

**Homeless Provider Forum
January 8, 2009
Meeting Minutes**

Dawn Lee, OC Partnership

10 Year Plan to End Homelessness - Nine major goals and their related strategies have been drafted in the plan. The Working Group is currently refining the content and work will begin within the next month to create the written framework of the plan. The draft will subsequently be made available for review. Anyone interested in participating in the public review who is not yet a member of the Stakeholder's Comment group should contact Dawn Lee for inclusion at dawn.lee@ocpartnership.net with your interest.

CMIS Progress – As of December 31st, 25 agencies are participating in CMIS and have entered information on 17,365 homeless and at risk clients. This represents a 222% increase since January 2008. We are embarking on a 1st quarter project to significantly increase the CMIS shelter reporting rate and have identified 17 key agencies to bring on. Once their information is included in the system we will have a more accurate picture of homeless and at risk clients and services in Orange County. Our 2008 CMIS Year End Progress report is being developed and will be released shortly.

Point In Time – Final plans for the January 24th homeless count are being made. The Point in Time Count includes a census of sheltered homeless persons, in addition to the census of unsheltered (street) homeless persons. Staff from Applied Survey Research will be contacting emergency shelter and transitional housing programs to obtain a resident headcount for the night of January 23rd. They will contact agencies by email with the response form attached. The survey process will occur in the three weeks following to gather demographic, service utilization and barrier information on approximately 600 homeless individuals via a random sampling process. We still need volunteers and encourage your agency to participate in the street count and survey. Anyone interested in volunteering should do so on the project website at www.pointintimeoc.org.

Shelter Information & Openings

Grandma's House of Hope currently has two openings at their Women's Transitional Shelter. Program serves SINGLE women, 17 and older who are victims of Domestic Violence (2nd step) Human Trafficking, Homesless with Addictive/Compulsive Disorders, Elder Abuse and seniors on Disability. We will consider unusual circumstances for acceptance into our program. Resident receives food and shelter, case management, individual and group therapy, job search and wardrobe support, free hairstyling, optional bible studies. Shelter is a six bedroom, three 3 1/2 bath one story home with two living rooms. Program fees are \$125 per month, will consider \$50 for the first week if client is eligible. We are a faith based shelter. Please call (714) 636-3690 or (714) 457-3187 to speak to Je'net.

American Family Housing has openings for up to 6 homeless, working adults with pets in a transitional, shared-housing program in Stanton. If interested, please contact Bob Murphy at 714-897-3221 or bmurphy@afhusa.org for more information.

Laura's House has openings for single women.

Megan Harless with Working Wardrobes is looking for shelter that would like to hold 6 weeks of career readiness workshops for women, followed by the annual Women's Day of Self-Esteem. For more information, contact Megan at 714-210-2460 or MeganH@WorkingWardrobes.org.

Orange Coast Interfaith Shelter (Costa Mesa) has openings for one- or two-parent families with children under 18. Call Martha at 949-631-7648 or mtillman@ocinterfaithshelter.org.

Thomas House (Garden Grove) has openings for two families. (This is a great program because they have Section 8 vouchers available for program graduates.) 714-265-0640

OCCHC has 2 permanent affordable units open (a 1 bedroom and a 2 bedroom) for clients with Section 8 vouchers.

Illumination Foundation, which helps families get out of the armory into motels, currently has a waiting list but they are taking applications. Call Kimberly at 949-266-7918.

The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services (ADAS) Prevention Team offers free training to shelter providers on how to recognize the signs of drug/alcohol abuse and co-occurring disorders and how to deal with clients who have these issues. 714-480-4648

Mental Health Systems, Inc. (MHS) SASCA Region IV has a number of beds available for people coming out of prison BUT they must have completed a substance abuse program while in prison. Call Patricia Quinones (714-889-9846) or Frances Villa (714-731-1521 x213), Recovery Advocates.

SPIN does NOT provide rental assistance, but they do provide move-in assistance (1st month's rent and deposit). They have openings for 3-5 families. 714-751-1101, Carlos Lariz or Katie Hook, GAPP/THP Case Managers.

Eli Home has just opened a shared permanent housing unit in Anaheim Hills for single parents. 714-300-0600.

2-1-1 Orange County: If a client complains that they received a "bad" referral from 2-1-1, contact Jennifer, Resource Specialist at 949-764-1301. Let her know what the client requested and the incorrect referral they were given.

Project FOCUS has four openings for children up to their 26th birth date. Project FOCUS, a County contracted Full Service Partnership/Wraparound, is a mental health program that serves un-served or underserved children and their family. Please note that they are not a residential facility. Please contact Sharon McKeag at coordinator@ocpartnership.net for the program flyer and referral form.

H.I.S. House will have one opening for a family of four in February.

Bethany has two openings for single women.

Legal Aid Society of Orange County is offering a free tax filing clinics. Please call 1-888-434-8248 for English and 1-866-921-3890 for Spanish.

Veterans First has 10 beds available in their transitional house in Anaheim for either employable or disabled veterans. Anyone knowing of a homeless veteran needing housing and supportive services please have them call Veterans First 714-547-0615 or come to 1540 E. Edinger Ave, Suite A, Santa Ana.

Colette's Children's Home has two openings for single mothers who are chronically homeless.

American Family Housing has two openings in their Interfaith Shelter Network and three openings in their S.H.I.P. program. If interested, please contact Ralph Sanders at 714-897-3221 or rsanders@afhusa.org for more information.

Olive Crest has openings in the THPP Program for children between the ages of 16 to 18. If interested, please contact Warren Beacom at 714-940-3910 for more information.

Featured Topic: Barriers to Employment and Job Development

Jacqueline Cole, Orange County Public Defenders Office

Jackie spoke about the New Leaf Program, which can help people get felonies reduced to misdemeanors, early termination of probation, move to dismiss a criminal conviction, seal & destroy an arrest record, seal juvenile records, and obtain a Certificate of Rehabilitation, which serves as an automatic application for a pardon. For more information, contact the main public defender's office at 714-568-4860 and they will tell you how to get the process started.

Luz Flores, Anaheim Community Services Department

Luz spoke about job opportunities and gave out a list of one-stop centers. The One-stops are open to anyone for free job search, but for more intense individual services, the Anaheim center requires you to be an Anaheim resident, or have been laid off from a job in Anaheim.

**Next Homeless Provider Forum is scheduled for
February 5th - 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Topic: Identifying Homeless Youth/Teen Pregnancy**