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# TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

## Continuum of Services Committee

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### January 23, 2008 Minutes

Convener/Co-chair: Susanna Rodriguez

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| <b>Next Meeting:</b> February 27, 2008, 10:30 am – noon<br>Primavera, 151 W 40th Street. |
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| <b>Report to TPCCH General Meeting February 14<sup>th</sup></b> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ TPCCH Bed Count Study</li><li>■ Use of agency APRs in absence of HMIS system</li></ul> |
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### TOPICS DISCUSSED

1. **Minutes.** Steve Nelson moved and Adam Ragsdale seconded that the minutes of the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting be approved as presented. Motion passed.
2. **Hiring of CoC Consultant.** Susanna Rodriguez reported. After interviews, the highest scoring of the three CoC consultant applicants was the Pima Prevention Partnership (PPP). She introduced Ken Walker of PPP. Ken gave a brief introduction to PPP and distributed a PPP brochure and his business cards, from which his office phone has been changed to 624-5800, ext 1408. The CoC Consultancy is being provided by PPP's technical assistance or grant writing group. He and Carol Carpenter, who was out of town, will be the leads on the TPCCH SuperNOFA. Their goal is to ensure that TPCCH gets the highest possible grant application score. They will participate in the planning process and advise applicants as well as prepare the Exhibit 1.
3. **PTEH Update.** Leslie Carlson reported.
  - **Grants.** The committee is working on grant applications to two sources: the Pima County Outside Agency Grants, for transportation funds and Implementation Coordinator position support (due February 5<sup>th</sup>. Lori Block is taking the lead.); and the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona community development grants program. The CFSA proposal is to provide training workshops to business persons, and faith-based and community organizations in how to most effectively provide assistance to homeless persons by using and supplementing existing resources and empowering the persons they assist. The request will be for start-up funds for one year.
  - **Legislative advocacy.** The committee members are becoming familiar with proposed legislation, especially the McKinney-Vento Reauthorization, and urging others to do so and to advocate for the proposals or parts of proposal they support.
  - **PTEH Council.** A community "think tank" group has met on advising how to form the council. Planning is going well.
  - **Marketing.** The committee hired LP&G to work with them on marketing the Plan to End Homelessness and will begin working with them soon.
  - **Cost Study.** The PTEH Subcommittee used DES funds to carry out the Pilot Cost Study of Homelessness in Tucson, Arizona, Phase I. That study tried to quantify the overall cost of homelessness to the community. The subcommittee decided not to release it because the data was difficult to interpret due to varying reporting periods, and varying definitions of homeless services among the reporting data sources, even though much of the data is of good quality. The subcommittee came up with three options: a.) Invest in improving the reliable data, and use that reliable data as baseline indicators to measure the progress in implementing the Plan to End Homelessness (This would take 15-20 hours of her time, Leslie estimated.); b.) give the study to the PTEH Council for their consideration and use; and c.) continue not to release the data. Leslie noted that all three options can be followed simultaneously. Participants discussed the options. Consensus was that the subcommittee proceed with all three options, and limit the use of the implementation coordinator's time to 15-20 hours.

4. **Annual Street Count.** Mary Ochoa reported. Preparations are going well. There are 75 volunteers plus the Tucson Police Department participating. The final coordination brown bag is tomorrow, 12:00-1:00 p.m. at Caridad de Porres, 845 N. Main Avenue. The 2008 Homeless Street Count is the morning of January 29<sup>th</sup>. The debriefing and reporting is scheduled for February 14<sup>th</sup>, also at Caridad.
5. **Bed Count Survey.** Susanna Rodriguez asked participants whether to do two surveys or only use the DES bed survey to obtain the information for the TPCH HUD SuperNOFA. Discussion noted that the HUD application requires different information than DES collects. This is why TPCH has traditionally done a separate survey on the same date as the shelter count, January 29<sup>th</sup>. Consensus was to complete the second survey with submission to Ken Walker.
  - o **Next steps: a.)** Committee will update and distribute the form to return to Ken Walker along with a copy of the DES survey.
  - o **b.)** Replies are due February 6<sup>th</sup>.
6. **Interagency & Community Council on Homelessness (ICCH) survey.** Barbara Montrose reported. She distributed a "State Agency Barrier Feedback" form on which the state is seeking feedback on progress and barriers in implementing the state's Plan to End Homelessness. ICCH seeks feedback from throughout the state. Barbara proposed that TPCH committees should consider and respond to the goals that pertain to their area of work, and that the survey should be distributed to the TPCH list serve for feedback from individuals. Consensus was to go ahead with the proposal. Responses should be sent to Barbara who will pass on to Mattie Lord at DES.
  - o **Next steps: a.)** Barbara will email the form to the TPCH Administrative Coordinator.
  - o **b.)** Administrative Coordinator will distribute to committee chairs for their specific questions and to the TPCH list serve for general responses.
7. **New Samaritan Project.** Susanna noted that if HUD's congressional funding does not change; TPCH will again be eligible for a bonus Samaritan Project with this year's application. These projects are targeted to the chronically homeless in supported housing. The grantee agency currently must provide 100% funding for the supportive services.
  - o **Next step:** Committee members will seek possible projects.
8. **Old Business.** Steve Nelson noted that in the absence of functioning HMIS, the committee considered looking at agencies' APRs to help in the planning and gaps analysis process.
  - o **Next step:** Co-chairs will e-mail participants regarding APR completion and possible use in HUD Exhibit 1 preparation.
9. **New Business.** Susanna reported that HUD will hold a meeting regarding SSI benefits training from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on March 11<sup>th</sup> in Phoenix. HUD has allotted space for three individuals representing HUD homeless assistance grant recipients to attend. This meeting will plan future meetings, trainings and actions for homeless housing and service providers to increase their clients' access to SSI and state disability benefits.
  - o **Next steps: a.)** TPCH Chairwoman Beth Carey and Barbara Montrose will plan to attend.
  - o **b.)** Primavera will seek to send a representative. If Primavera cannot provide a representative, Barbara will seek an alternate attendee.
10. **Report to General Council:** The TPCH bed count study and APR request.
11. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, February 27, 2008, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Primavera Foundation, 151 W. 40<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Attendance**

| <b>Name</b>       | <b>Organization</b>                   | <b>Email</b>                   |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Cindy Abril       | City of Tucson                        | lucinda.abril@tucsonaz.gov     |
| Jennifer Andersen | New Beginnings for Women and Children | jandersen@nbwctuson.org        |
| Jodie Barnes      | City of Tucson                        | jodie.barnes@tucsonaz.gov      |
| Leslie Carlson    | TPCH Implementation Coordinator PTEH  | lacarlson@comcast.net          |
| Pat Carnes        | Compass Healthcare                    | pcarnes@compasshc.org          |
| Sherri Hutchison  | Tucson Centers for Women and Children | sherri@tucsoncenters.com       |
| Nick Jones        | Old Pueblo Community Services         | nick@helptucson.org            |
| Sarah Jones       | Tucson Centers for Women and Children | sarah@tucsoncenters.com        |
| Robert Miller     | Comin' Home                           | Roe36@netzero.com              |
| Barbara Montrose  | CPSA                                  | barbara.montrose@cpsa-rhba.org |
| Steven Nelson     | Jackson Employment                    | snelson@csd.pima.gov           |
| Mary Ochoa        | Department of Economic Security/FAA   | maryochoa@azdes.gov            |
| Nancy Panico      | Open Inn                              | npanico@openinn.org            |
| Adam Ragsdale     | Primavera                             | aragsdale@primavera.org        |
| Susanna Rodriguez | City of Tucson                        | Susanna.rodriguez@tucsonaz.gov |
| Ken Walker        | Pima Prevention Partnership           | kwalker@thepartnership.us      |