

NAME	AGENCY/ADDRESS	SERVICE PROVIDED	TELEPHONE (AREA CODE 412 UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED)	EMAIL ADDRESS
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NEXT HOCC MEETING

THURSDAY August 25, 2005

1:30PM-3:00PM

LOCATION: COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES CORPORATION

374 LAWN STREET, PGH, PA 15213

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

Adrienne reports that we are scheduled through 9/05 at Lawn Street. There may be space issues at the time, as CHSC has after-school programs that may affect the meeting space. If meeting place changes, it will be updated in the minutes as the change occurs.

****Becky LaBovick will not be able to attend the 8/05 meeting. Anyone interested in volunteering to take minutes would be GREATLY appreciated. Becky is willing to type and send them out (as long as they are readable!).**

REMINDERS:

None this meeting

Agenda:

- Brief review of last month minutes.
- Announcements/Updates
- Jonathan Cox re: new panhandling ordinance
- 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 7/28/05 1:30pm Meeting @ CHSC Lawn Street

- 1:45p, Mac initiated meeting
- Brief review of last month minutes
- Announcements/Updates:
 - Mac-Reports recent meeting with CHSC, Family Links, Safety Net, Ed Haberchak, Rich Venezia, Sue Scheuring (City), Bethlehem Haven and few others. They are looking for strategy to assist increasing numbers of individuals using The HUB. There is a significant lack of participation. One reason identified is that there is a lack of funding for The HUB for outreach. They employ one MH counselor and one case manager. Mac suggested coordinating with the other outreach agencies to help increase the numbers for the transitional age group. There is reported an encampment of the transitional age kids in Schenley Park. Stephanie reports that OSN does steer the appropriate age individuals to The HUB. On average, it is reported that roughly 2-8 individuals are attending regularly. Three Rivers Youth (whom the HUB falls under) has housing for employed and higher than welfare income individuals, both male and female housing. Some issues discussed: Are the rules of the HUB deterring folks to attend? The logistics of the HUB, is it the location that deters? It was noted that when the cork factory in the Strip District closed, numbers at the HUB significantly decreased. Holley mentions that she is familiar with the rules of the HUB and does not find that they are that strict in her personal opinion, but does report that there are probable inconsistencies with these rules. This age group also is with

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problems with authority/rules/etc. There will be a meeting again in about one month, Mac will update.

- Jonathan Cox updates re: panhandling ordinance. He brought "City of Pittsburgh Text File" copy of ordinance that was presented 7/26/05 @ Public Safety Services Committee. The Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP) supports the amended panhandling legislation. The ordinance will be presented next week in committee on Wed. Final council session is the following Tuesday. This is the legislation that the PDP wanted, but the expediency took them by surprise. Draft of ordinance is supported 100% by PDP. Mac received call from Post Gazette. Homelessness didn't come up in the Post Gazette articles, which is very positive. PANHANDLING does NOT equal HOMELESSNESS. The first ordinance was never enforced to Mac's knowledge. It primarily addressed aggressive panhandling. New ordinance still addresses aggressive panhandling and further outlines/defines behaviors allowed/not allowed: such as restrictions on the times of panhandling, where it can occur, etc. Downtown officers are taking more seriously, more offenses and pushing jail.
- Chris asks goal of PDP on panhandling/homelessness. Response: Pains have been taken throughout ordinance and ad campaign to separate panhandling/homelessness. PDP is not just for the business organizations; downtown business, private and foundations fund it. Goal is to make downtown a safe, attractive, vibrant area. Goal for increased living and development of downtown. Making downtown a healthier place. Core downtown is in "rough" shape right now. Panhandling is only one of the many issues.
- Diane-Panhandling is only one factor. Panhandling increase is a symptom, so what is the root? Chris reports POVERTY, which is something we cannot solve. Mac asks for PDP backing in HOCC push for things such as the Engagement Center. Panhandling: often have signs of "homeless, please help", but may be not homeless and give the homeless a "bad name". Is the goal to ban/eliminate panhandling? Then leading to loitering laws, vagrancy laws then banning homelessness? PDP reports primary goal is to also educate the public such as: giving money to an organization in lieu of money to panhandlers to support an addiction or something else. There is attempt in achieving a balance. The ordinance is phrased on what a panhandler can do. No underlying motives to further restrict panhandling per Jonathan.
- Blaine-suggests that the ordinance be put in place and see how it goes. Overall response of the group was "NO", as once put in place it is LAW. We all need to be diligent/careful to not somehow inadvertently affect the homeless. Overall, HOCC does agree with the PDP goal(s).
- General discussion related to ordinance: Violation fines of ordinance discussed: \$25-\$50 fines for citations, will this be a deterrent? Rocky discussed how this will lead to citations, failure to show to hearings, bench warrants being issued and then issues with jailing individuals leading to more cost and further overcrowding. Mac voices concerns regarding individual's civil rights, such as street vendors. Jonathan reports vendors have permits and should not have any issues with ordinance. Dennis mentions concern for panhandling fines/warnings/citations/etc, as these will probably vary from police officer to officer. Officers are not educated related to panhandling and how this does not equate to homelessness per se. Also, an issued citation: need address to send info on court date/time/location. If homeless, they won't receive/may not receive this info which will also

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result in bench warrant. Jonathan does bring up that the downtown police officers do know the regular homeless downtown. ??Will there be a public hearing?? The point was raised that Vic W. can't do anything until the ordinance is passed as law. Diane discussed that the ordinance thus far is firmly fair. We don't want to see aggression. There is concern regarding the time restrictions in the ordinance. Two things an individual can do if interested: 1. talk to City Council 2. Attend any public forums. Next Tuesday is council formal then Wednesday is the committee discussion (public forum is before this). Mac will get the specifics of next Wed. Interestingly, Mr. Bodack initiated the presentation of the ordinance; this was not initiated by City Council. This ordinance encompasses the ENTIRE CITY. This also encompasses organizations, too—such as the Fireman's donation collection, Salvation Army donation collection, ETC. Vic W. (per Mac) has expressed concern re: 1st Amendment Rights-rights don't disappear when the sun sets! Also, concern re: discrimination if you don't have a talent such as guitar, bell, etc to be a "street performer".

- Pittsburgh Post Gazette articles of interest:
 - 7/26/05 City considering new panhandling restrictions
 - 7/27/05 City proposes restrictions on panhandling
- Will increased enforcement of this result in increased violent acts instead (such as theft)??
- Mac presented packet:
 - 7/27/05 Post Gazette article (as above)
 - Old ordinance copy
 - New ordinance copy (chapter 602: solicitation)
 - Engagement center proposal draft, updated
- For any immediate reaction to the proposed ordinance, contact Alena Samuels-Pittsburgh Post Gazette, City Desk by this afternoon.
- SWEEPS: Mac and Rich spoke with Luke Ravenstahl, North Side Councilman regarding the Public Works issue. Luke was to speak with Guy Costa regarding, but thus far no updated word. 7/19/05 there was a SWEEP of several places downtown. Still unknown with regard to the outcome of individual's belongings. Will utilize Vic W. if no appropriate response from City/Public Works.
- Regarding updated Engagement Center draft. Please review and email with any comments, as final draft is needed by 8/05.
- Chris asks PDP to also look over the draft and if any ideas for buy-in/suggestions/feedback/etc. We need assist from Foundations and Business!
- NEXT MTG: 8/25/05 1:30p @ CHSC 374 Lawn Street

	Allison, Donna	Northside Leadership Conference 415 E. Ohio Street PGH, PA 15212	Advocacy for community issues	231-4714 x20	donna@pittsburghnorthside.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	Operation Safety Net Mercy Hospital	Medical outreach, case management,	412-232-5739	schiappini@mercy.pmhs.org

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	LMSW OR Leibowitz, Art	1400 Locust Street PGH, PA 15219	transitional housing	
	Collins, Margaret	421 Grant Street Springdale, PA 15144	Outreach	724-713-1640 Margaretw1@peoplepc.com
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 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
	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 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
	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

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	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	578-7730	Laemmlecp@msx.upmc.edu
	McKelvia, Tyrone (Mac) NLP-2552 Centre Ave. PGH, PA 15219	D&A Outreach Specialist	578-3250	
	McMahon, Diane Parental Stress Center 5877 Commerce St. PGH, PA 15206	Family Permanent Housing Program	361-4800	Dianem677@aol.com
X	McMahon, Mac CHSC 374 Lawn Street Pgh, Pa 15213	Outreach / Housing Supervisor	621-6513 x106 c: 417-6231	mac99861@cs.com
	Miller, Denise No Walls Ministries 763 Cottonwood Dr. Monroeville, PA 15146	Outreach/Bible Study	445-5052	Deniscann1004@yahoo.com
	Nardin, Paul Mercy Behavioral Health 412 E. Commons Pgh, PA 15212		442-8910	paulnardin@mercybh.org
X	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
	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, PCHS/HCH		244-3518	

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	Theda			tsanders@pchspitt.org	
X	Sonney, Holly	Bethlehem Haven 905 Watson Street PGH, PA 15219	Mental health	412-391-1348 x103	hsonney@bethlehemahan.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
	Vanderhorst (Ojanide), Beverly	VA Hospital 122 B-H 7180 Highland Drive PGH, PA 15206	VA Healthcare for Homeless Vets	365-5772	Beverly.vanderhorst@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
	Walnoha, Adrienne	CHSC 374 Lawn Street Pgh, Pa 15213	Director Homeless Services	621-6513 x101	awalnoha@chscorp.org
X	Waters, Rocky	Safe Haven 2133 Perrysville Ave. PGH, PA 15214			
	Zuklich, Jessica	Operation Save-A-Life Volunteer	Housing/Street Outreach		
	Collins, Margaret	421 Grant Street Springdale, PA 15144	Outreach	724-713-1640	Margaretw1@peoplepc.com