



## South Plains Homeless Consortium Minutes of the Consortium Meeting

Wednesday, February 4, 2004,  
Meeting at the South Plains Food Bank

### Present:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Alice Garcia	SPAG/AAA
Becky Haskitt	VA Outpatient Clinic
Bob Terrell	WorkSource of the South Plains
Judy Norton	SPCAA
Joe Rangel	City of Lubbock
Adelaida Montemayor	Lubbock ISD
Diane Hudson	The Salvation Army
Christina Cavarrubio	Community Health Center of Lubbock
Doug Chapman	First United Methodist
Donna Ulrich	SPCAA

### Minutes of the Meeting:

- Alice Garcia, President, presiding; meeting started at 12:20.

### Minutes:

- Minutes of the January meeting were approved.

### Treasurers Report:

- We had one deposit. Balance of \$2,245.71 as of 12/31/03.

### Old Business:

- It is time to pay our membership dues for 2004. Get a form from Joe Rangel (they were previously distributed via email). Fees are \$25 for the first person and \$10 for the next two members. Fees for individuals are \$10. Dues are due by the March 2004 meeting.
- TDHS notified Alice that they can no longer participate as voting members, due to the cutbacks in state funding. They can still participate as non-voting members.
- We had an explanation by Joe to a question by Becky: we added the \$25 and \$10 funding to differentiate active and non-active members. That was done for the Continuum of Care plan, to try to handle politics around that. We may need to rethink the fee if we are not going to pursue that this year.

### Presentation:

- Adelaida Montemayor of Lubbock ISD.  
As of 1-7-2004

<b><u>Identified Homeless Students</u></b>	<b>214</b>
Elementary	185
Secondary	28
Title Campuses	23
Non Title Campuses	8
Shelters	26
Motels	13
Double-up	138
Moving Place to Place	33
Other	3



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### Services Provided

Tutoring	1
School Supplies	129
Clothing/shoes/coat	123
Glasses services	13
Dental Services	4
Transportation	4
Christmas gift	169

For additional information please contact Mary Upton, District Homeless Liaison, 766-1197  
Let Adelaida know if you have any questions.

### **New Business**

- Alice: She and Donna had a lengthy discussion, about what to do with this forum: Suggestions were: 1. Moving to quarterly meetings. 2. Take off all summer (we already take off July). 3. Take off December, since everyone is so busy. 4. Have conference in April, a wrap-up session in May, and then take off and come back in the fall. 5. Partnering up with the Housing Consortium.
- Discussion: what is going to be our future focus; is it only our annual conference? Other agencies do more to help the homeless, including a group out at Texas Tech. This also covers Becky's question, why do we charge for membership? Judy: this would be a good question for the meetings following the conference.
- Doug: there is a need for SPHC to be a clearing house, with brochures and information about what homelessness looks like in Lubbock, and what resources are available. Also there is a need to do something concrete to help out, including buy battery-operated hand-warmers for the people behind the library. Studies would be helpful to lay out situation here.
- Donna: perhaps we should have a committee to screen application for helping projects and leading to CoC. We could start smaller projects and build up to the CoC.
- Bob: We have looked at doing the clearing house before, but there is a conflict with the mission of Contact Lubbock (Phone 211) that already provides much of the information needed by homeless people. There is also a perception here that there is no homelessness in Lubbock. We do need a project to document how many people we have to turn away.
- Judy: Her agency has started to capture turn-aways in the rural counties, and now they have figures on turn-aways for the ESGP application.
- Becky suggested that the new Executive Director of United Way, Glenn Cochran, be included in this project selection committee. He would be an asset to our mission, as she reported she did not recall seeing the homeless or substance abuse noted in the needs assessment report given at the Faith-Based Conference a few months ago. However, LISD's representative, Adelaida Montemayor, indicated substance abuse was listed.
- Alice is considering asking United Way to come in and present what they are here for.
- Could we start taking statistics on turn-aways so we would have more concrete information?
- Donna: could we also start trying to do something about couch homeless?
- Diane: there is a man living at Walmart, and her phone is ringing off the hook about him.



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- Donna: This is about homeless prevention. The chronically homeless know about resources already available. We need to focus on Ione's clients, the people who are not used to being homeless and are newly traumatized by homelessness. That is a growing population today.
- Adelaida: we have 214 identified homeless children. She came to talk to us about this. The McKinney-Vento act is to provide services to homeless students, to help them enroll a child and keep them enrolled. If they are homeless, they are now enrolled automatically. Transportation provides transportation to stay in one school, even though they move frequently. See handout for definition of homeless. This covers particularly secondary children, who are thrown out, or leave home. They provide school supplies, their universal need, some dental and medical. They cover 214 children, we don't know number of families. This is probably 400 people when you consider their families. Every school has a campus homeless liaison.
- Doug: question: is the definition by law, that parents or children must describe themselves? The homeless liaison, is that their job definition, (yes), and school refers to them. Transportation provided, is that in school busses, (yes). Information about location is provided to the liaisons. Mary Austin is director of federal programs. Some of the transportation that they can get to a local home school, and then get bussed to the final school location. Is funding for transportation increased? (Do not know). Diane: transportation is key for a lot of our clients.
- Christina: is there assistance for after-school care? Answer: Grant covers school needs, but after school is community responsibility. Y-care has support for after school care with sliding scale.
- Adelaida: we deal with situations where people don't want to be identified as homeless.
- Looking at committee for what other needs they have, including rights to keep from being evicted. That would be a good project for SPHC. If we could join together in doing some of these projects, that would be helpful.
- Donna: does city have tenant-landlord resolution: we don't have one yet.
- Adelaida: Most LISD clients are in budget motels, or with relatives.
- Diane: is there a larger majority that is not telling you they are living with grandma? (Yes).

### Officer Selections

- Bob's term is up as secretary. Alice, Joe, and Donna are continuing on. Bob has agreed to continue on as Board Member at Large, now that Tobyn has left. Bob is offering to continue to handle the email communications, if someone else will handle the minutes. Debra has been given more duties and will not be able to take up secretary duties. Bob talked to his boss, and can stay on as secretary.
- Alice will be busy for the next five months, and will be out of town 4-5 days each month. Her job is taking priority and interfering with the chair position, because of the potential cuts. If anyone wants to throw their hat in for the chair position they should do so. Donna's boss has said it is not for her to do, she is busy.

### Announcements

- Wanda from HUD: regional coordinator can address this group next month.
- Donna: Trish Vowel with TDH stated that we are invited to participate in a health fair April 30ths, similar to health fair for pregnant youth. Did someone here agree to help do



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this? (No one knows of this). Are we prepared to go and speak on housing options for homeless people? Christina, this is just booths. More like Lubbock Housing Authority. We could use those brochures we could hand out.

### Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held Wednesday, March 3rd, at the South Plains Food Bank. If you want to be on agenda, email Alice at [aggarcia@spag.org](mailto:aggarcia@spag.org) or Bob Terrell at [bob.terrell@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:bob.terrell@twc.state.tx.us).
- Anyone that wants to present their agency, please email Bob or Alice.
- Bob will email minutes.

### Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 1:30.