

Spokane Homeless Coalition Retreat

October 6, 2011

Reese called the meeting to order at 9:05.

Icebreaker game 9:05-9:25.

Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week November 13-19. Pick up the posters at CHAS Clinic, Hope House, Spokane Mental Health main building, SNAP, electronic version. Pick up posters beginning Monday, October 10.

New and gently used winter wear, NEW toiletries and basic needs drive November 15. North, south and valley Shopkos and Spokane Mental Health Homelessness outreach center. Volunteers needed! Wednesday from 12 PM -1 PM, agencies who worked the drive can come pick supplies from First Covenant Church (except winter wear)

Thanks Betty Sweeney from DSHS for making new nametags.

Introduce new people –Perri from Women’s Hearth, Kimberly from SNAP, John from Home Sweet Home furnishings.

New ideas from the audience

- Buy houses at foreclosure prices and sell it back to families with a low interest loan
- Required zoning for developers to include affordable housing
- Employ homeless people to build houses and learn construction trade –sell house to support
- Emergency shelters for 18-24 year olds funded by private donations
- Telethon for SHC –get media involved
- Renovate the Otis
- Housing for people not denied based on their history
- Grants for dentistry services
- Day lockers outdoors for homeless
- Long term plan to end homelessness
- Match.com/roommate.com for homeless/low income people to support affordable living
- Co-op program for low income and homeless families
- Program for single moms under 24, no limit for number of kids.
- Rummage sale held at low-income furniture house to benefit individual organization
- Safe parking for families sleeping in cars
- College education to get very low-income out of poverty
- Address gaps in programs, get families to the next step
- Online or physical “one stop” resource to address gaps in programs
- State income tax
- Simplified paperwork process for grant and program funding, simplified process
- Comprehensive case management to walk families through all aspects of the processes they need to go through to get services

Round Table Discussions

Advocacy Presentations

WA Low Income Housing Alliance:

Advocacy: 30-day special session to deal with \$2 billion budget deficit. Findings of American Community Survey (ACS): 47 percent of single mothers in WA are living in poverty. Highest number of people living in poverty nationally in the 52 years since ACS has recorded poverty stats.

What we can do: advocate for housing and social services and against cuts in TANF, affordable housing, Housing and Essential Needs, demand revenue. Attend Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day on January 20, 2012.

Senator Murray (local)

(509)624-9515

Senator Cantwell (local)

(509)353-2507

Please see attached WA Low Income Housing Alliance handouts for additional details.

SLIHC: