
TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

General Council Meeting

September 9, 2009 Minutes

Co-chair/Convener: Linda Kot

Next Meeting: Thursday August 13, 2009, 3:00-4:30 p.m., Rillito-Sabino Rm., Sentinel Bldg., 320 N. Commerce Park Loop
--

1. **Minutes.** Nick Jones moved, and Eric Cross and Marty Twohill seconded that the minutes of the August meeting be approved as presented. **Motion passed without opposition or abstention.**
2. **Presentations.**
 - **Co-chairs Report.** Linda Kot reported that, after some issues with missing data in Washington, D.C., TPCCH's Continuum of Care registration for this year's application is complete.
 - **Handclaps.** Congratulations were offered to: Steven Wind of Continuum of Care Consultants (CoC) LeCroy & Milligan Associates for compiling an excellent and accurate housing inventory chart; Noemi Ghirghi for assistance in resolving the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) registration issues; and Nancy Panico for winning Goodman's Interior Structures' annual "Eye for the Good Guy" prize, a \$20,000 office makeover.
 - **2009-2010 Budget.** Lori Block presented the annual budget, estimated to be \$225,275 (depending on final DES and other funding), which is 15% less than last year due to reductions in Winter Shelter, City of Tucson, and Pima County Outside Agency funding. Winter Shelter funds are down 7% or about \$10,000, a real challenge in a time when homeless numbers seen to be increasing. Estimated income from the annual conference was not included in the budget.

Mark Ludwig asked whether the decrease in Winter Shelter funding would hurt the level of services. Don Blascak noted that AAA Transportation has agreed to provide pro bono transportation for this year, which will take transportation costs out of budget. He added that AAA has also helped with Tucson Homeless Connect, and plans to help with HopeFest and Veterans Stand Down.

Lori reported that, for the third year, the Pima County Outside Agency process granted funds to augment existing transportation efforts. TPCCH will use funds to match agencies' expenditures on bus passes, taxi vouchers and gas cards. Last year, TPCCH helped 18 agencies with \$500 to \$1,000 each in matching funds. There is slightly less money this year, so award amounts will be limited to \$500 each in order to help as many agencies as possible.

 - **Next step.** Transportation program will be included again in next week's announcements.
 - **NAEH Conference Update.** Olivia Gutzman reported. The National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) conference was held July 28th-31st. She and Barbara Montrose attended. Some of the myriad of topics for which she attended sessions were: Preventing Youth Homelessness; Housing Development and Design; and Maintaining Income through Employment Strategies. The presenters were great and accepted/answered all questions. Total attendance was approximately 1,200. "It was like an angel convention." As part of the conference, Arizona attendees visited on Capitol Hill with Gabrielle Giffords, who stepped out of a session to see them, and Ed Pastor, who were very impressive and gracious. She noted that all conference handouts will be posted on the NAEH website.

Presentations cont'd.

- **Toy & Twenty Campaign.** Deferred.
- **ACEH Advocacy Report.** Deferred. Watch for additional emails through the TPCCH list serve.
- **Proposition 200.** Leslie Carlson reported. This is an effort to amend the City of Tucson charter to mandate a certain fire and police staffing levels and minimum response times. This would also lock in these costs, and, it's estimated, grow them from 64% to about 75% of the city budget. The proposition does not provide for additional revenues to support the mandated service levels, despite the fact that the City anticipates a \$40 million deficit.. She distributed a flyer for a Monday, September 14th informational meeting on the proposition, 6:30-8:00 p.m., at the Randolph Park clubhouse. Information is also available on the City of Tucson website.

3. Committee Reports.

- **Continuum of Services.** Jennifer Andersen and Steven Wind reported. They have set up a timeline consisting of benchmarks (or intervals for completing tasks), but are unable to present a timeline with dates due to continued delay in HUD's release of the notice of funds availability (NOFA) and uncertainties about the requirements of certain parts of the process. The committee has agreed on a 45-day deadline for completing Exhibit 2s. Steve Nelson asked whether any agencies have expressed an interest in collaborating on a permanent housing grant. Jennifer said that a few agencies have contacted her to express interest and request additional information as it becomes available, but none has firmly committed to applying.

The committee brought forth a motion to approve calling of a special General Council meeting with 10 days notice for the purpose of HUD Exhibit 1 preparation and/or approvals, if needed. Nick Jones seconded. **Motion passed without opposition or abstention.**

A list for reporting new and imminent housing projects was again circulated.

Val Quadros added that any agency with a new or different eSnaps user this year needs to re-register to use the eSnaps system to complete the HUD Exhibit 2. Contact Steven Wind, steven@lecroymilligan.com, or 520-326-5154,, ex. 109 for assistance.

The next committee meeting is Wednesday, September 23rd, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the Pantano Room of the City Sentinel Building.

- **Next steps.** The CoS Committee will send a timeline when available for a TPCCH email vote.
- **Discharge Planning.** Nick Jones reported that Old Pueblos Community Services will pay either one-third (if CPSA agrees to pay one-third) or one-half of the cost of printing the *Guidelines on Getting Out*.. He moved that the General Council authorize spending up to \$600 from the general treasury to print the *Guidelines*. Marty Twohill seconded. **Motion passed without opposition or abstention.**

The next Discharge Planning Committee meeting is Tuesday, September 22nd, 2:30-4:00 p.m. at CPSA, 100 N. Stone Avenue, Suite 300.

- **Education.** Eric Cross reported. The final day of registration for the TPCCH Annual Conference, *Navigating through tough times*, is Friday, September 18th. The committee set a goal of \$4,000 in sponsorship, and exceeded it by raising \$4,700 in cash to date plus approximately \$15,000 each in the airing of public service announcements by Cox and Comcast. He requested room host volunteers, described their duties, and circulated a sign-up list. Don Blascak added that he and Jill Rich have been organizing the silent auction and doing well with outside gifts. He encouraged additional gifts from TPCCH members, and thanked those who have already committed.

The next meeting is Monday, September 14th, 3:30-5:00 p.m., at COPE, 85 W. Franklin Street.

- **Emergency Services.** Jim Kuzdal reported. The Summer Sun Program is completed. More than 200 cases of bottled water, and many of cases of sunscreen, were distributed during June 20th -August 28th. The St. Francis Cooling Centers alone averaged 54 guests per day. Caridad de Porres distributed 3,000 sack lunches through the program.

To date bed nights pledged for Project Hospitality are 2,015; for One Step Beyond, 440; for a total of 2,455 bed nights. The committee has met with two churches that have offered to host Operation Deep Freeze. Discussions included holding it every night, December 15th -February 15th, tripling (from 30 to 90 days) service. All arrangements are set for the usual operation, but they will continue to pursue the possibility of expanded service.

The next meeting is Tuesday, September 22nd, 10-11:30 a.m. at Jackson Employment Center.

Committee Reports/Education cont'd.

- **HMIS.** Karen Caldwell reported. At the last meeting, the committee reviewed demos of ServicePoint[®] software updates, one which came out yesterday and includes HPRP tracking; and the next, version 5, which is expected next year. Version 5 will have a number of user friendly changes to the graphic interface. These should require minimal re-training. The committee continues working with agencies not yet on the system to get them on board and increase bed coverage to qualify for participation in the Annual Homelessness Assessment Report.

The next meeting is next Thursday, September 15th, 3:00 p.m. at SAAF, 375 S. Euclid Avenue.

- **Homeless Youth.** Lisa Griffin noted that the next meeting is Friday, October. 2nd at Tucson Preparatory School, 104 W. Prince Road. Lisa added that she has stepped down as committee co-chair, and Laurie Mazerbo had agreed to step up to that position.
- **Membership.** Jodie reported that the next Membership Committee meeting is September 16th at 11:00 a.m. at Wingspan/Eon, 430 E. 7th Street.
- **PTEH.** Leslie Carlson reported on behalf of committee chair Anna Wheeler. The committee met jointly this morning with the PTEH Task Force to review progress on and set goals and objectives for upcoming implementation of the PTEH during the next two to three years. They will meet again jointly in November.
- **Tucson Homeless Connect.** Don Blascak reported. The committee is currently between planning cycles and will begin planning the next event on October 22nd. He is currently writing a checklist-style manual with timelines to guide each lead area in preparing for each upcoming event. He noted that Reneé Peyton brought and asks you to take with you flu preparedness information. Many granting agencies are currently asking for applicants' flu preparedness plans.

4. Old Business.

- **HPRP.** Jodie reported. The proposal process closed last Friday. The review committee meets soon. HUD requires contracts to be in place by Sept. 30. They hope to begin implementation in the first two weeks of October.

5. New Business / Announcements.

- **Mobile Homes.** Jim noted that St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) was contacted about a donation of three single-wide mobile homes. He has inspected them and found them in decent shape. However, SVDP doesn't have housing or long-term case management. They are not really cost effective to move, but may be good transitional or transitioning in to ownership housing. SVDP could be the lien holder. Contact him right after meeting if you are interested.
- **Homeless Veterans Summit.** Steve noted that there will be a Homeless Veterans Summit November 3rd in Washington, D.C., where the Veterans Administration will announce its five-year plan to end veteran homelessness. He noted that 131,000 vets sleep on streets every night. Last year, 135 people attended.
- **Veterans Stand Down.** Steve reported that the next event will be October 23rd-25th, presented by the VA, Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans (TSVS), Jackson Employment Center's Homeless Veterans Program, and Comin' Home's Project Advent.
- **VA Benefit Warrant Rules.** Val noted that she has client who was cut off from years of VA support because of a 16-year-old misdemeanor shoplifting warrant. Marty noted that only a felony warrant should interrupt benefits and offered to talk to her afterward to see if he can assist.
 - **Next step.** Executive Committee will discuss means for connecting workers who have client issues such as these with experts.

6. Next Meeting. Thursday, October 9, 2009, 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.gov
Jennifer	Andersen	New Beginning for Women & Children	jandersen@nbwctucson.org
Don	Blascak	American Red Cross	dblascak@comcast.net
Lori	Block	ICH	lori.block@ichtucson.org
Charlie	Bowker	ICH	bowksaz@msn.com
Karen	Caldwell	Primavera Foundation	kcaldwell@primaver.org
Beth	Carey	SAAF	bcarey@saaf.org
Leslie	Carlson	PTEH Implementation Coordinator	lacarlson@cox.net
Eric	Cross	CODAC	ecross@codac.org
Elva	De La Torre	Primavera Foundation	edelatorre@primaver.org
Kelly	Evans	Emerge!	kelly3@emergecenter.org
Gail	Gibbons	DES	ggibbons@azdes.gov
Lisa	Griffin	Open Inn	lgriffin@openinn.org
Olivia	Gutzman	CPSA	olivia.gutzman@cpsa-rbha.org
Wendy	Heiden	La Frontera	wheiden@lafrontera.org
Kevin	Jackson	Wingspan/Eon	kjackson@wingspan.org
Nick	Jones	OPCS	nickjones@helptucson.org
Kathleen	Joy	Salvation Army	kathleen.joy@usw.salvationarmy.org
Linda	Kot	Primavera Foundation	lkot@primavera.org
Jim	Kuzdal	St. Vincent de Paul	jkuzdal@svdptucson.org
Mark	Ludwig	ADOH	markl@housingaz.com
Laurie	Mazerbo	Our Family Services	lmazerbo@ourfamilyservices.org
Rosanna	Mendoza	TMM Family Services	rrodriguez@tmmfs.org
Edward	Monje	Salvation Army	ed.monje@yahoo.com
Steven	Nelson	Jackson Employment Center	Steve.nerlson@pima.gov
Lucia	Ortiz	Tucson Preparatory	lcortiz@yahoo.com
William	Parker	Giving Tree	4kids@dakotcom.net
Elaynia	Parker	Giving Tree	
Reneé	Peyton	Pima County Health Department	renee.peyton@pima.gov
Val	Quadros	La Frontera	vquadros@lafronter.org
Susanna	Rodriguez	City of Tucson	susanna.rodriguez@tucsonaz.gov
Phyllis	Russell	Esperanza en Escalante	prussell@eee.veterans.org
Marty	Twohill	VA	martin.twohill@va.gov
Steven	Wind	LeCroy & Milligan Associates	steven@lecroymilligan.com
Joe	Zelinka	Comin' Home	jdzelinka@cominhome.org