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# TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

## Emergency Services Committee

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### July 13, 2009 Minutes

Co-chairs: Jim Kuzdal, David Buer

<b>Next Meeting:</b> August 25, 2009, 10:30-11:30 am Jackson Employment Center, 400 E. 26 <sup>th</sup> St.
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<b>Report to TPCH General Meeting Month</b>
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| ■ Winter shelter transportation by AAA Transportation |
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### TOPICS DISCUSSED

- Minutes.** Don Blascak moved and Jill Rich seconded that the minutes of the June meeting be accepted as presented. **Motion passed.**
- Summer Sun Program.** Brother David reported that the St. Francis cooling centers have been typically serving 40-45 guests daily, and served 94 last Monday. Caridad-de Porres continues doing the lunches and providing 50 sack lunches daily. He added that they have **room** for 21 cots at the Inner City Harvesters Church, and for 12-14 cots in the Holy Family Church basement. Sometimes extra snacks are available at Holy Family. The two sites are open on alternate days providing service six days weekly. The plan is to remain open through the end of August. RAPP is also giving out sack lunches. Don noted that more than 110 cases of water have been distributed through Summer Sun to date. Jill noted that she has sunscreen. Brother David accepted some for distribution at the cooling centers. Don noted that there is sufficient sunscreen for Tucson Homeless Connect.
- Winter Shelter Review.**
  - **AAA Van Services Update.** Don noted that Kathleen Joy has put him in contact with AAA Transportation, and that they have agreed to provide round-trip transport from Homeless Connect to the Motor Vehicle Division for free. They hope to meet next week on procedures for providing transport for winter shelter efforts. AAA corporate headquarters has approved that service, and may also pay for fuel.
  - **Year-round Shelter Proposal Update.** Participants discussed potential buildings, including on at Drachman and Oracle roads. Once a building is identified, the next step is to find funding for 90 days or more of operation. Don suggested that it may be necessary to think in terms of continuous shelter for the 2010-11 season. It was noted that Corpus Christi Church is interested in doing something for the homeless, but hasn't decided what, and might be enlisted to assist. St. Pius and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Churches may also be approached. The group's consensus was to keep looking for a building, and consider a fund raising campaign to fund operations. Needed space was discussed, and the figures of 1,800 to 3,000 square feet decided on.
    - **Next steps. a.)** Brother David will canvass churches about potential 1,800-3,000 sq. ft. spaces for continuous winter shelter.
    - b.)** Don will find the exact address of the building at Drachman and Oracle.
    - c.)** Jim will check on an empty building of which he is aware.
- Blankets.** Don reported. A total of 15,000 blankets arrived and were put in place last Wednesday. Many were distributed directly to agencies. The remainder was stored at the St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) warehouse. Don praised the crews from both SVDP and Gospel Rescue Mission, noting that they worked hard and well despite extreme heat.

**5. Old Business.**

- **Tucson Homeless Connect Update.** Don noted that the next Tucson Homeless Connect (THC) is this Friday, July 17; 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church. KOLD-TV wants to do some early live coverage for its 5:00-7:00 a.m. show and to include an interview with a person who has come out of homelessness. Assembly for THC comfort kits will be Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at the church. Dr. Billie Holbrook will do dental screenings, referral, and education at the event.
  - **Next step.** Don will meet with the potential KOLD interviewee and Salvation Army personnel regarding the possible interview and its emphasis on TPCH and the event.
- **ODF Taxi Service.** Lt. Jim Rizzi reviewed his suggestion for the Tucson Police Department (TPD), through the 911 system, to provide tracking/authorization in cooperation with the Salvation Army for taxis to provide homeless individuals with transport to Operation Deep Freeze (ODF). He said that TPC is open to supporting the effort operationally, but cannot fund it.
  - **Next step.** Committee will further consider the taxi service proposal at the August meeting.

**6. Next Meeting:** Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 10-11:30 a.m., Jackson Employment Center, 400 E. 26<sup>th</sup> Street.

Submitted by Settle Madden

**Attendance**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Email</b>
Don Blascak	Interfaith Coalition for the Homeless	dblascak@comcast.net
David Buer, OFM	Franciscans	buerofm@gmail.com
Jim Kuzdal	St. Vincent de Paul	jkuzdal@svdptucson.org
Jill Rich	American Red Cross	jbr@dakotacom.net
Jim Rizzi	Tucson Police Department	jim.rizzi@tucsonaz.gov