
TUCSON PIMA COLLABORATION TO END HOMELESSNESS

Emergency Services Committee

September 7, 2011 Minutes

Chair: Sylvia Cuestas

Next Meeting: October 5, 2011, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Sullivan Jackson Employment Center, 400 E. 26 th St.

Report to General Council

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| ■ Orientation participation required to refer guests to Project Hospitality |
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TOPICS DISCUSSED

- Minutes.** Jerry Brillo noted the need for a correction under “Congregational programs” to read in part “26 nights with 20 or more beds available”. Don Blascak moved to approve the minutes with that correction. Kathleen Joy seconded. **Motion passed.**
- Summer Sun update.** Wendy Heiden reported that RAPP has seen 2,300 visitors during their Summer Sun effort and continues to receive gifts of bottled water from CPSA.
Brother David Buer reported that the Franciscans’ shelter operated for 53 days (June 27th – August 26th) and received 2,936 guests for an average of 55 guests (47 men, 8 women) daily who were served by 41 community volunteers including five Franciscan friars.
Don reported that he has distributed 274 cases of water to date, of which 232 were donated by Desert Hills Lutheran Church in Green Valley. He will pick up 22 more cases from Desert Hills today and distribute to local sites. That will be 296 total cases of water for the season, slightly fewer than last year. He has also distributed many hats, tubes of sunscreen, socks and underwear. He expects to receive a few more calls from local churches and to go over 300 cases of water in the next few weeks. He has not “turned off” the water drive due to continued high daily temperatures.
- Winter shelter preparations.**
 - Congregational programs.** Sylvia Cuestas has scheduled delivery of a strong message during the annual conference luncheon to encourage case management who wish to refer to the upcoming Project Hospitality (PH) and One Step Beyond (OSB) season to attend orientation in order to refer.
Participants discussed the case management issue and noted that: congregations do not understand that and complain of low numbers when PH fact that prospective guests may choose not to attend on any given night; and congregations can be slow to report variations from procedure. Participants reaffirmed their consensus that agencies/programs must have a case manager attend one of three offered case manager orientations in order to refer clients to Project Hospitality this coming season.
 - Next steps.** Sylvia will note the Project Hospitality orientation requirement at the September and October General Councils and forward the orientation schedule to the TPCCH administrative coordinator for publication through the TPCCH weekly announcements.
 - Transportation.** AAA Transportation is unable to provide free transportation this year. The Salvation Army has one van available but needs two for completing the winter shelter efforts. Kim Ward noted that she has not yet had a response from Sun Tran regarding provision of transportation during the coming season or from AAA Transportation regarding whether they would be willing to provide a low-cost van rental for use during the hours of 6:00-7:00 am and 5:30-7:30 p.m. daily during the winter shelter season. She noted that Enterprise Rent-a-Car quoted her a cost of \$6,081 for the period from December 1st through March 1st. Participants discussed alternatives.
 - Next step.** Sylvia will contact Comin’ Home regarding whether they will be able to provide transportation during the coming season.

- **Clinic.** Don noted it appears that the usual physician will not be available this year, but that a nurse practitioner and several nurses may be able to carry through the program of holding a clinic on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays as was done last year. It appears that the Van of Hope may be able to provide service on Mondays. Yoli noted that the Van has been prompt in its Wednesday schedule at the Hospitality House, except when they had generator problems, and that the Operation Deep Freeze clinic operators were not always open as scheduled last year. Jerry stated that the clinic needs to be open on ODF nights, because a number of clients only come in on these, and having the clinic during ODF nights would give these people would a chance for medical care. One suggestion was that maybe a clinic could be held on the first night of each ODF call. Don noted that the UA Mobile Health Van has been very difficult to schedule for just two Tucson Homeless Connect events yearly. Kathleen suggested that the El Rio medical director might allow El Rio staff to provide care some evenings at the Hospitality House. Pam and Don noted that it might also be possible to enlist Marana Health Care in providing care.
 - **Next step.** Pam and Kim will approach the Van of Hope plus El Rio and Marana Health Centers regarding providing health care services for Hospitality House guests during the winter shelter season.

- 4. **Blankets.** Don reported that he has arranged with Jim Kuzdal to hold blanket pickup, 12:00-3:00 p.m., each Friday in October.

- 5. **Compass.** Yoli noted that she is still unclear on how Hospitality House guests can be referred to detox services. The new Compass facility on Ajo has told the Hospitality House that they no longer accept walk-ins. Joe Ochoa noted that when a social service or individual phones 622-6000, the Crisis Response Center is supposed to make arrangements by either accepting a referral to the detox center or referring the individual to an emergency room or a detox facility. The CRC should provide the appropriate transportation 24-hours daily. He added that although the operators may say, “We don’t take walk-ins”, the fact is that they will serve people who have issues that require service. The CRC acts much like a centralized “intake” for CPSA, SAMHC, and Compass’ detox facility.

- 6. **Old Business/FEMA funding.** Pam noted that all agencies receiving funds through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) need to do annual recertification before FEMA funding is released and that involved in the emergency services committees’ have done their recertification. She said that the local FEMA board this year awarded a total of \$421,133 to various community projects, about \$100,000 less than last year. All FEMA funds must be spent by November 30th.

- 7. **Next Meeting.** Wednesday, October 5th, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Sullivan Jackson Employment Center, 400 E. 26th Street.

Submitted by Settle Madden

Attendance

Name		Organization	Email
Don	Blascak	American Red Cross	dblascak@comcast.net
Jerry	Brillo	Community advocate	jbsaret@aol.com
David	Buer, ofm	Franciscans	buerofm@gmail.com
Sylvia	Cuestas	Living Faith Christian Center	sylvia.cuestas@pima.gov
Yoli	Hasler	Salvation Army	yoli.hasler@usw.salvationarmy.org
Wendy	Heiden	La Frontera	wheiden@lafrontera.org
Kathleen	Joy	American Red Cross/AmeriCorps	kjoy@redcrossarizona.org
Pamela	Moseley	Pima County CCNC	pamela.moseley@pima.gor
Joe	Ochoa	Compass	jochoa@compasshc.org
Kim	Ward	Salvation Army	kim.ward@usw.salvationarmy.org