



Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee **Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date/Time/Location: March 8, 2007 - 9:00– 10:30 AM - Courthouse Room # 514

WCHAC Members Present: Michele Hall, Ronald Buchinski, David Cahill, Gail DeHoog, Regina Delahunt, John Harmon, Nancy Larsen, Paul Schissler,


WCHAC Members Absent: Laura DeRose, Rebecca Johnson, Sue Parrott, Gary Tomsic, Carole Wells

Whatcom County Health Depart Staff/Guests: Pat Fisher, Clerk, Greg Winter, Cornerstone Strategies

| Agenda Item | Discussion | Action/Who |
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| 1. Review February 8, 2007 minutes | The February 8, 2007 WCHAC Minutes not reviewed | The February 8, 2007 WCHAC Minutes were not approved for lack of quorum. |
| 2. Point-In-Time (PIT) Count Report | Greg Winter updated the Committee on the Fact Sheet-DRAFT document, which provides an initial synopsis of the PIT Results. He stated that the numbers for the unaccompanied youth category would be included in the final report. There was a request for a side-by-side comparison of 2006 & 2007 numbers. | |

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| <p>2. Point-In-Time (PIT) Count Report (cont.)</p> | <p>There was also a request for acknowledgement of current homeless services and how many individuals would be homeless without these services available to them.</p> <p>Greg stated that once the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) was in place the data on homeless numbers will be much more accurate.</p> <p>There were two web sites shared that have national homeless counts on them. www.AGRM.org and www.endhomelessness.org.</p> <p>Greg stated any input that committee members had on the report would be welcome and considered for inclusion. He anticipated that the report would be complete the last week of March.</p> | |
| <p>3. CTED Technical Instructions</p> | <p>Gail and Greg Winter participated in a conference call with CTED. Others conference call participants included representatives from Clallam County and King County.</p> <p>Gail stated that CTED seems to be looking for guidance from the communities in the application. The application will include a logic model, which will give the outcomes.</p> <p>There will be some funds available for technical assistance and the work group will look into how to apply for this funding.</p> <p>While waiting for the completion of the application process plans will move forward as discussed and agreed upon in previous meeting.</p> <p>There are some changes in the orientation of the application of HMIS. There will be additional</p> | |

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| | information available on this in the near future. | |
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| 4. Balance of State Advisory Committee Report | <p>Gary and Gail attended the Balance of State Advisory Committee Meeting. The following information was discussed:</p> <p>A. The Interagency Council on Homelessness has revised their work plan to focus on two major issues, data and re-entry.</p> <p>B. There are three State grants, Emergency Shelter Grant, Emergency Shelter and Assistance Program Grant and Transitional Housing Operations and Rent Assistance Grant. The WCHAC along with the Whatcom County Coalition for the Homeless will be acting in an advisory capacity for distribution of these grant funds. Gail discussed the process for RFP, deadlines and the new community process that will be taking place. It is the recommendation to the committee that these funds be administered in the future by the Homeless Resource Center.</p> <p>C. Offender re-entry was another State Advisory Committee discussion and legislatively CTED may have a larger role in this funding.</p> <p>D. It was highly suggested that for next year's round of HGAP that the two major issues to focus on are foster care and re-entry issues.</p> | |
| 5. Legislative Updates | <p>Gail reported that HB 1115 has lost some momentum and is being incorporated into HB 1359. There was discussion regarding the recording fee and how it will be distributed locally. The THOR enhancement bill is losing momentum.</p> <p>Gail stated that keeping up with legislative activities is too large a task for one person. She requested that a committee be formed to perform this task before next year's legislative session begins. There was a great deal of discussion and several suggestions on information gathering strategies.</p> | <p>John Harmon will provide the committee with a sample of the Association of Washington Housing Authorities Bill tracking method to see if the Committee can use it.</p> <p>This item will be revisited on the April Agenda.</p> |

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| <p>6. WCHAC Recommendations</p> | <p>Discussion Motion #1.3.07 The county is releasing an RFQ to hire an administrative entity to funnel funds through for the Homeless Service Center. It is recommended that \$50,000.00 of 2163 funds be combined with \$50,000.00 committed by the City to hire a manager for the Homeless Service Center to lead the administrative entity on start up.</p> <p>There was a great deal of discussion regarding who would hire the manager, what the job description will be, an organizational chart, a scope of work as well as the RFQ and several other organizational details.</p> <p>Once a rough draft of the RFQ, the contract, a flow chart and scope of work can be presented for Committee consideration, a special meeting will be called for further discussion of this issue.</p> | <p>Motion #1.3.07 – That Whatcom County allocate \$50,000.00 of 2163 funds to match the City of Bellingham’s \$50,000.00 for a Homeless Service Center Coordinator position to start up the Homeless Service Center.</p> <p>The motion died without a second.</p> |
| Adjourn | The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 AM | |
| Next Meeting | <p>9:00 - 10:30 AM 2nd Thursday—April 12, 2007 Courthouse, Room #512</p> |  |