



## *Three Rivers Community Action, Inc.*

Serving people in Goodhue, Rice, and Wabasha Counties

**Goodhue County Homeless Response Team Minutes  
Friendship House, 480 W 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Red Wing, Minnesota  
April 6, 2010, 10:00 a.m.**

### Attendance

Facilitator: Shirley Gregory, Three Rivers Community Action, Inc  
Jack Nordgaard, Senior Homework  
Janae Blakeslee, Cannon Falls Area Schools  
Jane Wassink, Red Wing Schools  
Janet Adams, Goodhue County Adult Detention Center  
Jeanne Folstad, Catholic Charities Counseling  
JoAnn McNamara, HOPE Coalition  
Kris Kvols, HOPE Coalition  
Tim Sletten, Red Wing Police Department

Recording Secretary: Jenae Pagel, Three Rivers Community Action, Inc

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Welcome and introductions were made.

### **Approval of March 2, 2010 Minutes and April 6, 2010 Agenda**

Tim Sletten made a motion to approve the March 2, 2010 minutes and the April 6, 2010 agenda. Jack Nordgaard seconded, the motion was unanimously approved.

### **Training Opportunities**

Shirley Gregory contacted someone from Xcel Energy to come and talk to the group about the Cold Weather Rule Act. The representative from Xcel Energy wanted some more information about the meeting so she could set up a time to meet with us. Shirley needs to get back to her.

Kris Kvols said that the annual MIWSAC Conference (Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition) is taking place at Prairie Island April 28-30, 2010. This is the first year the conference is being held at Prairie Island. It is an event put on by this state-wide coalition and not the Tribe, but it is something that is open to everyone who is interested (tribal or non-tribal). You can register for this event at their website [www.miwsac.org](http://www.miwsac.org).

Tim Sletten asked how last month's meeting went with Tammy Dougherty from the City of Red Wing, Public Works. Shirley said that she talked about their procedures but nothing was really settled or decided as to what we wanted to do regarding late fees. JoAnn McNamara said that she would still like to go to the city council and present their case. She would like to ask them to not enforce the \$60 late fee unless you actually get shut off. She would like to get a group together to present this with her.

201 South Lyndale Avenue  
Faribo Town Square  
Faribault, MN 55021  
Phone: 507-333-6450 Voice/TTY  
Fax: 507-333-6462

1414 North Star Drive, Zumbrota, MN 55992  
Phone: 507-732-7391  
TTY: MN Relay Service: 1-800-627-3529  
Fax: 507-732-8547  
[www.threeriverscap.org](http://www.threeriverscap.org)

611 Broadway Avenue  
Wabasha, MN 55981  
Phone: 507-732-7391  
Fax: 651-565-2754

Tim said that it would be a good idea for someone from our group to write a letter to give to the council before they appear in person with their request so the Council has knowledge of what is going on. Kris knows a few of the council members so she is going to talk to them before a meeting is set up. Tim said that he thinks that they would be okay doing it on a trial basis. Kris and JoAnn will draft a letter and bring it to the next HRT meeting for review by the members. If the letter is presented from the Homeless Response Team, all the members will have to review it and okay it before it is presented to the City Council.

Tim said that the CIT (Crisis Intervention Training) has a full class and they are very excited about that. CIT is a law enforcement approach to assist the mental health community by training police officers to understand mental illness in an effort to reduce repeat calls, reduce injuries or death to consumers and officers, and assist the mental health community to understand what is going on in the consumer's life in a time of crisis.

Shirley shared that the FHP (Family Homeless Prevention) monitor sent an email about a Webcast that will be on April 8, 2010 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. It deals with street outreach to for homeless families and individuals. She has information on it and would like someone to watch it and report back to the group. JoAnn said that she would watch it and report next month.

### **CoC Update**

There was no CoC update.

### **Program Sharing**

Shirley said that she has camp funds available again this year. Kids have to be between the ages of 8-15 and can access the funds by contacting a Three Rivers office and filling out a contact form. First time campers will be eligible for up to \$500 and returning campers are eligible for up to \$350. She has \$1500 total for camp funds to give away.

Shirley also talked about Three Rivers Energy Assistance Program. She said that funds are still available but it will end May 31, 2010. If someone has a disconnect notice and have not applied for the program they need to send an application along with the disconnect notice as soon as possible especially since the Cold Weather Rule Act ends on April 15, 2010.

JoAnn said that they have two new families at the triplex for Transitional Housing and everything is going very well. She is getting her files ready for her monitor to look at. They have eight families and individuals they are helping with the Rapid Re-Housing Program. She also passed out Easter baskets along with the food baskets that Patti Reibold put together.

JoAnn and Jack Nordgaard both talked about how the HRA has funds for a grant which would be used for housing youth ages 18-24 and giving them the support services they need. There are four or five of these programs in the area, and one just opened in Eagan called Lincoln Place. They are housing youth who are aged out of foster care or kids who are forced out of the home for different reasons; it's basically for homeless youth. They have 24 hour staffing for the youth. Jack said there are a lot of unknowns at this time for one in the Red Wing (Goodhue County area) but they are researching it.

Jack said that they have two places lined up for Christmas in April/May. They have identified two trailer homes that are really in need of help. Veterans for Peace are planting trees and bushes at the Correctional Facility in April. The inmates will be the ones maintaining them after they are planted. The hope is to have master planters come out and teach the inmates how to maintain

and grow a nursery. They will eventually be able to give them away to low income people when they are full grown. Eventually they want to plant a big garden and use some of the food for the facility and then donate the rest to the food shelf.

Janae Blakeslee said they are just trying to get through the third quarter which ends soon. The winter projects such as the coat drive are now winding down. They also do a walk every year for diabetes and raise anywhere from \$25,000-30,000. She is also working with another counselor to figure out what the best option is to get teens to understand the consequences of bullying. They would like to target the middle school aged kids.

Janet Adams said they are meeting today with a committee to get ideas on how to get the word out about the Free Clinic.

Tim said that as the warmer weather arrives they see an increase in vandalizing but other than that there is nothing new.

Kris is the new director of the HOPE Coalition. They have a new maintenance man that the Women's Shelter recommended to them. They have moved some staff and offices around at the Friendship House and cleaned and now they have more room. She said that April is Child Abuse Prevention month and on April 14, 2010 there will be a candle light vigil at the correctional facility. April is also Sexual Assault Awareness month.

Janet Adams said that on May 8, 2010 there is a golf outing at Lake City Country Club in support of the HOPE Coalition. It will be \$55 per person for 18 holes, breakfast and prizes.

Jeanne Folstad said they have been able to improve their financial picture a bit. She is always looking for referrals.

**Next Meeting Date/Time:** May 4, 2010 10:00 a.m. Friendship House Conference Room.