

# Homeless Liaison Committee Minutes

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## Date and Time

Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012 11:00AM-12:00PM

## Location

Homeless Services Center, 140 Central Street, Manchester, NH

## Attendees

Chris Emerson	Bill Sullivan	Doreen Brown	Katie Simpson	Kevin Kintner
Dave Carroll	Jocelyne Pinsonneault	Jennifer Comeau	Jay Mattia	

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## Outreach Activities: Updates

- Camp Outreach – Outreach workers are avoiding certain camps that have become dangerous.
  - Usually these are younger groups, 18 to mid-twenties.
  - However, most members of these groups are being reached at the Homeless Services Center.

## Homeless Services Center

- Numbers are continuing to rise – the daily average in September was 178.
  - However, they are not seeing large numbers of new people, just the same people more often.
- 18 local university students are currently helping out at the Center.
- Rick from Serenity Place is now working with clients there on substance abuse education.
- Sarah Dube from Families in Transition is also spending time working with clients at the HSC.

## Breakfast in the Park

- They hit a record number of 300 participants a couple of weeks ago.
- Lately, they have been seeing many newcomers, often those being released from Valley.
- They are currently organizing a Thanksgiving lunch that will be held on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, November 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Hopefully, they will be able to continue serving breakfast inside during the winter in the Millyard – opening around Thanksgiving.

## Homeless Representative: Don

- People are moving from the camps to indoors because of the colder weather.
  - A woman called the Center looking to hand out blankets to the homeless – possibly at Breakfast in the Park.
- The cold weather shelter in Concord is reopening.

## General Discussion

- Child and Family Services hired a new outreach worker, Doug. This will hopefully increase outreach among the youth in Manchester.
- The Mayor's Youth Advisory Council is holding The Summit on Homeless and Unaccompanied Youth in Manchester on Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at the Carol M. Rines Building, 1528 Elm Street.

## Homeless Representatives Involvement with Homeless Liaison Committee

- The committee needs to come up with more organized questions to ask individuals.
  - Safety – What are some safety concerns in the Manchester community?
  - Health – What is the drug usage like in Manchester among the homeless?

- Police – What are their feelings about the police?
- Weekends – What does a typical weekend look like for a homeless individual in Manchester?
  - Restrooms, drinking water, phone charging, food, etc.
- Changes – Over time what has changed in homelessness? How is this year different from last year?
- Jobs – How do they perceive the job market?
- Services – How do they feel about the availability of services in Manchester?
- We could possibly have a homeless or formally homeless individual join the committee.
  - This could potentially cause problems of status.
- A separate group could meet with homeless individuals before the regularly scheduled Homeless Liaison Committee meetings and report back.
  - These meetings could be held at the Homeless Services Center to insure involvement and make the individuals more comfortable.
  - The group will meet Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am-12:00pm at the HSC.

### **Minutes Prepared By**

Katie Simpson

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