

**Greater Bridgeport Area Continuum of Care
Public Policy and Information Committee
October 28, 2005
Minutes**

Attendees:

Carmen Colon – Alpha Community Services	Laurie Gross – Jewish Federation
Carol Walter – CARC	Kate Kelly – Partnership for Strong Communities
Kristina Foye - BCAC	Richard Tennenbaum – Connecticut Legal Services
Andrea Kovacs – United Way of Eastern Fairfield County	Joanne Cannon - United Way of Eastern Fairfield County
Caryn Kaufman – City of Bridgeport, Mayor’s Office	

Discussion:

Discussion focused on the public information event to educate local leaders/public officials on the issue of affordable and supportive housing.

Elected officials from Bridgeport, Stratford, Fairfield, Trumbull, Monroe and Easton will be the focus of this event.

Invitees should include: City Council members, Mayor, and all Selectman. Appropriate committee chairs? State delegation?

Appropriate committee chairs should also be contacted prior to this meeting.

CoC members should send personalized letters and follow-up with phone calls as a way to reach out to their representatives.

A piece needs to be created explaining – “This is what we need from you”.

The overall message will then need to be “customized” to engage the surrounding towns to take an interest in affordable and supportive housing and to understand how it affects them.

The January event will focus on Bridgeport. Then over the next few months, the events will take place in the suburbs and presented to town councils at meetings. These events should be completed by this spring.

Input from Social Service Directors should be included – discuss what they are seeing in their towns regarding homelessness, food pantries, etc. They should be invited to the town council meetings. Kate Kelly has a list of these folks.

Nancy Hadley (City of Bridgeport, Director of Economic Development) will be invited to next meeting of this group.

Andrea suggested engaging the Urban Land Institute steering committee to ask how our agenda fits with the City's revitalization plans.

The issue of accountability was raised as who will follow-up with the elected officials once the event has taken place.

Richard Tennenbaum updated the group on the Park City Hospital Project.

Details of the January event:

A date needs to be chosen. It should be an evening event when no other meetings are planned.

We need to start now to get this meeting organized and publicized.

Content:

- 80/20 zoning
- Inclusionary zoning plans
- Earmarking property
- Prioritizing homelessness as an issue

Research is needed on inclusionary zoning plans. Charlotte may be doing something in regards to this topic. Source = www.knowledgeplex.org

Action Items:

Carmen:

- Will speak to Andreas Ayala (Bridgeport City Council President) regarding potential meeting dates and times and the ULI plans
- Will find out if there is a housing committee or chairperson of a similar committee in the Bridgeport City Council

Carol:

- Will highlight action items and send them out to the group.
- Research inclusionary zoning (Kristina will do the same).

Kristina:

- Research inclusionary zoning (Carol will do the same).

Kate:

- Will e-mail list of Social Service Directors

To Do:

- Plan the January event
 - Where? When? Who's invited? How are they getting invited?
- Message
- Structure of the meeting and the committees

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 16, 2005 2:30PM – 4:00 PM
Bridgeport City Hall Annex, 999 Broad Street, Bridgeport
OPED Conference Room A