

# JUNEAU HOMELESS COALITION

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## Juneau Homeless Coalition Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2013 | 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority

### I. Roll Call/Introductions

Mandy O'Neal Cole called the meeting to order at 11:35AM. Mandy made a motion to add "veterans & VASH vouchers" to the top of the agenda. With no objections, it was added under discussion items.

### II. Approval of Minutes

#### A. December 20, 2012

Sandi Kohtz motioned to approve the December minutes; Jen La Roe seconded and minutes were approved.

### III. Discussion Items:

#### A. Veterans & VASH Vouchers

Ed Williams has recently transitioned into his role at the Veteran Outreach Clinic located in the Federal building where he does veteran intake for Juneau. Carol Bodda in Fairbanks oversees the Juneau clinic, as Ed forwards information on to her office. Verifying that a veteran is homeless is a challenge but he has to proceed based on what a client tells him. He can access veteran's record from other places, which is helpful in determining whether they are chronically homeless or not. Clients have to meet with him in the Federal building—to register and a take means test to determine if they are eligible to receive help from the government. Ed specified that to qualify, a veteran would have to be continuously homeless in one year, or 3 times within four years, which is HUD's definition of homeless, and a client cannot be on lifetime-sex offender registry. The Supportive Services for Veteran Families funding opportunity is still available.

#### B. Project Homeless Connect

##### I. Data/Surveys

HUD uses PIT data every other year to assist with funding decisions and this is the year they look into the data, so it is really important for full participation. A local example of this came from a conversation that Scott Ciambor had with a VA representative. One reason for the change in releasing VASH vouchers in Southeast was that they went back and referred to the PIT data and realized they didn't have the volume of vets as seen elsewhere and decided to award them someplace else.

##### II. Funding & budget

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation has awarded JHC with \$1,500 to support Project Homeless Connect. In the past they have contributed \$2,500.

##### III. Signage / t-shirts

Gifts & Graphics will be donating 50 blue t-shirts for volunteers. The large banner is done and the 36 signs will be ready soon.

##### IV. Service providers

Shari Partin and Jessy Post are still working to confirm with several service providers, but most have committed to participate. The Juneau Police Department will not have a booth, but will have some presence at the event. Two housing providers, Mendenhall Apartments and Orca Point, will not be attending this year.

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## V. **Health care providers**

Ellen Moore and Catharine Boice shared that they have confirmed with over 20 health care providers. The CNA class will be assisting with foot care and Nolan the Colon's travel was sponsored by Lynden Transport and will be at the event.

## VI. **Promotion**

A variety of promotional mediums are underway: a poster designed by Annie Kincheloe is being distributed around town; Jessy and Kiel have several appearances on radio stations lined up—KTOO's Juneau Afternoon and KINY's Capital Chat lined up; a press release was sent to Juneau media (JE, CCW, KTOO, ABC Stations); PSAs are running on radio stations; a Facebook event has been created; information about the event is in the United Way and JEDC newsletters; volunteer and donation flyers are being distributed via email to JHC and friends, the Chamber of Commerce, Cooperative Church Council, NLUC, TMHS Interact, UAS Public Relations, personal friends, Southeast Heritage Institute, and Roteract. Jessy will be sending out invitations to Alaska delegation and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority board members.

## VII. **Volunteers**

Volunteers are filtering in slowly, but more are signing up each week. Volunteer and provider orientations will be held at Centennial Hall on January 23rd at 6pm and the 25th at noon. It was suggested to have a defined role for all volunteers, with two gate-keepers for entry ways.

## VIII. **Donations**

United Way would like donations dropped off at their office before the day of the event, so they have a chance to sort items. There are currently not many donation items.

## IX. **Personal attention / haircuts**

Over 40 towels have been collected from both pools and Bartlett for haircuts and foot care.

## X. **Food & coffee**

Glacier Restaurant will be catering again this year and overseeing Glory Hole staff, who will be serving the food for breakfast and lunch. Snacks and a tea/water/coffee service will be available throughout the day. The Glory Hole will need a \$500 to cover the costs of food, food service supplies, beverage service, and some of The Glory Hole patron stipends.

## XI. **Venue / layout**

In Centennial Hall, service providers will be placed against the wall and in the middle, tables will be available for filling out paper work. A small check off list of services available will be printed.

### **Post-Project Homeless Connect Awareness**

This event will be held on Friday, February 1 at the Dimond Courthouse courtyard, with lunch provided by The Glory Hole. A release of the PHC data will be announced, as several speakers talk about what we learned, the progress made, and where we're headed in the future.

## C. **Name Change Committee**

The Steering Committee will review suggested names and discuss the mission of the coalition. All members are invited to this meeting that will take place in February before the next regular meeting. Meeting time and place to be determined.

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## **D. Region-Specific Greater Opportunities for Affordable Living (GOAL)**

The Alaska Housing Finance Corporation has allocated \$7.6 million for new affordable housing projects to be constructed and completed in Juneau by spring 2014. Non-profits and for profit organizations are eligible to apply. Pre-application deadlines are set for mid to end of January. The criteria used to judge applications and more information pertaining to the application process can be viewed on AHFC's website. Submitting questions or comments about this funding opportunity is encouraged and open to anyone. They can be sent to Daniel Delfino of AHFC before the end of the month. Organizations that are planning on applying are St. Vincent de Paul, AWARE, and Tlingit & Haida.

## **E. Public Market Feedback**

The Coalition debriefed on the experience at the past Public Market. Both pros and cons were shared. It will be evaluated later in the year to decide whether the Market is a worthwhile venue for education, advocacy, and general awareness of the Coalition's mission and activities.

## **F. Affordable Housing Commission**

Mandy gave a quick update on the January Affordable Housing Commission meeting. Scott presented information on Permanent Supportive Housing and on the current status of the working group's efforts in Juneau. The AHC was very accepting of the "Housing First" philosophy. The Assembly's Housing Task Force has solicited four groups, including JHC, developers, and the public to answer these questions: a). *What are the challenges for you to provide housing, within all price levels and throughout the community?* b). *What strategies can the Assembly employ to alleviate this situation?* JHC members can send their comments to the Steering Committee, who will then draft a letter for review. The deadline to submit comments has not been established yet by the Housing Task Force.

## **V. Informational Items & reminders**

- A. Prisoner Reentry Coalition Meeting: January 18
- B. Project Homeless Connect Volunteer Orientation:
  - Wednesday, January 23, 6-7PM, Centennial Hall
  - Friday, January 25, 12-1PM, Centennial Hall
- C. Project Homeless Connect: January 28, 9AM-3PM, Centennial Hall/JACC/Zach Gordon Youth Center
- D. Assembly Ad Hoc Committee on Housing – comments

### **Next Meeting:**

**Thursday, February 21, 2013 11:30AM-1:00PM, THRH**

### **Proposed Names:**

- Southeast Coalition to End Homelessness
- Juneau Coalition on Housing and Homelessness
- Juneau Coalition to End Homelessness
- Juneau Committee to End Homelessness
- Juneau Alliance to End Homelessness
- Southeast Alliance to End Homelessness
- Housing For All
- Capital Coalition on Housing and Homelessness
- Juneau Coalition to Make Homelessness History
- Advocacy to Support Ending Homelessness