

May 13, 2009

Housing Options Meeting

Loretta McCarty, co-chair

Present: Ken Finning, Clyde Reynolds, Muriel Steiger,

I. Old Business

- A. Gateway/Sobering Center: At the May 6th Task Force meeting we learned that Harbor Church has a lease on the City Center Motel property. The Gateway group will continue to meet and discuss collaborative project design and development alternatives.
- B. State funding for purchase of foreclosed properties: The State modified its formula allocation, based on comments from HUD. The City of Ventura's share of funding increased to \$466,985. A MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) has been executed among the County of Ventura and cities of Ventura, Simi Valley, Camarillo and Thousand Oaks. The State released the Notice of Funding Availability. A combined application will be submitted from the MOU group and is due June 15th.
- C. HomeShare Program: is making progress. Area Agency on Aging has agreed to provide office space and a Title V employee to assist Muriel Steiger. The City of Ventura has agreed to donate office equipment and furniture. A willing volunteer, Ken Finning, emerged from the Task Force and wants to assist when the program begins.
Some program documents have been created. Others will be drafted, based on the Santa Rosa Program.
- D. Flat Rental Subsidy Program: Two grant applications have been submitted for rental subsidy funding. The City application was not funded. The HUD application is still pending.
- E. Federal Stimulus Homeless Prevention Funds: At first it was believed these funds were to be allocated to most of the County, similar to the Continuum of Care money. Now it has been learned that the funds are allocated using the same formula as the Emergency Shelter Grant Funds. Therefore, the County of Ventura and City of Oxnard are the only jurisdictions in the County to receive a direct entitlement.
The County is charged with using the funds in their jurisdictional areas; thus, the City of Ventura cannot tap into these funds.
On April 12th - the County is held a public meeting to discuss these funds and explore ways the City of Ventura and other cities can apply for funds from the state.

A county-wide set of Guidelines was developed for use of the prevention funds. The County Human Services Agency will play the lead role for the County area and also for the cities of Ventura, Camarillo, Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks. The program requires the fund recipient to provide detailed client information and tracking thru the use of the HMIS (a specialized homeless funding tracking system). Since the County HSA already uses the HMIS, it is beneficial for them to take the lead with this funding.

II. New business.

A. Year-Round Shelter in Ventura

No new report.

Announcements

Clyde Reynolds gave a RiverHaven update. He reported that he applied to the Ventura County Community Foundation for a grant to buy the dome homes and is talking to HomeAid to build platforms for each dome. There are also plans to use volunteers to paint the domes with UV resistant paint extending the life of the structure; otherwise domes have a life of @ 4-5 years.

Clyde received a commitment from the Rotary Club which will enable the project to begin. He proposes to borrow funds to pay for a portion the project and the RiverHaven residents would repay the loan at \$25 per month per person.

The World Shelter domes would replace the tents at RiverHaven:

19 units	200 sq. ft.	\$2200 each
13 units	80 sq. ft.	\$1600 each

NEXT REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY JUNE 10, 2009 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM