

Ventura Homeless Prevention Subcommittee  
Minutes for January 27, 2010  
4:00 p.m. Supervisor Bennett's Office

**In Attendance:** Paul Bramson, Cindy Cattle, Jill Forman, Ericka Manrique, Steven Meyer and Debora Schreiber

**VHPF Update:**

January 2010

Beginning Balance	\$6,012.01	
<u>Donations</u>	<u>\$3,010.00</u>	
Working Balance	\$9,022.00	
<u>1/27 per Frans -</u>	<u>\$6,679.00</u>	allocated in Jan. (10 households)
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,343.00</b>	<b>1-27-10 Needs to be verified w/UWVC</b>

**Fundraising:**

Donations received in January include: Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura \$1,719.45; Ventura Church of Christ \$250; Ventura Missionary \$500.55 and Dan Long \$500 (Santa Claus collection at City Hall)

**Update from Catholic Charities regarding January services:** Frans assisted 10 households this month at an average of \$668 per household. Since inception 118 households assisted to date.

Frans reports overwhelming need. He has 4 appointments each day with people who have already received their 3-day eviction notice. He is booked into April with appointments with people who just need help because they're behind on rent.

Frans also reports landlords unwilling to wait for payment. Our committee discussed options and will work on ways to encourage specific property managers, etc. to work with service providers and be willing to wait for up to two weeks to receive check once the approval is received and allocation request sent to United Way. Committee crafted a letter last year, and we will work with providers and property managers to see if we can achieve greater cooperation.

Catholic Charities has offered to allocate the fund in February and Salvation Army will allocate the VHPF in March. Project Understanding will allocate their own ESG funds for now.

**Grant request:**

The VHPF submitted a grant request on behalf of VSSTF for EFSP funding. The application was submitted to United Way January 6, 2010.

**United Way Basic Needs Mid Year Grant Report:**

The report was submitted January 25, 2010.

## **Action Items:**

### **1) Eligibility Criteria Review:**

The subcommittee reviews the eligibility annually to see if any changes need to be made. Two changes were agreed upon: Greater emphasis on long-term sustainability of the family and checking other funding sources; recipients must agree to allow one member of VHPF committee to make the follow up 90-day and 1 year call for confirming housing.

It was decided a memo would be send to the service providers asking them to be sure they first refer applicants to the HPRP process so that the VHPF is used as a back up to the existing Federal funding – while we have it – and so that it can be used for those who are not eligible.

The revised form has been sent out to the providers and committee members.

### **2) Note Card Project:**

Debora requested Cindy put together a brief proposal to include in the process of funding from the City. Cindy will bring to the VSSTF meeting 2/3.

### **3) Authorization to have VHPF committee member do the 90-day and 1-year follow up on VHPF recipients:**

Following up with recipients takes time and is a hardship on the service providers who are working very hard to serve the clients needing services immediately. Consequently, this task seems to lag in being reported in a timely manner. It was agreed that it would be very helpful if one member of the VHPF committee was able to do the follow up 90-day and 1-year calls to recipients. All personal information will be kept confidential. Cindy will work with service providers on a waiver.

### **4) John Jones on behalf of VSSTF requested that the Prevention Subcommittee provide one representative to be on the Proposal Review Committee, reviewing and prioritizing the funding request to the City.**

It was agreed that Cindy would sit on the committee representing Prevention.

### **Other:**

Steven Meyer is very interested in producing a series of concerts to benefit the VHPF and homeless prevention efforts. He has friends who have punk bands and who are willing to do benefit concerts. Steven suggested that the idea can be expanded upon with plays and other benefit performances as well. Steven is going to talk with his friends; develop a plan; and then let us know specific ways committee members and all VSSTF members can help.

**Next Meeting Date: February 24th, 4pm at Supervisor Bennett's office.**