
TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

Homeless Youth Committee

July 10, 2009 Minutes

Co-Chairs: Irene Timms and Lisa Griffin

Next Meeting: August 7, 2009, 9:00 – 10:30 am Sin Puertas, 1475 N. Oracle Road
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Report to TPCCH General Meeting
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| ■ Motion to create a TPCCH banner with space for interchangeable committee names. |
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TOPICS DISCUSSED

1. **Minutes.** Minutes of the June meeting were accepted by consensus.
2. **Interagency Training Day Review.** A total of 48 persons attended. The co-chairs thanked committee members for their hard work on and many contributions to a successful Inter-agency Training Day. Don Blascak reported that he has prepared plaques for the Olive Garden, which donated luncheon, and Aviva Family Services, which loaned tables and chairs.

Participants discussed their impressions and feedback. Mentioned were: the importance of emphasized thanking everyone who participated or contributed; seeking a larger location for next year's event; the value of establishing connections with services which might not otherwise encounter each other; and the desire for more time needed for services presentations – possibly through break-out sessions. It was suggested that the committee might do workshops on particular topics and/or education on issues and trends; and possibly invite South Tucson Judge Ron Wilson, a former foster child, as a keynote speaker to such an event. It was noted that it was important that workers in air conditioned offices experienced the Skrappy's environment and evaporative cooling as an exemplar of where youth actually go. Suggestions for future events included: that the event was an excellent way to introduce the new Skrappy's; that the event should be held before school ends or just before it starts in order to get school counselors and McKinney-Vento liaisons to attend; establish a connection with the school counselors annual conference and/or educational fair; hand out flyers at those events; perform additional checks of technology before each event; and seek a place with better parking. Additional suggestions were: to include handouts from each program; and prepare those handouts in a packet or bag. The group consensus was that it was impressive that attendees stayed and appeared attentive to the end, and that snacks helped with this. Ana Clemans noted that the committee might use the Pima Prevention Partnership high school gym and classrooms for an event with breakout sessions.

The consensus of the committee was to work on improving the deadlines for RSVPs; follow-up to re-confirm presenters; and to consider charging a small fee (perhaps a food gift for youth food pantries).

Participants also noted that the door prize raffle was fun and helped draw attendance.

- **Next steps.** a.) Lisa and Irene will present the Olive Garden and Aviva plaques.
b.) Members who work with school personnel will talk with counselors and McKinney-Vento liaisons regarding the best timing for the next event.
c.) Kevin will scan the attendee roster and distribute it to committee members.
3. **TPCCH Annual Convention Presentation.** Kevin Jackson, Ana Clemans, Irene Timms, and Kathy Wooldridge volunteered to be the youth panel members for the 2009 TPCCH Annual Conference. Mike Parker agreed to check with Laurie Mazerbo if she would join the panel. **(Add my name Lisa Griffin to present www.tucsonyag.org)**
 - **Next step.** Co-chairs will inform Education Committee Chair Eric Cross and ask panelist to forward 75-word biographies to him at ecross@codac.org.

4. Old Business.

- **Art Show/other events.** Participants discussed the suggestion of holding a youth art show or other event to promote awareness of homeless and disadvantaged youth before November 14th. Kathy agreed that Skrappy's will sponsor a show on Saturday, August 15th or 22nd probably from 3:00-5:00 or 6:00 p.m. The deadline would be August 7th, with submissions to be dropped off at Skrappy's or arrangements for pick-up made through Skrappy's. Each item must have the artist's name, contact information, the work's title, and a description. The admission charge would be food, hygiene items, socks or new underwear to be distributed to homeless youth.

Don suggested working with the Center for Creative Chaos on an art show. The Center for Creative Chaos is a new non-profit organized by Ron Austin, a formerly homeless man who works at the Primavera Foundation, to change the stereotypical images of homeless people, and help provide them with a more just and equal representation in our society. They include a fledgling social network and an art gallery at 739 N 4th Avenue.

- **Next steps:** a.) Kathy will ask Time Market whether they will provide finger foods or pizza.
b.) Lisa and/or Irene will speak with the Center for Creative Chaos regarding possible collaborative events.
- **November 14th Event.** This will be the annual "Home is Where the Art Is" event sponsored by Skrappy's and Safe Place; 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Skrappy's.
 - **Next step.** Kathy and Alice Krohn will outline the event and bring the outline to the next committee meeting.
- **Tucson Homeless Connect. Don reported. Eon,** Our Family, Open Inn, Sin Puertas, La Paloma Family Services plan to represent youth services, and bring 50 survival resource bags for youth only.
 - **Next steps.** Kathy and Brandon Rawls will staff the youth services table.

5. New Business.

- **Backpack to School, August 1.** Don Blascak reported that the "Backpack to School" event will be held at Flowing Wells Junior High School for all five Title 1 schools in the Flowing Wells School District on August 1, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. It will be a carnival atmosphere event for approx 3,200 K-6 children, their families and teachers. He invited agencies that would like to do so to attend, and offered the committee a table. GAP Ministries sponsor, which houses 92 Child Protective Services wards in group homes. sponsors this secular event.
- **Banner.** The Committee discussed how to display TPCH's involvement and sponsorship of events, and reached consensus to request that TPCH authorize and fund creation of a TPCH banner with space for interchangeable committee names, possibly attached by Velcro.
- **National Night Out.** Ana reported that Sin Puertas will be sponsoring activities August 4th at South Tucson city complex, 1601 S. 6th Avenue, in connection with National Night Out. National Night Out began 30 years ago in response to the murder of a little girl in the early evening. Its purpose is to enable communities to take control of their neighborhoods after dark. There will be food, a carnival and display tables for agencies and organization.
- **Skrappy's.** Kathy noted that Skrappy's has now formed its own 501(c) (3) organization, Tucson Youth Collective, although they will continue to work closely with Our Family Services. They will be holding an Independence Ceremony Thursday, July 16th, 2:00-4:00 p.m. with speakers at 3:00 p.m.

- 6. **Next Meeting.** Friday, August 7, 9:00-10:00 a.m. at Sin Puertas, 1475 N. Oracle Road.

Submitted by Settle Madden

Attendance

Don Blascak	ICH/TPCH Emergency Services Committee	dblascak@comcast.net
Ana Clemans	Sin Puertas-Pima Prevention Partnership	aclemans@thepartnership.us
Jacque Green	La Paloma Family Services	Jacque@lapalomakids.org
Lisa Griffin	Open Inn	lgriffin@openinn.org
Kevin Jackson	Wingspan/Eon	kjackson@wingspan.org
Alice Krohn	Open Inn	akrohn@openinn.org
Nikkin Matz	Giving Tree	ommmn@yahoo.com
Elaynia Parker	Giving Tree	4kids@thegivingtreeoutreach.org
Mike Parker	Our Family Services	mparker@ourfamilyservices.org
Brandon Rawls	Open Inn	brawls@openinn.org
Irene Timms	La Paloma Family Services	irene@lapalomakids.org
Kathy Wooldridge	Skrappy's	skrappys@hotmail.com