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# TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

## Plan to End Homelessness Committee

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### February 23, 2010 Minutes

Convener: Leslie Carlson

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| <p><b>Next Meeting:</b> Monday, April 5, 2010 – 10:30 a.m.-12:00 pm<br/>Santa Cruz Rm., Sentinel Bldg.<br/>320 N. Commerce Park Loop</p> |
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| <p><b>Report to General Council</b></p> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Consider participation in the “100,000 Homes” campaign</li></ul> |
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### TOPICS DISCUSSED

1. **Minutes.** Gail Gibbons moved and Linda Kot seconded that the minutes of the February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting be approved as presented. **Motion passed.**
2. **PTEH Leadership Council.** Leslie Carlson reported. The General Council approved the motion to request that the City of Tucson and Pima County endorse the PTEH Leadership Council. The committee’s next task is to select potential members. She noted that County personnel also suggested obtaining endorsement of the council idea from CPSA and the hospital council. It will also be important to seek inclusion of the council’s formation in the Tucson/Pima County Consolidated Plan (ConPlan).

Participants discussed the proposed membership structure and potential individual members of the PTEH Leadership Council, and alliances that could be established with existing groups, such as with Call to Action for Affordable Housing, in order to create effective subcommittees of the council.

  - **Next steps: a.)** Leslie will seek meetings with CPSA and hospital council representatives to explore obtaining those organization’s endorsement.
    - b.)** Leslie will urge inclusion of the council’s formation in the Consolidated Plan.
    - c.)** Leslie will explore suggested individuals’ willingness to participate in the council.
3. **Federal Plan to End Homelessness Input.** Participants discussed what feedback they would like to forward to the meetings on the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in the following topic areas.
  - **Strategies for preventing and ending homelessness.** Suggestions included: increased outreach and rapid transition to supported housing for the chronically homeless; providing additional and more flexible rental assistance (perhaps up to one year) to prevent homelessness; ongoing education, outreach and information efforts to remove the stigma of homelessness and increase public awareness; job creation through employer incentives for hiring homeless/formerly homeless persons; and job training with ties to placement in jobs providing a livable wage;
  - **What best practices and barriers to best practices have you observed?** Consensus was that best practices are determined by program results. Participants noted that a major barrier to the spread of best practices is the lack of communication about resources and results among service providers in both government and non-profit entities.
  - **Areas in which the federal government has been effective in preventing and ending homelessness.** The recent HPRP funding was noted as a particularly effective means of helping prevent homelessness.
  - **Suggestions for improving federal government effectiveness.** These included: establishing a consistent definition of homelessness across federal agencies; and better information on funding availability and awards made to encourage collaborations.
    - **Next steps. a.)** Committee members will forward additional suggestions to Linda Kot by Friday morning, February 26<sup>th</sup>.
    - b.)** Administrative coordinator will forward committee suggestions to Linda.

- 4. Vulnerability Index/100,000 Homes Campaign.** Leslie reported. The non-profit foundation, Common Ground, is doing a nationwide “100,000 Homes Campaign” to house the 100,000 most vulnerable chronically homeless persons in the next five years. Common Ground recommends determining which persons are most at risk for early death due to homelessness through a “vulnerability index” that the foundation developed. Phoenix has agreed to participate, and will have a training for the campaign in April. The Common Ground representative has agreed to add a visit to Tucson if meetings with key decision-makers can be arranged. She asked if the committee was interested in facilitating Tucson’s participation. Consensus was that Tucson’s participation should be encouraged.
- 5. Next meeting.** Tentatively Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-3:00 p.m., pending availability of the committee chair. Final meeting date was determined to be Tuesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> in the Santa Cruz Room of the Setinel Building, 320 N. Commerce Park Loop.

#### Attendance

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| Lori Block     | ICH                             | lori.block@ichtucson.org |
| Leslie Carlson | Implementation Coordinator PTEH | lacarlson@cox.net        |
| Gail Gibbons   | ADES                            | ggibbons@azdes.gov       |
| Linda Kot      | Primavera Foundation            | lkot@primavera.org       |