



STEERING COMMITTEE

11/18/2015 - MEETING MINUTES

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Immigration:	Stephanie Aguilar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Education:	Carmen Cheek	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Temporary/Transitional Housing:	Sharell Clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nonprofit:	Michelle DeGrate	<input type="checkbox"/>
HMIS:	Roshaun Epperson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Real Estate/Affordable Housing:	Sheila Harper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Emergency Shelters:	Brenda Jackson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Employment:	Amanda James-Cotton	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religiously Affiliated:	Katie Klein	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health Care:	Alice Masciarelli	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Veterans:	Christopher Mays	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mental Health Care:	Jordan McCarty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Housing:	Gina Ortiz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Emergency Services (Police & Fire:	Frank Padgett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Children/Youth:	Jessica Peters	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Substance Abuse:	Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal:	Prudence Sanchez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Domestic Violence:	Connie Schmidt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Government:	Dani Shaw	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Open:	Marc Thompson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Formerly Homeless:	Leslie Wisenbaker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

ALSO PRESENT:

GUESTS:

- Alonzo Peterson, Giving Hope, Inc.
- Pauline Jamison, Giving Hope, Inc.

STAFF:

- Laura Mitchell, City of Lewisville
- Michelle Strickler, City of Lewisville

MEETING DETAILS

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES – 10/28/15

Typo was identified in the new business section. One member asked a question about the Drop in Teacher program referenced in the minutes.

ACTION ITEMS:

Motion to approve the minutes by Christopher Mays, Second by . Motion passed

COMMITTEE/TASK FORCE ACTIONS

Information/Research – Alice Masciarelli

(PIT Count, HMIS, Other Data Efforts – ie. 211 Data Integrity, Gap Analysis)

- Alice Masciarelli reported that UNT professor Mary Jones has offered to help DCHC gather some data.
- Roshaun Epperson reported on the PIT COUNT. Next meeting is Nov 19 at 11am at Given Hope. Meeting about homeless locations. Donations coming in pretty good. Teacher from Guyer High School will bring about 120 coats on Monday. Working on inventory on all the items. Incentives Wish List will be sent out. Keep Denton Warm shared. Drop off locations for warm clothing Nov. 16 - Dec 16. Flyers passed around to members. Biggest need is backpacks. One member asked members to bring at least one item to the next DCHC general body meeting. Toothbrush, deodorant, disposable razors, etc. HMIS still doing well. Homeless locations for counts, like libraries, bus stations, food banks, places on McKinney, behind Kroger, Solutions Program, DISD with a children count, Denton Freedom House, Mack Park, Mostly service providers, etc.

ACTION ITEMS:

Ask DCHC members to bring at least one item to the next DCHC general body meeting.

- Dani Shaw reported that United Way doing a collective impact in the area of mental health and that two of those initiatives related to Jail diversion and Housing will intersect with the DCHC efforts. It is likely that data will emerge around our proposed needs in housing. Jail diversion has identified that the County Jail is expected to hire staff members to help persons exiting jail identify and secure resources to prevent the person exiting to homelessness.
- Housing Discussion led to Gina Ortiz providing information about a new affordable housing development and impact to homeless in the area. Denton Housing bought the land near Mack Park. It was mentioned that is estimated that there are 50 to 60 homeless staying in the area. Concern about future displacement because of new apartment. Clearing of homeless is estimated to happen around middle of 2016. Project complete by winter of 2018. 320 units. Approximately 16 acres. Section 8 vouchers will be accepted. After school programs located at the apartments. Possible rent range is \$580 - \$1280. Rate concerns were discussed. One member suggested that the head of the new

development visit a future DCHC meeting to explain the apartments. April Meeting was recommended.

- HMS IS still performing. PIT Count are performed in areas of Denton County like bus stations, Homeless centers like soup kitchens. Our Daily Bread spaghetti was donated. It increases attendance. We are only going to service providers.

Coalition Building – Coordinating Resources – Brenda Jackson (Denton CAN, Street Outreach, Bridging the Gap, Veterans, etc)

- Brenda Jackson reported that she is setting up a meeting Dec 10th at 9:30 am to 10:30am at the Salvation Army in Denton. Invited Chief Howell, DCMHMR. Bridge that gap between law enforcement and the mental ill. A lot of clients are de compensating.
- Denton CAN- none
- Street Outreach – Alonzo Peterson reported on behalf of Liz Buferd. Alonzo shared that Liz should have her barriers sheet soon.
 - Additional discussion centered on jail and diversion - Provide mental health & substances abuse to homeless. Decriminalize homeless. Denton County MHMR mental health funding. Member officer asked of any training in street outreach. Idea was discussed to provide cops with pamphlet to give to the homeless. Brenda will work with another member to have some pamphlets by the first of the year.
- Opportunities to meet with Chief Howell about the current state of homeless were discussed.
- It was announced that the Monsignor King Outreach Shelter (MKOC) will not be open in time for the first freezing nights. MKOC is looking for a temporary shelter for this upcoming winter. Estimated need is 50 to 60 per night.
- Veterans - Actively communicating with DCMHMR, VA, Denton County for mental health cooperation within Denton County jail.

Advocacy – Christopher Mays (Awareness Activities – Current Events and Initiatives.)

- Conversation focused on ideas for developing position statements and examples were discussed that included the "*Think outside of the box*" Housing programs in San Francisco and California.

Impact - Stakeholders – Stephanie Aguilar (Bring new people to the table.)

- Stephanie reported that she would be developing a form Letter to send to potential members of the DCHC. Stephanie expressed an interest to expand to other areas like Sanger, Krum, Little Elm, and Justin. Concern

about them becoming forgotten cities. Suggestions for members should be emailed to Stephanie.

Short Term Task Forces – None at this Time
(Short term activities as needed, ie Bylaws etc.)

- There was a reminder that a short-term task force need was identified in a previous meeting to look at adding some resources in Lewisville. Liz Buferd was nominated to chair the task-force. Task force would be charged to look at obtaining items that include a refrigerator for medications and storage for personal items ; and helping services to be added to include transportation, cell phone access, and mailing address.

WORKING/NETWORKING – CONNECTION and/or PANELS discussion
Planning for upcoming Meetings/Events

- o Agenda Planning for December 2, 2015 and February 2, 2016

Homeless Panel - Brenda will be bringing two people to the next homeless panel. One homeless member on the panel were overwhelm with the audience. Pre write and pre selected the questions for the homeless panel. Questions for the panel maybe on resources.

End of the year party for DCHC in December. MCL Grand, Lewisville. General Body meeting. Each member asked to bring a food item for the meeting.

Feb Gen. Body ideas. Interactive. Panel about resources for veterans. One member of the las homeless panel mention that he felt overwhelmed.

Bring past present future ideas to the group.

AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sharell Clay was able to reduce the rent for two clients. Private landlord.

Teach clients about "ready to Rent". Financial planning is available.

[NEXT MEETINGS: General: 12/02/15 – MCL Grand, Lewisville, TX
 Steering: 1/27/2016 – Civic Center, Denton, TX