

## Holiday Tea Benefits Liberty Place

Liberty Place Recovery Center for Women held its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual holiday Tea on Saturday, November 14. The event raised nearly \$10,000 for the program which provides support and hope for women recovering from drug and alcohol addiction.

Chris Goodman, WLEX Channel 18 News at Sunrise Co-Ancor, served as this year's Emcee/Auctioneer.

"As the program's signature fundraiser, this distinctive event featured an enjoyable and relaxed traditional afternoon tea," said Jeri Allison, Program Director.

The center was lively as people tried to outbid each other on the table auction

and the silent auction. Thirty tables were live auctioned off by Chris Goodman during the tea.

Table hosts decorated each table and set its own theme. Tables included place settings for each seat, favors, and a table cloth or runner. Some of this year's table themes included Paula Dean, Horsing Around, Queen Anne Christmas, Fall Gathering, Simple Elegance, and Peppermint Fun.

"This event is an opportunity for us to create awareness of our program while providing a social event for people in our community, which they can enjoy together," said Allison.



Nancy Taggart/The Register  
*Lisa Marcum admires a game-themed table decorated by Gordon & Salter, Chartered.*



Nancy Taggart/The Register  
*Chris Goodman, of WLEX in Lexington, auctions off a University of Kentucky men's basketball-themed table, including two tickets to see UK play North Carolina and a John Calipari signed basketball. The UK themed table sold for \$650.*

Amber B. Peer Mentor/Program Graduate delivered a powerful speech about her experience at Liberty Place.

Area businesses, such as Chick-fil-A, Boone Tavern, LifeWay Christian Bookstore, and Starbucks graciously donated items which were silent auctioned. There were 50 items.

"Liberty Place relies on important fundraisers and donations," said Allison. "The community has really embraced this event. We want to thank everyone who supported this event."

Besides the live table auction and the silent auction, money was raised by selling tickets to the event and through numerous private donations. A portion of the proceeds will go into the residents' events budget, which will allow them to attend special activities and training, such as AA conferences.

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## Foothills to Help Faith and Community Based Organizations Build Their Capacity, Serve Those In Need

Foothills has received a Compassion Capital Fund (CCF) Demonstration Grant to expand and strengthen the role of 20 organizations in their ability to provide social services to low-income communities.

The project is designed to assist faith and community-based organizations by providing assistance in capacity development, leadership development, organizational development, program development, and improve community engagement.

This \$500,000 grant, awarded by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families, will allow Foothills to assist organizations in nine Kentucky counties including Bath, Clark, Estill, Madison, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Powell, and Rowan. The administration of this project will be through a partnership between Foothills and Gateway Community Services Organization.

The project seeks to help small faith based or community based organizations without a history of having received substantial Federal grant support.

The project award process prioritizes activities that help low-income individuals seeking to gain greater access to State and Federal benefits and tax credits; low-income individuals seeking to secure and retain employment, earn higher wages, and obtain better-quality jobs; low-income individuals and families in need of financial education, credit counseling, and other asset building strategies; the homeless; elders in need; at-risk youth, including Native American youth; and families in transition from welfare to work.

Foothills and Gateway Community Services will select 20 emerging organizations in the nine-county service area to receive capacity building assistance. The project will provide the organizations approximately 62 hours each of one-on-

one technical assistance and approximately 36 hours each of training to develop management skills and to increase engagement in their community.

Each participating organization will receive a subaward ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 to build organizational or program capacity. Subawardees will be selected using a competitive application process and a high priority will be placed on identifying organizations with an interest in helping individuals access the workforce.

Foothills received CCF funding in 2002 and together with several partners was able to grant 157 subawards to small social service organizations in rural Kentucky areas. Organizations interested in participating in the CCF project are encouraged to contact Justin Waggoner, 309 Spangler Drive, Richmond, KY 40475, 859/624-2046. You can also email Justin at [jwaggoner@foothillscap.org](mailto:jwaggoner@foothillscap.org).

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## Foothills Receives Funding For Homelessness Prevention & Housing

Foothills has received \$518,000 from Kentucky's Housing and Emergency Assistance Reaching The Homeless (KY HEARTH) Program. This initiative is part of the national American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 and the federal Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program.

KY HEARTH, administered throughout most of the state by Kentucky Housing Corporation, is a federal program that helps prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless and helps those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized.

Supportive services are available to help assisted individuals and families stay housed. Services include case management, credit counseling, identifying appropriate housing, and some legal services.

The families helped by this project will have many basic needs in addition to the housing assistance.

Foothills is in need of donations of household items for these families. Please contact: Braden Davis, Housing Stability Specialist at 859/624-2046, ext. 206 about making a donation.

Donations needed include personal care items such as shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and dental floss; and household and cleaning supplies such as laundry detergent, dryer sheets, paper towels, dish soap and light bulbs. The program also needs vacuum cleaners, brooms & dustpans, hair dryers, bath towels, washcloths and pillows.

For more information about program contact: In Madison County: 859/623-6514; In Clark County: 859/744-3235; In Estill County 606/723-4492; In Powell County: 606/663-2659.



## Energy Assistance Available in January Crisis Portion of LIHEAP Begins Soon

The deepening of cold winter weather combined with rising utility costs leaves many households unable to fully meet heating bills or purchase sufficient bulk fuel to keep their families safe and warm.

Foothills will begin the crisis portion of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) that assists households in a heating crisis on Monday, January 4. LIHEAP is intended to assist low-income families with managing their energy costs.

A household shall be considered to be in a home heating crisis situation when the household meets the basic LIHEAP eligibility criteria and:

- the household is within four (4) days of running out of fuel if bulk fuel (coal, fuel oil, propane, kerosene, or wood) is the heat source;
- the household has received a past due/disconnect notice if natural gas or electric is the heat source; or
- the household's home heating costs are included as an undesignated portion of the rent, and the household has received an eviction notice for non-payment of rent from the landlord.

For all bulk fuels (wood, coal, propane, fuel oil, kerosene) verification of a crisis situation may be self-declaration by the applicant. For natural gas and electric heated households, the applicant must

present an appropriate disconnect notice from the vendor.

To apply, participants must bring a picture ID, proof of income for all family members, the names, birth dates and social security numbers of all household members. Participants must bring proof of housing type (lease, Section 8 certification, Housing Authority statement, deed or rent receipt).

In addition, in the Crisis component, applicants requesting assistance for natural gas or electric must bring a disconnect/past due notice (example: past due notice, termination notice, final notice). Households at or above 75% of poverty level must pay a portion or co-payment of the minimum necessary to alleviate the crisis. Applicants whose rent includes heat must bring an eviction notice from the landlord.

Individuals who are unable to apply for themselves may send an authorized individual to apply for them. If this is the case you should contact Foothills in your county. Both homeowners and renters who are responsible for their heating bills and have a low or fixed income are eligible.

Benefits are limited to the amount necessary to relieve the crisis with the maximum amount not to exceed the community action agency's local cost for a deliverable supply of the household's primary heating fuel or \$400 for gas or electric.

Benefits may take the form of fuel deliveries, service reconnection, blankets or sleeping bags, and emergency shelter. Crisis relief will be provided within 48 hours or 18 hours if an emergency.

LIHEAP has established income guidelines to determine eligibility. For the 2009-2010 program year the income guidelines are:

Household Size	Gross Monthly Income
1	\$1,174
2	\$1,579
3	\$1,984
4	\$2,389
5	\$2,794
6	\$3,200
7	\$3,605
8	\$4,010

*\* Add \$406 for each additional family member.*

Interested energy customers can find out more how to apply for LIHEAP/heating assistance by contacting the Outreach Office in your county or by calling 859/624-2046.

Foothills Outreach Office locations:

**In Madison County**  
(RICHMOND)

123 Pine Street, Richmond  
623-6514

(BEREA)

214 Jefferson Street, Berea  
986-8350

**In Clark County**

32 Meadow Lane, Winchester  
744-3235

**In Estill County**

209 Driver Drive, Irvine  
723-4492

**In Powell County**

176 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Clay City  
663-2659

**IMPORTANT:** If you are sick or have the flu, please call the Outreach Office first to make other arrangements.

## Ticket to Ride / Bus Service Completes First Year of Operation

By Mike Wynn  
The Winchester Sun  
Published on Nov. 20, 2009

When Kevin and Shirley LaBona moved to Winchester from the Chicago area in 2008, they didn't bother to bring a car.

"We figured in Winchester we could walk everywhere," Kevin LaBona recalls.

But on a trip to Wal-Mart one day, the couple decided to try out the Winchester-Clark County Transit service. That's when they fell in love with the local bus system, LaBona said.

"It's tremendously convenient and a dollar a day. You just can't beat that price," he said.

The LaBona's are among a number of riders who have patronized the new bus route, which recently completed its first year of operation.



Photo by James Mann/jmann@winchestersun.com

Driver Pat Rogers accepted a ticket from rider Amada Pressnell.

According to Foothills Community Action Partnership, a Richmond-based non-profit that runs the service, local buses have provided more than 8,000 rides since the program launched in October 2008. That's an average of more than 600 riders each month.

Local leaders have been pointing to the ridership trends lately as evidence that the new service has proven successful.

"It shows that our community as a whole is trying to help a population that would seek to ride the bus, whether they would have to or whether they would choose to," said Clark County Judge-Executive Henry Branham. "We as a community have made that choice, the conscious choice to provide that service to increase quality of life."

The service is provided through a partnership between the Winchester Board of Commissioners, the Clark County Fiscal Court and Foothills Community Action Partnership.

Last summer, city and county officials agreed to split a monthly subsidy of about \$4,750 to help fund the program. U.S. Rep. Ben Chandler, D-Ky., also helped secure funding to purchase a bus.

Since it opened, monthly ridership has never dipped below 468. It peaked in July 2009, providing 879 rides.

"The transit was well-received in Winchester and Clark County," said Melissa Gross, Foothills program

developer. "There was an acceptance of the bus service right away."

Gross said ridership includes a diverse group. Many riders use the bus to travel to work or school, and older riders travel in the middle of the day for shopping, doctors visits and social engagements, she said.

Tickets cost \$1, or riders can buy a book of 10 for \$7. Passes are good for a full day.

The routes, which run six times a day, include 27 stops, ranging from Community Services to Bluegrass Community and Technical College, and riders can add a stop by calling Foothills 24 hours in advance.

The most popular stops are Wal-Mart, Kroger Plaza, the Brown Proctor Apartments and the Clark County Library.

LaBona said he and his wife ride about four times each week and enjoy the friendliness of the drivers.

While they use the bus for shopping or trips to the doctor's office and library, LaBona said the couple also ride the bus just to get out of the house.

"Basically, anything we need," he said.

Over the last year, some have criticized the service, arguing that it is an expensive luxury that rarely gets used. However, officials have said ridership numbers refute those claims.

Mayor Ed Burtner said providing the service particularly helps low-income residents.

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# The News in Brief...

## Foothills Receives Early Head Start Grant

Foothills has been awarded over \$1.3 million in funding for Early Head Start in Clark, Estill, Madison, and Powell counties, which will include services for 84 children who are under three years of age. Early Head Start (EHS) is a federally funded community-based program for low-income families and is designed to enhance the development of very young children. EHS evolved out of Head Start's long history of providing services to 3 and 4 year olds in Head Start and holistic family programs and services. Recent advances in the field of child development make this an especially exciting time to have Head Start formally expand and include the provision of Early Head Start services. "We are very excited to have received this grant to begin operating Early Head Start" said Phillis Adams, Head Start Director. "We'll be helping to give children a great start on their future and education through Early Head Start and our Head Start program, which also offers parent involvement beyond the classroom." Head Start has provided vital preschool education to children in need for over 40 years. Currently, KRF Head Start includes 28 sites for 856 children in coordination with school systems and day cares throughout Clark, Estill, Garrard, Laurel, Jackson, Madison, Powell and Rockcastle counties. The addition of Early Head Start to the four counties will increase resources and coordination of services with existing agencies and programs for 84 children and their families.

## Foothills To Offer Free Tax Prep

Low-income families, elderly and handicapped taxpayers can receive free income tax help during the tax season at the Foothills main office in Richmond, located at 311 Spangler Drive. Foothills' Financial Partners program is providing this service to residents from Clark, Estill, Madison, and Powell counties. Certified tax preparers will prepare basic state and federal income tax returns for taxpayers who cannot afford to pay for professional tax service. The service offers electronic filing, meaning taxpayers can receive their state and federal tax refunds in two weeks or less. Taxpayers should bring all W-2s, dependent information (such as Social Security numbers) and other important tax documents. Foothills tax site will be open January 25th through April 14th. Appointment times are Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 3-7 p.m. An appointment is required and can be scheduled by calling 859/624-2046.

### footnotes

Published quarterly by Foothills Community Action Partnership. Foothills Community Action Partnership serves residents of Clark, Estill, Madison, and Powell counties with some services in additional areas. Funding for this newsletter is provided by private and public sources including a Community Services Block Grant through the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and the Department for Community Based Services.

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### Ticket to Ride

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"I think it has a beneficial effect for those individuals in the community who do not have transportation and have perhaps had to rely upon friends or some other means of getting around," he said. "I think it has been a good service for the community overall."

A similar bus service also began in Winchester in September 2008, transporting commuters from Wal-Mart to several stops in Lexington.

Branham worked with Foothills to organize the commuter routes over several months in 2008 after residents complained of the high cost of traveling to

work places in Lexington. According to Foothills, the routes transport 30 to 35 people each day.

Branham said attitudes shifted once gas prices arose above \$4 per gallon last year. People are much more conscious about how much gasoline they use, he said.

"There are a lot of benefits," Branham said of the buses. "I truly believe that the majority of Winchester and Clark County want to provide this opportunity."

LaBona pointed out that he doesn't even pay vehicle taxes anymore.

"I cry every time my son whines about the gas prices," LaBona joked. "More people should ride this bus."

## Holiday Tea Benefits Liberty Place

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This year's menu included Artichoke Spread on Pita Chips, Mini Country Ham Tea Sandwiches, Mini Chicken Salad Croissants, Luncheon Meatballs, Veggie Surprise Sandwiches, French Quarter Chocolate Cake, Ginger Snaps & Pumpkin Dip, Lemon Squares, Mexican Wedding Cookies, and Pecan Tassies.



### 2009 Liberty Place Holiday Tea Table Hosts:

Community Trust Bank  
RTB, Inc.

Leadership Madison County  
Home Store & More  
Paula Maionchi

Doris Lash & Carrie Kline  
Historic Boone Tavern  
Angie Pinson, Laurie Purkey,  
& Mareita Daugherty  
Kathleen Kennedy

EKU Alumni Association  
AT&T

Bluegrass Family Health  
Torrico & Schlatter Families  
UK Wildcat Fans!

Prudential Don Foster Realtors®  
Doug & Sharon Bruce  
Paula Woodman

Jerrie Messer  
National City now part of PNC  
Place Peer Mentors  
Pattie A. Clay Reg. Med. Ctr.  
Gordon & Salter, Chartered  
Madison County DCBS  
Ruth Ferrell

Hope Renewed, First Baptist Church  
Red House Baptist Church  
Kristi & Ali's Table

Jeannie Crump  
Beacon Property Management



*Pictured top to bottom: Christmas is for the Birds by  
Doug & Sharon Bruce, 4th of July by Jeannie Crump,  
and Peppermint Fun by Ruth Ferrell.*

