

Amarillo CoC General Membership Minutes

July 13, 2023

Sharing Hope Ministry

2300 SW 7th

Amarillo, TX 79106

10:00 AM

Meeting was brought to order at 10:03 am and the membership introduced themselves.

Members Present: Kevin Baker, James Bellar, Julie Cleveland, Rusty Donelson, Major Tex Ellis, Raymond Gonzales, Will Grant, Chris Israel, Shanna James, Quenten Marquez, Rudy Montano, Jason Riddlespurger, Stefanie Rodarto-Suto, Mikaila Schmidt, Steve Smart, Kraig Stockstill, Susan Webb, Virginia Williams Trice; Rachel Scott

Others Present: Maria Cano, Zachary Regan, Sherrie Ferguson, Alvaro Hrgic, Meztli Ostos, Christy Schroeder, John Spradling, Isabell Villarreal, Lois McDonald, Nikki Patterson, Jackie Hower, Sarah McManus, Caressa Pena, Vanessa Robinson, Ryan Francis

Steve called for review of May 2023 minutes and asked for any changes or amendments. No one opposed the minutes, so they passed unanimously.

Guest Speakers

Kim Lester with Sharon Hope Ministries spoke about her outreach ministry to at-risk women in the community. They provide many services in the community, including emergency food, clothing and hygiene. They also provide educational classes, and life-skills classes. In partnership with AC they have GED preparation classes. They also offer basic skill computer courses in partnership with Goodwill Industries. And anyone who completes those classes will receive a refurbished computer.

They are having a special food pantry next week for people struggling to feed the kids during the summer.

They will be having an event called "Dressing for Impressing" class to help women make a good first impression during their job interviews. At the end every participant will be given an entire job interview outfit.

They will be sponsoring back to school haircuts, school supplies and immunizations.

They will be hosting a resource fair September 14, at the Amarillo Civic Center Regency Room.

Shanna introduced Ryan Francis who spoke about local educational opportunities. Ryan is with Amarillo Resource Network and he spoke about the work he does. He says amaresourcenetwork.org is a good place to visit for information regarding local resources.

Workforce Solutions offers tuition assistance with a wide range of degrees. They can help with purchasing work boots or other uniforms required for employment.

Workforce Solutions says they received a grant to help purchase special tools upon completion of specialized certifications.

Meg will be chairing an ad hoc homelessness decriminalization committee.

Shanna will be working on a list of back to school resources.

Lead Agency Report

Jason reports that the CoC NOFO has been released. It is due September 28, 2023 so any interested applicants should be on the look out for more information.

CoC will receive technical assistance through HUD and their advisors will be reaching out soon with more information.

Caressa Pena is the contact for CoC and HMIS, so reach out to her with any questions.

Summer PIT count will take place on July 28, 2023, reach out to her to volunteer.

Policy Revisions

Motion to approve policy revision was made by Shanna and unanimously approved.

Motion to approve the HMIS Security, Policy and Data Quality Plan was made by Shanna and unanimously approved.

Community Announcements

- Amarillo Housing First will have their annual Yoga Festival on July 15, 2023 from 11 to 2. Free rooftop yoga at 6 car grill and pub. Also will have vendors market and raffle.
- Heal the City will have a back to school shot clinic on August 12
- Another Chance House is having an open house on July 15, from 11 to 2. They are moving men into a new house. There will be tours and food and music.
- Alvaro reports that he has clients who are in need of air conditioning units.
- There will be a symposium on July 21 in Dumas with mental health speakers and mental health resources