
TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

Tucson Homeless Connect Committee

June 25, 2009 Minutes

Chair: Don Blascak

<p>Next Meeting: July 9, 2008, 8:30– 10:00 a.m. Trinity Presbyterian Church 400 E. University Boulevard</p>
--

<p>Report to TPCCH General Meeting</p>

<p>■ n/a</p>

TOPICS DISCUSSED

- 1. Minutes.** Wayne Steele moved to accept the minutes of the June 11th meeting as presented. Maryann Beerling seconded. **Motion passed.**
- 2. Visitors.** Sarah Rosenthalse, a graduate social worker from upstate New York visiting Tucson attended to observe and assist, if appropriate. Sarah noted that she works for DePaul, which operates 12 group homes for people with developmental disabilities, serious mental illness and/or dual diagnosis. She will assist at the July 17th event.
Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans President Joe Niznik joined the committee.
- 2. Provider Responses.** Complete information is needed for the registrations forms and media release. Don reviewed the positive provider responses to date and requested additions from participants. Added to the providers list were Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans and COPE Lifeworks. Jeff Burnham noted that COPE Lifeworks should be located near the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) so that the two agencies can work together to ensure that HIV testing is provided. Jeff Burnham noted that he is still seeking a podiatrist, and is awaiting answers from two.
Don noted that the Foundation Primavera has agreed to reserve some shelter beds for event guests as well as attend as a provider. He continues working with the Salvation Army to get AAA Transportation to provide the Motor Vehicle Division round trip transportation. Homeless Court Judge Pollard has agreed to attend 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The Community Food Bank will attend to provide instructions on obtaining nutritional assistance.
The Salvation Army, Gospel Rescue Mission, Primavera Foundation, and Comin' Home will provide guest transportation to/from the event.
Maryann Beerling noted that she has a number for the additional van driver; and provided Mary Ann Silcox as the appropriate contact for Compass Health Care, which has not yet responded to their invitation.
Wayne Steele brought a to-scale layout of Trinity Presbyterian for use in planning the event layout.
 - a.)** Don will contact Mary Jo Silcox, 609-1071, re Compass Health Care participation.
 - b.)** Stan will ensure the White Shepherd clothing vans' attendance.
 - c.)** Settle will the add emphasis and transportation times to the outreach flyer and distribute again to the TPCCH list serve.
 - d.)** Don will check with Patti Scott-Lopez on whether Emerge! will attend, and with Mary Pat Sullivan as to whether reading glasses will be distributed by Comin' Home.
 - e.)** Mark Pollinger will invite the Arizona Department of Veterans Services to attend.
 - f.)** Jeff will check with El Rio Health Center for availability of a podiatrist.
 - g.)** All members will forward provider information to Don by email.
 - h.)** Don will complete the providers' list and location map.

3. **Signage.** Don will contact Rick Sumner to pick up signage.
4. **Services List for Media Release.** Don will forward the list of providers and their services to Leslie Carlson for inclusion on registration forms and mention in media releases.
5. **Success Stories.** Maryann noted that she knows a Compass client who recovered from homelessness and substance abuse, regained custody of her children. Don reported that he has one success story arranged, and that Steve Nelson is also looking people willing to share their success stories.
 - **Next step.** Maryann will ask the Compass client if she is willing to speak with reporters, and relay the answer to Don.
6. **Documentation Review.** Leslie Carlson noted that it is important to know and list on the registration forms the exact services that each provider plans to deliver. This information then needs to be coordinated with the map.
7. **Walk Through.** The walk through will be during the July 9th committee meeting, which Erin confirmed can be held at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Erin noted that donated resources can be pre-positioned in the church's downstairs kitchen. Don noted that the event would like to compensate the church's superintendent for the extra time needed for the event.
 - **Next step.** Erin will check on an appropriate honorarium.
8. **Stand Down Update.** Mark Pollinger reported that the June 20th Veterans Stand Down drew 115 veterans, including families, versus the 50 who usually attend the spring event. Media coverage was good. Community support was great.
9. **Donations.** Glenn Fournie noted that the event will receive \$500 from the Southern Arizona Procurement Fair; and \$250 from TEP through Sharon Foltz, who will attend. Maryann noted that she has send letters to five banks. Commerce Bank is donating 15 cases of water plus personal care items, which they will deliver to the church prior to the event. They are also considering donating \$1,500 next year. Goodman's Office Furniture is collecting resources. Southwest Gas is considering a donation. The City's transportation department is donating bicycle tire patch kits and a case of lip balm. They are willing to deliver the items to the church before the event. Maryann also brought water and personal care items donated by Compass and Compass Affordable Housing employees. New Beginnings for Women and Children will bring 100 breakfast items.
 - **Next steps. a.)** Erin Buckner will coordinate accepting donation deliveries and storing them at the church.
 - **b.)** Glenn will do "thank you" banners acknowledging sponsors.
10. **Comfort Kit Assembly/Preparations.** Participants discussed who would together comfort kits. Don noted the American Red Cross will donate the bags. Jodie suggested that Target volunteers may be willing to help. Maryann volunteered to coordinate assembly at the church the day before the event (July 16th) from approximately 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Erin noted that she is looking for a fraternal organization that may provide volunteers as a community service either for comfort kit assembly or the event. The downstairs kitchen counters can be used for assembly. Don noted that setup and just-in-time volunteer training (4:00 p.m.) will be at the church the afternoon of July 16th. Stan noted that radios are arranged, and computer/Internet needs to date are manageable.
 - **Next step.** Members will forward volunteer names to Glen and Maryann.

11. Next Meeting. Thursday, July 9th, 8:30-10:00 a.m., at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 400 E. University Boulevard.

Submitted by Settle Madden

Attendance

Jodie Barnes	City of Tucson	jodie.barnes@tucsonaz.gov
Maryann Beerling	Compass Affordable Housing	mbeerling@compasshc.org
Don Blascak	ICH	dblascak@comcast.net
Charlie Bowker	ICH	bowksaz@msn.com
Erin Buckner	Trinity PC USA	erin.trinity@gmail.com
Jeff Burnham	COPE	jburnham@copebhs.com
Leslie Carlson	PTEH Implementation Coordinator	lacarlson@cox.net
Glenn Fournie	City of Tucson	glenn.fournie@tucsonaz.gov
Stan Hamnett	Gospel Rescue Mission	shamnett@grmtucson.com
Joe Niznik	Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans	jniznik@azdes.gov
Mark Pollinger	DES	mpollinger@azdes.gov
Sarah Rosenthal	Visitor	rosenthalse@gmai.com
Wayne Steele	Trinity Presbyterian Church	tucson35@yahoo.com