

**MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL CONTINUUM OF CARE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS
MEETING MINUTES
March 24, 2005**

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Ernie Calderón (Chairman), Calderón Law Offices
*Tom Canasi, City of Tempe, Planning Subcommittee Chair
*James Cavanaugh, Mayor City of Goodyear
*Sandra Dowling, Maricopa County Schools
Ken Einbinder, US Department of Housing and Urban Development
Michelle Ryan for Mike Franczak, Arizona Department of Health Services
Erik Strunk for Steve Frate, City of Glendale, Councilmember
Tim Klont 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
*Doug Lingner, City of Phoenix
John Gallagher for 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 Nuñez-Ochoa, Chicanos Por La Causa
*Frank Scarpati, Community Bridges
Trinity Donovan for Brian Spicker, Valley of the Sun United Way
Greg Stanton, City of Phoenix, Councilmember
Annette Stein, Maricopa County HS
* Value Options
*Department of Public Health
*Mike Whalen, City of Mesa, Councilmember

*Mary Rose Wilcox, Maricopa County, Supervisor
Terri Wogan (Vice Chair), Governors Office,
Council for Children, Youth & Families
Diana Yazzie Devine, Native American Connections

OTHERS PRESENT

Amy Caffarello, Home Base Youth Services
Gwyneth Cowger, Advocates for the DisabledI
Debra Determan, MAG
Robert Duvall, CIR-HMIS
Jami Gates, LCSA
Rian Henkin, City of Phoenix
Vic Hudenko, MAG Consultant
Clint McDermott, Salvation Army
Matt McGilvray, Salvation Army-Project Hope
Allie Masters, Maricopa County
Elizabeth Morales, ABC
Sarah Catherine Phillips, AZ Coalition to End Homelessness
Cindy Richmond, Area Agency on Aging
Amy St. Peter, MAG
Katrina Torrez, Tumbleweed

**Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.*

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairman Ernest Calderón called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m. and introductions ensued. Ms. Terri Wogan thanked Chairman Calderon for his time serving on the Continuum of Care and acknowledged him for being named “Man of the Year” by Valley Leadership.

2. Call to the Audience

Chairman Calderon asked the audience to introduce themselves. He explained that the TV crew from Channel 5 is present at the meeting filming footage for the Man of the Year award. There were no comments from audience.

3. Approval of the December 7, 2004 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Calderon asked for a motion to approve the December 7, 2004 meeting minutes. Councilmember Greg Stanton asked that the motion be carried, Councilmember Steve Frate seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Staff Changes

Councilmember Stanton informed the Committee that Debbra Determan has moved on and is no longer the Human Services Manager at MAG. He wished her well in her future endeavors. He announced that Amy St. Peter has taken the position as Human Services Manager and thanked her for all her work. Ms. St. Peter announced that Brande Mead is the new Homeless Planner and will be staffing the Continuum of Care Committee.

5. Planning Subcommittee Report

Councilmember Stanton announced that Annette Stein has been appointed as the new Chairperson of the Planning Subcommittee and that he is pleased to have her leadership. Ms. Stein responded that it is her pleasure to Chair the Committee. She stated that she has been part of the Subcommittee for 8-9 years now and is happy to be in a leadership position. She noted that the Planning Subcommittee has had two meetings and that they are offering the following recommendations for the 2005 HUD application for approval by the Continuum of Care Committee:

- The Continuum will only accept new projects for housing rather than services because of the emphasis HUD is placing on housing.
- Leverage: decrease the weight from a 1 to 10 scale to a 1 to 5 scale. The leverage was increased by \$5 million last year which was good.. It is important to continue to increase leverage but the weight doesn't need to be as significant.
- Performance: recommend measuring performance on a 1 to 5 scale. All agencies will submit their APRs and each project is required by HUD to submit a Logic Model. Performance will be ranked on the APR and the Logic Model.
- Participation in the Continuum of Care: staff will consider attendance at all meetings relating to the Continuum of Care, HMIS, trainings, etc. Participation will be weighed on a 1 to 3 scale.
- 1 bonus point is recommended for agencies who reclassify their services funding to housing. John Enos with the local HUD office said he would work with

agencies, when appropriate, to transfer their contracts from services to housing. Agencies must have another funding source that will take on the services.

Ms. Stein also announced that the Planning Subcommittee is formalizing their membership and are taking letters of interest from anyone interested in becoming a member. She informed the Committee that all the Planning Subcommittee meetings will be held at MAG rather than in Tempe.

Ms. St. Peter asked for a motion to approve the recommendations of the Planning Subcommittee. Don Keuth carried the motion, Diana Yazzie Devine seconded the motion and it was passed by all members of the Committee.

Chairman Calderon thanked Tom Canasi for his leadership with the Planning Subcommittee and for his devotion to the cause. Chairman Calderon also thanked Don Keuth for his work on the Committee, and mentioned that Mr. Keuth always went well beyond the call of duty.

6. Leadership Transition

Mr. Calderon announced that this is his last meeting as Continuum of Care Chairman. He introduced the new Chairman, City of Phoenix Councilmember Greg Stanton. He shared a personal story about Councilmember Stanton with the Committee and emphasized what a fabulous lawyer and person Councilmember Stanton is. He explained that Councilmember Stanton has come from humble beginnings and cares about people very much. He also informed the Committee that Mr. Stanton is a newlywed and has been married to his wife Nicole for 4 weeks. Chairman Calderon also thanked Terri Wogan for her tenure as Vice Chairperson and expressed his gratitude for her work with the Committee. He also thanked Jan Brewer for her role in the Committee and expressed his gratitude for the work she had devoted to the cause. Chairman Calderon continued that Ms. Wogan came aboard representing St. Vincent De Paul and that she was there to remind him to be patient. He described her as the “best Vice Chair anyone could have”. With that, Chairman Calderon turned the meeting over to Councilmember Stanton. Councilmember Stanton thanked Mr. Calderon for his invaluable leadership and said that he has been very impressed by the level of professionalism among the Continuum of Care, staff members, participation agencies, etc.. Councilmember Stanton thanked Chairman Calderon for a great job as Chairman and presented him with a resolution for his leadership signed by Mayor Keno Hawker and Executive Director of MAG, Dennis Smith.

7. 2004 HUD Award and 2005 Application Process

Chairman Stanton asked Brande Mead to give a report on the 2004 HUD Award and on the 2005 process. Ms. Mead thanked the Committee for doing such a great job with the 2004 application. She announced that the Continuum received \$19.3 million, more than they have ever received. Then, she explained that the 2005 Federal application had been released and that the local application should be out by Friday. Ms. Mead shared that the local application will be streamlined this year to make the process less of a burden for agencies applying. She discussed the following changes on the 2005 application:

- Many of the charts are being removed;
- Redundant questions are being removed;
- Combining applications for agencies applying for more than one project as long as the project has the same program and outcome measurements;
- Training will be done on outcome measures, the logic model and leverage letters;
- Agencies will be asked to provide a brief project summary;
- Operations budgets will be requested;
- The local application will not be sent out earlier than the Federal application and it will not be done electronically.

It was mentioned that dollars for services are decreasing since HUD has placed such an emphasis on housing. Diana Yazzie Devine said that since the focus is on chronically homeless, she wants to talk to the Committee about service issues and how supportive dollars are essential for programs to be successful. She emphasized how difficult it is to operate without service dollars.

8. Membership Report

Councilmember Stanton asked Don Keuth to present a membership report to the Committee. Mr. Keuth handed out a spreadsheet listing the new members. He explained that membership letters are being sent to the new members, signed by Mayor Keno Hawker. The members should be official by the next meeting in May. He mentioned that a Membership Subcommittee was put in place and was charged with identifying new members. He stated that the private sector has stepped forward and wants to be a part of the process. Eric Brown has also said he would become a member. Mr. Keuth asked the members of the Committee to consider the list of new members and to identify anyone additional they feel should be contacted about becoming a member.

9. Regional Plan Update

Councilmember Stanton asked Brad Bridwell of US Veterans Initiative to provide an update on the Regional Plan to End Homelessness. Mr. Bridwell explained that a small group of members were convened to look at the Regional Plan and to update the plan. The update identifies that 77% of proposed goals have had some activity. Mr. Bridwell said that the Continuum of Care Committee is being asked to approve the Update and then MAG will begin the process of finalizing the document for distribution and in making it look pretty. The goal is to publish the Regional Plan Update in May. The Update went through the Planning Subcommittee and was recommended for approval by the Continuum. Councilmember Stanton said it is important to give new members a chance to review the Update and suggested that the Committee approve the document with the understanding that members have five days to provide feedback on the Update to MAG. A motion was made by Don Keuth to approve the Update subject to comments received in next five days. Councilmember Steve Frate seconded the motion and it was approved.

10. Street Count Update

Chairman Stanton asked Ayanna Rutherford, a MAG AmeriCorps Volunteer to provide a report to the Committee on the 2005 Homeless Street Count. Ms.

Rutherford thanked Councilmember Stanton and proceeded with her report. Ms. Rutherford thanked the coordinators, volunteers, city, officials, police officers, outreach workers and everyone else who participated in the street count. She explained that the point-in-time count was held on Jan. 25, 2005. This year, each City was given the option of doing either a straight count or a statistical sampling. The City of Phoenix was the only City that decided to use the statistical sampling method. She explained the statistical sampling method they used. The methodology was identified through HUD and deemed statistically sound. Ms. Rutherford announced that the total count is up 1140 from 2004. 34 families were identified, 17 children, 2069 non-chronic and 680 chronically homeless individuals. Many members of the Committee expressed their concerns in how the street count can be interpreted by other people. It is important for people to know that the street count is a point-in-time count done on one particular day. The count only includes homeless people that are seen on the streets at that time. It does not include the many other homeless people in shelters, those that are hiding, "couch surfers", etc. In addition to the street count, DES facilitates a shelter count so that the numbers can be used along with the street count to give a more representative count of homeless people in Maricopa County. In order to provide people with the facts about the count, MAG is going to put together a frequently asked questions sheet about the Street Count to be provided with the numbers of the count. This will help those looking at the count to understand all the important facts regarding the numbers.

11. ICCH Update

Chairman Stanton introduced Keely Varvel Hartsell from the Governor's office to provide a report on the Interagency Community Council on Homelessness. Ms. Varvel Hartsell announced that she would soon be leaving the Governor's office as she is taking a position with DES on April 11th. However, she will continue to be involved as much as possible. She handed out the Housing Work Book created by the ICCH and encouraged the members of the Council to read it and provide her with any feedback. She explained that the Council was created last summer and is comprised of Director's of agencies that have programs that touch homeless people and members from the private sector to bring resources to the table. The work group was created because of an executive order from the Governor. The charge of the ICCH was divided into two areas in order to create a State Plan to End Homelessness. The two focus areas are services and housing. The services plan has been adopted by the council and will begin the implementation phase soon. The focus of the services group is to improve upon services and to determine how to integrate services and reduce barriers into programs.

She explained that Quarterly reports from the Council are sent out and encouraged the Committee to read them. The Department of Housing contains the full report on their website. The next step of the Council is to focus on the housing part of the plan. A Housing Summit is being held on April 1st to focus on determining the goals of the housing group. Mr. Fred Karnas explained that the Summit is being structured as a working session and that they will possibly look at policy changes. The group will also look at ways to figure out how to link supportive services to housing. The next

meeting of the ICCH is May 12 at 1:30. The Work Group is meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 12:30 and everyone is encouraged to get involved.

12. Call to the Audience

Dick Geasland, Tumbleweed Executive Director asked that the minutes be amended to accurately spell his name. Margaret Reiber announced the unveiling of a documentary about various women. The documentary is being shown at ASU tonight beginning at 7:30 p.m.

13. Announcements

There were no announcements.

14. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.