

Ventura Social Services Task Force – Meeting Minutes from June 6, 2012

I. Introductions and Announcements

Present at Meeting: Neal Andrews, Jerry Breiner, Sue Brinkmeyer, Kent Brinkmeyer, Peter Brown, Cathy Brudnicki, Christina Cabral, Cindy Cantle, Kevin Clerici, David Deutsch, Pat Esseff, Bill Finley, Ken Finning, Jill Forman, Sal Gonzalez, Mary Haffner, Tim Hawkins, Keri Jaeger, John Jones, Shelli Locklear, Amy Luoma, Donna Luttrull, John Luttrull, Kate Mills, Paul Niglio, Rob Orth, Clyde Reynolds, Debora Schreiber, Karol Schulkin, John Snowling, Mary Stewart, Kristen Tippelt

II. Subcommittee and Other Reports

A. Peter Brown

- 1) The Homeless Subcommittee meeting was cancelled for May.
- 2) There will be a picnic held on Saturday 6/9/12 at the Ventura River. It is being hosted by the Hillside Conservancy which recently took control of more property in the area.
- 3) The Safe and Clean program is ramping up.
- 4) On Monday 6/4/12 Bill and Tolani Finley and Cathy Brudnicki will be honored at the Ventura City Council Meeting.
- 5) The downtown business Hollywood Fitness will be hosting a “Hopeathon” as a way to generate funding for the Homeless 2 Home program. People will get a 3 month free membership and Kevin Clerici will seek donations from people who get involved.
- 6) The homeless camp cleanups continue on the 3rd Thursday of each month. The camps get a posted notice on the Monday of that week and camp residents are offered help through the Homeless 2 Home program.
- 7) A meeting was held with the Mission Plaza tenants to try to bring about changes in the center. More meetings are planned.
- 8) The Grant fund to the VSSTF from the City of Ventura totaled \$73,000 and it was allocated to the following programs:
 - VSUD Lincoln Elementary School Family Case Management - \$10.5k
 - People’s Self Help – El Patio Case Management - \$10k
 - Turning Point – Homeless 2 Home – \$14k
 - Salvation Army – Homeless 2 Home - \$14k
 - Project Understanding – Homeless 2 Home - \$14k
 - Housing Authority – Homeshare - \$10.5k

B. Cathy Brudnicki – Future of Homeless and Housing Coalition

- 1) On 6/19/12 there will be a meeting at United Way at 1:00 pm to discuss the future direction of the VCHHC.
- 2) The Homeless Count in January 2012 totaled 1,936. There was a decline in homeless families; HPRP may be the reason for that.

- 3) It is projected that the total number above represents approximately 25% of the people who are homeless in any given year.
- 4) The Homeless count will be posted on the VSSTF website.

C. Ernie Morales – Society of St. Vincent de Paul

- 1) There will be a Black and White Dinner/Dance Fundraiser on October 6, 2012. Tickets will be \$50 per person. The event will go from 6:00 pm to Midnight.

D. Sue Brinkmeyer – VSSTF Faith Community Subcommittee

- 1) A key issue is about outreach being done by churches to people who need services. What services can be coordinated through the faith based community?
- 2) The next meeting will be held on June 27, 2012 at the Unitarian Church at 5654 Ralston St.

E. Cindy Cante – Homeless Prevention Subcommittee

- 1) The committee has now been meeting for 4 years. They held a meeting on 5/16/12.
- 2) Catholic Charities had the fund for May. They helped 5 households with a total of 18 adults and 3 children utilizing \$3,380 in funds. Thus far a total of 240 total households have been helped serving 600 people.
- 3) The fund in June will be with Salvation Army.
- 4) The current fund has approximately \$5,000 and they are waiting for grants to come in. There is also the regular \$100/month contribution from Mayor Tracy and some churches are regular donors as well.
- 5) Some allocated funds from the City of Ventura have been “rolled over” for this year as well.
- 6) On June 19, 2012 the Board of Supervisors will be honoring Cathy Brudnicki at 10:00 am in the morning.
- 7) The next meeting will be held on June 20, 2012.
- 8) There have also been 4 households helped with the Project Understanding and Salvation Army funds.

F. Clyde Reynolds – The Gateway

- 1) The Gateway meeting has been rescheduled for June 21, 2012 at 2:00 pm. It will be at 505 Poli St. and will be about developing a coordinated intake process so that organizations can get on the same page for doing Gateway intakes (i.e., developing a standardized intake form).
- 2) Meetings will be held on the 3rd Friday of each month.
- 3) AB 109 clients who are homeless need help – it has been suggested that it would be a good idea to put together resource packets for people.
- 4) Who will coordinate services? Will it be a triage process?

G. John Jones – VSSTF Steering Committee

- 1) With Bill Finley leaving and John Jones becoming Chairman for the rest of 2012 we need a Vice Chair for the next 6 months.
- 2) Sue Brinkmeyer was nominated and elected to the position of Vice Chair.
- 3) We also need volunteers for the VSSTF booth on July 4th.

III. Business

A. Kate Mills – One Stop

- 1) There are more people needing healthcare benefits and not all of them are homeless. Many of these people have lost their jobs.
- 2) Over the past 2 weeks ACE coverage has been obtained for 40 people.
- 3) There is always a need for socks.
- 4) People who have a need for it will receive a diabetic follow up – people will be able to have their feet assessed and will be able to soak them.

IV. Networking

- A. Turning Point Gala will be held on Sunday June 10, 2012 at 4:00 pm at the Esplanade Marriott. Turning Point is applying for State of California Rapid Rehousing grant dollars and the funds will be used for people who are homeless (not for people at risk for homelessness).
 - B. The Ventura Unified School District will provide a summer food program. Contact Sandi Kerwood for information at 701-1181 or 641-5000 for information. The program will take place at the Boys and Girls clubs from 10:45 am to 12 Noon
 - C. Pat Esseff – Family to Family should give a report at the VSSTF meetings. This will begin in July.
 - D. Cindy Cante – Presentation to Bill Finley of Certificate from Supervisor Steve Bennett.
- V. Next VSSTF Meeting – will be held on Wednesday July 11, 2012 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Family to Family, 303 N. Ventura Ave. #E Ventura, CA 93001.

