

HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 3, 2016 – 11:30am

Bishop Dudley Hospitality House (101 N. Indiana Avenue) – Conference Room

Members present: Joan Franken, Jean Bender, Les Kinstad, Kari Benz, Jill Franken, Jeff Nelson, and Michelle Erpenbach.

Members absent: Traci Jensen and Jim Meyer.

Others present: Chad Campbell, Bishop Dudley Hospitality House; Jeannette Spaans, Anny Libengood, and Brett Johnson, Synergy/County Human Services; Shireen Ranschau, SF Housing; Candice Cummings, VA, and Stacey Tieszen, Coordinator for the Homeless Advisory Board.

I. Business

A. Approval of Minutes – 08/01/16

- Upon motion by Michelle Erpenbach, and seconded by Jean Bender, the Board approved the minutes of the 08/01/16 meeting as provided. Carried unanimously.

B. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items

- Shireen Ranschau is retiring from Sioux Falls Housing and Redevelopment Commission as of October 28, 2016. The Board thanked her for her more than 40 years of service in the housing industry. Shireen shared about her experiences and the changing landscape of our community as it pertains to affordable housing.

II. Program

A. Synergy – Anny Libengood, Jeannette Spaans, and Brett Johnson

- Synergy is a program of the County Human Services office whose sole purpose is to successfully and sustainably house homeless families in the community. There are 2 caseworkers (Libengood and Spaans) with years of experience who provide case management, an initial assessment, and work collaboratively with agencies across Sioux Falls to find the right program, additional services, and housing that meets the needs and wants of the client. They have team meetings with other partner agencies to determine the best fit for a referral (i.e. Heartland House, St. Francis House, a unit at Bishop Dudley Hospitality House). The services are designed to be a rapid re-housing approach with short-term input for a long-term impact. They have a combined wait list that the other agencies can add or update families on – a first! This list helps to clarify how great the need really is for transitional housing. The barrier matrix is key to assessing the whole person – identifying the challenges they will face in securing housing. August and September were very busy months with 15 – 20 new referrals coming in weekly for homeless families. It remains very busy and the 7 units at the BDHH are consistently full. 50% of the homeless families are from out of state. Employment skills/education (workforce development) is a need as there are jobs available. Discussed the statement of short-term programs for long-term problems. The Board agreed that it is a complicated issue especially when the affordable housing growth is slower than the continued need and background checks can become large hurdles for families sometimes leaving them in units that are substandard. Discussed the correlation of this program, its wait list and how it will/does interact with the Sioux Empire Network of Care.

B. Ending Veteran's Homelessness - Update

- Tieszen shared with the Board the Vets@Home TA, the case conferencing concept, and the community meeting that was held. An ongoing team will be meeting to discuss a masterlist and referral process when encountering a homeless Veteran.

C. Sioux Empire Network of Care - Update

- The Network is moving forward. St. Francis House is the first pilot agency to come onboard with Community Outreach following. A common intake form has been developed and is the primary page of the ServicePoint system. There is much growth and opportunity that will come from this pilot project and as the remaining pilot agencies come onboard, it will be exciting to see the data as it emerges. Helpline staff have been diligent in

streamlining the reporting methodology, training the new end users, and ensuring that data errors and questions are being addressed quickly.

D. Downtown Gives Panel Presentation

- Downtown Sioux Falls, Inc. is doing its annual booklet giveaway with sponsoring stores and the proceeds from the sale of the booklets benefitting the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House. DTSF will be hosting during their monthly membership meeting a presentation featuring the Over the Bridge documentary and a discussion on homeless issues in Sioux Falls. It is on Tuesday, October 11 at the State Theater at 8:30am. Booklets can be purchased beginning November 3.

E. Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week – November 14 to 20, 2016

- Tieszen shared the national week of awareness and requested ideas or activities to help build greater awareness for Sioux Falls.

F. Youth Homelessness Demonstration NOFA – Informational

- Discussed a federal grant opportunity to provide new services to homeless youth in the state. The application must be submitted by the Continuum of Care and is due on November 30, 2016. The total grant value is \$33 million and 10 applications will be approved, including 4 rural applications which SD would be included as. The methodology for determining the award is based on the percentage of poverty, homeless numbers, and more. The Board approved permission for Tieszen to help work on this grant.

G. Community Trends

- Tieszen shared the latest trends and data for agency providers pertaining to homelessness via current information.

III. Information and Training Opportunities

- Bishop Dudley Hospitality House 2nd Annual Sleepout Event is October 13
- SD Housing Development Authority's Annual Housing Conference is in Pierre on October 25 – 26.

IV. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 12:50pm.