
TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

Homeless Youth Committee

August 6, 2010 Minutes

Co-Chair/convener: Kevin Jackson

Next Meeting: Friday, August 27, 2010, 9:00 – 10:00 pm Sin Puertas, 1475 N. Oracle Road

Report to TPCCH General Meeting
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| ■ Working on November Homeless Youth event |
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TOPICS DISCUSSED

1. **Minutes.** Minutes of the July meeting were accepted as presented by consensus.
2. **Tucson Preparatory School.** Lucia Ortiz introduced the school. It is a charter high school that awards diplomas and accepts students aged 14-21 in grades 9-12 that was begun for homeless youth. Most of the currently students are with CPS, homeless, on probation and/or struggling with the traditional high school routine. Many are older teen and young adult mothers. Special education and tutoring are offered. Tucson Prep does not advertise, but receives many word-of-mouth referrals from its students to other students, and currently has a waiting list.

The school starts the next session August 16th. It is a closed campus with a snack bar, and two four and one-half hour sessions daily. Session hours are 8:30 a.m.-1:20 p.m., and 10:00 a.m.-2:50 p.m. A student (usually age 20 or more) may elect a whole-day session, with lunch, if taking 20 credits. Work is packet-based, and includes passing the AIMS, for which special tutoring is offered.

3. **Old Business.**

- **“Home is where the art is” event.** Kevin Jackson noted that Laurie Mazerbo, who was unable to attend, does not yet have a price from Caridad-de Porres to provide the event meal on Saturday, November 13th. The committee previously agreed to seek \$300 in agency donations for the meal. Pledges to date are \$100 from Skrappy’s, and \$50 from Our Family Services. Irene Timms noted that La Paloma Family Services can provide a soda bar.

Kathy Wooldridge said that she and Alice Bovell will work on door prizes, and encouraged committee members and their agencies to donate. Irene pledged 3 MP3 players.

Skrappy’s will again offer activities and provide activities and a flyer closer to the event date. Kathy asked if the Tucson Preparatory School students, perhaps the SYC Crew dancers, would present a performance. She will seek bands, and expects a reply net week from the Tucson Roller Derby team. Skrappy’s avoided the expense of a permanent stage installation by using a portable stage.

Participants also discussed a number of Skrappy’s efforts and how to work with them, including: a pilot project for youth who successfully completed probation to mentor youth on probation; doing mural projects by commission; placing youth art works on canvas a number of locations, including some Pima County building; and producing a practical shopping/ cooking /good nutrition program on Cox Community Cable.

- **School liaisons.** Sarah Castelhana, who is coordinating the Youth On Their Own (YOTO) September 2nd “welcome back to school” event for their school liaisons and McKinney-Vento liaisons, noted that the event has been moved to the patio of the Blue Willow restaurant. It will be 4:00-6:00 p.m. They will soon email invitations for each agency to do a two-to-three-minute presentation at and bring materials to the event to education. YOTO serves 60 schools, said Jane Song-Gin, and last year attracted 30 liaisons to the event. They hope to draw more this year.

- 4. New Business/Announcements.** Kevin noted scholarships are still available for the lesbian/bisexual/gay/transgender (LBGT) youth camp in Prescott August 11-12th. Applications are accepted on or may be printed from the World Wide Web. No paper apps. 11-12 going up with 4 staff, catch bus up to Prescott. \$250 per youth w/o scholarship – all food & transport. Fri Aug 13-15. Eon closed 13, 16 & 17. He'll be in Wash DC to read fed grant apps tomorrow thru 17th.
- **Next step.** Kevin will email the scholarship link to committee members.
- 5. Next Meeting.** Participants decided that, because many committee members will be unavailable on the next regular meeting date adjacent to Labor Day weekend, the next meeting will be Friday, August 27th, 9:00-10:30 a.m., at Sin Puertas, 1475 N. Oracle Road.

Submitted by Settle Madden

Attendance

Sarah Castelhana	YOTO	sccastelhana@yoto.org
Alexis Garth	Sin Puertas-Pima Prevention Partnership	agarth@thepartnership.us
Kevin Jackson	Wingspan/Eon	kjackson@wingspan.org
Dian Ortiz	Tucson Preparatory School	
Lucia Ortiz	Tucson Preparatory School	lcortiz@yahoo.com
Kim Sisson	Stand Up For Kids	kim.sission@comcast.net
Jayne Song-Gin	Youth On Their Own	song-gin@yoto.org
Irene Timms	La Paloma Family Services	irene@lapalomakids.org
Kathy Wooldridge	Skrappy's	skrappys@hotmail.com