

# **HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION OF SAN DIEGO AND IMPERIAL COUNTIES**

## **Homeless Discharge Planning Efforts**

Hospital Association has been working extensively with others in the community to address the increasing problems experienced by homeless individuals in meeting their basic needs, not the least of which is healthcare. Recognizing that Hospitals can not solve the underlying social and economic causes, participating with all stakeholders can help to bring attention and focus to possible solutions. While funding will always be at the root of certain final solutions, other steps have been taken and will continue to be pursued in 2008 to address gaps in services.

For over two years, Hospital Association staff have been members of a community-based planning group which produced in 2006 the "10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness" (see attachment). One of several committees included a group charged with improving discharge planning. In 2008, staff will again join the Discharge Planning Committee to assist in the implementation phase targeting closing gaps in the existing discharge systems.

Other activities, including accomplishments to date, lessons learned, and challenges for the future are contained in the attached PowerPoint. By placing this information on the Hospital Association's website, it is our intent to continually update planning and implementation efforts for the hospital community. As such, it will be a resource for hospitals to use in strengthening their communications with other stakeholders in their individual service areas.

(submitted 12/21/07)