



Housing Committee Meeting
Edison Neighborhood Service Center, 150 NW 79th Street, Conference Room
August 20th, 2009 Minutes

Approved November 19, 2009

#	Members	Present	Absent	Guests	
1	Downs, Frederick, Jr.	X		Laura Guerrero	
2	Gadlin, Lucille	X		Justina Mendy	
3	Hall, Ronald	X		Felicita Morales	
4	Louis, Ray	X		Chantal Pierre	
5	McGowan, Ed	X		Felicia Reed	
6	Rolle, Betty	X		Silvia Velazquez	
7	Tamayo, George	X			
8	Weathers, Irma		X		
Quorum= 4				Staff	
				Marlen Hernandez	Kim Tardalo

I. Call to Order

The chair, Betty Rolle, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Ms. Rolle welcomed everyone and asked for a moment of silence. Ms. Rolle then asked for introductions.

II. Resource Persons

Ms. Rolle identified Behavioral Science Research (BSR) staff as resource individuals.

III. Review Agenda

The committee reviewed the agenda; an update to the comprehensive plan and budget hearings announcement were added to announcements.

IV. Review/Approve Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes of July 16th, 2009.

Motion to accept the minutes of July 16th, 2009.

Moved: Frederick Downs

Seconded: Lucille Gadlin

Motion: Passed

V. Membership

- Marlen Hernandez

Ms. Hernandez reported that there are several vacancies on the Housing Committee. There are 3 applications pending but only one applicant is present. Felicia Reed introduced herself and members voted on her application.

Motion to accept Felicia Reed as a member of the Housing Committee.

Moved: Frederick Downs

Seconded: George Tamayo

Motion: Passed

There are also vacancies on all other committees and the full Partnership; specific vacancy reports and applications are available from staff.

VI. Standing Business

- **Report on Housing Opportunities for Persons Living with AIDS (HOPWA) Long Term Rental Assistance (LTRA) Waitlist** - Ray Louis

The HOPWA lottery waitlist has been run and finalized; calling clients on the waitlist is on hold until the current Fiscal Year concludes and the new budget cycle begins. Currently, 1,085 households are served by the HOPWA Program at an approximate total cost of one million dollars per month. Once the current Fiscal Year is closed and any rollover funding is identified, the City will methodically look at the level of attrition each month and strategically call households from the waitlist according to the actual number of open slots.

A question was raised regarding the current situation of the Life Quest properties. Mr. Louis explained that the developer for the Life Quest properties was depending on at least \$700,000 from private funding sources, which have now fallen through. One of the properties needs significantly less renovation than the other; the City is looking at various alternatives to get the property refurbished.

Members discussed inviting representatives from other housing agencies to the committee meetings, such as Concept House, Better Way of Miami, the Homeless Trust, AGAPE, Women in Distress and Camillus House. Collaboration with these sources could help bring new ideas to the forefront.

- **Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) Funding** - Ray Louis

The City has received NSP federal funding which is part of the federal stimulus funding, from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Part of NSP funds are geared toward making properties more affordable. Mr. Louis noted the possibility of an apartment building near Jackson Hospital falling under this program, tentatively available by June 2010.

- **HOPWA/Ryan White Collaboration** - Ray Louis

Housing specialists attended the August Ryan White Medical Case Management training and will continue to attend these trainings on a regular basis.

- **Social Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) Outreach Access and Recovery (SOAR) Project**

- Ray Louis

The SOAR program is a pilot program within the homeless arena. The AIDS Housing office is asking the local community to implement this program in their areas. The City of Miami is investigating the possibility of the Social Security Administration assigning a local contact to assist in implementing the program. All clients must be screened for qualification criteria. It was noted by Ed McGowan that the Department of Children and Families (DCF) offers two free SOAR trainings per month.

- **Landlord & Tenant Workshop** - Ray Louis

The Florida State Department held a landlord tenant workshop this month; many landlords and very few tenants attended. Mr. Louis stated that it would be productive to hold a HOPWA focused landlord tenant workshop; details are pending.

Members discussed the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) funds. Citrus Health Network was chosen from the County Request for Proposal (RFP) to run this program. The program provides temporary assistance for those of the verge of homelessness. Several other cities within the County also received this funding, including the City of Miami, but no further details are available; periodic updates will be provided.

- **Housing Goals for Comprehensive Plan** - Marlen Hernandez

At the May meeting, the committee had briefly reviewed the 2006-2008 Housing Committee Goals and accepted a revised version of Goal 1. At the July meeting members accepted a revised version of Goal 2. The Strategic Planning Committee reviewed the goals, made minor changes and accepted them into the Miami-Dade Comprehensive Plan for HIV/AIDS. Members reviewed the final document (copy on file).

VII. New Business

- **Epi Data** - Marlen Hernandez

Ms. Hernandez briefly reviewed excerpts from the Miami-Dade County HIV/AIDS Epidemiological Data Presentation (copy on file) created for the 2009 needs assessment process.

- **Deposits** - Marlen Hernandez

Tabled until the September meeting.

VIII. Announcements

Ms. Hernandez announced that the www.aidsnet.org website has been revised and recommended that everyone visit the site. New links include the Housing Central portal, Utility and Food Assistance Available, Emergency Financial Assistance for Housing Program (EFAHP) and the Homeless Trust.

Attendees were asked to review the following (copies on file):

- The flier for the budget meetings; and visit <http://www.hscdade.org/> for information on the Penny Wise and Pound Foolish Campaign.
- The flier for the upcoming Community Coalition Committee Meeting.
- The monthly surveillance report.

Ms. Hernandez announced that because of County budget cuts, the Edison Neighborhood Center might be closed at the end of September, an alternate venue has been found for the remainder of the year and will be announced as soon as possible.

IX. Next Meeting

The next meeting is September 17th, 2009 at the Edison Neighborhood Service Center.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Frederick Downs

Seconded: George Tamayo

Motion: Passed

The meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.