
TUCSON PIMA COLLABORATION TO END HOMELESSNESS

Emergency Services Committee

April 13, 2011 Minutes

Co-chairs: Sylvia Cuestas, Jill Rich

Next Meeting: May 18, 2011, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m., Sullivan Jackson Employment Center, 400 E. 26 th St.

Report to General Council

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| ■ Sylvia Cuestas and Jerry Brillo were elected as 2011-2012 committee chair and vice chair. |
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TOPICS DISCUSSED

- Minutes.** Don Blascak moved and Sylvia Cuestas seconded that the minutes of the March meeting be approved as presented. **Motion passed.**
- Winter Shelter wrap-up.** Jerry Brillo reported. By the end of Operation Deep Freeze, a total of 38 people were sent to Compass detox. Project Hospitality sheltered 2,021 persons in a total of 2,408 available bed nights. One Step Beyond served 967 persons in a total of 1,316 available bed nights. He said that winter shelter programs received excellent attendance and support from DES veterans' representative Mark Pollinger and his colleagues. RAPP sent representatives as well. Most guests seemed receptive to these case workers.

Case management. Jerry noted the need for additional case management and ongoing contact between guests and their case managers continues. He noted that case workers often consult with each other and make referrals that better benefit guests. Jerry recommended and participants discussed that it would be beneficial to have a winter shelter case manager who does not have winter shelter management or scheduling responsibilities. This person would be dedicated to promoting ongoing interaction between guests and their case managers in various agencies. Consensus was that the committee should seek a way to achieve this position whether by finding additional funding or recruiting one or two volunteers.

Transportation. Jerry noted that in-kind transportation was provided by AAA Transportation to the winter shelter program, and that SunTran provided transportation during the past season as well. Both should be contacted immediately regarding what they may be able to do for the coming year.

Compass detox and transportation. Jerry said that communication from the Salvation Army does not seem to be going through the proper person at Compass because phone calls for the transportation produce different answers and non-compliance with the initially offered services. He urged that the committee meet with the Compass chief executive officer (CEO) to reach an understanding.

 - **Next steps.** a.) Jerry, Jill Rich and Kim Ward will seek an appointment with Compass CEO Mary Jo Silcox about transportation between the Salvation Army and Compass detox.
 - b.) Don Blascak and Kim Ward will meet with AAA Transportation to discuss the past year and how they might work with the winter shelter program in the future.
- Project Summer Sun 2011.** Lori reported that until the committee knows more about when the local FEMA board will meet and make funding decisions, no funds should be spent toward Project Summer Sun supplies. Joy noted that she may have a source for free sunscreen.
 - **Next step.** a.) Settle will email the list of Summer Sun items to Joy for exploration of donations.
 - b.) Don will begin encouraging previous donors to organize donation drives.
 - c.) Settle will draft a summer sun news release for the committee chairs to submit for TPC co-chairs' approval.

- 4. Alternate Winter Shelter Workgroup.** The workgroup met today and discussed a final report to be presented at the May meeting.
- 5. Blankets.** Yoli Hasler reported that 5,000 FEMA blankets are on order and should arrive in late May or early June. Her FEMA contact asked said that staggering delivery of a 20,000-blanket order would be difficult and asked that we instead submit successive smaller orders, perhaps at two-month intervals to ease delivery scheduling. Storage may be an issue. Don said that approximately 8,000 blankets are currently in stock. Jim Kuzdal said that there is a great deal of available space in the St. Vincent de Paul warehouse. He and Don estimated that the warehouse can handle approximately two truckloads of blankets. Jerry noted that the TPCB storage unit remains empty. Consensus was to order another 15,000 blankets immediately.
- **Next step.** Yoli will order another 15,000 blankets from FEMA.
- 6. New Business.**
- **Election of 2011-2012 committee chair and vice chair.** Jill nominated Jerry Brillo and Don Blascak seconded. Yoli nominated and Jill seconded Sylvia Cuestas as vice-chair. Brother David Buer nominated Sylvia Cuestas as chair and Jerry Brillo as vice chair and Don Blascak seconded. **By paper ballot, Sylvia Cuestas was elected chair and Jerry Brillo as vice chair.**
 - **GRM Women's/Children's Shelter.** Kathleen Joy reported that she visited and was very impressed. All rooms were adopted by donors, and the facility is debt free.
- 7. Next Meeting.** Wednesday, May 18th, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Sullivan Jackson Employment Center, 400 E. 26th Street.

Submitted by Settle Madden

Attendance

Name		Organization	Email
Don	Blascak	ICH	dblasca@comcast.net
Lori	Block	ICH	lori.block@ichtucson.org
Jerry	Brillo	Salvation Army	jbsaret@aol.com
David	Buer	Franciscans	buerofm@gmail.com
Sylvia	Cuestas	Living Faith Christian Center	syvia.cuestas@pima.gov
Yoli	Hasler	Salvation Army	yoli.hasler@usw.salvationarmy.org
Kathleen	Joy	American Red Cross	kjoy@redcrossarizona.org
Jim	Kuzdal	Society of St. Vincent de Paul	jkuzdal@svdptucson.org
Fabian	Pacheco	Tucson Police Department	fabian.pacheco@tucsonaz.gov
Jill	Rich	American Red Cross	jbr@dakotacom.net
Charlotte	Speers	Casa Maria	
Kim	Ward	Salvation Army	Kim.ward@usw.salvationarmy.org