

HITF
June 19, 2015
Meeting Minutes

1. Agency Updates

2. Jessica and Erin provided an overview of HITF's history, purpose, committees, and ways to become more involved.

- HITF evolved from several city and county groups that were meeting to discuss how to better serve our homeless population.
- Today, HITF serves as the local Continuum of Care for addressing homelessness, and works on coordinated grant applications to meet the identified needs.
- HITF's mission is: To work together to achieve stable, permanent housing for all residents of Rock County.
- Committees include: executive committee, resource committee, service providers, Disaster Action Response Team.
- HITF hosts several special meetings and workshops throughout the year, such as: Poverty 101, Diversity, Cultural Competency, Poverty Simulation, Prioritization Meeting.
- HITF coordinates the two annual Rock County Homeless Street Counts.
- HITF information, meeting agendas and minutes are available on the ROCK-HITF.ORG website, additional information and updates can be found on our Facebook page (facebook.com/HITFRockCounty)

3. The summer homeless count will be Thursday, July 30 – 2:30 to 6:00 AM. Volunteers can sign up on line. Volunteers will meet at ECHO for the count. All grant recipients are required to participate in the count.

Following the count, HITF will host Project Homeless Connect – a mini service fair (health screenings, hair cuts, info tables, etc) and breakfast at Salvation Army. We'll be able to ask attendees where they slept the previous night, and may identify additional homeless. Transportation from Beloit and other remote areas will be available. Registration for a table at the service fair is due by 7/1.

Participation in Project Homeless Connect is not a replacement for homeless count participation.

4. Jessica reviewed the results of the membership survey.

The new meeting schedule is:

- Regular meetings in February, March, May, June, September and November (3rd Friday at Noon at the Job Center)
- Training workshops in April and October
- Prioritization meeting in January

72% want additional networking opportunities. The group discussed several ideas / opportunities: speed networking, separate agency tours, an agency poker run, and round tables on specific topics.

5. Matters not on Agenda

Erin told the group about a Smartphone app – Homeless Reach. It also can be accessed from a PC. If your organization isn't included, you can go in and add your information so those using the app can find you.

Next HITF meeting: September 18 at Noon at Rock County Job Center (Room D/E)

Homeless Intervention Task Force

SERVING THE NEEDS OF SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED HOMELESS



Background

- Evolved from several city and county groups that had been meeting on this issue.
- HITF originally met to discuss the implications of the North Rock County Homelessness Survey, completed in 1993.
- It serves as the local Continuum of Care for dealing with homelessness and works on coordinated grant applications to meet the identified needs.

Background Continued

- Mission Statement: To work together to achieve stable, permanent housing for all residents of Rock County.
- HITF currently meets at noon on the 3rd Friday of each month at the Rock County Job Center.
- Meetings consist of member agency updates, BOSCOOC updates, and presentation on programs that can assist us in achieving our mission statement.

HITF Sub-Committees

- Executive Committee
 - Meets monthly
- Resource Committee
 - Meets at least once a month.
 - Responsible for consolidated grant applications; program standards, 10 year plan to end homelessness, etc.

HITF Sub-Committees Continued

- Service Providers
 - Meets as needed.
 - Responsible for stating best practices for case management, organizing workshops/trainings, poverty simulations, homeless counts, Project Homeless Connect, etc.
- Disaster Action Response Team (DART)
 - It is team comprised of agencies through out Rock County to respond to man made disasters. The best example of such event is when a building is deemed not fit because of no power due to landlord not paying the bill. Does not included events that the Red Cross or other such agencies would assist with like floods or fires.

HITF Special Meetings/Workshops

- Poverty 101
- Diversity
- Cultural Competency
- Poverty Simulation
- Prioritization Meeting

Homeless Street Count

Each year HITF conducts two (2) 24 hour counts of the homeless population in Rock County. The purpose of the Point-In-Time (PIT) Count is to reach out to homeless individuals and families in Rock County with an immediate goal of providing emergency shelter and a long-term goal of eliminating homelessness.

The information gathered is utilized for a number of reports that have a significant impact on the amount of funding that Rock County receives each year to combat homelessness.

For more information about HITF

- Visit our website at www.rock-hitf.org
- Email at rock.hitf@gmail.com
- Facebook at www.facebook.com/HITFRockCounty