

Central Florida Commission on Homelessness

Prevention Committee Meeting Minutes August 4, 2008 (8:30 a.m.)
Heart of Florida United Way
Dr. Nelson Ying Center, Orlando, FL

Members Present:

Chairman Gary Earl; Executive Director; Raymond Larsen; Larry Olness; Vicki Kilroy; Carol Wick; Donna Wyche; Karen Broussard; Pastor Paul Hoyer; Lt. Deanne Adams and Kristi Gray for John Cooper.

Members Absent: Catherine Butler-Brown; Lt. Deanne Adams; Karen Broussard

Discussion Facilitator: Fran Korosec and Gary Langford- Northhighland

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Gary Earl welcomed all in attendance and called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes of Meeting July 21, 2008

Minutes of July 21, 2008 meeting was approved.

III. Plan/strategy discussion

Brainstorming session took place on the plans and strategies the Committee needs to accomplish from the prevention point of view. Five categories to target were identified: **Data; transitional plan; employment; education and advocacy.** Identified categories were noted on a flip chart and will be formatted into an "In Process Plan", developed by Northhighland representative. Copies of referenced plan will be provided to the Committee during next Committee meeting for further discussion.

Ray Larsen mentioned that one of the goals for the Committee is to identify things that can be accomplished with few financial types of resources during the first year, and reminded that the Committee needs to bring a 1st year strategy/plan to the Commission on September 25, 2008.

Chairman Earl emphasized that the Committee needs to get a solid database, as a 1st year goal. Pastor Paul Hoyer suggested setting up a program that will include data gathering, tracking system and best practices. Donna Wyche commented that in essential, there is no coordination of tracking systems.

Larry Olness spoke about a model 2-1-1 uses to identify homeless early on and demonstrated a sample copy to the Committee.

Ray Larsen recommended the Committee to create work groups to deal with data issues and the 5 above-mentioned categories. Larsen and Olness agreed to work on data gathering as a workgroup.

Chairman Earl recommended the working groups to focus on obtaining:

- clear definition of end game /long-term objective

- specific things you want to accomplish in 2009 (objectives)
- prioritized next steps for 2009 (initiatives)
- set of metrics to show progress towards objectives
- longer-term initiatives (place-holders for post 2009)

Chairman Earl said that the Committee also needs to focus on what a generic transition plan looks like to look for a common concept and who needs to be at the table. He also agreed to bring information on what is out there on the employment aspect.

Chairman Earl instructed to add “Steps to be addressed underneath each category” as an agenda item of the next Committee meeting.

Larsen mentioned that myregion is interested in being a resource for the Commission. The Commission is planning on getting 2-3 graduate students to task with some needs. Larsen also said that he will be bringing information on funds to the next Committee meeting.

Donna Wyche suggested Ray Larsen to have Sam Sambora come to the Housing Committee meeting while he is in Central Florida.

On another note, Larsen informed that Disney has offered to host a gathering of faith based organizations to establish communication on homeless issues. This event is tentatively being planned to take place before the next Commission meeting of September 25, 2008. Larsen is currently collecting names of organizations to contact and send invitations. Chairman Earl expressed that these types of events need to also include non-faith practitioners.

IV. Next meeting schedule

Committee agreed to schedule next meeting for Monday, August 25, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. at Heart of Florida United Way (Jill Klemm Room– 2nd floor).

V. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Committee, meeting adjourned at 10:15a.m. Chairman Gary Earl thanked all for their participation.