

NAME	AGENCY/ADDRESS	SERVICE PROVIDED	TELEPHONE (AREA CODE 412 UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED)	EMAIL ADDRESS
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NEXT HOCC MEETING
THURSDAY March 24, 2005
1:30PM-3:00PM
LOCATION: COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES CORPORATION
374 LAWN STREET, PGH, PA 15213
TEL: (412) 621-4706, should you need directions.

*****Please note, the format of the minutes is altered. The Agenda, General information and the "meat" of the meeting minutes are first. The list of participants is now last. Hopefully, this will make for easier reading of the minutes! Feedback to Becky LaBovick is appreciated ☺**

REMINDERS:

- **SWES opened 12/1/04, they are still with need for any of the following items:**
 - **SOCKS, SOCKS, SOCKS-esp unisex white tube socks**
 - **Toilet paper**
 - **Toiletry items such as razors and deodorant**
 - **VOLUNTEERS: to assist with shelter, making/serving/clean-up of meals, etc.**

Agenda:

- **Introductions**
- **Jonathan Cox update re: panhandling issue**
- **SWEEPS**
- **ENGAGEMENT CENTER**

If you would like to add to the agenda, please email or call Becky LaBovick at labovickr@upmc.edu or 412-578-7734 by the previous day to the next meeting.

THURSDAY 2/24/05 1:30pm Meeting @ CHSC Lawn Street

- 1:40p, Chris initiated meeting.
- INTRODUCTIONS
- Jonathan Cox with update regarding panhandling issue. City legal is reported to be currently with update of ordinance. The updated (proposed) ordinance copy has been made available to ACLU and have been encouraged to follow-up with the City. Flyer presented re: AD campaign discourages panhandling. Encourages that instead, individuals donate directly to the Downtown Ministerium, c/o Lutheran Church. These ads are planned to appear also as larger posters in visible downtown locations in addition to added to playbills and programs in the Cultural District. PAT is also being approached to see if they would be amenable to participating and also advertising the campaign. The new ordinance is an attempt to increase prohibition on panhandling locations. Currently, no panhandling in areas such as within certain distance of ATM's, building entrances, etc. It also does not allow aggressive panhandling. The new ordinance is looking to prohibit further, such as, captive audience locations (transit stops, outdoor café's, etc) and also restrict panhandling after dark such as 7p-6a or sundown to sunrise. The purpose: panhandling is perceived as threatening behavior after dark. This is not based on any statistical information. Chris and Art both raise question/concern in relation to a law/ordinance being based on a perception. The ordinance would encompass the entire city, not just downtown. The outcome if ordinance breached: summary citation, the individual would receive a ticket. Mac proposes that enforcers receive some training regarding. There was concern raised in general, as a summary

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citation if unpaid will still end up with bench warrant and still potential for jail. Examples given in relation to other cities panhandling ordinances: Cincinnati- allows NO panhandling; Florida-specifically Miami/Ft. Lauderdale are with very strict ordinances; Baltimore-prohibits at night.

- SWEEPS: Next Tuesday 3/1/05:
 - 10th Street Bypass
 - 10th Street and Commonwealth
 - 7th Avenue
 - Reedsdale Street
 - Anderson Street on North side (which is railroad property and it is reported that the railroad police have been involved).
 - Notices were sent/posted two weeks in advance this time. Art reports that a couple of individuals have attempted to reclaim belongings, but couldn't get. Now need to go to 2nd Ave-Public Works building to make arrangements for the S. Side boathouse. This arrangement is apparently not working, there are simply too many steps to the process and it is simply too complicated. Additionally, many folks are still deterred from claiming belongings due to fear of being arrested due to D&A issues or outstanding warrants, etc.
 - Adrienne recommends general talk at SWES & make a trip directly from SWES in AM when shelter closes via van to collect belongings.
 - Mac also reports that another year is about up and would like to arrange to remove any items that are in threat of disposal. Primarily, the last gathering of belongings from the boathouse has been primarily bedding, which Operation Safety Net has offered to assist in laundering in order for the bedding to be recycled to the street homeless.

- Engagement Center
 - Public comment next week related to 10yr plan, Terri Laver with need for HOCC information in relation to Engagement Center ideas/etc.
 - Review of 1/21/05 Draft-Ending Homelessness Now: Creating New Partnerships for Change. Page 7, Recommendation #3: To develop, implement and maintain an engagement center/harm reduction housing for chronically homeless. Adrienne points out that the general public would not understand this lingo. This section needs "flushed" out further and explained in more layman words.
 - Diane McMahon presented Engagement Center Strategy outline. Very helpful document, thanks Diane! ☺ Still, the words Engagement Center/Harm Reduction Housing are present. Again, needs increased explanation, more narrative.
 - Damp shelter component, in addition to many other components.
 - Engagement Centers also raised as issue, there may be need for more than one center, as homeless individuals tend to stay in their specific areas, such as North Side homeless do not tend to come Downtown and vice-versa. These individuals tend to remain in their own geographic region. Art gave further example of Wellspring: when Wellspring was more central downtown, numbers and participation were up. With some programming changes and actual location change to Watson Street, numbers are decreased significantly.
 - Chris mentions the Housing First Model and Pathways. This is a effective/proven model. It has been utilized in Washington and in New York. Possible potential for more funding streams for Housing First model. Also, potential for Shelter Plus Care monies. Example: Columbus housing authority accepts Shelter Plus Care dollars. Columbus also has an Engagement Center that is well established.

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- Adrienne mentions large barrier to some of typical services, such as methadone. Most programs still consider methadone as “using” and will not accept individuals involved in methadone program. Methadone is not looked at as a chemical treatment.
- Ongoing discussion of how PUBLIC EDUCATION is crucial! NIMBY is quite prevalent. Not just about homelessness, but also about many of the components, which come with homelessness.
- Idea: “to develop, implement and maintain an Engagement Center utilizing the Harm Reduction Model with Housing First component attached for the chronically homeless”.
- Review of 9/1/04 draft: Proposed Engagement Center.
- NEED for Terri Laver:
 1. 9/1/04 Draft-Proposed Engagement Center
 2. Diane McMahon’s “Engagement Center Strategy”.
 3. Additionally, need to further clarify the ?WHY? The reasoning behind it.
- Diane McMahon recommends follow up with trip to Philadelphia to view their model.

	Allison, Donna	Northside Leadership Conference 415 E. Ohio Street PGH, PA 15212	Advocacy for community issues	231-4714 x20	donna@pittsburghnorthside.com
	Brooks, Ray	NCM-Safe Haven 2133 Perrysville Ave. PGH, PA 15214	Supportive housing	412-323-1516	Reb072@.com
	Brownwell, Charlie	No Walls Ministries 763 Cottonwood Dr. Monroeville, PA 15146	Outreach/Bible Study	445-5052	Goodnews21c@adelphia.net
	Chalich, Theresa	Bethlehem Haven 905 Watson Street PGH, PA 15219	Mental health	412-391-1348 x104	tchalich@bethlehemhaven.org
X	Chiappini, Stephanie LMSW -and/or- Leibowitz, Art	Operation Safety Net Mercy Hospital 1400 Locust Street PGH, PA 15219	Medical outreach, case management, transitional housing	412-232-5739	schiappini@mercy.pmhs.org
X	Cox, Jonathan	Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership		566-4190	jcox@downtownpittsburgh.com
	Cramer, Ed	No Walls Ministries 763 Cottonwood Dr. Monroeville, PA 15146	Outreach/Bible Study	445-5052	Kramerssss@aol.com
	Dewalt, Paul	EECM 319 N. Beatty Pgh, Pa 15206	Men’s shelter mgr	361-5013 x117	
	Dickman, Karen	Allegheny Co. Forensics 304 Wood St PGH, PA 15222		412-350-3443	
	DiLeonardo, Debbie	UPMC/WPIC-SFMC OUTREACH 2552 Centre Ave Pgh, PA 15219	SFMC MH Outreach	412-578-3650	

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X	Fowler, Fred Senior Planner Office of Behavioral Health 304 Wood Street PGH, PA 15222		350-3449	ffowler@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us
	Haberchak, Ed Allegheny County DHS United Way Bldg One Smithfield Street 4 th floor Pgh, Pa 15222	ACDHS Bureau of Hunger and Housing	350-4031	
	Haft, Perrin DHS/Office of Behavioral Health 304 Wood St Pgh, Pa 15222	Social services	350-3451	
	Hargrove, Lindsay Allegheny Co. Forensics 304 Wood St. PGH, PA 15222		412-350-3443	
	Hayes, Patty Ph.D. VA Pittsburgh Healthcare Sys. PGH, PA 15240	Women Veterans Program Manager	412-688-6289 clinic 412-688- 6236	Patricia.hayes@med.va.gov
	Jenkins, Gordon EECM 319 N. Beatty Pgh, Pa 15206	Men's shelter mgr	361-5013 x117	
X	Johnson, Diane WPIC-NLP 2552 Centre Avenue Pgh, PA 15219	Outreach	578-7729	Johnsond@msx.upmc.edu
X	Johnson, James "Moon" 374 Lawn St Pgh, Pa 15213	Outreach	621-6513	Jamesjohnson334@verizon.net
	Johnson, Sylvia CHSC 374 Lawn Street Pgh, Pa 15213	Supportive Relocation	621-4706	
	Kurka, Iris Health Care for the Homeless 7227 Hamilton Avenue PGH, PA 15208		244-4700	
X	LaBovick, Becky WPIC-Outreach and NLP 2552 Centre Avenue Pgh, PA 15219	Homeless MH Outreach	578-7734	Labovickr@msx.upmc.edu
X	Laemmle, Chris WPIC-Outreach and NLP 2552 Centre Avenue Pgh, PA 15219	Outreach	578-7730	Laemmlecp@msx.upmc.edu
	McKelvia, Tyrone (Mac) NLP-2552 Centre Ave. PGH, PA 15219	D&A Outreach Specialist	578-3250	mcketa@upmc.edu
X	McMahon, Diane Parental Stress Center 5877 Commerce St. PGH, PA 15206	Pending possible HUD/PH Program, waiting to hear!	361-4800 © 480-9044	Dianem677@aol.com
X	McMahon, Mac P.O. box 99861 Pgh, PA 15233	Shelter, safe haven, perm. Hsg.	323-1163	mac99861@cs.com
	Miller, Denise No Walls Ministries 763 Cottonwood Dr.	Outreach/Bible Study	445-5052	Deniseann1004@yahoo.com

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	Monroeville, PA 15146			
Nardin, Paul	Mercy Behavioral Health 412 E. Commons Pgh, PA 15212		442-8910	paulnardin@mercybh.org
Payne, Dennis OR O'Connor, Lana	DHS United Way Building One Smithfield St. 4 th floor Pgh, PA 15222	ACDHS	350-4984 350-3837	dpayne@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us
X Pendelton, Blaine	Mercy Behavioral Health 412 E. Commons Pgh, PA 15212		442-8910	bpendleton@mercybh.org
Pilarski, Mary Frances	VA Hospital 122 B-H 7180 Highland Dr. PGH, PA 15206	VA Healthcare for the Homeless Veterans	412-365-5273	Mary.Pilarski@med.va.gov
Price, Sharlene	Family Links 1601 Fifth Ave PGH, PA 15219	Homeless Shelter	471-6160	
Pyptyk, Emil	DHS OBH 304 Wood St. PGH, PA 15222	Supervisor MH housing	350-7117	epyptyk@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us
X Quinn, Mae	1410 Fifth Avenue Pgh, PA 15219	Miryam's	471-0155	
Reynolds, Curtis	CHSC 374 Lawn Street Pgh, Pa 15213	Outreach	621-4706	creynolds@chscorp.org
Sanders, Theda	PCHS/HCH		244-3518	tsanders@pchspitt.org
Smith, Erica	CHSC 3201 Craft Place Pgh, Pa 15213	SOT	621-6513 x115	esmithchsc@yahoo.com
X Sonney, Holly	Bethlehem Haven 905 Watson Street PGH, PA 15219	Mental health	412-391-1348 x103	hsonney@bethlehemhaven.org
Stammely- Park, Melissa	Family Links 1601 Fifth Ave PGH, PA 15219	Homeless Shelter	471-6160	mpark@familylinks.org
Steffey, Goerge	East Liberty Family Health Care Center 7171 Churchland St. PGH, PA 15206	Behavioral Health	412-361-3435	gsteffey@elfhcc.com
Sweitzer, Harry	Bureau of Hunger and Housing 4 th floor United Way Building One Smithfield St. Pgh, PA 15222	ACHD	412-350-3848	
Upsher, Curtis	Community Care One Chatham Ctr. 112 Washington Place	ACOBHMCO	454-2163	upsherc@ccbho.com

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		Pgh, PA 15219			
X	Vanderhorst (Ojanide), Beverly	VA Hospital 122 B-H 7180 Highland Drive PGH, PA 15206`	VA Healthcare for Homeless Vets	365-5772	Beverly.vanderhorts@med.va.gov
	Venezia, Rich	Allegheny County DHS United Way Bldg One Smithfield Street 4 th floor Pgh, Pa 15222	Allegheny County Dept of Human Services	350-4354	Rvenezia@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us
	Walczak, Vic	ACLU		681-7864	vwalczak@aclupgh.org
X	Walnoha, Adrienne	CHSC 374 Lawn Street Pgh, Pa 15213	Outreach / Housing Supervisor	621-6513 x101	awalnoha@chscorp.org
X	Waters, Rocky	NCM-Safe Haven 2133 Perrysville Ave. PGH, PA 15214			
	Wilson, Tori	Family Links 1601 Fifth Ave PGH, PA 15219	Homeless Shelter	471-6160	
	Zuklich, Jessica	Operation Save-A-Life Volunteer	Housing/Street Outreach		