

# HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 6, 2014 – 11:30am

Minnehaha County Administration Building (415 N. Dakota Avenue) 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor – Commission Chambers

**Members present:** Jill Franken, Jim Meyer, Cindy Heiberger, Michelle Erpenbach, Carol Muller, and Darrin Smith.

**Members absent:** Tom Wingert, Doug Morrison, and Traci Jensen.

**Others present:** Maria Krell, Good Shepherd Center; Candice Cummings, VA; Melanie Bliss, Sioux Empire Homeless Coalition; Shireen Ranschau, Sioux Falls Housing; Julie Becker, St. Francis House; Laura Hoffman, St. Francis House; Dee Nelson, Curt Nelson, and Stacey Tieszen, HAB Coordinator.

## I. Business

### A. Approval of Minutes – 01/06/14

- Upon motion by Jill Franken, and seconded by Cindy Heiberger, the Board approved the minutes of the 01/06/14 meeting as provided. Carried unanimously.

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

- Commissioner Heiberger introduced Dee and Curt Nelson who have been community advocates for many years with a special focus on helping inmates get re-established once they are released or paroled. They are interested in learning more about Senate Bill 70. Julie Becker introduced her Interim Assistant Director of Family Programs, Laura Hoffman. Ms. Hoffman moved here with her family from St. Louis.

## II. Program

### A. Board Membership

- Shared with the Board that Lesa Jarding had resigned from the Board as she moved to Omaha, NE to take a new position with Wells Fargo. Discussed potential Board member options to pursue.

### B. Developing the 2014 Plan of Action

- Discussed the notes from the Policy Breakfast and Luncheon (We Are All One Sioux Falls) held on November 7, 2013. Discussed engaging the Faith Based Community more in future planning for those experiencing poverty and homelessness in Sioux Falls. Melanie Bliss addressed the Board sharing statistics from the homeless count conducted in September 2013. She shared about her role and the Homeless Coalition, as well as highlighted components of the 10 Year Plan, including the HI Team. She focused on homeless children living outdoors and in tents. She then said that it is time to do more to help those most vulnerable. Discussed the current needs, and identifying where the gaps are especially as it pertains to emergency shelter needs (hot weather, cold weather, hours of operation, families). Coordinator will create a gaps analysis to share with the Board. Discussed concerns with the Jefferson Lines Bus Depot being so far removed from downtown (the out of town bus station). There were concerns noted that it is a long way into town for people who are unfamiliar with Sioux Falls and have no way to get there but to walk. Talked about the impact this has on businesses along the route. Additionally, there is major road construction as well as no sidewalk for people to utilize.

### C. Statewide 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness

- On December 10<sup>th</sup>, the Housing for the Homeless Consortium met in Chamberlain, SD to continue working on statewide issues including a review of the 10 Year Plan to date. Feedback was taken and will be implemented as necessary to make a comprehensive plan that addresses the varying needs of the rural, tribal, and metro areas of South Dakota.

### D. Homeless Count - Update

- Per requirements and a statewide vote, all future homeless counts in South Dakota will be conducted the last week in January. This will be a challenge because of the potential for extreme weather. This Count will also require a bed inventory so that we know how many beds were occupied on the night of the count. The next Count will be January 28, 2014.

**E. Continuum of Care – Update**

- Shared with the Board the review process for applications, deadlines, and submission time frame for South Dakota. The CoC is awarded approximately \$1.4 million, most of which is allocated in renewals.

**F. Community Trends – Informational**

- Reviewed local data, concerns, and issues related to homelessness, poverty, and affordable housing in Sioux Falls.

**G. Other**

- None.

**III. Information**

- None.

**IV. Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm.