

# HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 9, 2013 – 11:30am

Siouxland Health and Human Services Building (Classroom 2) – 521 N. Main Avenue, Second Floor

**Members present:** Jill Franken, Jim Meyer, Doug Morrison, Kerri DeGraff, Traci Jensen, Carol Muller, and Tom Wingert.

**Members absent:** Darrin Smith, Cindy Heiberger, Michelle Erpenbach, and Lesa Jarding.

**Others present:** Major Thomas Riggs, Salvation Army; Maria Krell, Good Shepherd Center; Candice Cummings, VA; Adam Roach, Community Development; Gary Helder, The Community Outreach; Melanie Bliss, Sioux Empire Homeless Coalition; Shireen Ranschau, Sioux Falls Housing; Julie Becker, St. Francis House, and Stacey Tieszen, HAB Coordinator.

## I. Business

### A. Approval of Minutes – 07/01/13

- Upon motion by Doug Morrison, and seconded by Jill Franken, the Board approved the minutes of the 07/01/13 meeting as provided. Carried unanimously.

### B. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items

- None.

### C. Board Member Appreciation

- Kerri DeGraff has completed her two terms with the Homeless Advisory Board. Members thanked her for her dedication and service to the community, especially those experiencing homelessness and poverty. Reviewed a few of the successful initiatives that were developed out of the knowledge and relationship between the Sioux Empire United Way and this Board (Backpack Program, Genesis, USucceed). Kerri DeGraff thanked the Board for her experiences. Discussed Jay Powell, Director of Sioux Empire United Way, as a potential new Board member as the By-Laws require a member of the Sioux Empire United Way. Stacey Tieszen has talked with him about this and he agreed. Carol Muller made a motion to approve Jay Powell as a new member of the Board. Jill Franken seconded the motion which was then carried unanimously.

## II. Program

### A. Salvation Army Winter Warming Site Plans for 2013-2014 – Major Thomas Riggs

*Salvation Army Warming Site – Year End Totals*

Year	2012	2013*
<b>Total</b>	<b>2954</b>	<b>6142</b>

Major Riggs shared that the plans are to open the Warming Site on December 15, 2013 (15 days later than last year) as they do need their gym space for Christmas functions. He shared that they plan to remain open until March 31, 2014 depending on the weather. He is hoping to have at least one more staff person on during the busy times. They have ordered new heavy duty cots that can hold up to 500 lbs as people were sitting together on them last year and they damaged the less durable cots. They will again be open from 7pm to 7am. He states that all other protocol will remain the same and all who are in need of overnight shelter are welcome as long as they are not a danger to themselves or others. The City of Sioux Falls has again budgeted \$25,000 to help offset the costs to the Salvation Army for operating the Warming Site.

### B. Homeless Count – September 24, 2013

- Discussed the preparations for the Count – locations, volunteers, course of action, incentives. Next count will be in January 2014 and will be in January every year after that based on a vote made at the Statewide Housing for the Homeless Consortium meeting held in September.

### C. SD Housing for the Homeless Conference

- Discussed various items as it pertains to homelessness in South Dakota. Homeless Counts will move to January as HUD requires them in January every other year (to garner some consistency and to not burn out staff and volunteers). Continuum of Care rankings were discussed including the State's application not meeting threshold.

Discussed what needs to be changed or improved upon. Discussed the need to complete a Statewide 10 Year Plan by the next Continuum of Care's application due date in December.

#### **D. Emergency Food and Shelter (EFSP) Program**

- Stacey Tieszen presented an informational piece on how the EFSP money was dispersed, utilized, and how many households were assisted. Final dollar amounts are not yet included as there was an extension for allocating. Additionally, the full 90 day report has not yet been garnered from either St. Francis House or Southeastern.

#### **Good Shepherd Center**

- Primary Allocation was to provide nutritious breakfasts for guests of the Good Shepherd Center
  - o Spent \$4,632 (additional was available as all was not allocated in hotels/rents)
  - o Provided **2,316 meals** (breakfasts)

#### **St. Francis House**

- Primary Allocation was to provide motel stays for up to 30 days for clients who were ineligible for other shelter options and/or rent to move into a new unit.
  - o **21** families/households were provided up to 30 days of *hotel lodging* and case management
    - Shortest length of stay was 6 days
    - 13 households stayed the entire allowable amount of 30 days
      - \$150 minimum spent and \$650 maximum spent (however 1 family had two rooms because of their size so \$1300 was spent on this family)
    - Total amount spent = \$11,276
  - o **7** families/households were assisted with *initial rent* (primarily to one landlord who was willing to work with potentially challenging tenants)
    - Average rent was \$469 with a minimum amount of assistance at \$166 and maximum amount at \$750.
    - Total amount spent = **\$3,281**

#### **Southeastern Behavioral Healthcare**

- Primary Allocation was to provide motel stays for up to 30 days for clients who were ineligible for other shelter options
  - o **19** households were provided up to 30 days of hotel lodging and case management
    - Shortest length of stay was 3 days
    - 9 stayed the entire allowable amount of 30 days
      - \$130 minimum spent and \$650 was the maximum spent per household
    - Total amount spent = **\$10,093**

#### **D. Community Trends**

- Reviewed latest numbers for agencies including the latest rental vacancy rate from the SD Multi-Housing Association's survey. The Vacancy Rate remains around 4.2% for rental units.

### **III. Information**

- St. Francis House will be hosting its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner and Auction on September 23. The Dinner and Auction is being held at the Convention Center. Sioux Empire Housing Partnership's Annual Breakfast will be on September 25th with keynote speaker, Mark Lauseng, from the SD Housing Development Authority located in Pierre, SD. The Breakfast is at the Holiday Inn City Centre.

### **IV. Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 12:25pm.