



Coalition on Homelessness
and Housing in Ohio
COHHIO

For Immediate Release
January 15, 2006

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Homeless Youth Leader Wins \$25,000 National Leadership Grant

Angela Lariviere, Director of COHHIO's Youth Empowerment Program (YEP), was one of 14 recipients from across the country to earn the coveted *Emerging Leader Initiative* today by the National Service-Learning Partnership and the National Youth Leadership Council.

The two-year, \$25,000 per year award will be used to promote service-learning as a teaching method, said Lariviere. "Service learning engages young people in community problem-solving as part of their education, in both in-school and out-of-school settings," she said. "The result is a stronger education and democracy."

More than 80 youth leaders applied for the award. "We are honored to have been chosen from among such a large field of qualified applicants," Lariviere said. "We look forward to expanding our program to meet the needs of a growing homeless youth population across the state."

Lariviere will develop and distribute resources and information about service-learning through YEP's established networks. In addition, she will coordinate trainings and workshops on homeless education and housing; and provide trainings for staff at local agencies in targeted areas across the state.

Lariviere has worked for more than a decade helping youth become active community members and productive citizens through participation in community service, leadership training and advocacy activities. She has been director of COHHIO's YEP since 2000.

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