TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

Tucson Homeless Connect Committee

December 9, 2010 Minutes

Chair: Don Blascak

Next Meeting: January 13, 2011, 1:30 – 2:50 p.m.
Santa Cruz Room, Sentinel Building
320 N. Commerce Park Loop

Report to TPCH General Meeting

- The sixth Tucson Homeless Connect will be held Friday, March 4, 2011 at Dunbar Auditorium

TOPICS DISCUSSED

1. **Minutes.** Minutes of the previous (October) meeting were accepted by consensus.

2. **Date of next event.** Don Blascak reported that the date of Friday, March 4, 2011 has been de-conflicted against city and county furlough days. Don distributed copies of the work flow for the next event, and noted that there may be one additional to the list of meetings – a facility walk-through.

3. **Site of next event.** Don reported that the Tucson Electric Park facility will not be available. He consulted with Trinity Presbyterian Church about their renovation, which is undergoing, and they recommended Dunbar Auditorium at 2nd and Main Streets near Holy Family Church and Caridad-de Porres. Don visited the site and consulted with the consortium that owns/operates Dunbar Auditorium, which is one-third larger than Trinity Hall. There is parking between Dunbar and neighboring Holy Family Church as well as a parking lot immediately to the auditorium's north. A barber college is in the same building, and agreed to provide hair cutting. There is also a covered courtyard (where vet care will need to be located as non-service animals are not allowed inside) and a large room to the east that is an inactive church. Medical services could be located in that church and its kitchen potentially used for breakfast burrito preparation by City of Tucson volunteers. The neighboring Holy Family Church has an adjacent feeding area that could be used for the lunch.

   Don displayed the facility layout and noted the following concerning this facility.

Pros	Cons
Large	Costs (total $945)
Available	2-3 sites
Auditorium with stage area for privacy	Need to borrow or rent tables
Medical area	
Free haircuts	

The costs are: dining hall $245; auditorium and stage, $350; and setup and custodial fees $200 each. Don noted that TEP did not grant funds to the event. Lori reported that approximately $3,500 is currently available for the sixth Tucson Homeless.

Participants discussed the pros and cons and how to meet the challenges that the new site may present. Stan Hamnett offered the services of Gospel Rescue Mission's new cook less expensive meal alternatives. He noted that Gospel's executive director might wish to supply hot dogs and hamburgers through Good Shepherd kitchen van. Consensus was that the costs can probably be born by seeking donations of supplies instead of buying them. Don noted that the owners are offering a longer-than-usual usage time to accommodate volunteer training starting at 7:30 a.m.; and that the walk-through will have to be on a Wednesday, as that is the only day the operators are on site.

Site of next event cont'd.

Wayne Steele moved and Stan and Bob Graham seconded that the committee use the Dunbar Auditorium on March 4, 2011 for the sixth Tucson Homeless Connect. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Next steps. a.)** Wayne Steele will ask whether Trinity will loan tables for the event.
  b.) Gospel Rescue Mission will provide a panel truck to transport tables.
  c.) Stan will check with the Gospel Rescue Mission's chef and Christmas donors regarding catering alternatives and additional supplies respectively.
  d.) Lori will gather the providers' subcommittee and begin work.
  e.) Committee will seek to add a homeless or formerly homeless member.
  f.) Don will seek use of the Holy Family Church kitchen for breakfast preparation.

4. **Unassigned tasks.** Participants reviewed unassigned tasks. Wayne volunteered for outreach. Leslie Carlson volunteered for analysis and evaluation as well as to help with media/distinguished visitors. It was noted that there is no question on the registration form that would reveal which guests are chronically homeless. Still needed are persons to be in charge of documentation and volunteers.
   - **Next step.** Don will request volunteers for unassigned tasks at today's General Council meeting.

5. **Feedback from most recent event.** Only the feedback from providers, from Patti Scott-Lopez, has been reviewed. Other feedback has not. Stan noted that he will provide all the feedback that was entered at Gospel Rescue Mission. Leslie offered to summarize if needed.

   Stan added that the data he has seen indicate that the committee has already implemented all suggestions over which the committee has control. Don noted that the suggestions should be reviewed as they may apply to the new facility, which is ADA compliant and all on one level.
   - **Next step.** Stan will provide data from the previous two events at the next meeting.

6. **Next Meeting.** Thursday, January 13, 2011, 1:30 – 2:50 p.m., Rillito-Sabino Room, Sentinel Building, 320 N. Commerce Park Loop.

Submitted by Settle Madden

Attendance

David T. Barreras	Gospel Rescue Mission	david@grmtucson.com
Don Blascak	ICH	dblascak@comcast.net
Lori Block	ICH	lori.block@ichtucson.org
Leslie Carlson	PTEH Coordinator	lacarlson@cox.net
Bob Graham	American Red Cross	rgraham@redcrossarizona.org
Stan Hamnett	Gospel Rescue Mission	shamnett@grmtucson.com
Scott McDowell	American Red Cross	smcdowell@redcrossarizona.org
Juan M. Peralta	Gospel Rescue Mission	jperalta@grmtucson.com
Mark Pollinger	DES	mpollinger@azdes.gov
Wayne Steele	Community member	tucson35Wyahoo.com

Start mileage 122,307

This will be THC 6