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# TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

## Emergency Services Committee

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### June 9, 2010 Minutes

Co-chairs: Jim Kuzdal, David Buer

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| <p><b>Next Meeting:</b> July 7, 2010, 10:30-11:30 am<br/>Sullivan Jackson Employment Center, 400 E. 26<sup>th</sup> St.</p> |
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| <p><b>Report to TPCCH General Meeting June 10<sup>th</sup></b></p> |
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| <p>■ Summer Sun progress</p> |
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### TOPICS DISCUSSED

1. **Minutes.** Don Blascak moved and Jill Rich seconded that the minutes of the May meeting be approved as presented. **Motion passed.**
2. **Summer Sun.** Brother David noted a two-day delay in beginning the St. Francis Cooling Centers, which was reflected in a corrected transmission of the Summer Sun sites list to the TPCCH list serve, as was the addition of Long Realty to the donation sites list. Jill said that Long Realty sent letters to all agents asking for their donations, and the response has been generous. TV Channel 11 aired a report of Summer Sun efforts by TPCCH and the Salvation Army, but did not show the list of sites on screen. Wendy Heiden noted that RAPP sack lunches will be served June 1<sup>st</sup>-July 31<sup>st</sup>, and that CPSA Community Services publishes its own summer sun sites list. Don noted that Casa Maria wishes to be on the list, and accepts Summer Sun water donations, but does not have an indoor resting spot. Settle Madden noted that Primavera Homeless Prevention and Intervention (HIP, formerly R&R) asked not to be on the published list of sites this year. Don said that HIP had nonetheless accepted delivery of donated water. He reported picking up 75 donated cases of water so far, with 14 in his car for distribution today, and 30 more cases to pick up at Radiology, Ltd. Brother David asked if anyone knows where a trailer on wheels could be obtained for use for two months at Inner City Harvesters, which will no longer allow the cooling center to store cots in the building.
  - **Next step:** Any participant who knows of an available trailer will contact Brother David at [buerofm@gmail.com](mailto:buerofm@gmail.com).
3. **Winter Shelter**
  - **2009-2010 Season Review.** Don reported that bed nights pledged for the congregational shelter programs to date are 2,101 for Project Hospitality (PH) and 280 for One Step Beyond (OSB) for a total of 2,381. There are 39 nights fully subscribed, and only one night with no beds pledged.

Lori Block presented a written summary of the 2009-2010 services and a draft of the winter shelter report. Participants discussed the need for ongoing evaluation of the winter shelter programs; how to improve evaluations and better understand congregational program participants' success rate; and that the congregational shelter programs are invaluable as community education and outreach. It was noted that the planned letter to executive directors and subsequent staff trainings should help with evaluation.
  - **Letter to Executive Directors.** Participants reviewed a second draft of the letter to be sent in August to the executive directors of agencies that refer people to the winter shelter programs.
    - **Next step.** Don will email the letter file to Jill and Sylvia Cuestas for finalization.
  - **Continuous Shelter Exploration.** Jim Kuzdal, Wendy Heiden, Jill Rich, and Kim Ward volunteered to work with Brother David outside of the committee to explore future continuous winter shelter options.

4. **Blankets.** Yoli Hasler reported. She is awaiting a phone call confirming her request to add 5,000 blankets to the previous 10,000-blanket order. The 10,000-blanket order was previously confirmed.
5. **Budget.** Lori Block reported. The Salvation Army is still finishing its 2009-2010 billing, so the final amount of funds available for equipment/supply replacement and Project Summer Sun remains unknown. She estimated that there is probably \$10,000 to use before November, of which the committee previously allotted \$3,000 to replace cots. She hopes to determine how much will be available for Summer Sun sack lunches soon.
6. **Old Business/TPD representation.** Lt. Jim Rizzi noted that the Tucson Police Department (TPD) will transfer him to another position July 4<sup>th</sup>. His replacement should be named before the committee next meets. He said that the Operation Deep Freeze (ODF) AAA Transportation cab effort worked well, and asked that the committee continue it.
7. **New Business.**
  - **Plan for Possible Shelter Closure.** Jim Kuzdal asked whether the committee should plan to accommodate persons who may be made homeless as a result of the recently reported irregularities at one agency with multiple shelters. Don and Jill noted that the American Red Cross (ARC) could assist if one of more buildings of the buildings in questions were condemned, but not if the closures were for other reasons. The ODF overflow shelter site might be used as an interim solution.
    - **Next step.** Jill will alert the ARC executive director to the potential need.
  - **Salvation Army personnel changes.** Kim Ward reported that Major Peter Clack is being transferred, and the Petersons are retiring. The incoming officers have not yet been named, but the new Temple Corps officer will be city commander and the commander's spouse will run Temple Corps.
8. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., Sullivan Jackson Employment Center. Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> will be the subsequent meeting.

Submitted by Settle Madden

## Attendance

| Name             | Organization                   | Email                                  |
|------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Don Blascak      | ICH                            | dblascak@comcast.net                   |
| Lori Block       | ICH                            | lori.block@ichtucson.org               |
| David Buer, ofm  | Franciscans                    | buerofm@gmail.com                      |
| Sylvia Cuestas   | Christian Faith Center         | sylvia.cuestas@pima.org                |
| Yolanda Hasler   | Salvation Army                 | yoli.hasler@usw.salvationarmy.org      |
| Wendy Heiden     | La Frontera RAPP               | wheiden@lafrontera.org                 |
| Jim Kuzdal       | Society of St. Vincent de Paul | jkuzdal@svdptucson.org                 |
| Celeste Reynolds | Salvation Army                 | celeste.reynolds@usw.salvationarmy.org |
| Jill Rich        | American Red Cross             | jbr@dakotacom.net                      |
| Jim Rizzi        | Tucson Police Department       | jim.rizzi@tucsonaz.gov                 |
| Kim Ward         | Salvation Army                 | kim.ward@usw.salvationarmy.org         |