



uniting central alabama to end homelessness

"It is the mission of One Roof to equip and empower our community to prevent and end homelessness through advocacy, education and coordination of services."

AGENDA Membership Meeting March 6, 2014 The YWCA of Central Alabama

I. Welcome and Roundtable Introductions ([Attendance](#))

II. Special Presentations

A. DHR TANF, Patrice Williams ([handout](#))

1. Phone numbers for Jefferson County:
 - a) Family Assistance: 205-423-4300
 - b) Food Assistance: 205-423-4200
 - c) JOBS Program: 205-423-4350
 - d) Child Support: 205-423-4400
2. Birmingham office serves 600 clients/month w/ 9 case managers
 - a) Clients attend class & group interview, then exit interview one-on-one w/ case managers to discuss their specific situations
 - b) Clients are provided with a list of needed information & given 7-10 days to gather info
 1. Clients must communicate & ask case manager for help if needed
3. Application process & information:
 - a) 30 day process
 - b) Family assistance application includes JOBS program & child support
 - c) Food assistance: separate application available online (different funding)
 1. Food assistance has an expedited process, but no other program
 - d) Clients must apply in county of residence
 - e) Voter registration w/ every application
 - f) DHR won't turn away folks w/o ID
 - g) If a client is working or has formerly worked, they must apply for unemployment
 - h) All clients must cooperate with the JOBS program & child support program
 1. Goal is self-sufficiency
 2. Intact families don't have to go through child support
 3. Legal custody is not necessary to apply
 4. Child support: paternity must be established; if father's name is on birth certificate, must have a signed affidavit from hospital
 - i) Teen parents (homeless or housed) are required to be in school or GED class to receive assistance, & someone of legal age must be present
 - j) Drug felons are denied food stamps & JOBS program; can receive family assistance for children but not themselves
 - k) Clients can ask for desk review, state hearing, state office review if unsatisfied w/ outcome
 - l) Process is not quick: clients need all information & must have established legal relationship w/ children
 1. DHR will assist & make decisions on a case-by-case basis
4. **Important:** welfare payments are low (see [brochure](#)) & welfare has a 5 year limit
5. Non-compliances
 - a) Cooperation is a must & communication is key
 - b) Non-cooperation: clients don't show for interviews, meetings, court dates, job placements, classes
 1. DHR does take into consideration that transportation is a problem
 - c) Sanction process:
 1. Case initially reduced by 50% for 3 months
 2. If they don't cooperate further: 1 month sanction
 3. 2nd time: 6 month sanction
 4. 3rd time: 12 month sanction
 5. Sanctions follow children (if children living with another relative, sanction follows)
6. EBT card:
 - a) Cash & food benefits go on card

- b) EBT Edge: clients can use [website](#) or call 1-800-997-8888 to provide verification of income
 - c) Food stamps for homeless individuals will go to agency they're staying in on a *biweekly* basis
 - 1. This way, if client leaves they will have food stamps left for the month
- B. DHR JOBS, Ty Evans ([handout](#))
- 1. Employers & nonprofits invited to Birmingham JOBS program hiring event
 - a) 26 organizations last year; 10 organizations thus far this year
 - 2. **Focus on DHR clients**
 - a) If client is receiving assistance from any DHR programs, let them know about job fair (food stamps, TANF recipient, etc)
 - 3. Clients needs resume; DHR will try to help them with resume & getting clothes for the interview
 - a) Free resume help @ Alabama Career Center on 3rd Ave S
 - 4. Job opportunities: clerical work, retail, food service

III. Old Business (None)

IV. Continuum Business

- A. Transitional Housing Subcommittee Meeting: Monday, March 10 @ 10 a.m., AIDS Alabama
- 1. Working group to evaluate TH programs in our CoC
 - a) HUD wants TH gone except for unaccompanied minors, DV victims, & some substance abusers
 - b) Need to make sure our CoC is meeting Best Practices & doing what's best for clients
 - 2. Important piece of strategic planning for our CoC: participation is not required, but strongly encouraged, especially if your TH is HUD-funded

V. New Business

- A. Next Membership Meeting – April 3, 2014, 2 p.m. AT BOUTWELL AUDITORIUM
- 1. Walk-through of PHC (all other business will be on hold till May meeting)
 - 2. If participating in PHC, come to set up & troubleshoot
 - 3. If not participating in PHC, encouraged to come & take a look, see if you / your service provider wants to volunteer
 - 4. Those at-risk of homelessness are not eligible to receive services; persons must be experiencing homelessness or formerly homeless: on street or in an agency (ES, TH, PSH)
 - 5. Glitch: SS won't print temporary cards unless folks have a state ID
- B. Cardboard Connect
- 1. One Roof partnering w/ YouthServe on March 8-9: overnight awareness-raising event for youth 13-18
 - a) We will illuminate barriers to housing & discuss subpopulations experiencing homelessness
 - i. Simulation, vigil, & panel
 - b) 100 youth, 40-50 adult volunteers, 5 panelists
 - c) Homeless & formerly homeless folks involved in design so that it's done respectfully
 - 2. On average, knowledge of homelessness increased from 5 to 10 for last year's participants
 - 3. "Robbery" during last year's simulation showed that people sometimes make tough decisions when their needs aren't met
 - a) Participants admitted theft was wrong, but understood more about why homeless clients might have misdemeanor & felony convictions
- C. Project Homeless Connect
- 1. April 5, 2014 at Boutwell Auditorium
 - 2. Contact Sebrena Davis at Aletheia House for transportation for clients
 - a) AH prepared to provide transport on day of event, pick up & drop off
 - b) Contact Sebrena ASAP: sdavis@specialkindofcaring.org
- D. Golden Tickets
- 1. PromisAL providers: Golden Ticket process is different
 - 2. Provides clients access to dental & vision
 - 3. Friday 3/7 is deadline for users who are coming to PHC to notify Nathan
 - 4. Laptops on loan are due Wednesday 4/2 (before PHC)
- E. Section 8 Jeff Co Housing Authority taking [applications](#)
- F. Amy Sparks: clients in need of affordable care insurance can come to Birmingham Healthcare
- 1. Counselors; daycare services at My Place
- G. Neighborhood Housing Services of Birmingham: Mortgage assistance for single women w/ children who are late on payments (328-4292)