

**Homeless Provider Forum
March 5, 2009
Meeting Minutes**

Dawn Lee, OC Partnership

National Conference on Ending Family Homelessness - The conference held in San Diego last month focused on solutions to putting an end family homelessness. Workshops focusing on increasing employment and income, measuring performance, rapid rehousing, systems change and federal response to homelessness were offered. Providers across the country shared best practices of their programs. Workshop materials may be found at <https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=2008648E>. Much discussion regarding the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act was generated as well. The consensus was the HUD wants this to be an opportunity to implement new and better strategies to homeless prevention. According to the NAEF, this funding will be distributed quickly, and communities should begin preparing immediately. A planning toolkit exists on their website at www.endhomelessness.org.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act - Provides \$1.5 billion in funding and will be allocated according to the current Emergency Shelter Grants formula to help families who are either homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. This program will provide financial and other assistance to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless and help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. Funding will not be used for traditional ESG activities of operating emergency shelters; instead, it will be used for homelessness prevention and re-housing people who became homeless as a result of the economic crisis. The funds under this program are intended to target individuals and families who would be homeless but for this assistance. The funds will provide for a variety of assistance, including: short-term or medium-term rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services, including such activities as mediation, security or utility deposits, utility payments, moving cost assistance, and case management. The amount of funding will be approximately 9-10 times a jurisdiction's normal allotment for ESG. Nine jurisdictions within Orange County will receive funds totaling \$10.3 million. HUD is in the process of developing guidance for communities and is expected to begin providing information in mid March but the intent is to quickly get the money to communities. More local direction will be provided shortly.

10 Year Plan to End Homelessness - The Working Group has concluded its regularly scheduled meetings and writing has begun on the draft plan. Over the next two months there will be opportunity for those interested in reviewing and providing feedback to do so. Those that had previously indicated interest have been included in the Stakeholder's Comment Group and will be contacted regarding the review process. Please contact Dawn Lee at dawn.lee@ocpartnership.net if you would like to participate in this group. This is a community effort and your feedback is very important.

CMIS Progress – The 2008 CMIS Year End Progress report is being finalized. As of December 31st, 2008, 5081 homeless clients and an additional 1207 at risk clients were served during the year by the 26 agencies that contributed information into CMIS. Approximately 47% of shelters were participating at year end. We've made great progress over the past 60 days in increasing bed coverage and bringing on new agencies. Since inception in 2006 - 19,611 clients have been entered into the system. We're participating in a pilot project to test data entry through scantron intake forms which will make it easier to participate without having to directly log in to the system.

HUD SuperNOFA Funding – The 2008 SuperNOFA awards were announced recently. Detailed information on the awards can be found at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/budget/2008/index.cfm>. Orange County was allocated \$13.7 million, our largest award ever, to fund 38 projects including several new permanent supportive housing projects. Included in this year's award was \$1.1 million bonus for additional Shelter Plus Care vouchers.

We expect that the 2009 application cycle will begin later in the year given that the process has been moved to an electronic submission.

Point In Time – The survey portion of the process has been completed. We expect to begin hearing results over the next few months. Updated information will be posted on the project website www.pointintimeoc.org.

Shelter Information & Openings

Tyrol Plaza Senior Apartments at 891 S State College Blvd in Anaheim has a one-bedroom vacancy. Requirements: age 55+, income less than \$32,550, referral letter from Anaheim Housing Authority. Rent is \$871 including utilities, or Section 8 is accepted. Call Lynda at 714-778-5479.

Tyrol Plaza is anticipating 2 one-bedroom vacancies within the next 30-60 days. Requirements include: age 62+, income less than \$19,530, referral letter from Anaheim Housing Authority, case manager certification of homelessness (both apartments), and physician certification of disability (one apartment). One-bedroom apartment, utilities paid, rent is 30% of income (project-based Section 8), free Supportive Housing Program for the homeless/disabled apartment. Call Lorena at 714-778-5375.

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 week, 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.

Laura's House has openings for single women.

H.I.S. House has one opening for a family of two.

Colette's Children's Home has openings for single mothers and families of four at their Placentia location.

Support for student's whose families have lost their homes to foreclosure: If your family owned its home and lost it to foreclosure, or if your family was renting a home and the landlord lost it to foreclosure, and you are now living in a temporary situation, your preschool-aged and school-aged children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the McKinney-Vento Act. If you believe your child(ren) may be eligible for the support provided by the McKinney-Vento Act, contact the school district's Local Liaison or your State McKinney-Vento Coordinator. If you need further assistance, call the National Center for Homeless Education at its toll-free Helpline: 1-800-308-2145.

Anaheim Interfaith Shelter (A.I.S.) has one opening for a family of 5 or more. A.I.S. also has openings at their childcare center, the Halcyon Child Development Center, for preschoolers between the age of 2 to 5. Contact the director of the childcare facility, Ms. Araceli Serrano, at 714/774-5330 for information.

Olive Crest currently has openings in both programs, THPP (16-18) and THP+ (18-24). The application process, however, is handled directly by the County. The contacts for each of these programs are listed below. For THPP, youth must currently be a part of foster care or in probation. For THP+, youth must have successfully emancipated from foster care. Here are the County contacts for each of the programs: THPP: Warren Beacom, 714-940-3910 and THP+: Yvette Aguayo, 714-940-5648.

Precious Life Shelter has two emergency beds available.

Toby's House has two openings for an adult pregnant mother with or without children.

Orange County Rescue Mission's Strong Beginnings program has openings. At least one child 5 and under or a pregnant female in the family is the qualification and is primarily for families in the motels. For further information you can contact Daniel Saunders at 714-240-2072.

American Family Housing (AFH) has over 200 units of Permanent Affordable Housing. Please contact Property Manager Cynthia Guzman at 714-897-3221 x114 for further information.

SPIN does NOT provide rental assistance, but they do provide move-in assistance (1st month's rent and deposit). They are now accepting applications. 714-751-1101, Carlos Lariz, Sylvia Ruiz or Katie Hook, GAPP/THP Case Managers.

Fullerton Interfaith Emergency Services (FIES) has openings in their New Vista program. For further information you can contact 714-680-3691.

Bethany will have an opening in April for a woman in their Transitional Living program.

Cassie Eidem with South County Outreach has two openings for families with 2 to 4 children in their Transitional Housing Program.

Orange Coast Interfaith Shelter (Costa Mesa) has an opening for a single woman with one child and up to 6 children under 18. Call Martha at 949-631-7648 or mtillman@ocinterfaithshelter.org.

211 Orange County is currently doing their annual updates. Letters will be going out soon.

Family Assistance Ministries has openings for two single women with one child and up to 2 children.

Motel Families "Soap, Suds and Paper Drive" – The next resource fair/outreach event for motel families will focus on Health and Safety. It will take place at the Denny's Restaurant (907 S. Beach) back parking lot on Saturday, March 14th from 12-4pm (open to the public from 1-3 p.m.) They recently learned that some motels don't supply sufficient toilet paper for their lodgers. They'd like to offer families who attend the event a package of three toiletry items including: body soap, shampoo and toilet paper. They expect to serve 200 families. If you would contact your network to donate these items for this event, it would be greatly appreciated. They ask you to collect these items and bring them with you on March 14th or make separate arrangements with Bob Cerince for delivery. Please contact Bob Cerince at (714) 765-4486 or bcerince@anaheim.net if you have any questions.

Agencies can access the network through Diane Ferrante, Coordinator of Community Outreach and CCNOC (Christian Church Network Orange County), at outreach@covp.org or 714-637-8833. They ask the agency to contact them first to tell them about the family and what the needs are. If they can help, they will give you the phone number for the client to call.

Arbor E&T will be having their bi-annual Housing & Community Resource Fair on March 30, 2009. They are hoping to have as many community organizations available to provide information on their program services. This event has been successful due to the participation of many of our community partners. The scope of resources and organizations at this event provide a one-stop resource shopping opportunity for their participants. It also provides an opportunity for your organization to expand its network with multiple organizations. The RSVP form will need to be faxed over to Sandra Gutierrez by no later than March 16th to ensure that a table is reserved for your organization. The Fair is scheduled for March 30th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Anaheim Downtown Community Center. Additional details are included in the RSVP form. Please note: As with any of our events, there is no cost in your participation at this event.

Featured Topic: Navigating Cal Works/Economic Self Sufficiency

[Lupe Chavez, OC Social Services Agency](#)

Lupe shared information on the supportive services available through the Welfare to Work program.

Grace Verduzco, OC Social Services Agency

Grace shared information on the eligibility requirements for all Cal Works applicants.

**Next Homeless Provider Forum is scheduled for
April 2nd, 2009 - 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Topic: Housing First/Resources**