
TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

General Council Meeting

November 13, 2008 Minutes

Co-chairs: Dia Barney, Linda Kot

Next Meeting: Thursday December 11 th , 2008, 3:00-4:30 p.m., Rillito-Sabino Rm., Sentinel Bldg, 320 N Commerce Park Loop

1. **Minutes.** Bill Magnotto moved and Eric Cross seconded that the minutes of the October meeting be accepted as presented. **Motion passed without objection or abstention.**
2. **Presentations.**
 - **Chairpersons' report.**
 - **Handclaps.** The co-chairs offered congratulations to the University of Arizona Social Justice League for its presentation of Tentropolis, a homeless living event to increase awareness of homelessness and raise funds for Youth Their Own.
 - **Abril "thank you."** A thank you from Cindy Abril for her retirement gift was read.
 - **Update questions.** The co-chairs asked two questions on behalf of the Arizona Department of Economic Security representatives, who were unable to attend due to travel funds cut-backs. The questions were: "How many persons were served at the October Veterans Stand Down?" (The total was 133.); and "Have any local veterans been housed through the new HUD VASH program?" (The answers were 16 from one agency, and 3 from another.)
 - **HUD retirements.** HUD is anticipating two retirements: Steve Sachs at the end of November (event on November 20), and John Enos in January. A framed FEMA blanket presentation with quotation was prepared for Steve Sachs, and a card was passed for signatures.
 - * **Next step:** TPCH Administrative Coordinator will mail memento and card to arrive in San Francisco by November 20th.
 - **Neighborhood Stabilization Funds.** Ron Koenig of the City of Tucson recapped the regulations and steps taken to date to develop city and county plans for the use of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program grant funds. He noted that the public comment period on the plans ends at noon, Monday, November 17th. The Mayor and Tucson City Council saw the plan in draft on November 14th, and will consider it again on November 18th. HUD requires all plans to be submitted by December 1st.

Gary Bachman noted that both city and county plans are essentially outlines for covering all legislatively mandated areas of service.

Ron added that while city and county funds have no provisions for non-profit organization participation, the state of Arizona funds are expected to allow for non-profit participation. The state would like input from non-profits by November 25th. He noted that none of these funds may be used for operating costs, but for capital costs only. Monies for the grants will not be available to expend until February 2009.

Ron noted that City Human Service Plan and RFP process has been delayed due to the current budget uncertainty. The City of Tucson does not yet know how much funding will be available.
 - **Gospel Rescue Mission Street Banquet/Resource Fair.** Liz Lane reported on the addition of a resource fair to the Gospel Rescue Mission's annual street banquet Wednesday, November 26, 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., 338 W. 28th Street (between 9th and 10th Avenues). She said that they were inspired by Hope Fest and Tucson Homeless Connect to add social service providers to the event. They continue to accept agencies to the resource fair. Contact her at 740-1501, ext. 205.

All needed meal service volunteer goal for this event are signed up, but volunteers for the December 23rd Christmas banquet may contact Suzanne at 740-1501, ext. 209. Gospel Rescue Mission has been received large quantities of food and other donations, which they will share. One of those donations is 75,000 pairs of socks. If your agency needs some, contact Gary Williams, 740-1501, ext. 229.

Presentations cont'd.

- **HMIS.** Beth Carey reported that the lawsuit regarding the HMIS contract was dismissed on October 31st. She thanked the county for accepting the HMIS grantee's responsibilities.

3. Committee reports.

- **Tucson Homeless Connect.** Don Blascak reported. Trinity Presbyterian Church has approved space with additional rooms for the Friday, February 13, 2009 Tucson Homeless Connect. The next meeting, focusing on providers and functional space, will be Thursday, Nov. 20th, 9:00-10:30 a.m. Only those involved with providers are required to attend, but all are welcome.

Don brought forth the committee's motion that \$2,000 be allotted from the TPCH general treasury for the presentation of the February 13, 2009 Tucson Homeless Connect event. Patti Scott-Lopez seconded. **Motion passed without objection or abstention.**

- **Continuum of Services.** Susanna Rodriguez reported that HUD application was submitted before deadline. Adam Ragsdale has agreed to co-chair the Street Count Work Group, which held its first meeting last week. The group is considering: using counting centers, and surveys administered at them: also using the usual observational teams; and doing more pre-publicity. The CoS committee is working on the CoC Consultant request for proposal and plans to finalize it at the next meeting and present to General Council in December.

Ken Walker noted that he has been unable to prepare complete copies of the 2009 HUD application because e-snaps will not download the individual logic models. He will be asking each applicant for copies of their logic models.

The next CoS Committee meeting is Wednesday, November 19th, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at SAAF, 375 S. Euclid Avenue.

- **PTEH.** Lori Block reported. Leslie Carlson has put together a PTEH Task Force, an endeavor underway for nearly five years. The list of confirmed members was distributed. The Task Force will meet every other month for one year. The PTEH Committee continues to work on its 2008-2009 goals. They also plan to assist the PTEH Task Force and Implementation Coordinator, and to act as liaison between Task Force and TPCH.

Leslie added that the Task Force is a multi-sector body to determine what to do in areas that TPCH has not yet been able to address and to recommend what type of more permanent body may be needed for overseeing PTEH advancing and implementation.

The next PTEH Committee meeting is Thursday, December 11th, 1:30-2:30 p.m. in the Rillito-Sabino Room of the City Sentinel Building, 320 N. Commerce Park Loop.

- **HMIS.** Eric Cross reported. Implementation is moving forward smoothly. The second training is complete. The remaining HUD grantees will be trained December 8th and 10th, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. each day. A users group meeting will be held the following Friday, December 12th. 2:00-3:00 p.m. The consensus of trained users is that the system is easy to use and that system administrator Symmetric Solutions are very responsive. Individual users can generate reports. This is proving to be a good tool for ensuring accuracy. The self-sufficiency matrix (SSM) is included in HMIS, and is being used by all grantees receiving Arizona Department of Economic Security funds. To make the entire continuum most successful, the General Council should strategize how to encourage agencies and programs that are not funded by HUD to use the system.

Linda Kot noted that HUD and other grant-making bodies require communities to report an accurate number of unduplicated persons served. Having all homeless-serving entities participate in HMIS will help everyone.

Stan Hamnett asked how much user agencies must pay for licensing. Gary replied that all licensing costs are paid by the combination of the grant and county-raised matching funds, and there are no individual licensing fees for users. He noted that HMIS is a collaborative system and the maximum participation benefits individual agencies and the entire community.

Next meeting is November 20th, 9-10:30 a.m., at SAAF, 375 S. Euclid Avenue.

Committee reports cont'd.

- **Education.** Eric Cross reported. The 2009 Annual Conference will be Friday, September 25, 2009 in order to encourage college students to attend. He met with the associate dean of the University Of Arizona College Of Social and Behavioral Sciences, who plans to put together a meeting with other critical deans about how to integrate the TPCCH conference into the curriculum requirements. The committee has discussed how to improve the registration process and prevent income loss. Lori Block noted that some late registrations were only recently paid.

The committee is currently working on the conference theme and invites members to submit suggestions. They plan to adopt a theme by December 31st to allow time for development of graphics. "Education is the Foundation" is one suggestion for the theme.

The next meeting is Monday, December 8th, 3:30-4:00 p.m., Primavera Foundation, 702 S. 6th Avenue.

- **Membership.** Kevin Jackson reported. The committee is in the process of drafting a proposed operating policy addendum to define the role of mentors to new members. The committee also regularly reviews the attendance trackers in order to encourage and improve participation.

The next meeting is Thursday, December 4th, 2:00-3:00 p.m., at COPE, 1101 E. Broadway Boulevard.

- **Discharge Planning,** Nick Jones noted that the next meeting will be Wednesday, November 19th at Old Pueblo Community Services. They hope to have presentations by the Arizona Department of Corrections parole supervisor this time.
- **Homeless Youth.** Kevin Jackson reported. The committee is in the process of organizing the Second Annual Home is Where the Art Is" event with music, visual, spoken, and performance art. The next meeting is tomorrow, November 14th, 9:00-10:30 a.m. at the La Paloma Family Services Menninger Community Center, 240 W. Navajo Street.
- **Emergency Services.** Don Blascak report. There will be a five-hour shelter training class tomorrow for 25 Americorps volunteers, who will become shelter certified. The Tucson Police Department is assigning a new liaison to TPCCH. A total of 240 boxes of blankets were distributed yesterday from Tucson Iron and Metal, who donated use of their fork lift. He noted that one agency reported that they withhold blankets from intoxicated substance abusers, and that this is a discouraged practice. Agencies needing blankets, please contact Debbie Purdom, debbie@caridad-deporres.org, or Don Blascak, dblascak@comcast.net. Please do not go directly to the storage site.

A total of 4,468 bed nights have been subscribed to congregational shelter programs: 1,274 to One Step Beyond, and 3,194 for Project Hospitality. There is only one night in late February for which no beds have yet been subscribed. One church has stepped forward to do that. A total of 37 nights are fully subscribed.

The Salvation Army is finishing hiring for the winter shelter season and coordinating well with the Emergency Services Committee. The TPCCH mini-mobile storage unit is being moved to a site near Temple Corps immediately adjacent to the new Operation Deep Freeze (ODF) overflow location, a recently renovated chapel.

Saturday night, November 15th, is the first night on which ODF may be called. The ODF season continues through March 15th. Project Hospitality begins November 28th. One Step Beyond starts December 3rd.

4. New Business.

- **Housing Arizona Initiative.** Mark Ludwig announced that the Governor's Housing Arizona Initiative will allot: \$1 million each for housing homeless youth, and sex offenders; \$ 750,000 for veterans' housing; and an additional \$900,000 to emergency funds. The remainder of funding will be through amendments (ISAs) to the contracts of already-contracted agencies. The ISAs should be coming out soon.
- **Homeless Memorial.** Linda Kot noted that the Homeless Memorial Service will be the last Friday before the solstice, probably December 19th.

5. Next General Council Meeting: Thursday, December 11th, 3:00-4:30 p.m., Rillito-Sabino Room, Sentinel Building, 320 Commerce Park Loop.

Submitted by Settle Madden

Attendance:

Gary	Bachman	Pima County CDNC	gbachman@pima.gov
Jodie	Barnes	City of Tucson	jodie.barnes@tucsonaz.gov
Dia	Barney	COPE	dbarney@copebhs.com
Don	Blascak	American Red Cross	dblascak@comcast.net
Betty	Bitgood	Hope of Glory Ministries	betty@tucsonhope.org
Lori	Block	Interfaith Coalition for the Homeless	lori.block@ichtucson.org
Charley	Bowker	Family Promise Tucson	bowksaz@msn.com
David	Buer, ofm	Franciscans	
Beth	Carey	SAAF	bcarey@saaf.org
Leslie	Carlson	Implementation Coordinator PTEH	lacarlson@cox.net
Mike	Carmack	Transitional Living Communities	
Pat	Carnes	COMPASS Health Care	pcarnes@compasshc.org
Eric	Cross	CODAC	ecross@codac.org
Sylvia	Cuestas	Christian Faith Center	scuestas@pima.gov
Anna	Garcia	Arizona Housing & Prevention Services	hotteller03@yahoo.com
Gail	Gibbons	Arizona Department of Economic Security	ggibbons@azdes.gov
Meghan	Gilliland	Emerge!	mgilliland@tucsoncenters.org
Olivia	Gutzman	CPSA	olivia.gutzman@cpsa-rbha.org
Stan	Hamnett	Gospel Rescue Mission	shamnett@grmtucson.com
John A.	Hudson	Pima County CDNC	jhudson@pima.gov
Kevin	Jackson	Our Family Services	kjackson@ourfamilyservices.org
Nick	Jones	Old Pueblo Community Services	nickjones@helptucson.org
Ron	Koenig	City of Tucson	
Linda	Kot	Primavera Foundation	lkot@primavera.org
Jim	Kuzdal	Society of St. Vincent de Paul	jkuzdal@svdptucson.org
Liz	Lane	Gospel Rescue Mission	liz.lane@grmtucson.com
Phyllis	Lim	HUD Tucson Office	phyllis.e.lim@hud.gov
Mark	Ludwig	Arizona Department of Housing	markl@housingaz.com
Bill	Magnotto	La Frontera, Inc.	bmagnotto@lafrontera.org
Kira	Maynard	New Beginnings for Women & Children	kmaynard@nbwctucson.org
Laurie	Mazerbo	Our Family Services	lmazerbo@ourfamilyservices.org
John	McGurk	Transitional Living Communities	
Red	Mehle	Transitional Living Communities	
Rosanna	Mendoza	TMM Family Services, Inc.	rrodriguez@tmmfs.org
Barbara	Montrose	CPSA	barbara.montrose@cpsa-rbha.org
Steve	Nelson	Jackson Employment/Pima County	snelson@pima.gov
Lucia	Ortiz	Tucson Preparatory School	
Renée	Peyton	Pima County Health Department	renee.peyton@pima.gov
Val	Quadros	La Frontera	vquadros@lafrontera.org
Adam	Ragsdale	Primavera Foundation	aragsdale@primavera.org
Susanna	Rodriguez	City of Tucson	susanna.rodriguez@tucsonaz.gov
Phyllis	Russell	Esperanza en Escalante	prussell@eee.tuccoxmail.com
Patti	Scott-Lopez	CPSA	patricia.scott-lopez@cpsa-rbha.org
Ken	Walker	PPP/CoC Consultant	kwalker@thepartnership.org
Daniella	Zepeda	La Frontera, Inc.	dzepeda@lafrontera.org