

Ventura Social Services Task Force
VSSTF Gateway Committee
Minutes for July 17, 2009 Meeting

Members Present: Bill Finley, Salvation Army; Kate Mills, Healthcare for the Homeless/One Stop; Jerry Breiner, Downtown Ventura Organization; Nicholas Deitch, Turning Point Foundation and Clyde Reynolds, Turning Point Foundation; Jill Martinez, Sober Station; Rick Pearson, Project Understanding; Marilyn Scott, Lift Up your Voice-Ventura UU Church; Karol Schulkin, HSA Homeless Services; Sherry Cash, Community Member.

I. Gateway/Homeless Shelter Site Search

Current criteria:

- Areas identified by city
- ½ to 1 acre
- Vacant land or existing building (occupied or not occupied)

Need for criteria beyond previous criteria

- Vacant land or building which is for sale or lease
- Rank sites based on specific criteria

Next Steps to be addressed

- What happens when we find an ideal location?
- Who can secure the site?
- Where is the money coming from?

II. Organizational Governance Model

What form of governance should we pursue?

- Lead Agency with MOU's vs.
- New Multi-Agency Non-Profit Organization

What is the role of the City?

What is the commitment of the City? (e.g. Will they provide funding for site acquisition?)

III. Developmental Strategy

In order to move the project forward the following working groups were formed:

- Site Selection and Acquisition Group
The members of this group are Nick Deitch, Jerry Breiner and Rick Pearson
- Program Design Group
The members of this group are Kate Mills, Clyde Reynolds, Rick Pearson and Sherry Cash
- Operations and Funding Group
The members of this group are Bill Finely and Jill Martinez
- Governance Group
The members of this group are Jill Martinez and Clyde Reynolds

These groups will meet, determine their goals and report back to the full Gateway Committee

IV. Gateway Elements Report

Clyde Reynolds presented a list containing the various service elements of the Gateway which included each of the organizations providing each service element. Suggestions were made.

V. Opportunities

There was a discussion about the closing of Miracle House and the opportunity to obtain an existing permitted and licensed drug and Alcohol treatment duplex building. It could be a possible detox program site.

VI Future Meetings

The group decided that they would begin to meet once a month on the 3rd Friday of each month at the Salvation Army, 155 S. Oak in Ventura at 2 PM. Working groups will meet on the 1st Friday of each month or at another prearranged time and report back to the full Gateway Committee.