

RRH Task Force Minutes

January 16, 2014

Attending: Bruce Rojas (1736 Family Crisis Center SSVF), Trisha Delfin (Pathways of Hope), Colleen Brown (OC Partnership), Marsha Burgess (Families Forward), Madelynn Montoya (Families Forward), Elizabeth Andrade (Families Forward), Danielle Pinault (Grandma's House of Hope), Tessa Krueger (Families Forward), Betty Medina (Colette's), Vincent Marquez (Human Options), Yvette Ahlstrom (Illumination Foundation), Margie Wakeham (Families Forward), Angella Resch (South County Outreach), Ghislaine Dibong (South County Outreach), Nancy Gonzalez (Mercy House), Sara Holmes (Mercy House), Je'net Kreitner (Grandma's House of Hope), Celia Garcia (Grandma's House of Hope), Annette Duncan (SPIN), Nancy Martinez (FAM), Mary Perdue (FAM), Stephanie Alvarez (Operation Keeping Kids Safe), Alisha Swanson (211 OC), Amanda Sanchez (Mercy House), Brentale Tommer-Byas (OC United Way), Trina Gonzales (Mercy House), and Kathy Tillotson (Build Futures).

Intros & Updates:

- Families Forward reported on recent legislation that includes \$2.105 billion for HUD's McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants. There is also language in the legislation that would allow nonprofits to administer rental assistance for FY 2012 – FY 2014 funds.
- 211's Resource Specialist shared that they are meeting with each agency to update agency information and requirements for specific programs.
- United Way shared their 10 year plan and announced that RRH funding awards will be released the end of January 2014.
- Families Forward has RRH openings with CFC funding (at least one child 0-5yrs)
- Mercy House = SHP program is available. Master lease program for chronically homeless with a disability. (714) 836-7188.

Coordinated Assessment

- OC Partnership shared that the next coordinated assessment meeting is 1/22/14 at the Village from 1:30 to 3pm.
- Funding was received for a Program Director to head and manage Coordinated Assessment.

NAEH Family & Youth Homelessness Conference

- Encouraged all who can to attend the upcoming Family & Youth Homelessness Conference. The information, networking, and new techniques learned is vital.
- Upcoming conference is 2/18 – 2/19 in New Orleans, LA.
See www.enhomelessness.org for more information.

Future Agenda Items & Sites

- RRH Task Force will continue on an every other month basis. Third Thursday of the month from 9am to 11am.
- Je'net suggested we talk about challenges and relationships with landlords (more client-based conversations/troubleshooting).
- Colleen asked how places are identified where families can stay? What are the best practices for working with landlords?
- Madelynn shared the best practices for working with landlords is often finding what the landlord needs and proposing the program with that final outcome in mind (low vacancies, low turnover, families that stay for long periods, etc).

- Kathy suggested we discuss employment problems and also asked who has emergency rental assistance funding.
 - Both FAM and SCO budget for rental assistance but can only serve 2-3 families each month.
 - Alisha shared that Goodwill is expanding their employment placement opportunities to those beyond vets and disabled.
- Trina shared that Mercy House does have their emergency shelter open over the winter months. Families can now be part of the Family Redirection Program where families can stay together in shelter situations.
- **Future Agenda Items proposed:**
 - **Updates from legislature, RRH openings, etc**
 - **Funding sources**
 - **Share tips on RRH successes and difficulties**
 - **Employment**
 - **Landlords**
- OC Partnership asks that we send RRH success stories to them.

2014 RRH Task Force Schedule:

April 17, 2014 – Family Assistance Ministries
 June 19, 2014 – Colette’s Children’s Home
 August 21, 2014 – Grandma’s House of Hope
 October 16, 2014 – South County Outreach
 December 18, 2014 – **NO MEETING**
 January 15, 2015 – Families Forward