

**MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL CONTINUUM OF CARE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS
MEETING MINUTES**

July 22, 2004

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Jan Brewer (Vice Chair), Secretary of State
City of Tempe, Councilmember
Ernie Calderón (Chairman), Jennings, Strouss
& Salmon, PLC
Tom Canasi, City of Tempe, Planning
Subcommittee Chair
Linda Snidecor for James Cavanaugh, Mayor
City of Goodyear
Kit Wood for Sandra Dowling, Maricopa
County Schools
*Ken Einbeinder, US Department of Housing
and Urban Development
Michelle Ryan for Mike Franczak, Arizona
Department of Health Services
Steve Frate, City of Glendale, Councilmember
Phyllis Murray for Sheila D. Harris, Director,
Arizona Department of Housing
Mark Holleran, Human Service Campus, LLC
*Ryan Johnson, World At Work
Fred Karnas, Governor' Office, C Y & F
*Mary Keehl, AZ Department of Corrections
Don Keuth, Phoenix Community Alliance
Mario Paniagua for Doug Lingner, City of
Phoenix
*Ann Lipp, Area Agency on Aging, HIV Care
*Dan Lundberg, City of Surprise
Marvin Martin, Berean Baptist Church
*Meggan Medina, Arizona Coalition to End
Homelessness
*Guy Mikkelsen, Foundation for Senior Living
Sara Moya, Homeless Trust Fund
Crucita Nunez-Ochoa, Chicanos Por La Causa
*David Ortega, City of Scottsdale,
Councilmember
*Frank Scarpati, Community Bridges
Trinity Donovan for Brian Spicker, Valley of
the Sun United Way
Riann Balch for Greg Stanton, City of Phoenix,
Councilmember
*Louisa Stark, Comm Housing Partnership
*Annette Stein, Maricopa County HS

*Margaret Trujillo, Value Options
*Jonathan Weisbuch, Department of Public
Health
*Mike Whalen, City of Mesa,
Councilmember
*Mary Rose Wilcox, Maricopa County,
Supervisor
Barbara Williams, Collaboration for a New
Century
Terri Wogan (Vice Chair), Governors
Office, C Y & F
Margot Cordova for Diana Yazzie Devine,
Native American Connections

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Bell, St. Vincent de Paul
Brad Bridwell, US Vets
Gwyneth Cowger, Advocates for the
Disabled
Debra Determan, MAG
Gregg Donnell, Social Alliance Consulting
Robert Duvall, CIR-HMIS
Teresa Franquiz, MAG
DeDe Gaisthea, MAG
Moises Gallegos, City of Phoenix
Janet Garcia, Tumbleweed
Nedra Halley, Dunlap & McGee
Barbara Lewkowitz, YWCA
Sheri Lopez, NOVA Safe Haven
Nick Marilhs, City of Phoenix
Elizabeth Morales, ABC
Vincie Muhammad, CCSF Task Force
Darlene Newsome, UMOM
Mary O'Connor, NOVA Safe Haven
Cindy Richmond, Area Agency on Aging
Nancy Rhoades, Catholic Social Services
Amy St. Peter, MAG
Judy Wilson, Glendale Human Service
Council
**Those members neither present nor
represented by proxy.*

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairman Ernest Calderón called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. and introductions ensued. Barbara Williams introduced herself as representing Collaborations for a New Century, not the Arizona Housing Commission anymore.

2. Call to the Audience

There were no comments from the audience.

3. Approval of the May 27, 2004 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Calderón called for a motion to approve the May 27, 2004 meeting minutes. Fred Karnes, Governor's Office, had a correction to wording in the last minutes to read, "Fred Karnas informed those present that a number of national groups, including the Corporation for Supportive Housing, were working to press Congress and HUD to make the renewals for the SHP-Permanent Housing for Disabled Persons (SHP-PD) program automatic as has been done with the Shelter Plus Care program. In order to make their case, the national groups need local data on the impact of not renewing the units funded through this program. He asked staff to compile a list of expiring SHP-PD grants over the next three years in Maricopa county and how many units would be affected." Steve Frate motioned to approve the minutes with corrections, Donald Keuth 2nd the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Membership Guidelines Vote

Chairman Calderon said comments had been received on the guidelines in the last few days and asked Don Keuth, chair of the Membership Committee, to give an introduction to the subject. He asked Tom Canasi and Fred Karnas to comment after that.

Mr. Keuth distributed the draft from the last meeting. He said he had received some good comments from Fred Karnas and that the draft had been revised to reflect the changes and clarifications. Mr. Keuth said he would like to move to adopt the guidelines. This was seconded by Steve Frate. Discussion ensued.

Tom Canasi reviewed the history of the guidelines that began three months ago. The Continuum has been operating since 1999 without sufficient operating guidelines. Chairman Calderon established an ad hoc committee chaired by Don Keuth who met with staff, the Attorney General and other members. This group presented their work to the Planning Subcommittee a few times and then placed the revised guidelines on the May agenda for the Continuum. The Membership Committee wanted to leave time for members to comment on the wording in order to develop guidelines that would fit the Continuum of Care and HUD's rules to set up the next five to six operating years.

Fred Karnas said he appreciated the committee's work and agreed the structure was important. He had mostly minor points for revision that had been changed in the updated draft. Mr. Karnas said his greatest concern was the advocacy piece. He said

we need to be a group pointing out what needs to be changed and that seeking approval first doesn't fit with this mission. Mr. Karnas indicated the change from "would" to "could follow the MAG process" in the advocacy section is sufficient.

Sara Moya said she also appreciated the work of the committee. She expressed concern that the category of membership does not explicitly include groups that receive other federal funding as a standing member, such as Emergency Food and Shelter Program.

Margot Cordova said she used to work for Valley of the Sun United Way and has been involved with the Continuum of Care for years. She expressed concern that the guidelines indicate VSUW is a member on the Continuum but she thought this would be a conflict of interest if the member or proxy worked with the Rating and Ranking Committee that reviews the HUD applications. Tom Canasi said it is important to have the VSUW represented on the Continuum as a major funder of these programs while noting that there may be times when the VSUW member will have to abstain from voting due to a conflict of interest. Trinity Donovan, the new proxy for VSUW, asserted she does not work with the Rating and Ranking Committee and has no conflict of interest. Tom Canasi said he would make sure the guidelines reflect this.

Don Keuth agreed and said the general public category had been added in response to Mr. Karnas' suggestion. He said the Continuum could pick up other members as needed from that category, such as ESFP.

Barbara Williams apologized for missing the last few meetings and said the public sector seems to represent more than half the membership if all 25 cities, two Indian communities and county have members on the Continuum. Mr. Keuth said not every one of those would have members on the Continuum at the same time. He further explained that the membership categories would be divided evenly so one group would not be over-represented. Michelle Ryan asked if the state was included as it was not listed in the public sector category. Mr. Keuth responded that the state agencies will be represented but are not listed specifically. Ms. Ryan asked that the Department of Health be included as a standing member or that a representative always be on the Continuum.

Fred Karnas offered a change in the language about termination of membership to read that if a person is appointed to the Continuum from the general public category that their membership will not be terminated if they leave the organization.

The question was called in favor of the proposed guidelines as amended. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. HUD Application for Homeless Assistance Programs Report

Amy St. Peter thanked everyone for their support throughout the application process. The process began on May 15th when HUD released the Supernofa and on May 20th

when the Continuum released the local application and timelines. This was sent out to 300 people via email in an effort to ensure broad community input and participation. This year, fifteen site visits at new agencies were done because they expressed interest in applying for new funds. Seven self-selected out of the process and eight agencies submitted new applications. Forty-nine renewal applications were received. All fifty-seven of the applications were given to the Rating and Ranking Committee staffed by VSUW. The rankers reviewed the applications and asked questions which were answered by the agencies during their presentations. The Strategic Ranking Committee then met to make sure funding opportunities were maximized in the priority ranking. One ranking of an agency changed because their leverage changed after the application was submitted. Ms. St. Peter said the application would be mailed out Friday or Monday. Exhibit One is done but needs some slight revisions.

Ms. St. Peter said she wanted to identify some priorities for next year's competition for the Continuum to review. These include a weight for permanent housing projects. All new applications submitted this year requested funds for housing and this is a topic for future discussion. The Continuum will also need to discuss how performance can be weighted in the future. The Evaluation Pilot Project is nearly completed and will be implemented by the end of the year. The results from the pilot project are being analyzed now. Participation in the Continuum of Care may also be a weighted category, as could the success of agencies in helping their clients access mainstream benefits. Also, as homeless people move out from Phoenix as indicated in the street count, then extra points may be given to programs that serve people outside Phoenix.

Jan Brewer pointed out that Prehab's Faith House is listed as being in Mesa. The site is in Glendale although the parent organization is located in Mesa. The location should be reflected in the document. Ms. Brewer said she would like to see more programs in Glendale. Chairman Calderon said a new applicant tried to place their program in Glendale, but moved the project to Phoenix since the project didn't fit with Glendale's consolidated plan.

Fred Karnas asked for a description of the CARE Connections program. Ms. St. Peter said the program has been running on a volunteer basis but has been recommended for funding to cover outreach services and housing for chronically homeless individuals. The project has secured one affordable housing unit and has the opportunity to add more if the program is successful.

Fred Karnas commended the Evaluation Pilot Project and said the Continuum is receiving very good attention for their efforts. He had recently attended a national conference and people were very excited about the project and might recommend it replicated nationally.

Don Keuth moved to accept the application to HUD. Terri seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. Call to the Audience

There were no comments by the audience at this time.

7. Announcements

Mark Holleran commented on 7-1, a proposition to #200, Protect Arizona Now, that proposes to require identification of all people seeking services. Mr. Holleran said if passed this could cause serious problems because many of the people served at CASS do not have identification. Chairman Calderon said these comments could be taken as a call to action and if anyone is interested they should contact Mr. Holleran. Jan Brewer asked if Mr. Holleran had testified when the proposition was being considered by the legislature. Mr. Holleran indicated he had not.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:15p.m. There will be no meeting in August. The next meeting of the Regional Continuum of Care will be Thursday, September 23, 2004 at 1:30-3:00pm at the MAG Offices, 2nd Floor, Saguaro Room.