



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

**Wednesday, November 03, 2004,  
Meeting at the South Plains Food Bank**

**Present:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Alex Torres	
Alice Garcia	SPAG/AAA
Barbara Randler	
Becky Haskitt	VA Outpatient Clinic
Bob Terrell	WorkSource of the South Plains
Charolette Curtis	
Donna Ulrich	
Estela Salazar	Community Health Center of Lubbock
Joe Rangel	City of Lubbock
Kathy Roberts	HHSC
Russell Harris	Life/RUN
Valerie McGaha	Managed Care
Vivian Solis	Managed Care
Winnie Jackson	HHSC

**Minutes of the Meeting:**

- Alice Garcia, President, presiding; meeting started at 12:14.
- Minutes of the October meeting were corrected and approved.

**Treasurers Report:**

- Diane was not present, but there have been no major changes in the last month.

**New Business:**

- Bob introduced the NEW SPHC WEBSITE! Mark Johnston of Ki Corp has graciously offered to have a website created and hosted for us. I (Bob), have been working with Tommy Sellers and his wife Burt Sellers of Sellers Internet Services to create an initial website. I distributed a specification for the website at the meeting. If you would like a copy, email me and I will email it back, assuming we don't already have a website up and running by the time this gets out. "The purpose of this website is to host the many in-depth, community-wide discussions needed for building the Continuum of Care plan and associated infrastructure for dealing with homeless issues in Lubbock. Discussion and providing information are the two primary goals of the website." This website will hold all the work we do, lists of agencies, activities, people, and accomplishments for the Consortium for everyone to see. We hope to have a working website framework up before the next meeting, and should host the meeting at a site where we can have Internet access to look at it.
- Alice: SPAG and AAA is considering becoming the 211 number, since the 211 number was transferred to Midland. Alice was in Midland, looking at their setup. They are stepping forward to become the 211 number in South Plains region.



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SPAG has the same IRIS system as Contact Lubbock used to have, and have continued to update it. She noticed that the homeless consortium in Midland is a big part of the 211 system. Alice is looking to hire 2-3 people to answer their phone, and contracting with Dallas to contract out their 24hour calls. This will make AAA the contact agency here. Midland has only had about 14 night time calls, which is easy to contract out to an agency. They have pretty much everything in place to keep it going. They are hoping to partner with homeland security, and regional 911. Contact Lubbock still has contract with City of Lubbock. Their scope has changed considerably, and the city will put out proposals next year for provision of services. City manager approached SPAG/AAA to do this. They are halfway there with it. Midland no longer wants to take our calls, they have 700-800 calls for themselves. They are getting a lot of calls for utility assistance, and rentals. They will have a person attending all meetings in the area to make sure information is accurate and updated. 211 centers can back one another up; e.g. Houston can back us up in an emergency, and we can do the same thing for them by having a common database. AAA has 1500 entries in their database. Plan is to get this up by January 1. Majority of these 211 setups are under the Councils of Government, since they already do information and referrals. Someone will be approaching all of our agencies for accurate information to input to the database. For now, people should continue calling 211. They were getting 250 calls, and making 350 referrals. Keeping the database updated will be important, so people can know if you have money, places to stay, or if an agency cannot take more referrals.

- Elections are coming up in December; we need nominations for President (Alice), Vice President (Donna), and Secretary (Bob); since those terms are up.

### **Agency Presentations:**

- Valerie talked about her new programs at Managed Care, particularly for pregnant and post-partum women with substance abuse problems, or at risk for substance abuse. They are looking for partners in Lubbock that can help serve this population. Their population is pregnant with small children 3-5. The program is ongoing. They also work with substance abuse issues. KLFB offered for them to go on air and talk about their program.
- Rebecca gave a report on the survey taken by the VA outpatient clinic.
- Community Health Center of Lubbock distributed their brochures.
- Russ has a new title at Life/Run. "I have a new position at LIFE/RUN. I am now the Community Outreach Specialist. In that capacity, I will be going to meeting, making presentations and being the public face for LIFE/RUN. We have lot's new programs going on at LIFE/RUN that I would like to share with all of you. Please call me to set up a presentation at Russell Harris, Community Outreach Specialist, LIFE/RUN Center for Independent Living 4902 34th St. Lubbock, TX. 79412. My phone number is 806-795-5433. Also if any of you know of any meetings where LIFE/RUN isn't being represented please feel free to email or call me with that information. I would greatly appreciate it."
- Joe: one last note: thinking back to membership fees, and whether we should eliminate that. Joe suggests we do away with that. This was implemented for the



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Continuum of Care. Donna suggests we simply vote to suspend this until further notice.

### Case Discussions:

- Donna had a call from a single dad with 4 kids that is being evicted. Russ said he might be able to help. Must have a physical or mental disability, or be the parent of a child with a mental or physical disability. Russ distributed cards.
- One client asked for a place to wash clothes, for no money. We need a center like the Tyler street center in Amarillo. Donna suggested calling churches; some of them have that capability now.
- Case of a family from Oklahoma, has been here a month with a sick family member in the hospital, want to get back to Oklahoma. Alice suggested that they call Melissa at United Way; they can sometimes do that.

### Announcements:

- The next meeting will NOT be at the Food Bank. See the NEXT MEETING notes.
- Alice announced the meetings of Resources United, Second Thursday of every month. They speak about their services, and talk about cases, at SPAG, 58<sup>th</sup> and P, 3:00 TO 4:00. The meeting will not be held this month.
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### Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, at SPAG, 58<sup>th</sup> and Ave. P. This will be a brown bag meeting since lunch will not be served. If you want to be on the 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 1:25.