

**Alachua County Coalition for the Homeless and Hungry  
Membership Meeting  
Holy trinity Episcopal Church on December 18, 2013**

Brendan Shortley called to order. Corrections were made to minutes for October

There were two announcements before the agenda:

1. Miriam Elliott on next month's speakers - Alachua County Coalition Against Human Trafficking

2. The name change will occur after the GCI contract is awarded. Name change will be North Central Florida Coalition for the Homeless and Hungry.

**Speaker – Spectrum**

**Shanti Cruz**

Spectrum is a transgender awareness/advocacy group. Their purpose is to engage community partners and educate them on transgender awareness.

Training goals - cultural competency

- LGB – sexual orientation
- TG – gender identity – nothing to do with sexual orientation
- Distinguish between sex, gender identity and sexual orientation

Spectrum has existed for about 4 years. It operates as an independent community-organizing group. There are approximately 6 volunteers. Shanti gave an engaging presentation that involved the process of indentifying where on the spectrum each of us falls as it relates to our gender identity, sex, expression and attraction. There was a sign up sheet for those interested in having the presentation emailed to them. It was also noted that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in November is transgender remembrance day.

**Action Items**

**Director's Report – Theresa Lowe**

Getting ready for PIT survey Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> (date has since changed to Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>).

The CoC competition – individual organizations will need to submit their renewals by Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>. The CoC Workgroup will take renewals and rank them. Once the renewals are ranked, they will be posted on the website. Theresa will also send out update emails regarding scoring, requirements to apply, etc. The full application from last year is on the website. The final complete application is due Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you have suggestions on how to improve – please send them to the Coalition.

**Treasurer's Report - Beth O' Grady**

We are still waiting on DCF contract. The grant has been approved, we're just waiting for the money to come through.

**Special Events Workgroup – Cheryl Twombly**

Cheryl thanked everyone again for participating in Breakfast on the Plaza. Turnout was slightly smaller than expected, but overall it was a great event.

**HMIS Workgroup – Theresa Lowe**

Last workgroup meeting concentrated on cleaning up the data in order to submit CoC data to HUD. Beginning in Feb. we will be putting a report card on website in order to report how well everyone is participating.

### **CoC Workgroup – Theresa Lowe**

The next meeting is to complete NOFA for HUD – individual org due Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>, coalition’s application is due Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>. Theresa asked for assistance with the “Community Structure” portion of the application. There was a 5% reduction in the overall amount. It’s important that individual application’s are timely and well written because ranking will decide who will get funding. If you have any questions send them to Jennifer Moises or anyone at CoC.

### **PIT Workgroup – Theresa Lowe**

PIT survey will be Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> 5am-9pm (has since been changed to Jan 29<sup>th</sup>). The next workgroup meeting is Jan 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. This year, we will pay for 280 hours of volunteer time. There will be goodie bags and a “special treat” as well. A sign-in sheet has been created that is broken down by zones and times of day. We’re asking for each agency to sign up. If someone is not comfortable going out into street, there will need to be people to do data entry in office – key in entries at office – using survey monkey. Surveys can be done on the ipad, or smartphone. There is also a need for dispatchers – to pay volunteers, organize, etc. The sign-up sheet will be posted on the ACCHH.org website and send out on listserv

### **Police Report – No GPD present**

#### **Current or Formerly Homeless Individuals**

Hank Kasbaum had a few questions about the GCI facility and what association it would have with individuals who camped in the surrounding woods. He mentioned some information he got from GPD that they were moving people towards GCI in anticipation of it’s opening. Brendan

#### **Other Items:**

A few weeks ago in Putnam county, Palatka city employees while working on a bridge, disposed of the belongings of several homeless individuals who sought shelter under the bridge. Theresa Lowe inquired about the next commission meeting and said she will send the date of the next city meeting out on the listserv as well as possibly sending a letter to the city commission.

Pending Items:

#### **Other Announcements:**

Miriam Elliott – informal legislative workgroup – need to keep pressure on legislators to expand Medicaid

Family Endeavors is a new organization in town that will be providing rapid rehousing to Veteran’s through the SSVF. Contact info: (352) 415-0203

The next meeting is January 15, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.