



Homeless and Housing Alliance
Lighthouse for the Blind
1710 Tiffany Drive East
West Palm Beach, FL 33407
Phone: 561-586-5600
Feb. 24, 2011, 2:00 p.m.
Minutes

1. **Call to order/Roll call.** Chris Harris, Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Family Promise of North and Central Palm Beach County was introduced as the newest member of HHA. A quorum was established.
2. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes from the Nov. 18 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved by all in attendance.
3. **Guests from Veterans Administration.** Karen Abbott, VA-HUD-VASH, 561-248-7148 presented two programs
 - a. VASH - HUD and VA Supportive Housing partnership. VASH provides housing vouchers to vets who meet income and support criteria. Vouchers are currently available.
 - b. 100,000 Homes Campaign – There is a best practice model to identify and house the chronically and most vulnerable population. To learn more, contact Kjohnson@commonground.org. Meeting will be Monday, March 14, 2011, 2:00–3:30 pm at the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center, Room 4B-292.
4. **Homeless Resource Center Update** – Georgiana Devine reported that plans are proceeding on schedule.
5. **Point In Time Summary** – Daniel Gibson thanked all participants and reported that 143 volunteers and 34 county employees took part in the homeless count.
6. **Sub Committee Formation.** A list of the sub-committees and a description of each was distributed along with a list of the dates for the sub-committee meetings. Members were asked to either chair a committee or sign up to participate on a committee.
7. **Liaison Reports**
 - a. Affordable Housing – Matt Constantine reported that the Florida Governor’s proposed budget keeps the tax but eliminates the Sadowski Fund. There are home ownership and rental opportunities. Contact Matt, 561-233-3600 for more info.
 - b. Homeless Advisory Board (HAB) – Georgiana reported that HAB is being streamlined and will be reduced from 36 members to 22 members. The new configuration will give the Homeless & Housing Alliance a seat on the HAB, and at the HHA executive meeting, it was agreed that the Chair of the HHA Executive Committee will also act as the HAB board member. An Amendment to the HHA By-Laws will be needed to formalize this action.
 - c. CMIS – Chris reported that he has submitted the Annual Homeless Assessment Report required by HUD.

8. **Member Presentation** – Matt Constantine gave a brief history of Adopt-A-Family and identified the 3 focus areas of the organization
- a. Family Housing
 - b. Family Homeless prevention and intervention
 - c. Childcare

9. Old Business

10. New Business

Program Review Panel - HHA is charged with creating a non-conflict panel to review new and renewal HUD grants. An independent group of panelists is required to rank each HUD application. Georgiana is collecting the names of people who may be willing to serve on this panel. Submit names of potential panel members to Georgiana.

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

- PBC Health Fair – 4/27/2011, 8:30-2:00, For information, contact the Health Dept. on 45th St.
- Gov Scott is suggesting a reduction in healthcare benefits. Contact your legislature!
- Homeless Advocacy Day in Tallahassee, 4/13/2011. Contact Carol Shaffer if you would like to participate.
- Stand Down House will be hosting a community event to address the needs of homeless and at risk veterans, 6/4/2011 at Dan Calloway Park. Contact Joshua Maddock, Joshua.Maddock@gmail.com, 561-254-8010.
- Cassandra Scott is collecting life-style stories to illustrate what it is like to be homeless. Send her your stories by April 1st.
cassandra_scott@uss.salvationarmy.org.
- Family Promise has openings for homeless families, Kokie Dinnan (kdinnan@familypromisespbc.org)
- AmeriCorps – proposed cuts for funding; take action – SaveService.org
- Food is available for the needy. Contact Alex Stevens at the PBC Community Food Alliance. 561-375-6650
- Lord's Place will be holding their annual Sleep-Out on April 9th. Go to sleepout2011.org
- Homeless Coalition. The next Project Connect will be 3/25/2011

12. Adjourn