

## **10-YEAR PLAN TO END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS**

### **Management Advisory Team Meeting Minutes**

**March 13, 2008 ■ 10:30 A.M. ■ Pitt County Development Services Conference RM**

Committee Members Present: James Rhodes, Ruth Peebles, Paulette White, Lynne James, Karen Gilkey, Marilyn Williams, Lori Jones, Margaret Dixon, Bob Thompson, Taylor Holder

Committee Members Absent: Reverend Albert Shuler, Stephen Smith, Lori Jones, Amy Modlin

The MAT reviewed and accepted the March 4 meeting minutes.

### **Special Presentation**

Shante Carson, LINKS Coordinator and Susan Bullock, Foster Care Supervisor for the Pitt County Department of Social Services presented an overview of how the foster care systems works and the LINKS program.

There are 136 youth currently in foster care in Pitt County (birth – 18 years). Most of the youth come from abusive homes or are referred directly from juvenile courts. There are not enough foster homes available in Pitt County especially for teens. After age 18 youth can accept a Contractual Agreement for Residential Services (CARS). A CARS requires that youth are enrolled in school or in a vocational training program full-time. The levels of foster care were discussed (level one - regular foster home; level two – specialized, therapeutic care; level three – group homes; and level four – psychiatric residential facilities).

It was determined that youth who have dropped out of high school, have a criminal record or are unemployed are at risk of becoming homeless. Youth are facing some of the same issues as adults at risk of becoming homeless. Prevention strategies for both populations may be similar.

### **Updates**

Paulette attended the SIP training and will provide a report at the next MAT meeting.

Don Overton has had some challenges recruiting veterans to participate in a focus group. The focus group is tentatively scheduled for March 31.

Margaret is waiting for a response from Rebecca Clayton regarding transportation for public forums.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness has requested a guest speaker from the BRTF to attend their May or June meeting. Members of NAMI will be invited to the forum on mental and physical health.

## **Subcommittee Reports**

The Prevention and Crisis Stabilization Subcommittee meeting was productive. Theresa Edmonson and Kelly Ayscue will serve as co-chairs of the committee. The subcommittee established three broad goals and will determine strategies for each goal.

The Transition and Independence and Permanent Housing subcommittees have established goals and strategies and will be prepared to present information to the BRTF on March 20.

The Public Information and Awareness subcommittee has identified media opportunities and will begin implementing PR strategies. Strategies include radio and tv interviews, letters to the editor and email invitation will be distributed.

## **BRTF Meeting**

The MAT reviewed and approved the final agenda for the BRTF meeting.

## **Public Forums**

The “final” list of forum speakers was shared. Georgia will assist with the identifying the speaker for the forum on mental and physical health.

The MAT will share the public forum discussion questions with the BRTF on March 20. Questions will also be presented to the forum speakers for their feedback.

## **Action Steps:**

### 1. Ruth:

- a. send BRTF meeting reminder with agenda, minutes and supporting documents
- b. request that subcommittee co-chairs send James (and cc Ruth) upcoming meeting dates, times and location for posting on the website
- c. contact subcommittee chairs about creating Power Point slides that outline goals, outcomes and strategies to be presented at the BRTF meeting; slides should be forwarded to Stephen
- d. develop an e-mail invitation to public forums and flyer as an attachment
- e. contact all speakers by phone to discuss content of their presentations, secure their bios and will provide them with detailed information via email
- f. hold a call meeting with Georgia to discuss and revise public forums discussion questions, forum titles and descriptions

### 2. Karen:

- a. contact with Steve regarding footage of the interviews with co-chairs and the use of footage for PR/advertising opportunities

- b. place ad on the City's City Page and public access channel
3. James
- a. meet with Kiara to discuss the development of video and implementation of the media/PR plan for the forums
  - b. send Karen the public forum advertisement for distribution
4. Georgia
- a. identify speakers for the forum on mental and physical health
5. Margaret
- a. follow up with Rebecca Clayton regarding providing transportation for the public forums

**Next MAT meeting: Thursday, March 20 at 10:30 a.m. at  
Pitt County Development Services Conference RM**