



**Homeless and Housing Alliance  
Gulfstream Goodwill  
1710 Tiffany Drive East  
West Palm Beach, FL 33407  
March 24, 2011, 2:00 p.m.  
Minutes**

Connie Barattini, Guatemalan-Maya Center  
Michele Carter, Gulfstream Goodwill  
Rhonda Clinton, Family Promise NPBC  
Georgiana Devine, PBC Human Services  
Kokie Dinnan, Family Promise SPBC  
Daniel Gibson, The Lords Place  
Joe Gluckman, McCurdy Sr.H: Quiet Waters  
John Green, HAB/City of RB  
Kathleen Herd, J.A.Y Outreach Ministries  
Ashley Kemp, FRCW  
Stephen Mayer, PBC HCD  
Sonya McNair, Families First of PBC  
Michael Nomikos, AVDA  
Kim Parnett, PBC Human Services  
Marcia Rainford, SDH, FHLC  
Maite Reyes-Coles, CILO  
Cassandra Scott, SA Center of Hope  
Paul Sherman, Oakwood Center  
Mandi Smith, CARP  
Alma Sullivan-Lovell, CHS  
Glenn Woodruff, Gulfstream Goodwill

Sandra Boulon, PBC Dept. of Health  
Cynthia Chistophenson, VA Medical Center  
Shandra Dawkins, FRCW  
Amy DiBartolo, Housing Partnership  
Seretha George, PBCHA  
Paula Giordano, Gulfstream Goodwill  
Emily Gorman, Adopt-A-Family  
Chris Harris, CMIS/211  
Michelle Johnson, Oakwood Center  
Priscilla/Marion Mann, Homes w Asst  
Judith McInnes, PBCSD SIS  
Jo Miller, PBC HCD  
Irvine Nugent, Vita Nova  
Linda Prior, Family Promise SPBC  
Daniel Ramos, Center for Family Services  
Tomas Reyes-Coles, The Vets Place  
Carol Shaffer, PBC Human Services  
Gail Skolnick, Recovery Coalition  
Susan Stechnij, The Everglades Inn  
Charisse VanBiesen, DCF SAMH

**Call to order/Roll call:** Chris Harris, Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Attendees introduced themselves. Agency attendance was taken. A quorum was established.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the Feb. 24 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved by all in attendance. Chris advised the group that they are trying to make the HHA more “green sensitive” and in future would like all attendee’s to bring their own copies of the agenda to reduce the amount of copies usually made.
2. **Presentation:** Shandra Dawkins from Florida Resource Center for Women & Children introduced their new Health and Education Center and outlined the services the new project provides. The Health and Education Center offers pap smears, STD testing, breast exams, pregnancy testing, and much more. Meds and eye exams are also free. Preventative care is emphasized so that the number of emergency room visits will be reduced. All services are free but people must make advance appointments to be seen. The project will be based in Dunbar Village and will also have a mobile unit that will travel to different areas of the county. Call 561-366-1360 for an appointment.

- 3. Sub Committee Reports** – all HHA members are urged to be on at least one committee.
- a. **CMIS** – Chris Harris reported that they are working on an agreement document between CMIS and the COC. He is also working on a CMIS manual.
  - b. **Discharge Planning** – Maite Reyes-Coles reported that they have revised the homeless provider survey on SurveyMonkey. They have developed a hospital referral form and want to identify a hospital administrator who will give feedback and commit to the process.
  - c. **Emergency Response System** – Georgiana Devine reported that the committee will be evaluating the current emergency response system including identifying funding services and current lengths of stay. The HEARTH Act has set a goal exiting people out of an emergency shelter in 30 days. The committee will evaluate what would resources are needed to accomplish this goal.
  - d. **Homeless Prevention System** – Georgiana Devine reported that the committee will be evaluating the current homeless prevention services including identifying current funding allocations as well as gaps in services. They are also working on a universal application and a central point for intake.
  - e. **Performance Measures** – Kokie Dinnan reported that they are reviewing models and directives from Federal and Local sources. They will be developing performance measures for the COC as well as performance measures for and state and federally funded individual projects.
  - f. **New Members** – Rhonda Clinton reported that they are reviewing the membership process for the HHA. They will look at the application, the screening, the integration, and the retention of member agencies. HHA web site address below:  
[www.pbcgov.com/communityservices/programs/humanservices/hha.htm](http://www.pbcgov.com/communityservices/programs/humanservices/hha.htm).
  - g. **Unmet Needs** – This sub-committee did not form at the last HHA meeting. However, Tomas Reyes-Coles has now stepped-up to chair the committee and is looking for members who are interested in identifying the unmet needs of the county.

#### **4. Liaison Reports**

- a. **Affordable Housing** – Emily Gorman reported
  - i. Matt was unavailable to attend the meeting, but wanted her to mention that both the Florida House of Representatives and the Senate restored the state's budget for homeless programs, the Office of Homelessness statute at DCF, and provided an additional \$366,000 for Homeless Transitions Programs.
  - ii. Adopt-A-Family's Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 (NSP2) is in partnership with the Lake Worth Community Redevelopment Agency. They will be selling 25 brand new or completely renovated homes in the City of Lake Worth to low income and moderate income folks. AAF will also be providing 25 rentals, which will also be brand new or renovated to the same population. Please check out the CRA's website at [www.lakeworthcra.org/nsp](http://www.lakeworthcra.org/nsp) for an application. Call Emily at 51-253-1361, ext. 125 if you or anyone you know would be interested in living in a new, energy-efficient, "green" home near the beach and downtown Lake Worth.

- b. **Legislative Advocacy** – Carol Shaffer and Cassandra Scott reported:
- i. Information regarding Homeless Advocacy Day in Tallahassee on April 13, 2011. Anyone planning on attending needs to let Carol know so we can coordinate transportation as well as meetings with our legislators.
  - ii. Information regarding legislation to provide Tax Credits for hiring people who are homeless was provided. Information about the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC), IRS Form 8850.
  - iii. Establish a new Senior Center in the Glades and set aside \$500,000 for convert the existing Senior Center into a Homeless Resource Center.
  - iv. The House and Senate Health Appropriations Committees restored the funding for homeless programs and the Office of Homelessness statute at DCF.
  - v. The HAB and HHA are supporting HB 131 which creates voluntary contribution option for homelessness on DMV forms.

- c. **HAB/Homeless Resource Center Update** reported by Georgiana Devine
- i. The Resource Center is expected to be completed in June.
  - ii. The RFP for the HRC is being completed and should be released next month.

5. **Member Presentation** - Mike Nomikos talked about the services provided by AVDA, Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse. It provides emergency shelter, a 24-hour hotline, support services for victims of domestic abuse, and prevention and education programs for the community. AVDA has a residential campus which includes an Emergency Shelter with 41 beds for Domestic Violence Survivors women and children. The Transitional Housing program has 4 beds for single women (without children) and space for 6 families with children. Hotline number is 1-800-355-8547.

6. **Old Business**

- a. **\$100,000 Homes Campaign** – Cynthia Christophenson announced that the VA is formally introducing the 100,000 homes campaign into Palm Beach County. The inaugural planning meeting will be held on April 12 from 9am to 11am in the basement conference room at 810 Datura Street (PBC office). For additional information, call Karen Abbott at 561.248.7148

7. **New Business**

Applications to request funding for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 (October 1, 2011- September 30, 2012) are available for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and the Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESG) as of March 27, 2011.

8. **Announcements** (Carol Shaffer will distribute all available e-mail flyers)

- PIT – Daniel Gibson reported that there will be a debriefing meeting regarding the Point in Time count on Friday, April 1, 8:00 a.m. at Goodwill. An email will be sent once the location of the meeting is confirmed. .
- Next HHA meeting will be April 28. The member presentation will be given by the Center for Family Services

9. **Adjourn**