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# TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

## Tucson Homeless Connect Committee

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### March 11, 2010 Minutes

Chair: Don Blascak

<b>Next Meeting:</b> April 8, 2010, 9:00 – 10:00 am, Arroyo Room Santa Rita Bldg., 310 N. Commerce Park Loop
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<b>Report to TPCCH General Meeting</b>
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| ■ Recap of February 19 <sup>th</sup> event, expansion of subcommittees |
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### TOPICS DISCUSSED

1. **Minutes.** Jodie Barnes moved and Lori Block seconded that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as presented. **Motion passed.**

2. **Review of February 19<sup>th</sup> event.** Don noted that the addition of veterinary care increased media interest in and attracted people who might not have otherwise accepted services. Some providers commented that guests, especially youth, were dismayed by the large number of police officers present.

A preliminary breakdown of intake and feedback data showed 37 providers, and unclear total guest of at least 224. The staggered pick-up schedule and extended food service hours were noted favorably.

Suggestions for improvement included: creating additional subcommittees to smooth preparations (food, outreach, and publicity); assigning food coordination to Caridad-de Porres; streamlining demands on committee members by having food delivered from a food service; and, especially, increasing outreach to homeless persons, perhaps by involving the Pima County Community College (PCCC) community outreach program students during their practicum.

It was noted that some guests wanted to return after exit, either to eat or receive a service that they missed. In some cases, they were told that they could not. Participants reached consensus that the event is to provide hospitality and service, and guests are allowed to return to eat or obtain a missed service.

Don reported that the city transportation department has indicated willingness to work with the committee to provide photos for low-income bus pass ids if transportation to their office is provided. Income qualification, usually done by intake through self-disclosure, could be handled at that station.

It was noted that about 50 red caps were not taken by guests, perhaps because they are a “gang color”. Consensus was to have the TPCCH logo or “Tucson Homeless Connect” added to the caps and then use them to identify event volunteers.

Cheryl Bender noted that one event guest needed CPR/First Aid certification for employment, and that the Red Cross has scholarships for same and may be able to work with Sullivan Jackson Employment Center and other employment agencies.

Jodie noted that the Motor Vehicle Division has said that the state budget is making it increasingly difficult for them to attend.

Participants reached consensus that the providers list must be consolidated with Rick Sumner.

- o **Next steps.**
  - a.) Don will request additional volunteers for subcommittees.
  - b.) Don will contact the police department about reduced police presence, and Sunnyside School District about the date of the next CARE Fair.
  - c.) TPCCH Administrative Coordinator will send a blank work flow chart to Don.
  - d.) Don will check whether the city is able to provide a social worker for low-income SunTran id income verification.
  - e.) Wayne will explore outreach participation with the PCCC community outreach program.
  - f.) Members will forward all provider contact information to Rick.
  - g.) Rick will complete provider “thank you’s”.

- 3. Next Meeting.** Thursday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-10:30 a.m., City of Tucson.
- **Next step.** Jodie will seek a room reservation at the city buildings.

Submitted by Settle Madden

### Attendance

Jodie Barnes	City of Tucson	jodie.barnes@tucsonaz.gov
Don Blascak	ICH	dblascak@comcast.net
Lori Block	ICH	lori.block@ichtucson.org
Cheryl Bender	American	cbender@redcrossarizona.org
Patricia Scott-Lopez	CPSA	patricia.scott-lopez@cpsa-rbha.org
Rick Sumner	Primavera Foundation	rsumner@primavera.org
Wayne Steele	Community member	tucson35@yahoo.com