

**Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition  
BOD Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2003**

**Members in Attendance:**

Luella Sanders – COMCARE, Rebecca Dickson Simmons – Salvation Army, Beth Oaks – United Way of the Plains, Randy Crandall – VA Medical Center, Helen Hartnett – KU School of Social Welfare, Brad Schmidt – Prairie view Community Mental Health Center, Junell Norris - Manhattan Emergency Shelter, Inc., Tom Bishop – Homestead Affordable Housing, Elizabeth Adams – NAMI of Kansas

**Introduction:**

Meeting was called to order at approximately 12:55 pm. Lunch was provided for those attending the meeting. Tom Bishop provided a brief update on current legislature – effective July 1, 2003, the Housing Department will move into the Kansas Housing Finance Agency. The Executive Director for KHFA will be Steve Weatherferd. Randy thought it maybe premature to consider a member of the Coalition is appointed to the KHFA as a Board Member. Tom felt it would be appropriate to raise issues of concern regarding the housing and homeless issues.

Rebecca Dickson Simmons wanted clarification about advocacy within the Coalition – is that a role? Beth Oaks and Luella Sanders made announcements regarding the new NOFA. Randy Crandall announced that his office had been on High Alert with the possibility of war looming that veterans maybe reliving their past military careers. He also reported on how receptive the Governor’s Committee on Housing has been to the Coalition. Beth Oaks reported that a survey administered to United Ways across the country reported with a 78% response rate that there has been at least a \$3.6 million dollar reduction in government and private funding, and that funding throughout all communities is very tight. Luella Sanders view is the government is reducing the cost, but desires the high level of direct service be maintained. Her community has been severely hit with the reductions within the aircraft field. Brad Schmidt is working with a group in Newton exploring an emergency shelter. There are financial concerns, but there are lots of homeless activities within the community – not coordinated, but that is being addressed.

Junell Norris reported that her agency provided services to 517 people in 2002 and that roughly 75% of the guests had full-time employment. Her agency has experienced some cuts in funding from local funding sources, but the Shelter Board is still looking for a new facility.

**Minutes:**

The minutes from the November 14, 2002 were reviewed. Randy Crandall moved to accept the minutes. Elizabeth Adams seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Recap of the Statewide Summit**

Randy Crandall wanted to thank Gary Miller for taking pictures that day, as well as the Department of Commerce & Housing for their media work (including pictures and press releases). The Summit was great and Wichita did an outstanding job hosting the event.

Luella Sanders report will overlap with Beth Oak's report. The committee is still working to resolve a couple of financial issues. They are holding on to the last check for the Hyatt which includes banner hanging and skirt charges – approximately \$430.00.

A request regarding our Coalition and the Summit has been made by an individual in Oregon

Summit 2003 – Norma Phillips in Interim Director of Housing. The Department granted the Coalition \$7500.00 to form the Nonprofit Coalition – with \$5000.00 of that grant for the conference expenses. We are looking at roughly \$10-12,000.00 for the next conference. We would like the Summit to remain free to the attendees and to provide educational opportunities for everyone.

Comments from the Board regarding the Summit – good subjects, but not all subjects tied together (good/bad) – maybe look at different approach; replication of sessions – look at value and/or two day conference; tape the sessions – limit repeated sessions; liked the additional presentations; look at summarizing the workshops on-line; have handouts for all attendees from all speakers.

Possible locations for 2003 Conference – Topeka, Washburn Campus or Menninger Campus. Lawrence – KU and 3<sup>rd</sup> option would be to merge with Kansas NAHRO fall conference. If we merge with NAHRO – Commerce & Housing will want a very strong homeless component if they provide funding for the conference. Target audience is still Homeless Service Provides, Homeless Individuals, and General Population. Commerce & Housing handled the registration last year – they may be willing to do it again.

### **Subcommittee Reports – Statewide Homeless Count**

Helen Hartnett reported that the committee needs to look for funding sources to gather information on statewide statistics. There is currently no funding for research. The State applied for the Continuum of Care grant for a Housing Information Management System (HMIS), but no award is pending. The Coalition may want to investigate submitting our own Continuum of Care application this year. The City of Lawrence is using Continuum of Care funds to implement an HMIS – specifically MacLink in Lawrence. Wichita is using Service point.

### **Subcommittee Report – Kansas Respond**

Kansas Respond is no longer around. A 15 county survey was completed last year. The data is being analyzed at University of Kansas and should be finished shortly. The data collected is from the year 2000.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Total Revenue is \$9,935.00 – of this amount \$2,440.00 was revenue generated from the Summit. The remaining revenue is from the State grant totaling \$7,495.00. Our total expenses are \$9,111.31. This leaves positive cash balance of \$823.69. Our expenses are broken down in the following categories/totals: Incorporation Costs - \$2,520.00, Summit - \$6,429.86, Meeting Expense - \$50.00, Postage - \$55.45, and Printing - \$56.00.

### **Update on 501 c3, and Incorporation (Federal & State):**

Randy Crandall brought the Board up to date with the status of our 501 c3 paperwork. We are awaiting the response from the IRS which should contain our Federal Employer Identification Number. The State filing will take place shortly and we should have a response within 30-45 days. The State incorporation will be retroactive to April 2002.

### **Web Page Review:**

The Board discussed the web page. Everyone was very positive with the look and information posted. Randy and Junell will be checking into possibly hosting locations and if there are any fees involved, including checking with the State to see if they are willing to host the web page. There was some discussion about adding links with information from previous Summits, the upcoming Summit, and other organization's web pages.

### **New Business:**

Randy provided handouts on the National Alliance to End Homelessness, National Coalition for the Homeless and A Summary Report on California's Program to Address Homelessness for the Board to review.

- ▶ Funding streams need to be developed.
  
- ▶ Awareness of Homeless Issues at the State House – possibly link to a fundraising event. Driving Nails into a Board to Build a House or selling Krispy Kreme Doughnuts.

**Next Meeting:** April 2, 2003 in Topeka at the Columbia Building 112 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

Respectfully submitted by Junell Norris, Secretary – Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition