



**South Plains Homeless Consortium
Minutes of the Consortium Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 3, 2004,
Meeting at the South Plains Food Bank**

Present:

Name	Organization
Bob Terrell	WorkSource of the South Plains
Joe Rangel	City of Lubbock
Todd Helman	City of Lubbock
Wanda Merritt	U.S. HUD
Donna Ulrich	SPCAA
Estella Garcia	U.S. HUD
Pete Ragus	Interested citizen
Margaret Ragus	Interested citizen
Pola Contrera	The Salvation Army
Diane Hudson	The Salvation Army
Vanessa Marsh	South Plains Food Bank
Daniel Atencio	Basin Detox
Orlando L. Lorie	U.S. HUD
Carol Alonzo	United Way
Melissa Madrid	United Way
Gladys Diggs	Lubbock VA
Christina Cavarrubio	Community Health Center of Lubbock
Ione Heartsill	Lubbock Interfaith Hospitality Network
Doug Chapman	First United Methodist
Tom Clark	First United Methodist
Sally Shipman	HUD AICP Region IV director (presenting)
Luis Perez	SPCAA
Becky Haskitt	VA Outpatient Clinic

Minutes of the Meeting:

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

Minutes:

- Minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Treasurers Report:

- We had one deposit. Balance of \$2440.71 as of 02/29/04.

Old Business:

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- 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.



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- 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.

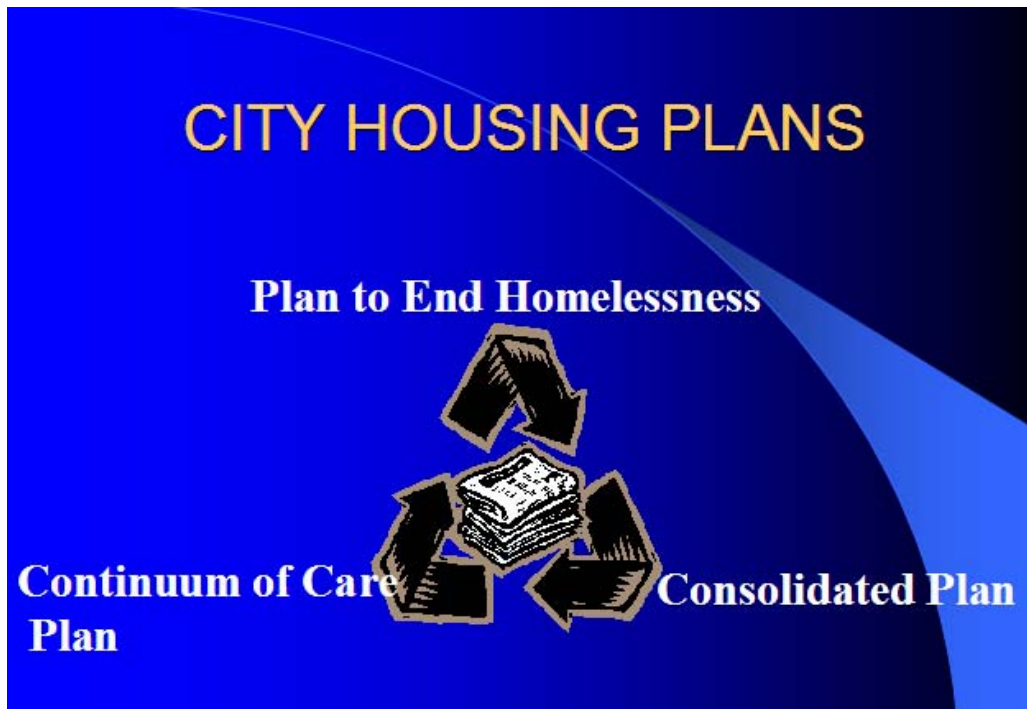
Presentation:

- Sally Shipman, HUD Region VI Coordinator of the Interagency Council on Homelessness.
- ICH is an council made up of several agencies to tackle the problem of chronic homelessness. This is a presidential initiative to end chronic homelessness within 10 years.
- The initiative to reach these goals is called The Home First program.
- The Home First program utilizes a "housing first" approach, based on the principle that it is more cost effective and successful to provide immediate access to housing and services to keep the person stable. A cost analysis of the Home First Program reveals that a day in the program is in fact less costly than a day in the hospital, a prison, or a detox program - none of which provide permanent housing and long-term services.
- Chronic homeless people:
 - Account for 20% of the people in the homeless assistance program
 - Utilize nearly 70% of the systems resources
 - Require long term supportive housing
 - Source: National Alliance to End Homelessness
<http://www.naeh.org/>
- Dallas is the first city in Texas to develop a 10-year plan, and the 15th in the nation.
- Sally was in town to present this plan to Mayor Marc McDougal. Mayor McDougal was enthusiastic and supportive.
- Agencies in the ICH include:
 - DHHS Chair, Secretary Tommy G Thompson
 - DVA Vice Chair, Secretary Anthony Principi
 - Department of Agriculture
 - Department of Commerce
 - Department of Defense
 - Department of Education
 - Department of Energy
 - Department of Housing and Urban Development
 - Department of Interior
 - Department of Justice
 - Department of Labor
 - Department of Transportation
 - FEMA
 - Corporation for National and Community Service
 - General Services Administration
 - OMB
 - Social Security Administration
 - United States Postal Service
 - USA Freedom Corps (affiliate)
 - White House Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (affiliate)



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- The HUD definition of chronic homeless is: “..an unaccompanied individual with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more or who has had recurring episodes of homelessness”
- The US Conference of Mayors has endorsed a 10 year plan “....to end chronic homelessness. The goal was to have 10 year plans in place by January 2004, and ensure policies and resources support the elimination of chronic homelessness. “
- The key is developing the political will. This requires gaining the cooperation of the key agencies involved:
 - Faith Based Community
 - Mental Health - MHMRA & MHA
 - Discharge Plans - State + City and County
 - Street Outreach – HCH + Faith Based
 - Housing First – HUD Continuum of Care
 - Safe Havens
 - SRO Housing – Faith Based
 - Other.....
- The city plans require an interplay between three plans; the Continuum of Care Plan, the Consolidated Plan, and the Plan to End Homelessness.



- The goal is people no longer living and dying on the streets, and a health city.
- All in all, this is very hopeful that the federal government is taking the initiative in this difficult and painful problem.
- A very spirited discussion and a lot of questions accompanied this presentation.
- One note: since this meeting, Mayor McDougal has assigned the City Development department to start working on Lubbock’s 10 year plan. Nancy Haney is heading this up.



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- Sally agreed that if anyone wants a copy of her presentation, Bob can email it to them on request.

New Business

- There was no new business covered in this meeting, since the presentation and discussion took up most of the meeting.

Announcements

- The Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless will be hosting a community-wide discussion on homelessness here in Lubbock. This is part of a series of these discussions all across the state. Our discussion will be held Thursday, March 25, and it will be held at WorkSource of the South Plains, 1218 14th Street. The major hearing will be in the evening, from 6:00 to 7:00. This is part of the 10 year plan process, statewide and city-wide. Contact Bob Terrell for further info. 806-771-3815 x 228, email bob.terrell@twc.state.tx.us. An announcement will be broadcast after we know more about the schedule and agenda.
- April Homeless Conference Thursday April, 29, at SPCAA Community Services.
- Donna: Trish Vowel with TDH stated that we are invited to participate in a health fair April 30th, similar to health fair for pregnant youth. Did someone here agree to help do 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

- There will not be a meeting in April. Instead, we will be hosting the 4th Annual Homeless conference in conjunction with the South Plains Rural Coalition in Levelland. This will be Thursday, April 29, in Levelland. Another message will be broadcast for registering for that conference.
- The next meeting will be held Wednesday, May 5th, at the South Plains Food Bank. If you want to be on agenda, email Alice at aggarcia@spag.org or Bob Terrell at 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.