3 is a partnership of public and private organizations that is looking for real solutions to a problem that affects too many people, too many families and too many communities," said Governor Jan Brewer. "The partnership between public and private organizations allows for both sectors to streamline efforts to strengthen the mission to end homelessness. Their cooperation saves lives, improves neighborhoods, and helps Arizona."

During the week of April 19, outreach workers began working side-by-side with community volunteers to verify that an individual was on the streets at least six months. They used 32 questions related to personal information, housing history and health history to measure their vulnerability, based on the following factors:

- End Stage Renal Disease
- History of Cold Weather Injuries
- Liver Disease or Cirrhosis
- HIV+ / AIDS
- More than 60 years old
- Three or more emergency room visits in prior three months
- Three or more emergency room or hospitalizations in prior year
- Combination of mental illness, substance abuse and chronic disease

**What:** A Regional Community Briefing to reveal results, lessons learned, stories and successes.

**Who:** Various individuals involved in the project, including several elected officials.

**When:** **10 a.m. – noon, Friday, April 23, 2010**

**Where:** Arizona State University. The Mercado  
502 E. Monroe St., Building C Room 368, Phoenix

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### About Project H3: Home, Health, Hope

Project H3: Home, Health Hope is a collaborative effort of community leaders from the non-profit, governmental and business communities in the Greater Phoenix area striving to end homelessness in our communities. The Project H3 Implementation Team is led by the Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness. It consists of more than 50 individual members representing the following organizations, agencies and entities:

A New Leaf	City of Phoenix	Mesa United Way
Arizona Behavioral Health Corporation	City of Tempe	Native American Connections
Arizona Housing Alliance	Community Bridges	New Arid Club
Arizona Housing, Inc.	Community Information and Referral	Phoenix Human Services Commission
ASU Center for Applied BH Services	Comtrans	Phoenix Military Veterans Commission
ASU Morrison Institute	Downtown Phoenix Partnership	Phoenix VA Medical Center HCHV
ASU School of Nursing	Foundation for Senior Living	S.T.A.R. Centers
ASU School of Social Work	Health Care for the Homeless	Salvation Army Project Hope
AZ Department of Economic Security	HOM, Inc.	Save the Family
AZ Department of Health Services	HomeBase Youth Services	Southwest Behavioral Health
AZ Department of Housing	Lodestar Day Resource Center	St. Vincent de Paul
AZ Department of Veterans Services	Madison Street Veterans Association	Terros
Basic Mission	MAG Continuum of Care	Tumbleweed Center for Youth Development
Biltmore Properties, Inc.	Magellan Health Services of Arizona	U.S. Vets
Central Arizona Shelter Services	MARC Center	UMOM New Day Centers
City of Glendale	Maricopa County Public Defender	Valle del Sol
City of Mesa	Mayor's Commission on Disability Issues	Valley of the Sun United Way

To learn more about Project H3, please visit <http://www.azceh.org/PH3.html>. Project H3: Home, Health, Hope has launched a group page on Facebook.com at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=231178836390&ref=mf&v=info#!/group.php?gid=302450642571&ref=nf>. To learn about the national effort, visit [www.commonground.org](http://www.commonground.org).

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