



Barbara Poppe
Executive Director
United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

Barbara Poppe was appointed by the Obama Administration to serve as executive director of the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness in October 2009.

The mission of the Council is to coordinate the Federal response to homelessness and to create a national partnership at every level of government and with the private sector to reduce and end homelessness in the nation while maximizing the effectiveness of the Federal government in contributing to the end of homelessness. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan is chairman of the Council, which includes 19 Federal agencies, 49 state interagency councils, the three territories and the District of Columbia.

Ms. Poppe has more than 25 years of non-profit experience working on homelessness with housing-related organizations. Prior to her appointment, she was executive director of the Columbus, Ohio-based Community Shelter Board (CSB). The CSB is a nationally recognized non-profit organization that creates collaborations, innovates solutions, and invests in quality programs to end homelessness in Columbus and Franklin counties. She provided visible leadership in achieving community-wide homeless services and prevention objectives. Under her leadership, CSB was awarded a HUD Rapid Re-housing Demonstration Project to serve families with children. In 2003 she played a lead role in securing a combined federal grant of \$3.3 million to fund an innovative project to address chronic homelessness in the Columbus community. It was one of just 11 grants awarded nationwide.

Ms. Poppe also has served as executive director of Friends of the Homeless, Inc., and was the principal investigator for two federal demonstration grants. The first, from the U.S. Department of Labor, studied the provision of job training for the homeless. The second was a chemical dependency treatment demonstration grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Center for Substance Abuse Treatment.

She has served as a board member and advisory group member of the National Alliance to End Homelessness, the Independent Housing Committee of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, and the national organizing committee of the Corporation for Supportive Housing. She was appointed by Gov. Strickland to the Ohio Interagency Council on Homelessness and Affordable Housing. She was also very active in the Columbus community, serving on the Mayor's Health, Housing & Human Services 2012 Commission, and the Mayor's Economic Advisory Committee. She has served on the Student Mobility Leadership Team and the PowerPhilanthropy Advisory Board of The Columbus Foundation; the Professional Advisory Council of United Way of Central Ohio; the Champion of Children selection committee of Columbus Montessori Education Center; and the Columbus State Community College Advisory Committee for Mental Health, Chemical Dependency, and MRDD Technology Progress.

Ms. Poppe was honored as a 2006 Woman of Achievement by the YWCA of Columbus; is a recipient of the 2005 Honda Equal Opportunity Community Service Award from the Columbus Urban League, and received the 2004 Buddy Gray Award for homeless activism from the National Coalition for the Homeless. In 2002, she received a Citizen of the Year Award from the Central Ohio Public Relations Society of America. CSB received the 2002 Non Profit Sector Achievement Award from the National Alliance to End Homelessness.

She earned a Masters of Science Degree in Epidemiology from the University of Cincinnati. She has published and presented on various topics related to homelessness and is a frequent national speaker.