

NEWSLETTER

Coalition News

Vol V. #5

Coalition Coordinator : Al Bashevkin 664-4511 x519; 802 442-5200.

The Northern Berkshire Health and Human Services Coalition is supported by the Berkshire Area Health Education Center with funding from UMASS Medical School. The Coalition is hosted by North Adams State College.

January 1991

January Coalition Meeting

First Baptist Church of North Adams 131 Main St No Adams
Please Enter via Eagle St Entrance

Friday January 11th 10:00 AM to Noon

Meeting Agenda

I. Welcome

II. Introduction of Participants : **Who's here today**

III. What's Happening : **Announcements by Coalition Membership of interest to all**

IV. Coalition Topic : **People with Disabilities** : *With the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Northern Berkshire area can expect some changes. This meeting will give Coalitioners information about what to expect from the ADA along with a discussion about stigma and disabilities.*

V. Other Business

VI. Adjournment and Conclusion

Coalition News is the newsletter of the Northern Berkshire Health and Human Services Coalition. Its function is to keep the mailing list informed of what's happening around the Northern Berkshire area. It's a service to the entire COALITION membership and friends (over 310 at this point). Announcements submitted to the newsletter will reach our entire mailing list. So, take advantage of this unique, free mechanism for informing our membership of news important to all. Please submit these announcements to Al Bashevkin, Coalition Coordinator, P.O. Box 1417, Bennington, VT 05201. For insertion into the February newsletter, your announcements should reach Al Bashevkin by January 23rd.

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What's Happening!

- December's Events

December Meeting

The Coalition Task Force on Community Violence led by Maggie Bittman and Al Bashevkin, used the December Coalition meeting as a forum for community discussions about the issue of violence in the Northern Berkshire area. Coalitioners representing an assortment of organizations and neighborhoods engaged in a healthy discussion about this topic. Representatives of the area schools, Women's Services, the Greylock Neighborhood, PASS, DSS, DMH, Family Planning, North Adams Middle School PTO, AdLib, Child Care of the Berkshires, and the local media discussed the escalation of community violence from a variety of perspectives. The safety of social workers from DSS have been threatened in a number of incidents. Jina Ford reported a "gang like" fight between two young women in the food court at the Berkshire Mall. School children move to non-school territory for their after school fights. What's discouraging is the feeling in the Northern Berkshire community that violence is a problem difficult to intercede and even more difficult to prevent. Rising peer pressure to be tough, the glorification of violence by the media and others, and increasing stresses that families are experiencing are some reasons for an increase in area violent activities. It's a problem that affects us all. Preventing violence is the key. Coalitioners talked about the need to support non-violent approaches to mediating conflicts. A meeting for the Task Force on Violence has been scheduled for Tues, Jan 15th at the Haskins Community Center. Join us to continue these talks. More about the task force is included later in News.

Government Transition Information

With the election over, Coalitioners need to welcome back Dan Bosley, friend and founder of the Coalition (663-7486), who will continue to serve the North Adams / Adams / and surrounding towns area as their elected State Representative. Shaun Kelly (684-4418) has been elected to serve

Williamstown, Pittsfield, and surrounding towns as their representative. Jane Swift (442-5240) has been elected as State Senator of Berkshire County. All area representatives have been personally invited to join the Coalition's Legislators Forum to be held on March 8. Mark that date on your calendar.

The Coalition has been requested by Senator Swift to document the social costs of the economic decline of the 1980's as a means of informing the incoming administration of the needs of the Northern Berkshires. Many of you have been contacted by Al Bashevkin for assistance. If not, and you have some information that will be helpful, contact Al Bashevkin (802 442-5200) ASAP.

David Forsberg (see article from Globe later in Newsletter) has been appointed Secretary of Health and Human Services by Governor-Elect Weld. Peter Nessen (who visited the Coalition for its 1988 Annual Meeting) has been appointed Secretary of Administration and Finance. There will be many new faces in Boston. Stay tuned to Coalition News for updates. Let's do our best to educate Boston about the needs of the Northern Berkshires.

Task Force about Volunteerism

A mass mailing has been sent to all potential sites for volunteer placements. The Task Force about Volunteerism is assembling a notebook of volunteer opportunities to be housed at HelpLine. If you haven't received the volunteer application, please fill out the application enclosed in the newsletter and mail it to the Coalition. The Task Force is also planning a volunteer fair to be held in April. Wanna help? Next meeting for this task force is planned for **Friday, January 11th at 2 PM** at the office of AdLib North, 85 Main St, room 304, North Adams. For more information call Pam Knisley (448-8242) or Al Bashevkin.

Task Force About Violence

Coalitioners had a good turnout for the December meeting that discussed community violence and how to prevent it. The task force is concerned about the portrayal of violence in the media. A media watch has been established that will respond to articles that irresponsibly depict violence in the community. The task force has helped to initiate dialogue in the Northern Berkshire area about the issue of violence, having articles in the Eagle, Transcript, and Advocate. Coalitioners appeared on the Opinion Show (WNAW) and also on Northern Berkshire Tonight (Ch 7) to discuss violence. Solutions will come through community discussions. Keep the dialogue about violence active and alive! The task force is considering honoring those who are doing the most in the community's work against violence. The next meeting for the Task Force about Violence will be **Tuesday, January 15th at 10 AM** at the Haskins Community Room.

School and community personnel will be invited. ?'s , call Maggie Bittman at 664-6104.

Neighborhood Focussing

The River/Hall/Bracewell Neighborhood Association's December 3 meeting was cancelled because of the season's first snow storm. The meeting has been re-scheduled for Monday, January 7th at 7 PM at the Salvation Army in North Adams. ?'s contact Al Bashevkin, 802 442-5200.

Information / Outreach Task Force

An old friend has resurfaced with some more remarkable ideas. Assigned the task of informing the greater Northern Berkshire community of health and human services, this task force takes the creative approach. A media guide will be put together for distribution by the I/O task force. Human Side (regular column in the Transcript) will be re-assigned for the new year. The I/O task force has some interesting ideas for the 1991 Annual Meeting. Wanna help ? The next meeting of the Information / Outreach Task Force will be **Valentines Day (Feb 14th) at 2 PM** at the office of HelpLine, 25 Marshall St, North Adams. Be there and be creative !

Some Great News !

Remember back in September, when the Coalition meeting was visited by Gloria Meert, a staff person from the Kellogg Foundation ? Gloria was doing a site visit for the AHEC Community Coalitions' application for "Community Partners". Gloria was impressed with the responsiveness of the Northern Berkshire Coalition, which helped the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in their decision to fund "Community Partners", a proposal submitted by the Statewide Area Health Education Centers to expand the Coalitions to new cities in the Commonwealth. See information that is included later in the newsletter that describes "Community Partners". Congratulations must go to Tom Wolff, who has envisioned this next step for Coalitions and all of you that have helped make the Northern Berkshire Coalition a showcase.

NEWS AND VIEWS

👤 👤 👤 Northern Berkshire United Way Campaign has officially been completed . . . Hundreds of volunteers working in the Northern Berkshire United Way campaign worked hard to raise \$463,174, which is 93% of its goal. In a year of uncertainty, a successful campaign is looked upon as another spirited and caring achievement in the community. Hundreds of volunteers and thousands of contributors helped to make this happen. Once again, Northern Berkshire responded in a positive manner despite a sluggish economy, plant closings, unemployment and the state's

fiscal crisis. Public services (which includes health and human services) chaired by Janice O'Keefe and Diane Bleau saw an increase of 12% over last year's contributions. Congratulations to those marvelous health and human service fund-raisers. We look forward to seeing Public Safety Director and President of the NB United Way Board of Directors, Art Kelley, who will once again see the stars as he sleeps outdoors somewhere on the campus of NASC as the result of a challenge he put to NASC students.



Any real photographers out there ? . . The Information

Outreach Task Force is looking for a photographer that's willing to chip in by taking a group photo of Coalitioners. This photo can help to break down typical stereotypes of health and human services people. Want to help and clear your social conscience ? Contact Al Bashevkin. No portfolio required.



News from Family Planning . . . Family Planning can respond to folks who need counseling or pregnancy test services and cannot get into their office. Family Planning's Rural Health Outreach Program can send a counselor to your home, school, or other setting to provide pregnancy tests, intake counseling preliminary to a medical check-up, or AIDS risk assessment and referral. Call Family Planning to request the services of a Rural Health Outreach Counselor, 663-8846 or 443-2844.



Healthy Start . . . HEALTHY START continues to help uninsured pregnant women obtain health care coverage so that they have access to early, continuous and comprehensive prenatal services. As a Medicaid Presumptive eligibility provider, Healthy Start can offer eligible women immediate coverage, beginning the day they are called. Those women not eligible for Medicaid may qualify for Healthy Start coverage. Help Healthy Start reach Northern Berkshire women and families. Posters are available. For posters or information, call Healthy Start at 1 800 992-6111.






Help ! . . . Peg Keller has been charged by the Adams Board of Selectmen's Human Services Subcommittee to inventory human services that are provided to Adams residents. Coalitioners can help by calling Peg at 743-5819 with information on the services that your agency provides, the number of Adams residents served and any assistance you may require from local government. So, call Peg with your information, it may help you at funding time.





Homebound, older, and in need of nutrition ? . . . Elder Services of Berkshire County Nutrition Program has been awarded grant monies from the city of North Adams. This award will be utilized to expand the Home

Delivered Meals Program which serves hot meals to homebound senior citizens in North Adams. If you know of anyone sixty (60) years of age or older who you believe could benefit from home delivered meals, Elder Services you to tell them out their services. If the elder is interested and would like to determine their eligibility (s)he can make a referral to their casemanagement office at 664-6512. The elder must be willing to be visited by a casemanager who will conduct an assessment. Eligibility is based on age and need, not on income.

   *And Now, here's Ken I Northern Berkshire*

Tonight, the talk show of the Coalition will be airing its January show, **Monday, Jan 7th** at 7:30 and repeating **Friday, Jan** at 8 PM. The show's topic is violence in the Northern Berkshire community with guests Maggie Bittman, Al Bashevkin, and Kate Hill. Tune into **Channel 7** and join thousands of others who watch the Coalition on TV.

  *Got some Ideas about space ?* Dave Carver is looking for creative uses of the Dowlin Block, 103 Main St, North Adams, and is interested in ideas that coalitioners might have. If you have a good idea, come to the brainstorming meeting, **Tuesday, January 22 at 9 AM** to talk. For more information, talk with Dave Carver or call Al Bashevkin.

/// It's Coalition Supporter renewal time again . . .

Responses are coming in. Let's all do our share in supporting the Coalition. If you haven't signed up yet, then here's your chance. It's a worthwhile cause. Membership scholarships are available. See membership application later in the newsletter.

1990 - 91 Coalition Supporters

ORGANIZATIONS

Berkshire Center for Families and Children
Commonground, Citizens Advocacy Program
VNA of Northern Berkshire
Williamstown Council on Aging
American Red Cross
Northern Berkshire Community Action
Pregnant Adolescent Support System (PASS)
Northern Berkshire Family Life Support Center
Hospice of Northern Berkshire
Northern Berkshire Mental Health Association
Berkshire Council on Alcoholism and Addictions
Women's Services of Western Massachusetts

INDIVIDUALS

Esther Tauber
Dr Len Radin
Warner L. Smith
Peg Keller
Bob Ronnow
Gale Mason
Michele Ethier
Trish Kelly
Al Bashevkin
John Howland
Steve Green
Sue Walker
Anthony Siracusa
Margaret Soderberg

Volunteer Outreach Application

Name of Organization : _____

Address : _____

Contact Person : _____

Telephone : _____

Specific Volunteer Needs: _____

Prior Experience Required : _____

Do you provide formalized training ? _____

Minimum volunteer commitment (months, days, hours . . .) : _____

Comments : _____

Please attach brochure of your agency, and a volunteer job description, if appropriate.

Mail to:

Al Bashevkin, Coalition Coordinator
NASC Box 9075
North Adams, MA 01247



AHEC
Health and Human Services
Coalitions



December 19, 1990

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to share with you the wonderful news that the W.K. Kellogg Foundation has funded "Community Partners", our proposal for expanding the AHEC Health and Human Service Coalitions across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. W.K. Kellogg awarded us \$620,651 over three years. As you can imagine, we are all delighted and somewhat astonished to have received this wonderful news.

We are now in the process of hiring a full-time director; a half-time evaluator, two quarter-time trainers/consultants and a full-time administrative assistant. Attached please find brief project and job descriptions. If you know of anyone who would be an exciting candidate for any of these positions, please have them contact me as soon as possible. Resumes must be received by the third week in January, 1991.

Thank you for all of your help and I look forward to any feedback you might have.

Sincerely,

Tom Wolff

TW/es

Attachments



AHEC Health and Human Services Coalitions



COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

COALITION BUILDING FOR LOCAL SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEMS

A project of the Massachusetts Area Health Education Centers

Funded by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation

SUMMARY

Community Partners aims to expand the ability of communities to solve their own health-related problems by creating and maintaining broad-based local community coalitions.

Since 1984, the Massachusetts Area Health Education Centers have started and operated five coalitions focusing on health care needs in low-income areas throughout Massachusetts. Each coalition has a proven record of accomplishment. The community coalition model creates local health and human services systems that are united instead of fragmented, collaborative instead of competitive, and empowering instead of alienating. We have learned the techniques for making this model work. We now want to use them to implement the model more broadly, in new communities, and to assess the results.

Community Partners is a skill-building initiative designed to create coalitions leading to measurable health care improvements first in Massachusetts, eventually on a larger scale. Its core components include (1) training in coalition generation and maintenance; (2) teaching of techniques for stimulating citizen involvement; (3) consultation to newly-formed coalitions; (4) structured opportunities for new coalitions to exchange resources and ideas; (5) development and distribution of teaching materials; and (6) formation of a consortium linking coalitions to experts with specific skills. Each component has its own implementation timeline.

The overall program is seen as a three-year demonstration project. Multi-criterion and multi-method evaluation, extended over time, will both answer questions about comparative coalition impacts and yield findings applicable for national dissemination.

In Community Partners, we believe we have a problem-focused, cost-effective, and replicable health services model that will strengthen community leadership, promote local self-reliance, and yield specific community health benefits.



AHEC Health and Human Services Coalitions



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

A program of the Massachusetts Area Health Education Centers
Funded by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation

STAFF POSITIONS

We are recruiting staff for Community Partners, a new program to develop and maintain broad-based local health and human service coalitions in high-need communities throughout Massachusetts. Community Partners will bring diverse community representatives together to plan, coordinate, and implement health and human services aimed at local needs. It will be a major service-delivery and capacity-building initiative in the state.

We seek staff for the following positions:

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Responsible for overall implementation of program, including initial contacts with local communities; selection of target communities; design and delivery of coalition training and consultation; and development and maintenance of local community coalitions. Requires significant experience and accomplishment in coalition building, community development, consultation, management, fund-raising, and training, plus involvement in or knowledge of minority communities. Must be willing to travel in-state. We seek an energetic, creative leader fully committed to local community empowerment. Minority applications encouraged. Full-time position. \$35,000 - \$45,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE: Responsible for managing program office. Duties include varied phone contacts, word processing, dictation, desktop publishing, and record keeping. Requires excellent organizational, secretarial, and communication skills. Experience in a similar position preferred. Full-time position. \$17,000 - \$20,000 plus benefits.

PROGRAM EVALUATOR: Responsible for evaluating Community Partners program. Duties include design and implementation of process and outcome evaluation of activities in different communities, data analysis, and presentation of evaluative feedback in oral and written reports. Requires demonstrable training and experience in community program evaluation, familiarity with evaluative research methodology and designs, and ability to communicate effectively, orally and in writing, with community groups, program staff, and outside reviewers. Half-time position. \$15,000 - \$20,000.

All positions are based in Amherst and will begin immediately upon selection of candidates. Send cover letter, resume, and any supporting materials to Tom Wolff, Ph.D., Director of Community Development, Area Health Education Center, 24 S. Prospect Street, Amherst, MA 01002, (413) 253-2646.

TW/es

Undaunted by dire straits

Human services secretary says he will cut with compassion

By Peter E. Conley
STAFF WRITER

Despite a budget slashing brutally into a snowball, as they grow on his face, his least threat was in Washington, a tory of advisors flowing from the White House.

The snowball is the Department of Health and Human Services, which comprises 40 percent of the state's budget. It's currently regional administrator of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, but was named to succeed Weld's office to lead the department.

The range and variety of the department's responsibilities is trying: the homeless, the mentally ill, people with AIDS, welfare recipients, the deaf, the blind, the mentally retarded, the socially challenged, foster children, prison inmates, Medicaid recipients.

Many of these groups are already reeling from the effects of

budget cuts over the past few years, and many of the agencies that provide services to them are in turmoil.

The Mental Health Department, Mary Stems runs the agency and dozens of Boston without receiving needed treatment; regional offices are closing a program to build halfway houses was scrapped, and patients eligible for release are turned up in \$400-per-day hospital beds for lack of housing.

The Welfare Department: Nearly 4,000 people over age 65, judged to be chronically unemployed, have been dropped from the General Relief rolls. They have food, saying that without monthly benefits, they will become homeless.

Department of Social Services: Growing poverty and the spread of drug addiction have caused an increase in child abuse, but case workers say the department is so understaffed that they can't devote enough time to determining which children are in dangerous situations and should be put in foster care.

FORRESTER, Page 2

Weld appointee vows cuts with compassion

BY FORRESTER
Continued from Page 2

To make matters worse, Weld has promised to cut \$1 billion from the \$2.2 billion state budget and a big chunk of it is slated to come out of Human Services. During the campaign, Weld repeatedly said the division was full of fat.

With a budget of \$1.2 billion and a staff of 31,000? "I thought it was a typo," Forberg said, "there might be more to cut, but Forberg hasn't had time to come up with any proposals, and hasn't met most of the senior managers."

Sometimes the incoming secretary was back in the comfortable chair in his office at HUD and said, "The budget is a challenge, but it's not a crisis. It's a game for people."

Forberg promises himself to be the prototype "Weld administrator," a man who shares the tough but saving message that Weld sent to the state. The goals of cutting waste, tightly defining who is to receive care and streamlining benefits of those truly needy are, he says, "the vision" of the Weld man.

"I think the mandate of the position was clearly articulated by Ed Weld and Paul Cellini. What they said is they want to eliminate waste and compassion," Forberg said. "Someone recently told me that one of the things that was done in and made this and that work about the program, and people who care about the program and don't make cuts. They do it together the way."

Forberg is a state-government insider, a Republican from Worcester who was called on to manage for more than 10 years and was busy running HUD "when we finally got it." Unlike John Silber, the Democratic candidate for governor who said Weld was the best Human Services man, Forberg says he brought all over head to the job of HUD.

"Some of the best people whom I've worked with have people involved in the day-to-day operations of services," he said.

He claims to bring both a Republican and a Democrat's perspective to his position. "The only child of the union of a successful Worcester politician, Forberg, 43, graduated from Southern College and served in the Army in Vietnam, before coming home to work with his father in a business." He was at the time of the Boston City Council, although elected without party affiliation. He was the only state legislator who progressed to a leadership: "It was pretty lonely," he said.

Forberg inherited his father, who died five years ago, as "a very nice job, but not hard."

"The only part of what my father did," he said, "was that he was a very successful city manager and that I would never be as good as

it as he was."

Forberg remains devoted to his family. HUD staffers say he dines on his elderly mother, and tries to leave his office early for the long commutes in Worcester to have dinner with his wife and family. Despite being two hours a day in commuting, Forberg says he won't move closer to Boston because he doesn't want to spend his two sons' lives.

A devout Lutheran, Forberg enrolled during the early 50s at Harvard Divinity School. Before finishing his master's degree, however, he was offered a chance to run Lutheran Children's Services, a waterworks charity. There he administered the type of social-service programs he will be overseeing under Weld.

In the Worcester community, where he has spent almost his whole life and where the charity is based, he sets high prices for employees.

"We were extremely pleased to have him joining Human Services," said John Saunders, former director of AIDS Program Worcester and current head of the Cape Cod AIDS Council. "He knew how to be a very sensitive and compassionate man and former service provider. His only job he sensitive to the needs of the population to be served but to the needs of the providers."

Indeed, Forberg's wife works on AIDS research in Memorial Hospital in Worcester.

Governments, not politics, is his passion. Forberg says, and he has at being meetings about the Reagan administration's low priority for human services.

During the 1980 presidential primary campaign, Forberg worked with Clinton, Andy Card and Dan Kaufman on the George Bush campaign in Massachusetts, and was an important member for Bush on the level of his fundraising effort in New Hampshire.

"That was one of the great political accomplishments," Forberg said. "We did not even a viable bid, we were so out of sync that primary. The victory was one of the things that helped George Bush become our president."

Forberg signed on in 1984 as a regional Massachusetts coordinator for the Reagan-Bush effort. But when asked about the Reagan administration, he said, "My admiration is for George Bush."

What Bush was the president, he didn't begin the year that was the 1986 Massachusetts primary. Card became deputy chief of staff, Kaufman a senior aide and Forberg the regional chief of HUD.

HUD after the Reagan administration was like "Cherbourg, S.C.," said Lawrence Hips. The budget had been cut severely, money was low and existing Secretary Samuel Pierce and numerous other were leaving before Congress, the biggest "a real administrative success."

In Boston, the Dukakis administration had pushed forward national program housing policies, against HUD's opposition. John Reagan,



DAVID FORRESTER
Optimistic he can cut with care.

Reagan's regional administrator, was a hard-edged conservative who was philosophically opposed to large cash outlays for housing. He allowed much of the local housing establishment, and much of the HUD staff, to quit.

Forberg, working under Secretary Jack Kemp, brought about a sea change, according to housing advocates and HUD staffers.

"I've seen all of them come and go," said Deputy Regional Administrator Harold Thompson, who has served under seven regional chiefs. "He really does in the best way or the best I've worked for. David's got a vision personally. He's a creative man and very easy to work with."

Although Forberg's pragmatic management style suggests that more than 100,000, he says he sees the HUD secretary as an important role model. Kemp, says Forberg narrowed HUD's focus by eliminating land acquisition programs, urban renewal grants and a multi-phased housing insurance program, and pressed forward with a agenda aimed at lower ownership.

"I can't tell you what a help it's been to be able to say, 'HUD's responsibility is low and under-privileged people,'" he said, leaving Kemp's sense of purpose. "For me, HUD is not here to service the developers and industry groups."

In Massachusetts, Forberg helped spur several worthwhile movements at North Cape development in Lowell, Charlestown Hill Towers in Somerville, Green Avenue Apartments in Danvers, Franklin I and II in Hingham and Hazel Homes in the South End.

Local housing advocates, who had hoped of reaching any help from a Republican administration, now view HUD and Forberg as trusted allies. Forberg and Dukakis's housing secretary, Amy Anderson, have collaborated to several initiatives and speak of each other with warmth and respect.

"The Dukakis administration forwarded some good words for what they've done on the housing side," he

said. Housing, however, is not part of Health and Human Services, and Forberg isn't making any judgments there. He says he wants to do a "keep-the-job-of-rehabilitating-the-district-by-acting-clear, but limited, priorities."

But most observers note that Kemp had been relying on state for some time to make sure that before he took over HUD, Thompson, despite his time at Lutheran Services, has never been called on to do hard thinking about state social problems.

Moreover, some observers noted that the "vision" of a former, more focused Human Services in an area without advantage after all, isn't the Dukakis administration been trying for two years to make sure without hurting people? Silber, whose seven 4-11 campaign turned many voters off, at least offered some workable proposals, they say.

Forberg, for his part, says he will close the agency gap within a month. "I'm going to sit down with Ed Weld and Paul Cellini, and they're going to see some real aggressive staff work," he said. He plans to bring the well-aided advocacy community into the planning process, as he did at HUD.

Meeting advocates and Forberg shared a common goal: lower ownership. Human Services advocates, many of whom bring a life-or-death focus to their work, are not at all persuaded that cuts are necessary or just.

"A commitment to the most vulnerable people in the communities is beyond politics. It's a basic set of values they deserve because they draw breath," said Jim Stewart, the Cambridge shelter provider who is headed current Health and Human Services Secretary Philby Johnson that the secretary named at times does in the dictionary for additive had enough to describe him.

At the beginning of their terms, Johnson and Dukakis took a similar pledge that they would never allow a homeless person in Massachusetts to go without food or shelter for even a night; the pledge led them to set up emergency shelter shelters in Boston when the homeless population grew.

Forberg at first has declined to use the pledge, saying, "It's not really going to try with the resources we have. It's as if we had to make it to me personally."

Stewart, for one, is not impressed. "Secretary Forberg shouldn't expect any great period of honeymoon," Stewart said. "Advocates and people who depend on low will get right at him, or make sure they get the services they need to survive."

Forberg says he's prepared for whatever happens. "It's going to be a very, very tough year," he said. "It's going to take it one step at a time." "I always remember what my father told me. Be smart about what you're not smart about and read the mail every morning."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 7** - **River / Bracewell / Hall Neighborhood Meeting**
7 PM Salvation Army
- Jan 10** - **FACT Meeting:** (note new day of week) Haskins
Community Center Noon
- Jan 11** - **Volunteerism in the NB's** : Office of AdLib 85 Main St
Room 304 North Adams 2 PM
- Jan 11** - **All Coalition Meeting** : People with Disabilities
Baptist Church North Adams 10 AM to Noon.
- Jan 15** - **Task Force on Violence** : Haskins Community Center
Conference Room North Adams 10 AM
- Jan 17** - **Steering Committee** NA City Hall 1:30 PM
- Jan 22** - **Brainstorming about the Dowlin Block** : NB United Way
85 Main St North Adams 9 AM
- Feb 14** - **Information / Outreach Task Force** : HelpLine 9 AM

YES, SIGN ME UP AS A COALITION SUPPORTER for 1990-91 !

Name _____
Organization _____
Address _____
Phone _____

- Ind (\$10)
 Sm Org (\$25)
(< \$100,000 budget)
 Lg Org (\$50)
(> \$100,000 budget)

Checks payable to AHEC/NBHHSC. Mail to Berkshire AHEC 725 North St
Pittsfield MA 01201

Areas of Interest :

Are you willing to be listed as Coalition Supporter Yes No

WORK FOR PEACE :
CALL YOUR CONGRESSMAN

SILVIO CONTE 413 442-0946
JOHN KERRY 617 565-8519
TED KENNEDY 617 565-3710