

Ventura Social Services Task Force

Minutes of Meeting December 2, 2009

Attending - total of 16 (Steve Bennett, Paul Bramson, Peter Brown, Cathy Brudnicki, David Deutsch, Bill Finley, Jill Forman, Pat McLeon, Mike Merewether, Kate Mills, Rose Ann Morrisey, Ken Porter, Clyde Reynolds, Revis Robinson, Debora Schreiber, Karol Schulkin)

Meeting called to order by secretary Debora Schreiber

Self-introductions performed.

I. Report on City Activity by Peter Brown

1. Report on Winter Warming shelter. Public bus only, no designated transportation. Concerns about where persons will go in AM when shelter is closed and Harbor Church services are not open yet.
2. Upcoming clean up of encampments. Noticing done first. Helps remove trash and garbage. Not a police enforcement action.

II. Subcommittee reports (meeting times / locations at end)

A. Faith Communities

1. Kingdom Center CUP approved. For applications call 643-7675. Appeal to Operation Embrace filed.
2. Dec 20 Sunday at 3PM in Plaza Park, Homeless Persons Memorial Service (UU) remembering people who died locally this year while homeless. Contact Jan minister@uuventura.org with names or memories.
3. Salvation Army making Christmas Plans and signing up people now to receive food and toys.
4. Safe Sleep: need more churches to sign up as sites. Because of change in make up of City Council and Homeless Subcommittee, slight delay in going forward.

B. Homeless Prevention by Cindy Cattle

Balance of fund is around \$4000.

C. Housing Options by Clyde Reynolds

1. River Haven open again 7 returning persons and 14 new.
2. Home Sharing coming soon.

D. Gateway Report by Clyde Reynolds

1. The Salvation Army is in the beginning stages of exploring the possibility of relocating its Corps location at 650 Petit for the purposes of becoming the lead agency for Gateway (a Multi Agency Service Center and Permanent Emergency Shelter). This exploration process will take some time and exploration of what role other agencies could play in such an operation is ongoing.

2. Program Design committee continues to discuss the elements of the Gateway which include multiple services delivered in one location by multiple agencies, coordinated case management, computerized tracking system, anchor services including healthcare, mental health, substance abuse, employment and benefit assistance, user friendly environment, located near public transportation and emergency shelter. A distinction is being made between basic services provided 7 days a week and enhanced services provided 5 days a week. Contact: Kate.Mills@ventura.org
3. Possibility to send a representative from the Social Services Task Force to the National Alliance to End Family Homelessness on February 11-12,2010

E. Community Education (no Dec meeting)

1. copies of street paper passed out.

E. Steering committee by Debora Schreiber

1. Elections next month. Probably return to 3 person steering committee. Encouragement to members to run for steering committee; elections welcome. Review of voting procedure.
2. Discussion on holding Jan 28 outreach meeting. **Decision based on wish of body made to postpone meeting.**

III. Report on County Progress by Cathy Brudnicki
Available on VCHHC website www.vchhc.org

IV. Old Business

1. County One Stop adding new services, social workers etc.
2. Turning Point starting Family and Individual Counseling program, sliding scale, one night in Oxnard, one in Ventura. contact David Deutsch.
3. Families have moved into SHORE Housing
4. Karol Schulkin reported on Federal Stimulus Funds HPRP now available. Info on www.vchsa.org/hprp Each person in family must be a citizen or legal alien. May earn 50% of AMI. No mortgage assistance, but deposit, utility payment, rent, etc. For homeless persons or those about to be homeless.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Forman and Debora Schreiber

Next VSSTF Meeting Jan 6, 3-5 PM

Coming up:

National Alliance to End Family Homelessness on February 11-12, 2010
in LA

Regular Meeting Schedules January

The **Faith Community** Subcommittee meets every 1st Tuesday, 4:00-5:00 PM, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 5654 Ralston, Ventura 93003. Jan 5, Feb 2.

The **Ventura Social Services Task Force** meets every 1st Wednesday, 3:00-5:00 PM, at Family to Family, 303 N Ventura Ave # E, Ventura 93001 Jan 6, Feb 3, 3-5 PM

The **Community Education** Subcommittee meets every 2nd Tuesday, 3:00-5:00 PM, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 5654 Ralston, Ventura 93003. Jan 12,

The **Homeless Prevention** Subcommittee meets every 4th Wednesday, 4:00-5:00 PM, at Super September visor Bennett's offices, Government Center 4th Floor, Ventura 93003. Jan 27,

The **Housing Options** Subcommittee meets every 2nd Wednesday, 4:30 PM, Housing Authority, Snapdragon Lane, Saticoy. Jan 13

Gateway meets third Friday at Salvation Army on Oak Street, at 2 PM. Jan 15

<http://www.onecityventura.org>