

NAME	AGENCY/ADDRESS	SERVICE PROVIDED	TELEPHONE (AREA CODE 412 UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED)	EMAIL ADDRESS
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**April 27, 2006- Homeless Outreach Coordinating Committee Meeting**

\*\*\*\*\***TO ALL HOCC MEMBERS**\*\*\*\*\*

**PLEASE CHECK OVER YOUR INFORMATION IN THE LIST AND MADE SURE IT IS ACCURATE. PLEASE EMAIL OR CALL BECKY LABOVICK WITH ANY ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS. EMAIL: [LABOVICKR@UPMC.EDU](mailto:LABOVICKR@UPMC.EDU) OR VIA PHONE: 412-322-4189. Thanks!**

**Becky**

**NEXT HOCC MEETING**

**THURSDAY- 5-25-06**

**1:30PM-3:00PM**

**LOCATION: COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES CORPORATION**

**374 LAWN STREET, PGH, PA 15213**

**TEL: (412) 621-4706, should you need directions?**

**HOCC has a WEBSITE!! It is: <http://hocc.pghfree.net/index.htm>**

**Introductions/Updates/Announcements**

- 1:45 pm Chris initiated meeting.
- Introductions

**Update**

- **NLP**-changing referral process. No longer maintaining any waiting list due to the extremely high volume of referrals. Now looking at referrals related to the **most critical**. Persons are encouraged to call NLP and speak to Diane Johnson and to keep contact on a consistent basis. Commitment to take persons needing **harm reduction/hsg first** at this time. Higher **priority for those w/out connect to services** as opposed to those well connected. **Higher priority for chronic homeless**. Still can use the referral form, but not necessary. Call Chris #412-578-7730 or Diane #412-578-7729 or MAIN #412-578-3250.
- The Governors Office: put out a resource guide listing all of the social services, which was sent/distributed throughout the State apparently. The county is now receiving significant increase (20-25 calls) per day related to social services system in our area.
- Shepherds Heart Church-**Safety Net** will be moving next week to this location @ 13 Pride Street.
- **SWES**-went well this year. Were able to bring numerous folks in to services and a handful of those in to housing (Safety Net Transitional Housing and varied HUD continuum housing). Open >30nights with avg of 95 individuals per night.
- Blaine Pendleton had interesting case last week. Individual living with grandmother. Grandmother was evicting. Final stages of cancer, amongst other issues with behavior and such (D&A). Attempted respite, but due to chemotherapy every other week and could not be available to attend daily partial program, he wasn't eligible. Directed to personal care home. Hospice also recommended, but State/County wouldn't provide funding to go to a hospice because he was still ambulatory. Needed medical respite, but none present. 47 yr old man. Eventually referred to Blessed Don and also personal care. Diane J. suggests possible attempt of contact with Center for Independent Living 412-371-7700 to see if they will do assessment regarding his status/skills. Also, suggested follow up with HMO medical provider care

**City Sweeps/Panhandling Issue(s)**

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- **SWEEPS**-None since last meeting and none known scheduled at this time.
- All Star Game: July 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, approximate. The game is 7/11/06 Tuesday 8pm PNC Park. There are activities starting several days in advance. Unknown of any plans for the homeless during this festivity. Mac considers discussion with city and offer some form of assist.
- Convention Center 7/7/06-begins the festivities
- Sunday All Star Futures Game and more activities
- 5-days of festivities surrounding the All Star Game. Many of the activities are spread amongst the Convention Center, Point Park (downtown), North Side and Station Square. Hotels are already booked up and expected for high turnout.
- What can we do to be proactive regarding??
- Every site that has been picked up in past year regarding sweeps now has a metal sign permanently attached. It states that EVERY TUESDAY beginning 4/4/06, a sweep can/may be performed during specific hours, etc.
- Folks downtown are now carrying their belongings or hiding their belongings on Tuesdays.
- This is not what the agreement was originally, it is gray area when you read. Is this the original intent? Sweeps must give notice 7 days advance notice and there is a listing of individuals that are deemed to receive the notice via fax. The agreement expires May 9, 2006. ?Does this need to be contested? Who does this need to be addressed with? What shall be done about the May 9<sup>th</sup> expiration? ACLU suggestion to take to Council and have the legislation passed permanently. Expect weekly sweeps beginning near Memorial Day. Storage is now reportedly on Second Ave - Dept of Public Works office. When they razed the boathouse, the belongings stored there were also taken.
- Need a sit-down discussion with the ACLU.
- Question if any noted increase in street homeless numbers. Mac has noted new faces, but not necessarily increased numbers. Stephanie also. Mae reports a noted increase in numbers for a few days when local abandoned buildings were torn down.
- Section 8 is not option at present.
- What do we want to do on behalf, as advocate, for the homeless? Mac does not see any issue at this time with calling attention to the permanent signs. The signs do denote where persons can collect their belongings if they are taken in the sweep. No negative reports have come back from the homeless on the streets at this time, at least no known negative feedback.
- NO ACTION-outcome potentially stay status quo with the metal signs. Or, it may revert back to the old way of sweeping at the City whim. NEED TO MEET WITH ACLU. Need to firm up agreement with the City and not allow this to slide past the expiration date. Could also see about temporary agreement with City to keep the agreement as is and revisit it at a later time, after the All Star Game & high priority activities upcoming.
- Chris suggests approaching City and explore if there is a temporary site that could be used during the All Star Game to help keep the homeless off of the streets, along lines of SWES, keeping folks off the streets during day in addition to evening. Is this even ethical?
- Blaine suggests that ACLU approach City for addendum to extend the current agreement.
- Jonathan suggests asking to meet with City in few months to make permanent legislation, following the hubbub of All Star Game and 9/06 NFL Season Opener Pro Football Game. In interim also getting extension on the current agreement.
- Mac: Meet with ACLU first, and then approach Solicitor, Public Works & Dwayne Ashley-need to be involved as well.
- Panhandling ordinance is pretty guaranteed to be enforced during this week of festivities!

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- Jonathan/Mac: Ambassadors will be out throughout this time period as well. They do not have legal authority, but will be trained to approach those outside of panhandling ordinance to educate and if no change in behavior then will contact police. The police have made it clear that this ordinance will be enforced. There is also Homeland Security point.
- Diane J.-Wouldn't it be interesting to coordinate a special community social services event directly for the homeless during the upcoming 2006 MAIN EVENTS/FESTIVITIES that the City is sponsoring.
- During Super bowl there were special events specifically for the homeless.
- Chris discusses prior "Stand-Down's" for the homeless. >500 individuals in attendance for the Stand-Down's. Essentially a full social services/entertainment event where folks received services, clothing, care, clothes, entertainment, etc. There is too much planning (and no current resources-such as \$\$)to do this by July 2006! It would also need to be coordinated effort by a multitude of agencies and services.
- Coordinating with the City at this time could be very beneficial to both City and Homeless. Especially with new administration and the upcoming events.
- Court decision in LA-with regard to homeless sleeping on streets in LA. Mac will email website if you would like it....
  
- North Side Library is no longer open due to damage from thunderstorm earlier in 4/06. Salvation Army is under physical rehab and drop-in will be closed for period. Currently, since it is fairly warm, this is not as much of an issue. Will become more problematic later during colder weather as the library used often as a pseudo drop-in.

**Engagement Center**

- Church in Uptown was heard through a grapevine to be potential designated space potentially for Engagement Center?
- Next step for engagement center: bring together all parties interested in being coordinated in this effort for discussion. Also, continue strategic plan and funding for a consultant/grant-writer/researcher (one individual).

**GENERAL INFO: HOCC has a WEBSITE!! It is:**

<http://hocc.pghfree.net/index.htm>

**REGULAR ATTENDEES:**

	Chalich, Theresa	Bethlehem Haven 905 Watson Street PGH, PA 15219	Mental health	412-391-1348 x104	<a href="mailto:tchalich@bethlehemahan.org">tchalich@bethlehemahan.org</a>
<b>X</b>	Chiappini, Stephanie LMSW	Operation Safety Net Mercy Hospital 1400 Locust Street PGH, PA 15219	Medical outreach, case management, transitional housing	412-232-5739	<a href="mailto:schiappini@mercy.pmhs.org">schiappini@mercy.pmhs.org</a>
<b>X</b>	Cox, Jonathan	Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership		566-4190	<a href="mailto:jcox@downtownpittsburgh.com">jcox@downtownpittsburgh.com</a>
	DiFrancesco, Jamie	CHSC	Intern	716-8738	<a href="mailto:JDIO10@yahoo.com">JDIO10@yahoo.com</a>
	Fowler, Fred	Senior Planner Office of Behavioral Health 304 Wood Street PGH, PA 15222		350-3449	<a href="mailto:ffowler@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us">ffowler@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us</a>
	Haberchak,	Allegheny County DHS	ACDHS Bureau of	350-4031	

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	Ed United Way Bldg One Smithfield Street 4 <sup>th</sup> floor Pgh, Pa 15222	Hunger and Housing		
<b>X</b>	Johnson, Diane WPIC-NLP 2552 Centre Avenue Pgh, PA 15219	Outreach	578-7729	<a href="mailto:Johnsond@msx.upmc.edu">Johnsond@msx.upmc.edu</a>
<b>X</b>	LaBovick, Becky WPIC-Safe Haven 1917 Perrysville Ave PGH, PA 15214	Safe Haven	322-4189	<a href="mailto:Labovickr@upmc.edu">Labovickr@upmc.edu</a>
<b>X</b>	<b>Laemmle, Chris WPIC-Outreach and NLP 2552 Centre Avenue Pgh, PA 15219</b>	<b>Outreach **HOCC CHAIR</b>	<b>578-7730</b>	<a href="mailto:Laemmlecp@msx.upmc.edu">Laemmlecp@msx.upmc.edu</a>
	McMahon, Diane Parental Stress Center 5877 Commerce St. PGH, PA 15206	Pending possible HUD/PH Program, waiting to hear!	361-4800 © 480-9044	<a href="mailto:Dianem677@aol.com">Dianem677@aol.com</a>
<b>X</b>	<b>McMahon, Mac CHSC 3201 Craft Place Pgh, PA 15213</b>	<b>Street Outreach/SOT</b>	<b>621-6513 x106</b>	<a href="mailto:mac99861@cs.com">mac99861@cs.com</a> <a href="mailto:mmcmahon@chscorp.org">mmcmahon@chscorp.org</a>
<b>X</b>	Payne, Dennis DHS United Way Building One Smithfield St. 4 <sup>th</sup> floor Pgh, PA 15222	ACDHS	350-4984 350-3837	<a href="mailto:dpayne@dhs.county.allegheeny.pa.us">dpayne@dhs.county.allegheeny.pa.us</a>
<b>X</b>	Pendelton, Blaine Mercy Behavioral Health 412 E. Commons Pgh, PA 15212		442-8910	<a href="mailto:bpendleton@mercybh.org">bpendleton@mercybh.org</a>
	Pilarski, Mary Frances VA Hospital 122 B-H 7180 Highland Dr. PGH, PA 15206	VA Healthcare for the Homeless Veterans	412-365-5273	<a href="mailto:Mary.Pilarski@med.va.gov">Mary.Pilarski@med.va.gov</a>
<b>X</b>	Quinn, Mae 1410 Fifth Avenue Pgh, PA 15219	Miryam's-Day Program/Residential & Transitional Housing	471-0155	<a href="mailto:miryamsresprog@aol.com">miryamsresprog@aol.com</a>
	Sonney, Holly Bethlehem Haven 905 Watson Street PGH, PA 15219	Mental health	412-391-1348 x103	<a href="mailto:hsonney@bethlehemhaven.org">hsonney@bethlehemhaven.org</a>
	Vanderhorst, Beverly VA Hospital 122 B-H 7180 Highland Drive PGH, PA 15206	VA Healthcare for Homeless Vets	365-4640	<a href="mailto:Beverly.vanderhorst@med.va.gov">Beverly.vanderhorst@med.va.gov</a>
	Venezia, Rich Allegheny County DHS United Way Bldg One Smithfield Street 4 <sup>th</sup> floor Pgh, Pa 15222	Allegheny County Dept of Human Services	350-4354	<a href="mailto:Rvenezia@dhs.county.allegheeny.pa.us">Rvenezia@dhs.county.allegheeny.pa.us</a>
	Walczak, Vic ACLU		681-7864	<a href="mailto:vwalczak@aclupgh.org">vwalczak@aclupgh.org</a>
	Walnoha, Adrienne CHSC 374 Lawn Street Pgh, Pa 15213	Outreach / Housing Supervisor	621-6513 x101	<a href="mailto:awalnoha@chscorp.org">awalnoha@chscorp.org</a>

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	Waters, Rocky	NCM-Safe Haven 2133 Perrysville Ave.#1 PGH, PA 15214			
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