

HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 10, 2010 – 11:30am

Siouxland Health & Human Services Building

Members present: Hugh Grogan, Jim Meyer, Shirley Halleen, Mike Cooper, Judy Buseman, Kerri DeGraff, and Jeff Barth.

Members absent: Tam Baker, Vernon Brown, Wendy Giebink.

Others present: Brett Johnson, Southeastern Behavioral Healthcare; Julie Becker, St. Francis House; Melanie Bliss, Homeless Coalition; Shireen Ranschau, SF Housing, and Stacey Tieszen, HAB Homeless Coordinator.

I. **Approval of Minutes – 04/19/10 Minutes**

- Upon motion by Jeff Barth, and seconded by Jim Meyer, the HAB approved the minutes of the 04/19/10 meeting as provided. Carried unanimously.

II. **Old Business**

A. Safe Home Update

- Safe Home continues to secure funding primarily focusing on the possibility of Housing Tax Credits and is working with the SD Housing Development Authority for that potential funding. Changes may need to be made to the size of the rooms as well as the bathroom facilities to meet requirements if looking to secure some remaining NSP funds. Community Partners will continue to be vital to the completion and success of the program.

B. Inter-Agency Collaboration Summit

- Affordable Housing Taskforce has met. Focus will be on working to create a Housing Trust Fund. Additional efforts will be focused on working to create partnerships that will result in the development of affordable housing units for families.

III. **New Business**

A. Ten Year Plan Strategic Review

- Reviewed each specific goal of the 10 year plan and discussed the level of progress. Discussion in regards to creating a stronger common access portal was held. When new funding methods become available it can sometimes create additional hurdles and hoops for those in need. Creating a workgroup that will focus on establishing some criteria to make this portal more viable will be necessary. The HMIS program for SD continues to be an area of difficulty for participating agencies. As more programs accept federal funding, they are required to comply; however, the HMIS does not yet work as it is supposed (It is a tracking system for homeless information.). When considering the creation of long-term care facilities with emphasis on the needs and conditions that lead to homelessness mention was made of waiting to see the results of the pending Affordable Housing Study for Sioux Falls. Cayman Court of Southeastern has also become less of a housing program for people who are homeless, but retains its emphasis on those with SPMI. Discussed ways to create a Homeless Intervention Team (HI –Team) that could link with the Common Access Portal. Southeastern Behavioral Healthcare currently does provide a similar service and Minnehaha County is working on creating an involuntary committal team that may also provide a link in services. Discussed workforce development initiatives. A local Housing Trust Fund also remains a very compelling solution that merits more effort in getting it established. St. Francis House continues to remain full every month. Julie Becker, Director of St. Francis House, shared they are struggling with some tough choices when determining who should take priority when a bed comes open as they consistently have waiting lists (someone who has never been there before or someone who has stayed on numerous occasions).

B. Homeless Advisory Board Structure and 2010 Priorities

- Reviewed a model from the Committee to End Homelessness in King County, WA that the Board has discussed before. The model is 3-tiered (3 different committees with different roles and functions), and would require a change in the Board composition as well as in the frequency of meetings. Discussed 3 potential priorities for the HAB. Will finalize at next month's meeting.

IV. Homeless Coordinator Updates

- Stacey Tieszen provided updates on activities since the last HAB meeting. There is the annual Homeless Summit in Oacoma, SD on June 8th and 9th focusing on Poverty 101 with Dr. Donna Beegle. RSVP's continue to come in for the Faith-Based workshop on May 20.

V. Committee Reports

Program Committee

No additional report.

Faith-Based Committee

No report at this time – focus is on the Faith Based Community Breakfast discussed above.

VI. Additional Information

- None.

VII. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn made by Jim Meyer and seconded by Jeff Barth. Meeting adjourned unanimously at 1:05pm.