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# TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

## Homeless Youth Committee

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### January 8, 2010 Minutes

Co-Chairs: Irene Timms and Laurie Mazerbo

<p><b>Next Meeting:</b> February 5, 2010, 9:00 – 10:00 pm Youth On Their Own 1443 W. Prince Road</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.** Kevin Jackson moved and Lisa Griffin seconded that the minutes of the December meeting be approved as presented. **Motion passed.**
2. **Old Business.**
  - **2010 Homeless Street Count.** Laurie Mazerbo reported. There will be two more trainings for Street Count volunteers, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 11:30-1:30 p.m. at Caridad-de Porres, 845 N. Main Avenue; and, for those who cannot attend before them, the evening of the count Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-6:00 p.m. The Street Count itself will be January 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
  - **Tucson Homeless Connect.** Don Blascak reported. The next event is Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. Jayne Song-Gin asked if Youth On Their Own (YOTO) could participate. Don said that all youth services organizations are invited. They may contact Don Blascak, [dblascak@comcast.net](mailto:dblascak@comcast.net), or Rick Sumner, [rsumner@primavera.org](mailto:rsumner@primavera.org).
    - **Next step.** TPCCH Administrative Coordinator will send Jayne's contact information to Rick Sumner, who heads the Tucson Homeless Connect providers workgroup.
  - **Banner.** Kathy Wooldridge reported that she will see the banner maker today. La Paloma Family Services and Our Family Services will provide courtesy food cards for the banner maker. The Skrappy's artists are now learning to print on vinyl, and may choose to reprint the banner. They will open a print shop soon at Skrappy's and plan to eventually have an independent shop.
  - **"Home is Where the Art is"/Skrappy's Thanksgiving.** Kathy reported that she thought the event went very well despite a lower-than-usual turnout. She said that she thought the low turnout was due to Skrappy's repeated moves and the concomitant loss of client base. Skrappy's client base is currently growing rapidly. Bus passes to the event would increase attendance. She agreed that earlier advertising, and perhaps additional activities, would help. She suggested that each participating agency present an activity or donate items for distribution or the raffle.

She noted that the Skrappy's Thanksgiving Dinner served more elderly persons than youth this year. It made some of the youth uncomfortable.

**3. New Business/Announcements.**

- **Gangs/Training.** Participants discussed the fact that several agencies are experiencing gang activity by youth calling themselves “jugalos” and fans of the band “Insane Clown Posse”, and that these groups appear to be growing rapidly. It was noted that the Tucson Police Department is regarding them as involved in gang activity. Kathy reported that she will meet soon with the new chief of the Tucson Police Department (TPD) Gang Unit regarding how social service agencies can work with the police to help ameliorate gang problems. Kevin said that he is also willing to discuss this with his point-of-contact for the gang unit. Consensus was that the committee would like to ask the gang unit to present training for the committee and/or for Interagency Training Day. Irene Timms offered the La Paloma Family Services Training room for such an event.
  - **Next steps. a.)** Kathy and Kevin will contact the TPC Gang Unit
  - b.)** Don Blascak will contact the Wildcat Academy, which has gang avoidance efforts.
- **YOTO Fundraiser.** Jayne noted that the annual gala YOTO fundraiser has been re-named “Talk of the Town” and will be Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at La Paloma Resort. Dinner is \$75 per person, starting at 7:00 p.m. Dancing only is \$25 per person and begins at 9:00 p.m.

**4. Next Meeting.** Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-10:00 a.m., Youth On Their Own, 1443 W. Prince Road.

Submitted by Settle Madden

**Attendance**

Charlie Alcaraz	Sin Puertas	calcaraz@thepartnership.us
Jacque Berkeihiser	La Paloma Family Services	jacque@lapalomakids.org
Don Blascak	ICH	dblascak@comcast.net
Lisa Griffin	Open Inn	lgriffin@openinn.org
Kevin Jackson	Wingspan/Eon	kjackson@wingspan.org
Laurie Mazerbo	Our Family Services	lmazerbo@ourfamilyservices.org
Lucia Ortiz	Tucson Preparatory School	lcortiz@yahoo.com
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