

1114 Quarrier Street  
Charleston, WV 25301

Phone: (304) 340-3594  
Fax: (304) 340-3614

**ywca**charleston.org

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**ywca** sojourner's shelter  
(304) 340-3553

**ywca** resolve family abuse program  
(304) 340-3573

**ywca** mel wolf child development center  
(304) 340-3560

**ywca** shanklin center  
(304) 415-2682

**ywca** alicia mccormick homes  
(304) 415-2682

**ywca** empowerment homes for women  
(304) 415-2682

**ywca** sojourner's education/job readiness  
(304) 340-3516

**ywca** hps/nautilus  
(304) 340-3550

**ywca** past & present gently used clothing  
(304) 340-3646

**ywca** 2nd seating gently used furniture  
(304) 344-1348

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## DHHR-CONTRACTED HOMELESS SHELTER LINE ITEM

### POSITION:

The YWCA of Charleston, along with the West Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness, is requesting a separate line item in support of all ten (10) Department of Health and Human Resources Contracted certified Homeless Shelters throughout West Virginia. Additionally, the ten (10) Department of Health and Human Resources Contracted certified Homeless Shelters are receiving a total of \$1,618,267 in funding. We request a 20% increase in their funding of \$323,653 to allow these shelters to continue providing the critical services needed in our State. This will bring the total funding of the ten (10) DHHR Contracted certified Homeless Shelters to \$1,941,920.

### IMPACT:

The YWCA Sojourner's Shelter for Homeless Women and Families remains fully committed to its mission of providing a wholesome, safe, healthy environment and promoting self-sufficiency to those in need. Services are provided to homeless single women, women with children, men with custody of their children and intact families. Embracing a philosophy of empowering each individual, the ultimate goal of Sojourner's many comprehensive services is to ensure that individuals achieve long-term self-sufficiency in order to prevent future homelessness. A separate line item, along with an increase in funding, will aid in this commitment of the YWCA, as well as other DHHR contracted shelters. Those shelters include: Bartlett House, Inc. (Morgantown, WV), Community Networks, Inc. Bethany House (Martinsburg, WV), Greater Wheeling Coalition For the Homeless, Inc. (Wheeling, WV), Harmony House Cabell Co. Library (Huntington, WV), Mason County Shelter (Point Pleasant, WV), NCAA Randolph County Homeless Shelter (Elkins, WV), Pine Haven Shelter (Beckley, WV), Roark-Sullivan Lifeway Center (Charleston, WV), Scott Place Shelter (Fairmont, WV), and YWCA Sojourner's Shelter for Homeless Women and Families (Charleston, WV).

### CURRENT FUNDING:

On average, ONLY \$12.01 is allocated to each contracted shelter per shelter night. This amount does not even come close to covering the actual costs incurred by each shelter per night. For example, in 2009-2010, Sojourner's provided 18,690 shelter nights, serving 1,019 persons, which included 309 children. The actual cost per night was \$57.79, yet funding only covered \$9.39. In addition to lodging, 3 meals a day, and clothing, Sojourner's provides other critical services 365 days a year such as crisis intervention and case management services; referral services to link clients to community agencies; outreach services for both residents and non-residents; supportive counseling (substance abuse and mental health); housing, relocation, and transportation; pre- and post-natal counseling and referrals; children's educational and enrichment programs, including computer classes, art classes, tutoring, drug-free education, supportive counseling, and field trips, and education and Job Readiness Center, assisting participants through the education and career decision-making process. Some aspects of the program include job skills, GED preparation, computer classes, money management, self-esteem building, and more.