

Ventura Social Services Task Force
December 5, 2012

(present - Neal Andrews, Fred Brady, Jerry Breiner, Peter Brown, Cindy Cantle, Miguel Cardenas, Harold Cartlidge, Kevin Clerici, David Deutsch, Karen Flock, Ken Finning, Jill Forman, Tim Hawkins, Shelli Locklear, Amy Luoma, Donna Mason-Luttrull, John Luttrull, Kevin McCaroy, Ron Mulvihill, Kathy Powell, Debora Schreiber, Samson Szakacsy, Kristen Tippelt, Daniel Zapata)

Introductions were done. David Deutsch chairing in the absence of John Jones and Sue Brinkmeyer.

The Board of Supervisors declared November Homeless Awareness Month in Ventura County

- I. City Report by Peter Brown
 - A. January 29 will be the 2013 Homeless Count. Shifts are 9-12 and 1-4. Sign up at <http://www.VolunteerVenturaCounty.org>
 - B. The Winter Warming Shelter is open. This year in Oxnard at the Armory at 451 K Street. Vouchers for bus available at Harbor Church and Salvation Army. There are 8 nights when the Armory cannot be available for Shelter; efforts being made to find an alternative place. Attendance the first night was 55-60, partly due to the rain. Second night 82 persons came.
 - C. City Council Homeless Subcommittee is meeting December 8.
 1. Agenda includes how Council will hear about Update on 10 Year Plan which was just released (go to www.VCHHC.org to see it)
 2. Discussion on how City and Peter will facilitate community work on 100K Homes. Discussion on what agency will step up to lead the effort. 185 jurisdictions are using 100K Homes process and the lead varies greatly from place to place. In other areas Housing Authority, BID Districts, City, or Salvation Army, have stepped up. Kevin Clerici made a plea to his DVP board to be lead but it was decided that it was not appropriate for downtown to be lead when effort will include at least entire City, if not more. Also funding, in the form of an endowment is needed. All these issues are being worked on.
 - D. Meeting to be held on Dec 9 in which five public safety agencies with responsibilities in River Bottom will meet together for the first time. Discussion includes how to keep people from re-establishing permanent camps. After staff work the issue will go to Council in January. Private

businesses such as AERA and Security firms with contracts (Draganchuk) will also be brought in to discussions. The “leaf blower effect” was discussed...people moved from the River Bottom have dispersed within the City. Harbor Church estimates they are seeing 100-150 persons.

- E. A new Community Intervention Court has started meeting every Wednesday at 1:30PM. It is in Judge Colleen Toy White’s court with the goal of providing alternatives to incarceration. Issues are still being worked out.

II. Committee Reports

- A. Faith Based (Sue Brinkmeyer not present today; no formal report)
Commanders Fenwick and Stadler attended. Discussion was on River Bottom issues.
- B. Ventura Homeless Prevention by Cindy Cattle
Have raised \$5000 and Neal Andrews reports Downtown Rotary raised and is contributing another \$1000. A booth was at the December Street Fair and \$200 was contributed as well as good community outreach accomplished. 262 families have been assisted. The Committee encourages VSSTF to move forward rapidly with seeking 501(3)C status which will help VHPF. Thank you to Toni Jannotta and the UU Church for the fundraiser showing her film on the homeless.
- C. Housing Options
Now meeting at 995 Riverside St, Housing Authority Building near the Avenue, second Wednesday 4 PM.

III. Reports

- A. One Stop (Kate Mills not present, report by Jill Forman)
Extremely busy with the entire gamut of homeless represented. Increased efforts to track who is coming and provide case management service to move people into increasingly stable housing conditions over time. Some people have been coming to One Stop since the beginning without major life changes. How can we best help them?
 - B. Family to Family by Donna Mason Luttrull
Seeing an average of 200 clients. Always more children around Christmas; major efforts to make Christmas very special. Donna notes that Jack Broms, one of the co-founders of the Faith Based Committee, is having cardiac problems and undergoing surgery.
- ## IV. Networking and Announcements
- A. Karen Flock from Cabrillo Economic Development spoke about CEDC plans for a new community of farm worker and low income housing on LA Avenue which will be before Council on December 10.

The grand opening for Azahar Place in Saticoy was held the end of November. Beautiful place and Platinum LEED certified.

- B. Homeless Memorial event 5th year by UU Church will be at Plaza Park on 1/16, 3PM.
- C. Elections for officers of VSSTF to be held at next meeting. A plea made for persons to consider running and getting more involved. Voting explained. Do not have to be a voting member to run. Also looking for persons interested in being Board Members of 501(3)C organization. Think about who you might recommend and John, David or Sue will contact them, or put forward your own name if interested.
- D. The Bring America Home Act will be discussed further at January meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Debora Schreiber

(next General meeting is January 2, 2013)