

Internal Task Force on Homelessness
Teleconference Meeting Notes
12/15/2020

- I. Welcome & Purpose
- II. Updates from departments
 - a. Sgt. Al Gathings: The Sheriff's COPPS unit has been working with Exodus when they identify someone who needs services.
 - b. Emily, Exodus: People are most always receptive to services and direct assistance, but not necessarily shelters. There is a lack of permanent mailing addresses, which is a barrier for people who are working on obtaining benefits.
 - c. Jon Nottage, Stormwater: The Stormwater division submitted a response to the public inquiry routed through the State Water Resources Control Board on 11/20. No response from Regional Water Board, yet. A copy of the letter was sent to Cube Smart/Amber Wood. Staff will investigate potential issues at other sites.
 - d. Clarence Rich, Code Enforcement: 1830 West/Emerald Drive – contacting new property owner and gave them Trespassing letter, signs will be posted ASAP. Another encampment was identified at 444 S. Santa Fe which is City property. Aztec will do the clean-up today.
 - e. Cirilo, Public Works: Scheduled clean up at 444 S. Santa Fe with Aztec.
 - f. Sylvia, Housing Division: Please review the Encampment Clean Up Quick Guide and provide any feedback. Designed to help us develop a clear message internally, then make a public message after.
- III. Outreach Presentation from Exodus (Emily Ludwig)
 - a. Outreach is a balance of providing supporting to meet people where they are at mentally while focusing engagement to those receptive of resources.
 - i. She links people to community resources, provides support to gain trust while keeping confidentiality a priority.
 - ii. Trying to balance intentionality with flexibility. More intensive engagement akin to case management with rapport building and facilitating referrals.
 - iii. Difference between providing referrals and performing case management.
 - iv. Recap of progress with current encampment outreach including linking people to medical services, assisting with obtaining identification, providing shelter referrals. Noted a significant portion of the homeless population as higher functioning with an interest in working.
 - b. Feedback/Questions:
 - i. Sheriff: Are there goals that will help us weigh how successful we are as a group?
Housing: As a whole the Strategic Plan does include goals, but we will further establish metrics to measure our impact as we flesh out the programs.
 - ii. Sheriff: We need to know all resources available to Vista to be included in distribution of resources.
Amanda, CMO: The City did not declare a shelter crisis, and therefore cannot receive some of the publicized state homeless funding.
Sylvia, Housing: We are active on the Regional Alliance, the COC, other local cities and the County to stay informed of funding and any new resources. Additionally, Kaitlyn is on the Task Force specifically to link us to any available public or private funds.
- IV. Overview of Strategic Plan Activities in Progress
 - a. Updates
 - i. Homecare coordination with Elderhelp contract has started.
 - ii. Review and discuss panhandling signs used in other communities.
 - 1. Collective consensus that more research and workshopping should be done to ensure signs or message is effective.