



**Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board  
Chief Executive Officer Update  
April 29, 2017**

1. After much negotiation, the Florida House and Senate finally agreed to fund the Challenge Grant in the amount of \$3,181,500, which will be recurring from the General Fund. The Challenge Grant is an important flexible funding source that provides communities needed resources to fill gaps in homeless services. This year, the HLB is requesting \$300,000, to establish a Homeless Helpline and additional Prevention/Diversion services. The DCF Office on Homelessness should be announcing the funding awards within the next week or so.
2. Ginny Keeter-Bodkin, the HLB's Executive Assistant, has resigned her position and will be leaving the organization in two weeks. As everyone knows, Ginny is a consummate professional and has been the backbone of our organization for several years. She has significant institutional knowledge which has been extremely helpful with the HLB's successful growth. Ginny is going to work for a local municipal government; and although she will be missed, we wish her great success in her new endeavor. The vacant position is being advertised.
3. Connor Donovan, who is a newly elected City Commission member from Tarpon Springs, will now be representing Tarpon Springs on the HLB.
4. Sara Mollo, Chief Assistant Public Defender, will now be representing the Office of the Public Defender on the HLB.
5. Staff continues to prepare the Youth Homeless Demonstration Program grant and is on target to submit the CoC's application before the May 15, 2019 deadline.
6. County Human Services has convened a group of stakeholders together to assist with rehousing residents of the Southern Comfort Mobile Home Park in Clearwater, which will be closed in the fall due to sale. HLB staff will be participating on this workgroup to assist with developing solutions for those residents with limited resources.