

Minutes  
HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008 – 11:30am  
Siouxland Health & Human Services Building

**Member present:** Alan Graff, Randy Bartunek, Hugh Grogan, Shirley Halleen, Wendy Giebink, Judy Buseman

**Members absent:** Kerri DeGraff, Vernon Brown, Carol Twedt, Tam Baker

**Others present:** Shireen Ranschau, SF Housing, Melanie Bliss, Sioux Empire Homeless Coalition, and Stacey Tieszen, HAB Homeless Coordinator.

## **I. Approval of Minutes – 12/17/07 Minutes**

Upon motion by Shirley Halleen, seconded by Judy Buseman, the HAB approved the minutes of the 01/07/08 meeting as provided. Carried unanimously.

## **II. Homeless Coordinator Progress Report**

- Stacey Tieszen provided an update of the activities and accomplishments since the last HAB meeting. Discussed the Homeless Dashboard and missing data. Discussed the need for community participation in supplying the open/filled shelter bed numbers and ways to work with agencies to obtain that information. Also discussed additional information to add to the Dashboard including Safe Home numbers, hotels and Helpline calls. Discussed the Soul Connections Conference held on January 29<sup>th</sup>. There were 110 people that officially registered and attended. A follow-up meeting will be held shortly for those people who wanted to participate in further discussion and solutions for ending homelessness. Alan Graff discussed the positive press that the Conference and homeless issues in Sioux Falls have received in recent weeks. Wendy Giebink discussed C.A.T.C.H. (Charitable Assistance to Community's Homeless), a homeless families' mentoring program from Boise, ID.

## **IV. Committee Reports – Review Accomplishments & Target Dates**

### **A. Program Committee – Hugh Grogan reported.**

- Provided the new goals and objectives for the Program Committee. A realistic timeframe on completing each will be established soon. Handed out data compiled from the Homeless Survey that focuses exclusively on the characteristics of Sioux Falls' homeless families and what the needs/gaps in services may be.

### **B. Faith-Based Committee**

- Discussed the results of the Soul Connections Conference – survey responses were overwhelmingly positive. A follow-up meeting will be scheduled for March. Discussed the possibility of having a homeless informational booth at the Lifelight Festival this year. Discussed Community Outreach's new program: The Genesis

Project which is geared towards helping families obtain greater self-reliance thru mentoring support provided by local congregations and case management services provided by Community Outreach. Discussed possibility of creating a 'Homeless in Sioux Falls' DVD to be used for educational trainings.

**C. Implementation Committee** – No updates.

**V. Old Business**

**A. Business Case – Alan Graff reported.**

- A meeting with some local non-profit agencies that have worked with the homeless and have provided housing will be held on February 12 to discuss the business plan and to challenge those agencies to partner together to make the Housing First plan happen in Sioux Falls. The Housing First Business Plan will also be presented at the joint City Council/County Commission meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

**B. Executive Committee Development**

- Discussed briefly the Executive Committee and requested that Board members have nominations for both the HAB Chair as well as the Executive Committee for the next meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**VI. New Business**

Randy Bartunek, Community Development, and Shireen Ranschau, SF Housing, discussed the plans to develop a 10-unit SRO affordable housing complex where the rent will be an estimated \$275/month. The closing date for purchase of the site is set for March 2008. Randy Bartunek also discussed new tax credit projects and possibly prioritizing those that provide greater access to people with lower incomes. Shireen Ranschau also discussed that SF Housing and the VA were going forward to pursue the development of a 20-30 unit apartment complex for Veteran's utilizing the VA's transitional housing grants as one source of funding.

**VII. Adjournment** – the meeting adjourned at 1:20pm.