

# Faith Community Committee

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## MINUTES

June 23, 2015

### In Attendance

Anna Jacobsen, City of Pasadena; Anne Lansing, City of Pasadena; Chris Castillo, 211 LA County; Dan Davidson, Rose City Church; Gary Talbert, Salvation Army & PazNaz; Jihad Shakoor, Pasadena Humanitarian Day; Laura James, 211 LA County; Martha Solorio, St. Andrew's Catholic Church; Michael Watkins, PPEH Board; Tara Ignont, Imagine LA; & Terry Bright, Elizabeth House

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes were read from the May meeting and approved

<b>Landlord Outreach Flyer</b>		Presenter Name: Anna Jacobsen
<p>A landlord outreach flyer, created in response to the CoC's need for additional landlords willing to rent to clients with rental assistance, was distributed to committee members. The front side of the flyer details the advantages of committing one unit to this cause and the backside of the flyer lists FAQs. The flyer will be updated as the committee receives feedback from landlords. Members of the committee agreed to conduct outreach to landlords in the faith community as well as encourage tenants to reach out to landlords when a unit becomes available.</p>		
Action Items:	Person Responsible:	
Review flyer with Jim Tyberg, Pasadena Covenant Church	Dan Davidson	
Email flyer to committee members	Anna Jacobsen	
Conduct outreach to landlords & tenants	All members	

<b>211 LA County</b>		Christopher Castillo, Housing Coordinator & Presenters: Laura James, Resource Supervisor
<p>211 LA County presented on the services offered and it's new online resource database.</p>		
<p><b>What is 211?</b></p> <p>211 is a national service that offers 24/7 information, referrals, and assistance. 211LA County is an individual 501(c)(3) and is one of the larger 211 services in the nation, offering numerous services. When you call 211, you speak with a live-person (24/7).</p>		
<p><b>Who 211 LA County Serves</b></p> <p>Most of the people who call 211 LA County are families with children, pregnant women who speak English or Spanish. Sixty percent of the staff is bilingual in English and Spanish and 211 offers tele-interpreting for other languages.</p>		
<p><b>How it Works</b></p> <p>People call 211 with a need (such as "I can't pay my rent," or "I need food"). 211 provides referrals to services (e.g. rental assistance programs, drug rehab centers, food banks, childcare resources, etc.). Members of the faith community can call 211 on behalf of someone they are serving (notify them that you are a service provider trying to find XYZ). If you are calling for a homeless family, you can contact Christopher directly at (626) 926-1295 or by email at ccastillo@211la.org.</p>		

## 211 LA County

Christopher Castillo, Housing Coordinator &  
Presenters: Laura James, Resource Supervisor

### Homeless Family Solutions System (HFSS)

The Homeless Family Solution System is a 211 service that offers a seamless, cooperative system of service delivery for homeless and at-risk families throughout LA County. When a family calls, they are connected with a HFSS case manager who is co-located at a Family Solutions Center (FSC) site (HFSS is open Mon-Sun from 8am-10pm). Families who meet the basic eligibility criteria (most importantly currently homeless) are given an appointment at the closest FSC site and receive help in coordinating transportation to their appointment (SPA 3 typically has readily available appointments). While the HFSS doesn't currently have motel vouchers for SPA 3 (only for the Antelope Valley), historically it has been able to offer vouchers to families who call on the weekend. At their FSC appointment, families receive a F-VI-SPDAT assessment and are linked to the most appropriate housing program.

### Resource Database

A service that can be particularly useful to the leaders in the faith community is 211's new resource database (available at 211la.org). The database, which is the same one a 211 resource coordinator sees, provides information on almost 50,000 Services/Programs in the LA area (the service is free for agencies listed). Most of the providers listed are non-profits, although for-profit providers are listed if they provide niche service at low-cost through medi-cal or a sliding scale. Each fiscal year 211 goes through and updates information on all of the service providers listed on the database ensuring the correct address, services, etc.

Tips for using the resource database include:

1. Before searching, try using the "search resource database" tab which offers auto-populated searches for various types of services offered to specific populations (including children & families, re-entry, veterans & military services, and youth services). Under the veteran tab, veterans can complete an online form that connects them to "battle buddy" within one business day. Battle buddies are peer veterans that provide outreach and care management.
2. If instead you would prefer to look by type of service, scroll down on the homepage to view the "guided search" topics (which include housing, senior & older adults, food, clothing & hygiene, transportation, health care, mental health, crisis services, substance abuse, income & employment, legal assistance, family, children & families, re-entry, veterans & military services, youth services). Similarly to the "search resource database" tab, these guided search tabs help to auto-populate your search to ensure your search generates the best-fit services.
3. If there is no relevant tab or guided search, use the search bar to enter a keyword rather than a phrase (e.g. "housing" not "where do I find housing") and leave the zip code blank (for some reason the system works better if you enter the zip code after you have searched). If you are searching using two words, be sure to put it in quotes (e.g. "food pantry"). Once you have entered a search term, you can refine your search by entering in the zip code and/or clicking on advanced search.
4. Once you have refined your searched, click the read more link under the listed service providers to get detailed information about the agency and services included whether there are any service conditions or fees.

Action Items:	Person Responsible:
Connect Laura & Chris with Homeless Summit	Gary Talbert

<b>Reports from Partnership Meetings</b>		Presenters:	Dan Davidson & Terry Bright
<b>San Gabriel Valley Consortium on Homelessness</b>			
Terry Bright reported on the Consortium's monthly meeting (6/10). The main topic of the meeting was the 60% increase in homelessness for the SGV found by the Homeless Count. Monthly meetings take place at the Citrus Valley Medical Center from 9 am – 11:30 am.			
<b>Clergy Community Coalition</b>			
Dan Davidson reported on last month's meeting (6/10) which mostly focused on introducing the new mayor.			
<b>Collaborate Pasadena</b>			
Juliana Serrano who attends these meetings is unable to attend the FCCs monthly meeting. Dan Davidson proposed finding a new day of the week to meet (see below).			
<b>Action Items:</b>		<b>Person Responsible:</b>	
San Gabriel Valley Consortium		Terry Bright	
Clergy Community Coalition		Dan Davidson	
Collaborate Pasadena		Juliana Serrano	

<b>Update on Future FCC Meetings</b>		Presenter:	Dan Davidson
The FCC will not be meeting in July or August as many members of the committee will not be able to attend. Dan Davidson will send out a doodle to committee members to determine the best day of the week to meet in the future. Tentative future dates and topics for FCC meetings are:			
Sep 22: Outreach Team Presentation (Union Station Homeless Services)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet with USHS specialist that comes to the agency and learn about that process</li> </ul>			
Oct 20: Weekend Response & Sharing Stories			
Nov 17: Review of Resource List			
<b>Action Items:</b>		<b>Person Responsible:</b>	
Dan will send a Doodle for best day of the week to meet		Dan & All members	

<b>Humanitarian Day</b>		Presenter:	Jihad Shakoor
Jihad Shakoor presented on Humanitarian Day which will be held on July 11 at Central Park (10am-2pm). This year's humanitarian day will feature a group of people involved in homelessness and will offer people who are homeless hygiene products and meals. The event will also be taking place in LA & Long Beach as well during the same weekend			
<b>Action Items:</b>		<b>Person Responsible:</b>	
Send Jihad the FCC's current resource guide		Anna Jacobsen	

## Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 22 at 9am