
TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

Continuum of Services Committee

August 1, 2007 Minutes

Chairs: Linda Kot, Susanna Rodriguez

Next Meeting: August 22, 2007, 10:30 am – noon Primavera, 151 W 40th Street.

Report to TPCH General Meeting August 9th

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Fair Market Rents■ PTEH & Work Plan Development■ Transportation Program■ CoC Consultant Contract |
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TOPICS DISCUSSED

1. Arizona Evaluation Project /HMIS Updates.

- **Arizona Evaluation Project Update.** Linda reported that the Project Committee met two weeks ago. DES has hired an IT specialist to assist with transitioning and reporting self-sufficiency matrix data and obtaining reports from it. She noted that data reports from the matrix are considered statistically reliable only after 100 clients have both entrances and exits on record. The committee will meet again in September in keeping with its every other month schedule.
- **HMIS Update** A report and summary of ongoing work on HMIS since the July 12th General Council meeting was given, at which time the council also established an HMIS Committee. HUD's regional representative Steve Sachs and Arizona representative John Enos have been involved with TPCH's HMIS along with HUD technical assistance consultants Michelle Hayes and Matt White. The consultants issued their final recommendations on July 17th. Those recommendations will be the subject of a Special General Council Meeting on Thursday, August 2nd. The HMIS Committee held its first meeting July 31st and elected Karen Caldwell and Efrain Romero as co-chairs. Linda noted that the TPCH General Council has recognized HMIS Committee as independent standing committee. The AZ Evaluation Project will be a subcommittee of this group. The CoS Committee will no longer have ongoing group involvement.

2. Plan to End Homelessness (PTEH) Update.

Leslie Carlson, Implementation Coordinator for the PTEH, reported.

- **Executive Directors Luncheon and Feedback.** The luncheon was held July 20th in the Sentinel Building to acquaint top level administrators of community agencies serving the homeless population with TPCH and the PTEH and to engage them with the overall Plan and the 2007-2008 Action Plan. Emily Nottingham and Margaret Kish also addressed how the city and county wish to prioritize their funding to advance the plan. Catering was by Café 54, which is run as an employment program for persons with mental illness.

Twenty attendees responded to the luncheon's feedback form. The PTEH Subcommittee participants reviewed the feedback and noted the one respondent's comment that the 2007-2008 Action Plan "has no hows..." was a fair critique. They agreed to flesh out the plan with specifics and develop a work plan by devoting each of the next sequence of meetings to one of the Action Plan's key areas.

The PTEH Subcommittee will work with the Homeless Youth Committee on the Homeless Youth section, and also requests input and suggestions for inviting guests in each area of the plan from the CoS Committee and General Council.

A follow-up luncheon is tentatively planned for September to include the top leadership who were unable to attend the July luncheon and for leaders from the public sector. Presentations for other groups,

including the Community Action Agency, will continue.

Beth suggested that the PTEH Subcommittee plan a luncheon for elected officials after the fall elections, possibly in early 2008.

- **Homeless Services Inventory.** Leslie noted that the committee is building an inventory of all Pima County homeless service resources. The purpose is to establish the status versus the need and therefore understand what else is needed. Lori Block noted that it will include all of Pima County. Lori and Leslie will meet with I&R later in the week to ensure that their information is integrated. Lori is also working on an inventory of faith-based organizations serving the homeless. Leslie noted that Pima County is also attempting to establish a homeless service inventory with the designers of the County's affordable housing website. The county's goal is to have the first round of data into a database by year's end. Leslie and Lori are collaborating with the County on the inventories.
- **Transportation Program.** Lori Block reported as Director for TPCH fiscal agent ICH. She noted that TPCH needs to expend grant funds provided as the first stage of creating an ongoing source for bus pass and taxi voucher funding. Amounts and expenditure deadlines are \$10,000 from DES for transportation, December 31, 2007; and \$7,500 from the Pima County Outside Agency process, June 30, 2008. She distributed a draft announcement letter requesting letters of intent and a form for a proposed program to match agencies' transportation expenditures, and requested suggestions. Suggestions included: add a signature line; add a September 15th deadline for the letters of intent; ask whether persons receiving bus passes and taxi vouchers are the agency's established clients or members of the general community; add bulleted instructions; and publish the program participants on the TPCH list serve. The program was accepted by consensus for presentation at the August 9th General Council meeting.

3. Fair Market Rents (FMR). Barbara Montrose reported that the 2007-2008 HUD Fair Market Rental Rates are published and go into effect October 1st. The Pima County rates were lowered. Although these are not applicable to supported housing programs, they create both significant issues for other housing programs, and the potential for a wave or evictions that will increase demand for emergency assistance. Beth noted that SAAF caps requests for Emergency Assistance according to HUD. The rate announcement did not specify an appeal process for communities who feel that their rates are unrealistic. Consensus was that information about an appeals process and General Council discussion are needed.

- **Next steps:** a.) Susanna Rodriguez will seek information on an appeal process and details on how rates are set. She will talk to Peggy Morales.
b.) Committee will request General Council discussion.

4. Old Business.

- **Ranking & Review Committee "Thank You".** There has been no report on whether the Ranking & Review Committee members have received "thank you " letters.
 - **Next step:** Linda will check with Nancy Panico whether the letters were done.
- **SOAR Training.** Barbara noted that an issue with additional SOAR training is that all of the qualified trainers have left.

5. New Business

- **Goals and timeless.** The Committee needs to review its goals and timelines and assign responsibilities for the coming year at the next meeting.
- **CoC Consultant Contract.** Vicki VanDreel has indicated her willingness to be TPCH's CoC Consultant for 2009. The contract may be renewable. Payment and possible extension of the contract beyond 10 months need to be negotiated and approved by the General Council. Barbara suggested adding \$1,000 to the contact amount.
 - **Next steps:** a.) Lori will check with ADOH regarding funding for the consultant.
b.) Committee will seek General Council approval for renewal and renewal amount.

Attendance

Name	Organization	Email
Lori Block	Interfaith Coalition for the Homeless	ldblock@earthlink.net
Beth Carey	Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation	bcarey@saaf.org
Leslie Carlson	PTEH Implementation Coordinator	lacarlson@cox.net
Pat Carnes	Compass Healthcare	pcrnes@compasshc.org
Sherri Hutchinson	Tucson Centers for Women and Children	Sherri@tucsoncenters.com
Linda Kot	Primavera Foundation	lkot@primavera.org
Robert Miller	Comin' Home	rmiller@cominhome.net
Barbara Montrose	CPSA	barbara.montrose@cpsa-rhba.org
Mary Ochoa	DES/FAA	maryochoa@azdes.gov
S. Renee O'Neill	Compass Health Care	stoneill@compasshc.org
Val Quadros	La Frontera	vquadros@lafrontera.org
Adam Ragsdale	Primavera Foundation	aragsdale@primavera.org
Susanna Rodriguez	City of Tucson	Susanna.Rodriguez@tucsonaz.gov