

**Greater Bridgeport Area Continuum of Care
Project Homeless Connect Planning Meeting Notes
Thursday, September 21, 2006**

Present: Chris Kelly, Tony Bonetti, Janet Hamilton, Rose Christy, Nadine Nevins, Kathleen Marchione, Lisa Mazzeo, Margaret Peabody, Cheryl Bell, Judith Ursini, Rona Durham, Rosa Correa, Anne Carr, & Karen Seferi

Date of Event: Thursday, December 7, 2006

Time: 10 AM to 3 PM

Possible Event Venue/Site: United Congregational Church, 877 Park Avenue, Bridgeport

- **Margaret Peabody & Rona Durham** to check on availability/usage and inquire about availability of racks for jackets/coats
- Selected after discussion on site format and due to access to local programs and on transportation line.
- For event day - tables and chairs for folks and area for private conversations between service providers and attendees

Estimated Event Attendance: 250

Food: Ideas of a Bagged Lunch or Soup Kitchen access via trolley: **Chris Kelly** will look into. And then **Rona Durham** and **Lisa Mazzeo** will look into if needed.

Transportation: Greater Bridgeport Transit - **Anne Carr** to contact

Service Area Leads - To Identify Who Should Be There and What It Will Look Like:

Employment - **Anne Carr**

- STRIVE - Career Resources
- Idea to bring attendees and have them walk through CT Works site.

Legal Services - **Nadine Nevins**

- Discussion of what will look like: Folks will be available to meet. Variety of staff and issues. Meet and Greet. Access to separate private, quiet area.

Housing - **Rose Christy & Tony Bonetti**

- Discussion of what will look like: Continuum of Housing Services Available. Housing attorney. What's Open from PHA if any openings at time. Nuts and Bolts. Invite area PHA to be present and answer questions.
- Contact Area Housing Authorities - Tony Bonetti

Mental Health - **Possibly Becca (Anne and Kathy to ask)**

Consumer Group - **Margaret Peabody**

Health Services - **Janet Hamilton**

- Americares Van - **Nadine Nevins** will contact.
- DPH - ??? will ask about van availability and flu shots.

- SW Mobile Clinic - **Margaret Peabody** will call community health center about availability
- Discussion of what will look like: Mobile vans/units in parking lot for folks to access. Medical services. Health screens. Dental. Flu shots.

Personal Needs - **Karen Seferi**

- Coats, Toiletries, Gloves, Socks, Scarves - **Karen Seferi** will work on to make sure there is enough available for est. 250 in attendance. Karen indicated they have access to a place to store items and she will pull in the help of youth group.
- **Margaret Peabody** indicated she will see about adding these items as part of drive to occur in school system as well as gym bags and sleeping bags.

Donation of Phone Cards - **Anne Carr** will ask Mary Pat of SBC/AT&T

Entitlements from DSS - **Nadine Nevins** to Contact

- Security Deposit Clinic
- Energy Assistance

Other Items Mentioned:

- Distribute the "Red Book"

Other Items Mentioned - No Person Assigned to Task:

- Identifying funding/financial support for event
- Ask phone company to come with van for those in attendance to make phone calls
- Ask someone from a phone co. to attend and provide info on reduction of bill if on public benefits
- Provide haircuts
- Identify and distribute giveaways
 - Gym bags/Back packs
 - Blankets/Sleeping Bags

Next GBACoC Project Homeless Connect Planning Meeting: Wednesday, October 11, 2006 at 11 AM at the Catholic Center, Bridgeport - Prior to GBACoC Plenary Meeting.