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February 23, 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 OR VIA PHONE: 412-322-4189. Thanks!
Becky

NEXT HOCC MEETING

THURSDAY- 3-23-06

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

- 1:40 pm Chris initiated meeting.
- Introductions

SWES

- Holley gives brief update: Past Saturday/Sunday, SWES was full-#120 individuals, approximately. Could not turn away as it was so cold over weekend and Emergency Shelters (ES's) full.
- County has attempted to have ES's take overflow (over capacity), but there have been some issues with this. County continues to reinforce this need. All ES full/to capacity.
- Blaine-young man who has been showing up at Mercy-East Commons, sleeping in the lobby/restroom. Have offered services, which have been declined. Mercy has been asking to leave, so he goes to rear of building and sleeps on a landing back there. Have attempted to have him agree to services/ES, but continues to decline. Had a paper re: SWES on Smithfield St (Stephanie checked SWES roster, he has been there at least once). Mercy does not want to call police. Blaine is looking for assist. What does this man want?? It doesn't appear that he is willing/with want for anything (services-wise). Comes to East Commons daily. Probably late teens/early 20's. If under 21yrs old, can go to Family Links shelter. ??Possible schizoid?? Engagement has been very difficult. Mac offers direct Outreach assist and asks that Blaine contact as indicated. HUB still has Outreach also, but limited. Mac also suggests call to Myra Powell @ HUB. Possible past MH treatment, but off of meds. Blaine has tried Light of Life and Pleasant Valley, but young man will not accept. Blaine wants to prevent call to 911 and trespass charge. There is good chance that he is sleeping outside of East Commons on regular basis and there is concern due to inclement weather issues. Since rejecting services, he would be possible candidate for 302 if not accepting of even SWES when temperature low! Blaine will attempt f/u with Myra Powell and with Mac at next contact with him.
- SWES will be open this Saturday through probably Monday (at least) due to inclement temperature forecast. There is concern that some folks may not necessarily be homeless so this is something to potentially check on. No major outbursts/incidents. 902 Clinic present for MH services.

Sweeps/Panhandling Issue(s)

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- This past Tue 6th, 7th, 9th St Bridges-SWEEPS
- No contact with ACLU to present, expiration this May regarding agreement with regard to sweeps and notifications.
- Wellspring/Salvation Army Northside are now also on fax list for the sweeps.
- FYI-Salvation Army N.Side-soup kitchen to be closed for period of time while building is renovated. Drop in will still be present. MH/Medical clinic probable move temporarily to Pleasant Valley. No meals M-W-F. Will not have clothing either due to space constraints. Basic day shelter remains. Bag lunch on Saturdays. No timeline on how long renovation will be.
- Panhandling-OSN has had one call regarding since ordinance was passed. A week ago, Mac spoke with Commander Donaldson. There are no updates with regard to this. New police chief, Mr. Costa, report of “working out bugs”. Impression that the police are not looking to go around and arrest for panhandling, but if call of complaint they will follow up on this. Are not just looking for violations of the law/ordinance. Mac encouraged follow up with CHSC 1st as able, before having law enforce.
- Jonathan reports: General idea, no significant follow up on upholding the ordinance. It appears that they are still trying to figure how they are going to follow up on this new ordinance.
- Dennis mentions news in recent past regarding New York panhandler being sued for fraud? Details of this story unknown.

Engagement Center

- One week ago-Engagement Center meeting. Issues discussed: Model, contacts at STATE/COUNTY/CITY/Businesses/Other contacts; Funding-multi faceted stream; NEED site
- Timelines with regard to follow up on specifics such as contact with Residential Resources, Mayor O’Connor
- 3/14/06-presentation of Engagement Center updates to Homeless Alliance. Currently, the Alliance structure is not working the way originally designed. Committees are to make certain recommendations and follow up on specifics and then the chairs of the committees are to take back to Alliance. Then Alliance is to consider recommendation, along with other recommendations, then determine priority. Engagement Center was brought to the Alliance attention, but it appears to have been pushed back to HOCC.
- Downtown Ministerium: Dennis brings info: Reggie Young is working with the Ministerium to take the lead on the Engagement Center. There were not rep’s from any of the homeless agencies/committees, except for Bethlehem Haven-as they were the hosting agency. 2/14 was the Ministerium meeting. Contact person: Pastor Gleeson/Mary Lou Procacina (his assistant). Who initiated the meeting? Mac knew about the meeting, as this was the regular Ministerium meeting, which was hosted by Bethlehem Haven. It was essentially the Ministerium and the DHS. This is directly related to the 10 Yr Plan, as it is one of the steps in the plan. There are many questions, as in: is the 10 Yr Plan feasible? HOCC has worked hard already and have begun all the steps needed for this plan (Engagement Center). Dan Onorato was made aware of the Engagement Center and appears to have made this an important issue. This model needs to be “tweaked” and obtain buy-in from the entire community (City/business/community/agencies/police/hospitals/etc). HOCC would hate to see it become something that it (engagement center) was not meant to be. It is recommended that HOCC needs to CONTINUE to be active in this plan, continue to stay involved. We know the needs! What are we, as HOCC members, willing/able to do? This model (that HOCC has been working on) has been given to many, such as: county, Pastor Gleeson, city council, etc. City Council issued a proclamation, which Mac accepted, regarding the Engagement Center. Another issue regarding buy-in, right now the City is in financial trouble and is

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looking in to developers to improve City. “Drunk Tank” appears to be an inference, but what is the concept regarding? There does need to be alternative to County jail, as police cannot just take folks to jail as “drunk tank”. “Damp Shelter/Drunk Tank/Etc” has been discussed with the engagement center, but this is NOT the primary focus of the Engagement Center. Think of it as a 24hr “restaurant”. Safe place to be at any hour of day/night, have coffee, be social, eat, bathe, store belongings, etc. Harm-Reduction philosophy, period. Beds in the housing portion would be by referral. There would be common area where folks can be 24hr/day that is SAFE. A place where folks can receive food, hygiene needs, services, etc. Jonathan believes that there is not much difficulty in making the case for the need for an engagement center, but need to promote how this will help City/County/Police/Business/etc. The largest hold-up is SITE! It will need to be a large site (very large), such as Connelly. Might be helpful as well to get all of the agencies buy-in’s—such as what services could be provided by each agency? Example: WPIC~ possibly supply MH service, possibly supply some D&A component, possibly dedicate some housing options as well that are solely to the engagement center. Since engagement center is still so nebulous, it is quite difficult for agencies to commit. CHSC has already placed application for Safe Haven (25bed) grant. It does not have a site at present, but if granted and SITE found (depending on size of site) for engagement center, then SAFE HAVEN could easily be housed at the center. There will always be some “tweaking” to do, even as the components of the engagement center begin to fall directly in place and even after it is up and running. IT will be a piecemeal program, all components will not fall in place at one time, esp. since funding streams will need to be so multi-faceted. Timeline is difficult, as there are no components in place right now. If CHSC is granted the Safe Haven, it would need to be up and running w/in 9months. We all have a commitment to our “day jobs”, which makes some of exploration of Engagement Center difficult (such as funding stream location/application).

- ACTION STEP: NEED A SHARED VISION-We have already placed some framework of MODEL together: drop-in, services, etc. though we do not have an actual blueprint/actual budget. WE NOW NEED ACTION STEP as we need more solid/concrete data in order to obtain support(s) needed. Mac has made a commitment that he will tend to ONE engagement center issue daily such as call to set up appointment (such as with Mayor). ACTION STEP-again, it was identified that the Homeless Alliance needs to have larger role with the concept at hand, a larger commitment from Homeless Alliance, have they bought-in, are they in support? This would be where it would be determined how to proceed. Committee CANNOT be the driving force; possibly it needs to be an entity with one targeted contact/person/individual. Chris suggests taking to City/Business/etc to begin selling and gain more input, etc. Diane McMahon willing to set up mtg inviting all necessary individuals/entities/etc to discuss the engagement center concept. ACTION STEP: Mac states power point presentation for Alliance mtg, next mtg on 3/14/06-but this will be definitely needed for addressing on larger scope. This presentation would be a tool to educate and address buy-in. Presentation will need to be looked at by at least Engagement Center planning committee and then also HOCC members to be active and participate in the package. Diane McMahon is willing to help start up this project as part of schooling project.
- It is also recommended that a HOCC member be involved in the Ministerium meetings if it is determined that the Ministerium is the lead on the engagement center. Mac will follow up with Pastor Gleeson. There is concern that County/Ministerium had meeting to discuss/plan/initiate when HOCC has been working on this for some time and already have initiated model, initiated concept, County has been aware, City Council is aware, etc.
- **NEXT Engagementn Center meeting 3/30/06 1pm @ St. Hyacinth-3201 Craft Place.**

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UPDATES

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

	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	Operation Safety Net Mercy Hospital 1400 Locust Street PGH, PA 15219	Medical outreach, case management, transitional housing	412-232-5739	schiappini@mercy.pmhs.org
	Collins, Margaret				Margaretcollinzaa82@yahoo.com
X	Cox, Jonathan	Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership		566-4190	jcox@downtownpittsburgh.com
	Coyne, Alex	Oakland Business Improvement District		683-6243 x19	alex@oaklandbid.org
	Cramer, Ed	No Walls Ministries 763 Cottonwood Dr. Monroeville, PA 15146	Outreach/Bible Study	445-5052	Kramersss@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	
X	DiFrancesco, Jamie	CHSC	Intern	716-8738	JDIO10@yahoo.com
	DiLeonardo, Debbie	UPMC/WPIC-SFMC OUTREACH 2552 Centre Ave Pgh, PA 15219	SFMC MH Outreach	412-578-3650	
	Fowler, Fred	Senior Planner Office of Behavioral Health 304 Wood Street PGH, PA 15222		350-3449	fowler@dhs.countyallegheny.pa.us
	Haberchak, Ed	Allegheny County DHS United Way Bldg One Smithfield Street	ACDHS Bureau of Hunger and Housing	350-4031	

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	4 th floor Pgh, Pa 15222			
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
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	
Keffer, Toni	CHSC	Intern	977-7394	Toni_keffer@yahoo.com
Kurka, Iris	Health Care for the Homeless 7227 Hamilton Avenue PGH, PA 15208		244-4700	
X LaBovick, Becky	WPIC-Safe Haven 1917 Perrysville Ave PGH, PA 15214	Safe Haven	322-4189	Labovickr@upmc.edu
X Laemmle, Chris	WPIC-Outreach and NLP 2552 Centre Avenue Pgh, PA 15219	Outreach **HOCC CHAIR	578-7730	Laemmlecp@msx.upmc.edu
Laver, Terri	Allegheny County DHS United Way Bldg One Smithfield Street 4 th floor Pgh, Pa 15222	Allegheny County Dept of Human Services		tlaver@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us
McKelvia, Tyrone (Mac)	NLP-2552 Centre Ave. PGH, PA 15219	D&A Outreach Specialist	578-3250	mcketa@upmc.edu
X McMahan, 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 McMahan, Mac	CHSC 3201 Craft Place Pgh, PA 15213	Street Outreach/SOT	621-6513 x106	mac99861@cs.com mmcmahon@chsco rp.org
Miller, Denise	No Walls Ministries 763 Cottonwood Dr. Monroeville, PA 15146	Outreach/Bible Study	445-5052	Deniseann1004@yahoo.com
Nardin, Paul	Mercy Behavioral Health 412 E. Commons		442-8910	paulnardin@mercybh.org

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	Pgh, PA 15212			
X	Payne, Dennis	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-Day Program/Residential & Transitional Housing 471-0155	miryamsresprog@aol.com
	Reynolds, Curtis	CHSC 374 Lawn Street Pgh, Pa 15213	Outreach 621-4706	creynolds@chscorp.org
	Sanders, Theda	PCHS/HCH	244-3518	tsanders@pchspitt.org
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 Pgh, PA 15219	ACOBHMCO 454-2163	upsherc@ccbho.com
X	Vanderhorst, Beverly	VA Hospital 122 B-H 7180 Highland Drive PGH, PA 15206	VA Healthcare for Homeless Vets 365-4640	Beverly.vanderhorst@med.va.gov
	Venezia, Rich	Allegheny County DHS United Way Bldg One Smithfield Street	Allegheny County Dept of Human Services 350-4354	Rvenezia@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us

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	4 th floor Pgh, Pa 15222			
Walczak, Vic	ACLU		681-7864	vwalczak@aclupgh.org
Walnoha, Adrienne	CHSC 374 Lawn Street Pgh, Pa 15213	Outreach / Housing Supervisor	621-6513 x101	awalnoha@chscorp.org
Waters, Rocky	NCM-Safe Haven 2133 Perrysville Ave.#1 PGH, PA 15214			
Wilson, Tori	Family Links 1601 Fifth Ave PGH, PA 15219	Homeless Shelter	471-6160	
Young, Reginald	Allegheny County DHS United Way Bldg One Smithfield Street 4 th floor Pgh, Pa 15222	Allegheny County Dept of Human Services		ryoung@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us
Zuklich, Jessica	Operation Save-A-Life Volunteer	Housing/Street Outreach		