

Interfaith Community Services

General Membership Committee Minutes

September 19, 2018

11:30am-1:00pm

Nutrition Center

Membership Committee

Reverend Meg led the General Membership meeting with introductions of first time attendees followed by the invocation. Meg introduced the table discussion question "Has a traumatic event helped you become the person you are?". A few responses included: recent fires, family had to evacuate which caused trauma due to not knowing if they still had a home or community left. This created empathy towards those dealing with the recent hurricanes on the east coast; a father recently lost his job while his wife is a stay at home mom. The trauma he experienced created worry and concern over his family's financial needs and fear of homelessness. He turned to God and scripture to overcome his fears and concerns. A family lost their father to cancer. This loss caused other family members to come together to heal old wounds.

Veterans Housing

Shauntis Bussey-Program Manager, Grant Per Diem, Interfaith Community Services

Shauntis presented on the why, what and how this program offers Transitional Housing to homeless veterans. She explained how the Mission of Interfaith and the Purpose of the Transitional Housing program work in tandem to create a Safe Space to heal through a wraparound approach, while offering services to stabilize and rebuild their lives. Photos were shared to give a snapshot of what these fully furnished, 2bedroom/1 bath home environments look like. Clients in this program average at 6-9 months stay. Shauntis also shared a client story of a 62 year old veteran who endured 3 strokes that fully impacted his speech and ability to work. He became homeless due to a company's business falling apart. He was referred to Interfaith by a member of a church affiliated with Interfaith's General Membership. He has since accessed VA benefits, housing and now works out of the Carlsbad office, Day Labor program.

Veterans Employment

Vanessa Marshall-Coastal Programs Manager, Interfaith Community Services

Denise Fonseca-Site Supervisor, Carlsbad Service Center, Interfaith Community Services

Denise began the presentation to discuss the Carlsbad Service Center programs available to our homeless Veterans, such as; Day Labor, Employment Services and Basic Needs. She also noted to the membership that these programs are in need of Transportation support for clients, indicating that this is the biggest barriers to their self sufficiency goals.

Vanessa presented on the Veterans Employment Services purpose to provide services to assist in reintegrating homeless veterans into meaningful employment. These services include Career Development and Supports, such as clothing and referrals to housing and other services, providing a wraparound effect.

Veterans Post Traumatic Growth

Crystal Hudkins-Pre-Licensed Clinical Therapist, Interfaith Community Services

Crystal presented on the What, Who and How on Behavioral Health Services (BHS) for Veterans seeking employment services with the Veteran Employment Program. BHS works to offer short and long term access to behavioral health services and/or crisis intervention as well as referrals. They offer post-traumatic growth and interpersonal psychotherapy. She shared the cause and effects of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), symptoms, and pre/post stories of those living with PTSD and how they are growing after trauma through therapy.

Veterans Recuperative Care

Lanni Bradley-Licensed Clinical Therapist, Interfaith Community Services

Lanni stepped in for Jon Lewis to present on the goals and services offered at our Recuperative Care Program (RCP). RCP's goal is to stabilize the client's medical or mental health conditions, engage them in on going health care, and facilitate their transition into housing. She shared the eligibility criteria, referral and intake process, and staffing at RCP. Lanni also shared additional information that included how RCP support the client's sobriety offering Active Recovery, transportation and recreational activities. Lanni closed her presentation with a client named Stanley Moore who thanked Interfaith's RCP program and staff for their support for all their help in his recuperative care process.

Adopt-A-Family

Micki Hickox-Volunteer Manager, Interfaith Community Services

Micki began her presentation by introducing Laura Hernandez, who will be the future contact person. She shared photos from last year's Adopt-A-Family event at Interfaith. 624 individuals were adopted through the magical mojo of Interfaith staff, donors and adopters! She also shared a story of a disabled Vietnam Veteran senior citizen who has been receiving services through Interfaith since 2016. Last year he was an adoptee and received his one wish to visit his longtime friend in Ohio. An Amtrak ticket was purchased on his behalf. Micki closed her presentation by inviting the membership to once again participate this year and passed out flyers with more information on how to get involved.

CEO's Updates

Greg Anglea-Chief Executive Officer, Interfaith Community Services

Greg invited the membership to share information with friends and family about our programs, services and the Adopt-A-Family event. He noted that every little bit helps whether through cash or in kind donations and support. Greg announced the upcoming Interfaith Annual Meeting to be held on October 17th at the Escondido Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 1305 Deodar Road, Escondido, Ca 92026, from 11am-1pm. There will be more stories and free lunch! In closing, Greg announced that through the State of CA, 18.8 million dollars will be coming soon to the cities who declare that there is a shelter crisis and that there is not enough housing to address homelessness. The cities of Oceanside and Escondido have already passed resolutions to participate. Greg encourage the membership to speak with their city officials to participate in this one time opportunity.

Announcements:

Mary and Meg introduced announcements of upcoming events. Mary encouraged membership attendees to check out the table with flyers of all the announcements for upcoming events through Interfaith and the community.