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# TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

## Tucson Homeless Connect Committee

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### January 22, 2009 Minutes

Chair: Don Blascak

<p><b>Next Meeting:</b> February 5, 2009, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Pantano Room, Sentinel Building 320 N. Commerce Park Loop</p>
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<p><b>Report to TPCCH General Meeting</b></p>
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<p>■ n/a</p>
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### TOPICS DISCUSSED

- 1. Minutes** Several minor corrections to the previous meetings minutes were put forward. Corrected minutes were accepted by consensus.
- 2. Providers list review.** Participants reviewed the combined providers list line by line, noting needs for tables, chairs, and privacy.
  - **Health/Behavioral Health.** Don noted that it appears there will be room in Trinity Hall for services in addition to medical/behavioral health care services. Charley Bowker noted that three retired nurses from the Desert Hills Church of Green Valley have volunteered to assist. They will be placed next to El Rio Health Center. It was noted that COPE, SAAF, Carondelet and Marana Health Center will need privacy.
    - **Next steps.** Rick Sumner will finalize the list and forward to Don for layout completion.
  - **Government.** Jodie Barnes reported. DES Family Assistance Administration will be there to take expedited food stamp applications. The Social Security Administration (SSA) has asked for computers. The laptops used by Settle Madden and Leslie Carlson will be available. SSA offered to bring eight individuals. Committee's consensus was to ask them to bring four because it's unlikely that eight computers can be available.
  - **Shelters and Employment.** The Salvation Army will be providing motel vouchers. Gospel Rescue Mission (GRM) has reserved two beds. Primavera Foundation has reserved five beds. The Pima County One Stop has subcontracted its job assistance to Arbor, which does not provide direct service and will not attend. Jackson Employment Center and Primavera Works will attend.
    - **Next steps:** a.) Settle Madden will locate a contact for Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse, which has not responded to its invitation. (Invitation later declined.)  
b.) Jodie Barnes will contact Comin' Home, which has not yet responded.
  - **Veterans.** The Veterans Administration, Southern Arizona Veterans Administration Health Care System, and DES veterans' office will attend.
    - **Next Step.** Mark Pollinger will send contact information for the Arizona Department of Veterans Services to Rick.
  - **Clothing.** The GRM White Shepherd clothing van will attend to distribute clothing. Any clothing from the Arizona Motor Vehicle Division clothing drive will be distributed through the White Shepherd. Primavera will have 30 clothing vouchers (for the St. Vincent de Paul free store) to distribute. These will be provided to guests at exit.
  - **Resource tables.** Don will have 30 senior smile kits from United Way plus comfort kits from a local church. DES is also bringing comfort kits for their table. The American Red Cross may donate some as well. Jeff Burnham noted that El Rio Health Clinic may provide some dental hygiene kits and education. At this point, dental screenings will probably not be offered because there is no place to which to refer screened individuals. There is also no practical way to provide care at the event due to the need for suction and the issue of biohazard waste disposal. Participants discussed options,

**Resource tables cont'd.**

including calling on the Pima County Community College dental hygienist program and/or making an arrangement with the Phoenix CASS dental suites.

- **Next steps. a.)** Don will investigate whether an arrangement can be made with CASS.
- **b.)** Jeff will ask El Rio whether they can provide dental referrals.
- **Entertainment.** The previous ban does not have enough members available to play on the event day. There is a possibility of a solo guitarist.
  - **Next step:** \_\_\_\_\_ will call Russell at the Sonora House regarding a band.
- **Barbers.** Don reported that his contact, Art, will provide two hours of service. Don will buy Barbicide. Lori will purchase a quantity of shampoo and more towels. There will also be three representatives from Great Clips plus Lori's daughter and one other for a total of five barbers. One is bringing her own chair. Don has requested the loan of three chairs from Red's Barber Shop.
  - **Overall Providers Next Steps. a.)** Rick will update the providers list and forward to Don to assist with event layout completion.
    - **b.)** Rick and his clients will provide elevated signs for the event.
    - **c.)** Don and Charlie will meet with church personnel and do a walk through of available areas of Trinity Presbyterian Church.

**3. Registration and Evaluations.** Leslie Carlson reported. She plans to use same forms with minor changes. Guest registration will be in Fellowship Hall, allowing for more room. The Fellowship Hall will become the dining area at noon. Registration procedure needs to be clarified. Last time some guests were told to keep their forms, while others were told to keep them until exit.

Participants discussed how to best ensure capturing needed information from guests. Charlie suggested a three-part form; one to remain at registration; one on which the provider could check services received; and the third that would be collected at exit, where guests would receive perks such as bus passes. Guest escorts can help assure that forms are appropriately turned. To encourage data collection on exit, participants reached consensus to clothe the exit interview tables in red, mark them with an elevated sign, and announce/print that each guest should leave only after visiting the exit table. All registration tables will be draped in the same, separate color.

Settle suggested that instructions for registration volunteers be taped to each registration table.

- **Next steps: a.)** Rick will create instructions and sign-in/checklists for providers, then copy Don
    - **b.)** Leslie will create a registration form with sections to keep and for guests to carry with them.
    - **c.)** Leslie will add language reminding guests to deposit their exits forms at the red table to obtain their bus passes.
- 4. Volunteers.** Lori Block reported by email that volunteer recruitment is going well with approximately 42 carry-overs, plus Jodie Barnes and three volunteers from the City. She would like a target number and advice on how to reach it. Leslie suggested at least 100 volunteers.
- **Next steps. a.)** Leslie or Don will contact Olivia Gutzman regarding Spanish speaking volunteers.
    - **b.)** Patti Scott-Lopez will re-contact CPSA personnel to get names of those who will volunteer.
- 5. Media/Officials.** Leslie reported. The first media advisory and invitations to local officials have been sent. She mentioned the event at the PTEH Task Force meeting, and will begin visiting with local officials as to why their attendance is important soon.
- **Next Step.** Leslie will check with the HUD office re: RSVPs to date and begin making personal contacts with local officials.

6. **Next Meeting.** Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-10:30 a.m., Pantano Room, Sentinel Building, 320 N. Commerce Park Loop.

Submitted by Settle Madden

### Attendance

Jodie Barnes	City of Tucson	jodie.barnes@tucsonaz.gov
Charlie Bowker	ICH	bowksaz@msn.com
Jeff Burnham	COPE Homes Program	jburnham@copebhs.com
Leslie Carlson	Implementation Coordinator PTEH	lcarlson@cox.net
Robert "BJ" Johnson	La Frontera RAPP	rjohnson@lafrontera.org
Mark Pollinger	DES	mpollinger@azdes.gov
Patricia Scott-Lopez	CPSA	patricia.scott-lopez@cpsa-rbha.org
Rick Sumner	Primavera Foundation	rsumner@primavera.org