
TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

General Council Meeting

September 9, 2010 Minutes

Co-chairs: Lisa Griffin, Steve Nelson

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 14, 2010, 3:00-4:30 p.m., Rillito-Sabino Rm. Sentinel Bldg., 320 N. Commerce Park Loop
--

1. **Minutes.** Nick Jones moved and Eric Cross seconded that the August minutes be approved as presented. **Motion passed.**

2. **Presentations.**

- **Co-chairs Report/Allen Hall Update.** The City of Tucson has asked TPCCH to consider partnering with them and renovating the Allen Hall Army Reserve Center when that facility is transferred to city ownership in 2011. During the 2007 Base Realignment and Closure process to award Allen Hall, TPCCH submitted a letter of intent to use that facility. However, the process awarded the facility to the City of Tucson and COPE/RISE. Since that time COPE/RISE has withdrawn from the facility's use. The city intends to retain title to the property and asks its partner to do provide approximately \$500,000 in rehabilitation and renovation. Steve Nelson reported that he contacted many of the partners in the TPCCH proposal for Allen Hall. Each indicated that they do not have financial resources to participate. TPCCH itself lacks those resources.

After a brief discussion Nick Jones moved that TPCCH respond to the City of Tucson that TPCCH does not have the resources to participate at this time and withdraws its letter of intent. Jennifer Andersen seconded. **Motion passed with the Franciscans abstaining.** (Email notification to the city is attached.)

- **100,000 Homes Campaign Exploratory Group.** Mark Clark reported on the meetings of the 35-member exploratory group, which he and Ron Koenig co-chaired. After thorough exploration of the national campaign's and the Phoenix area Project H3's development and success, the group decided to recommend joining the 100,000 Homes Campaign. He noted that, with Phoenix, Sierra Vista and Flagstaff participating, Tucson's participation will make Arizona the state with the second greatest number of cities participating. (California is first.) He outlined a plan to move forward with training provided by Common Ground, the New York non-profit that developed and began the 100,000 Homes Campaign; do pre-campaign resources development; and added that planners expect support from the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES), which assists the H3 Campaign. Leslie Carlson noted that the email list for the 100,000 Campaign exceeds the current 35 planners, and that a number of those interested are community members outside of TPCCH who indicated interest in becoming involved

Mark moved and Patty Scott-Lopez seconded "That the TPCCH General Council will collaborate with the 100,000 Homes Campaign by forming a workgroup under the Continuum of Services Committee to proceed with formulating all aspects of the collaboration".

Participants discussed, and asked questions, such as whether the current co-chairs would continue, and why TPCCH was being asked to sponsor the effort. Mark agreed to continue. Ron will do so with the city's permission. Mark noted that Common Ground asks for a local sponsor before providing the training resources.

Jennifer Anderson noted that the Continuum of Services Committee has not had an opportunity to discuss overseeing such a workgroup and already bears heavy responsibilities. Linda Kot asked to amend motion to place the workgroup directly under the General Council to allow the CoS Committee to concentrate on the annual Continuum of Care application.

The amendment was accepted by the individuals making and seconding the motion. The motion as amended then read: TPCCH General Council will collaborate with the 100,000 Homes Campaign by forming a workgroup under the General Council to proceed with formulating all aspects of the collaboration. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Next step.** Interested volunteers will form the 100,000 Homes Campaign Workgroup.

- **Project CHALENG (Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Education & Networking).** Steve Cohen, VISN 18 coordinator, recounted the history of the Veterans Administration's (VA) work with homeless veterans; that the VA is dedicated to addressing homeless veteran issues only in collaboration with local communities; and at least annually invites community partners to participate in outlining what local veterans need to end homelessness. Project CHALENG input is compiled each year and used to guide program development. Previous year's processes have resulted in: the VA's grant and per diem programs for transitional housing; partnership with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide the highly successful VA Supported Housing (VASH) vouchers; a national dental program for veterans; and development of the current Veterans Diversion Courts efforts. He urged all TPCH members to participate in this year's Project CHALENG and distributed surveys for those who cannot attend the September 21st event, in order to provide for the greatest amount of input.

3. Committee Reports.

- **Continuum of Services.** Jennifer reported. She noted that HUD has not yet released its annual notice of funding availability (NOFA), and the committee continues to prepare for that release. The HUD NOFA traditionally offers a bonus project to those applicants that meet a scoring threshold. TPCH must request, evaluate and score proposals for a bonus project and make a recommendation to HUD. She distributed a proposed bonus project NOFA and scoring system for those purposes, and noted that volunteers will do scoring. She added that the distributed drafts do not include specific dates because those dates will be determined by the HUD NOFA release date.

On behalf of the committee, Jennifer moved that "The TPCH General Council approves the application for an open process for the HUD Bonus Project for new projects in Pima County as allowed in the 2010 NOFA". Susanna Rodriguez seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.** [Completed timeline attached.]

- **Emergency Services Committee.** Sylvia Cuestas reported.

Current Winter Shelter Programs synopsis. Bed nights pledged to date for the congregational winter shelter programs are: Project Hospitality, 2,271; and One Step Beyond, 1,196 for total of 3,457 bed nights. Three congregations have yet to report. Fifty of 93 program nights are covered with 30 beds. There are no nights without some beds pledged. Eighteen nights have 20 or more beds pledged.

Project Summer Sun has collected and distributed 412 cases of bottled water to date, and continues collecting and distributing water due to the continued heat.

The committee has instituted new rules for emergency blankets distribution because expected additional deliveries have not arrived. A total of 356 cases (or 3,612 individual blankets) have been distributed. The new rules (attached) are published today in the weekly announcement. If any issues arise contact Sylvia or Don.

Alternative Winter Shelter Proposal. The committee has been considering an alternative proposals for conducting winter shelter in the 2011-2012 winter shelter season, and asked that Lori Block present it.

Lori noted that the current effort began 20 years ago because local churches would open their doors when shelters filled up. That program targeted single men, and works well for its original intent. However, today there are an increasing number of homeless families. The current program often either cannot accommodate families, or can do so only with great difficulties for the families. Winter shelter guests seeking jobs or participating in the Sullivan Jackson Employment Center face similar difficulties. Thus, current efforts can become a barrier rather than an empowerment to overcoming homelessness. The suggested alternative is to put all three programs – Operation Deep Freeze, Project Hospitality, and One Step Beyond – in one location open every night from mid-November to mid-March. Participants would no longer move among sites. Fewer staff and volunteer coordinators would be needed. The congregations would help provide meals and volunteer services. Currently available funds could pay case managers dedicated to getting winter shelter participants into housing. The proposal could reduce per-bed-night costs while providing better overall services, especially for families.

On behalf of the committee Lori moved "That the Emergency Services Committee establish a workgroup, open to all TPCH members, to conduct a feasibility study on a new approach to winter shelter programs." Eric Cross seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

A sign-up list was circulated for workgroup volunteers.

- **Next step.** TPCH administrative coordinator will type the volunteer list and forward to the committee.
- **HMIS.** Susanna Rodriguez reported. Committee members yesterday discussed the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) for October 1, 2009- September. 30, 2010. This will TPCH's second year of participation. They also discussed data elements and interpretation issues and reached consensus on changes to assist both users and report readers. A new HMIS user training will be scheduled in October.

The first HMIS Standard Annual Report has been published to the TPCH website. Steve Nelson noted that the deputy county administrator emailed him that he is very impressed and congratulated group on their hard work. The committee asked for volunteers in addition to those who have volunteered from the committee to join the workgroup to prepare the HMIS report for the 2010 calendar year.

 - **Next step.** Volunteers interested in serving on the Reports Workgroup will contact Susanna at susanna.rodriguez@tucsonaz.gov.
- **PTEH.** Linda reported that members had a special planning meeting on September 1st regarding their focus on the public awareness campaign, and explained the history of the DES grant and request for proposal process that lead to the current contract with LP&G for such a campaign. The current plan is to have a campaign kick-off in early 2011. The guiding principles of campaign development are to: seek input from multiple sources; put a face on homelessness and debunk myths; and accompany all information with ways to help. Agencies should be prepared for responses of donations and volunteers. Committee representative are meeting with LP&G and are excited to begin. LP&G's has suggested that they develop a messaging campaign, short video, short talking points handout, and the structure of a very simple website as well as use social media. The planned video would be generic and could be used by all agencies. It would be published to YouTube and posted with links to agencies' websites. The committee is seeking additional input and participation including short-term commitments to help with the public awareness campaign

Crown Chimp Productions has offered to do pro bono production for the campaign that would charge only for equipment and material cost, and to donate all professional services. They need a commitment soon. The committee is also looking at a pro bono offer to help with and train someone to use the planned website and Twitter/Facebook accounts. PTEH Coordinator Leslie Carlson is willing to do a presentation on the campaign in October.

Linda moved "That the General Council approves the PTEH Committee to confirm with LP&G that they would like to use the pro bono offer to help with the public awareness campaign". Gail Gibbons seconded. **Motion passed with ICH voting "no"**.
- **Education.** Olivia Gutzman reported. Tomorrow is the last day to take advantage of the \$55 "early bird" annual conference registration fee. The committee still needs volunteers for room hosts, who do not pay a registration fee, as well as for registration and silent auction oversight. Don Blascak asks for additional silent auction donations. Lists for signing up to volunteer and donate were circulated.
 - **Next step.** TPCH administrative coordinator will type the volunteer and donation lists and forward to the committee and silent auction organizers.
- **Homeless Youth.** Laurie Mazerbo reported. The committee continues working on the homeless youth awareness event. The committee's agencies contributed within 24 hours \$750 to allow the committee to purchase a dinner for 150 youth at the event.. The event will be at, Skrappy's on Saturday, November 13th, 6:00-9:00 p.m., and will feature music, resources, crafts, and other entertainment.
- **Membership.** Deferred.
- **Discharge Planning.** Betty Bitgood reported. The *2010 Guidelines on Getting Out* have been published and are provided today. The committee continues planning on meeting with local hospitals' emergency room/department staff; and is working on getting an understanding of what's available for people aging out of foster care. The meeting day has been changed to the first Thursday of each month, and will continue to be at 2:30 p.m. at Hope, Inc..
- **Tucson Homeless Connect.** Lori reported. The committee's next meeting will be October 14th, 1:30 p.m., just before General Council . All are welcome to attend. The biggest current challenge is finding a new building for the event because Trinity Presbyterian Church will be undergoing renovation and unavailable. Lori will head up providers workgroup in the future. The committee is seeking a new volunteer coordinator.
 - **Next step.** Anyone with ideas about a new building contact or wishing to be the new volunteer coordinator will contact Don. Blascak at dblascak@comcast.net

4. New Business / Announcements.

- **New AZCEH Executive Director.** Mark Clark, as a board member of the Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness (AZCEH), announced hiring of Joan Serviss as the new executive director. She was previously executive director of the Arizona Alliance of Retired Americans. She starts in mid-January.
- **AZCEH Conference.** Mark urged participant to attend the October 18th-19th AZCEH conference in Phoenix. He noted that Dr. James O’Connell of the Boston Homeless Health Care project, whose work helped form the basis for the 100,000 Homes Campaign, will speak.
- **Sales tax override.** Mark urged participants to investigate the issue of Proposition 400, which would increase the core tax sales by one-half cent for three years. He noted that he served on the tax override committee and that possible reductions in services (including fire, paramedic, police and social services) could be dramatic across the board if the measure fails.

5. Next Meeting. Thursday, October 14th, 3:00-4:30 p.m., Rillito-Sabino Room, Sentinel Building, 320 N. Commerce Park Loop.

Submitted by Settle Madden

Attendance:

Joyce	Alcantar	City of Tucson	joyce.alcantar@tucsonaz.org
Jennifer	Andersen	New Beginnings for Women & Children	jandersen@nbwctucson.org
Cheryl	Bender	American Red Cross	cbender@redcrossarizona.org
Betty	Bitgood	Hope of Glory Ministries	betty@tucsonhope.org
Lori	Block	ICH	lori.block@ichtucson.org
David	Buer, ofm	Franciscans	buerofm@gmail.com
Beth	Carey	SAAF	bcarey@saaf.org
Leslie	Carlson	Coordinator, PTEH	lcarlson@cox.net
W. Mark	Clark	CODAC	mclark@codac.org
Ana	Clemans	Sin Puertas/PPP	aclemans@thepartnership.us
Steven	Cohen	VA	
Eric	Cross	CODAC	ecross@codac.org
Sylvia	Cuestas	Christian Faith Center	sylvia.cuestas@pima.gov
Elva	DeLaTorre	CPSA	elva.delatorre@cpsa-rbha.org
Kelly	Evans	Emerge!	kellye@emergecenter.org
Gail	Gibbons	DES-CMU	gailgibbons@msn.com
Lisa	Griffin	Open Inn	lgriffin@openinn.org
Olivia	Gutzman	CPSA	olivia.gutzman@cpsa-rbha.org
Lacy	Hancock	Society of St. Vincent de Paul	lacyhancock64@yahoo.com
Yolanda	Hasler	Salvation Army	yoli.hasler@usw.salvationarmy.org
Wendy	Heiden	La Frontera Center, Inc	wheiden@lafrontera.org
Shawna	Hickem	El Rio Center	shawnah@elrio.org
John	Hudson	Pima County	john.hudson@pima.gov
Kevin	Jackson	Wingspan	kjackson@wingspan.org
Mark	Jensen	SAVAHCS	mark.jensen2@va.gov
Nick	Jones	Old Pueblo Community Services	nickjones@helptucson.org
Kathleen	Joy	Independent	desertjoy@juno.com
Marla	Keno	Society of St. Vincent de Paul	
Linda	Kot	Primavera	lkot@primavera.org
Don	Logue	Symmetric Solutions	dlogue@symmetricsolutions.com
Laurie	Mazerbo	Our Family Services	lmazerbo@ourfamilyservices.org
Steven	Nelson	Sullivan Jackson Employment Center	steve.nelson@pima.gov
Lucia	Ortiz	Tucson Preparatory School	lcortiz@yahoo.com
Val	Quadros	La Frontera Center, Inc	vquadros@lafrontera.org
Celeste	Reynolds	Salvation Army	celeste.reynolds@usw.salvationarmy.org
Susanna	Rodriguez	City of Tucson	susanna.rodriguez@tucsonaz.org
Jayne	Song-Gin	Youth On Their Own	song-gin@yoto.org
Perry	White	Esperanza en Escalante	pwhite@eeeveterans.org

ATTACHMENTS**TPCH Email response to City of Tucson Inquiry re: Allen Hall**

>>> "Steve Nelson" <Steve.Nelson@pima.gov> 9/10/2010 2:56 PM >>>

TO: Ann Vargas, City of Tucson

FROM: Steven Nelson, Co-Chair
Tucson Planning Council for the Homeless(TPCH)

SUBJECT: Allen Hall Army Reserve Center

DATE: 10 September, 2010

This letter is to inform you that the Tucson Planning Council for the Homeless voted to decline the offer to participate in the BRAC process of rehabilitation of the Allen Hall Army Reserve Center and the long-term commitment of leasing and operating expenses associated with the use of the facility due to insufficient financial resources, both now and in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Nelson
Co-Chair, TPCH

Changes to FEMA blanket distribution procedures as published in September 9, 2010 weekly announcements**Changes to FEMA blankets Friday pick-ups**

Additional FEMA blankets ordered for the upcoming winter shelter season haven't yet arrived (or been scheduled) and supplies are dwindling. To ensure fair and appropriate distribution, the TPCH Emergency Services Committee will distribute blankets as follows, beginning immediately and until supplies are re-stocked:

- 1.) Subsidiary distribution centers (already identified) – unlimited
- 2.) Licensed shelters – unlimited
- 3.) Outreach to homeless persons – 20 boxes
- 4.) Public services and others – 20 boxes

Please phone Don Blascak, dblascak@comcast.net or 275-5414, or Sylvia Cuestas, scuestas@pima.gov or 272-5469 to let them know how many boxes you plan to pick up on any Friday (except October 1!) from 12:00-3:00 p.m. at the St. Vincent De Paul (SVDP) Warehouse, 849 S. 6th Avenue.

Please do not ask SVDP employees to distribute boxes at any other time. Their centralized storage space for FEMA blankets is a generous gift to TPCH and the community. Let's show our appreciation by keeping that gift's interference with their normal workflow to a minimum!

Tucson Planning Council for the Homeless
2010 CoC Grant Submission Timeline

Date Completed	Day Number (from NOFA Release)	Activity
March 12		Time line Work Group meets to develop draft timeline.
March -May		LeCroy & Milligan obtains PIT Survey Data needed for entering into the Housing Inventory section of the HUD Homelessness Data Exchange (HDX).
March -April		LeCroy & Milligan and the CoS or a designated work group review the 2009 e-HIC to determine if programs included last year should be removed, and if any additions should be made to the Housing Inventory of HDX.
March 24		CoS discusses LeCroy & Milligan recommendations from 2009 to determine which are appropriate to implement for the 2010 submission process. CoS delegates responsibility for implementing accepted recommendations and sets a timeline for their implementation.
May 1-26		LeCroy & Milligan enters bed and unit inventory data into Housing Inventory section of the HUD HDX.
May 26		HUD HDX data submitted
March-April		CoS or designated individuals and LeCroy & Milligan develop plan for Gaps Analysis process
March - July		CoS or a designated TPCH work group reviews LeCroy & Milligan recommendations from 2009, particularly those regarding the reviewing and ranking process, to determine those which are appropriate and determine the individuals and/or committees that will be responsible for implementing the recommendations and a timeline for doing so.
May 13		LeCroy & Milligan facilitates Gaps Analysis process
July 10		General Council vote on proposed timeline for CoC grant and Bonus Grant (if offered by HUD).
July-August		CoS identifies and obtains commitment from potential Review & Ranking Committee members.
August		LeCroy & Milligan collects Intent to Apply Forms from grantees
August 12		General Council discusses and approves Review and Ranking committee members and process

Date Completed	Day Number (from NOFA Release)	Activity
September		LeCroy & Milligan collects APRs from grantees
September 20	Day 1	NOFA released
September 22	Day 3	CoS meets to review NOFA and update submission timeline
September 23	Day 4	CoS distributes via e-mail Bonus Grant NOFA and scoring sheet and also posts them on TPCH website
September 27	Day 8	CoS meets to review 2010 Exhibit 1 requirements and identify information provided in 2009 that requires revision
September 28- November 1	Day 8-35	LeCroy & Milligan reviews, updates, and enters data into Exhibit 1.
September 29, 2010	Day 10	LeCroy & Milligan facilitates a technical assistance workshop for grantees at which new Exhibit 2 requirements are discussed and the initial steps of completing the Exhibit 2 are demonstrated. Additional technical assistance will be provided via e-mail and phone over duration of the process.
October 14	Day 25	General Council: Discusses and approves Rating and Ranking Workgroup members
October 15	Day 26	Letter of Intent and Abstract due for Bonus Grant by 12:00 p.m. Threshold review conducted by individuals designated by CoS Committee
October 20	Day 31	Review and Ranking Committee reviews Bonus Grant proposals and ranks new projects. Results are released to applicant organizations by e-mail by 1:00 p.m.
October 21	Day 32	E-mail appeals to new project ranking results are due
October 22	Day 33	TPCH holds Special Meeting at 3:00pm a vote to approve submission of all renewals and a ratification vote of Review and Ranking committee new project recommendations
October 25	Day 36	Due date for submission of Exhibit 2s for renewals
October 25-29	Day 36-40	LeCroy & Milligan reviews Exhibit 2s for completeness and consistency, and contacts applicants to make required corrections.
October 27	Day 38	LeCroy & Milligan Associates completes entry of Exhibit 1 data
October 28- November 5	Day 39-47	LeCroy & Milligan meets with work group from CoS, CoS Committee co-chairs, and CoC General Council co-chairs for review of data entry into Exhibit 1.
November 1	Day 43	Amended Exhibit 2s for renewals due. Exhibit 2s for new projects due.
November 4	Day 46	General Council approves Bonus Grant proposal(s) for

Date Completed	Day Number (from NOFA Release)	Activity
		submission
November 8	Day 50	LeCroy & Milligan, CoS co-chairs, and other designated parties conduct final review of entire application.
November 10	Day 52	Final upload of CoC Grant application
November 18	Day 60	HUD CoC Grant submission deadline