

## Housing & Homeless Services Network

# Agenda

Wednesday, April 13, 2011  
Metro Hall, Room 308/309

9:00 – 9:15 a.m. Coffee and Networking

9:15 – 11:00 a.m.

- 1. Non-Palatable Alcohol, Holly Kramer, Harm Reduction Task Force**
- 2. Hoarding Intervention Program, Lenore Cabral, VHA Home HealthCare**
- 3. Kids @ Computers, Angela Gendis-Ouimet, Toronto Employment and Social Services**
- 4. Investing in Youth, Karliene Scott, Toronto Employment and Social Services**
- 5. Home Safe Project, John Fraser, Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation**
- 6. New Business/Announcements**

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Future agenda items:

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# Housing & Homeless Services Network

## Minutes

Wednesday, February 9, 2011  
Metro Hall, Room 308/309

**Attending:** Peter Ackie, Elizabeth Agoston, Lystra Alexander, Ahmed Al-Jawkary, Mike Bannon, Alice Broughton, Sally Bryant, Peggy Byrne, Luis Carrillos, Meeley Chan, Wilfred Cheung, Donna Dalrymple, Geordie Dent, Anna Fleming, Emily Gaus, Brunilda Gjergji, Angelica Godoy, Lorne Gratton, Lisa Gregg, Tara Ghanbari, Marco Guzman, Jorge Hidalgo, Milena Hozjan, Gabrielle Hrynkiw, Jill Inverary, John Iveson, Martin James, Laura Jeschkeit, Ashley Lawrence, Hugh Lawson, Leisha Lewis-Wilson, Jessica Loucks, Rochelle McAlister, Catharine Mifflin, Steve Milne, Sharmila Mohammed, Irene Paliouras, Tsering Palmo, Sally Pincock, Michael Rosenberg, Jeff Roulsten, Justin Russell, Stephen Shepway, Renee Shentow, Tanya Simpson, Vanessa Sulit, Christine Swearing, Sandra Vaughan, Aklilu Wendaferew

1. Janet Fairfield assumed the Chair and called the second session of the 2011 Housing and Homeless Services Network meeting to order. Minutes of the meeting held on October 13, November 10 and December 8, 2010 were approved as circulated. Janet introduced new HHSN members Meeley Chan and Sandra Vaughan.

The Chair announced changes to the HHSN schedule. Meetings will now occur every other month, April, June, September, November and December for 2011. The meetings have been extended to 11:15am. The Chair also extended a formal thank you and goodbye to long-time City Co-Chair Tracey Smith.

2. **CARES - – Bed Bug Eradication Service, Rolando Aguilar, Good Shepherd Ministries**

Good Shepherd CARES (Compassion, Acceptance, Respect, Experience, Skills) is a new social enterprise program operated by Good Shepherd Ministries, a registered charity that has been serving the homeless and disadvantaged since 1963. The CARES program trains individuals at risk of, or who have experienced, homelessness to eradicate bed bugs. They serve:

- landlords, tenants and homeowners;
- organizations (churches, community centres, schools); and
- small to medium offices or retail outlets.

Please see attached program brochure for a detailed description of the services provided along with contact information.

3. **Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy by John Iveson and Mike Bannon, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

The provincial government launched the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy and introduced Bill 140, Strong Communities through Affordable Housing Act in November 2010. This legislation and has not been finalized.

## **Vision and Principles of the Strategy**

### **Vision:**

To improve Ontarians' access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing, and provide a solid foundation on which to secure employment, raise families and build strong communities.

### **Principles:**

- People Centred
- Partnership-Based
- Locally Driven
- Supportive
- Inclusive
- Fiscally Responsible

## **Key Elements of the Strategy**

### **Establishing Clear Roles for Province (as System Stewards):**

- Set overall vision and provincial interests for housing in Ontario
- Set the legislative and policy framework
- Identify common desired outcomes and report on their achievement
- Assist in achievement of desired outcomes through broad, outcome-based, consolidated funding
- Engage with the federal government to establish national directions and negotiate federal contributions

### **Establishing Clear Roles for Municipalities (as System Service Managers):**

- Set local vision for housing, reflecting the provincial interest
- Provide local leadership in research and analysis of local housing and homelessness systems
- Develop and implement strategies to address housing need and to produce desired housing outcomes
- Contribute to and coordinate housing funding
- Administer housing and homelessness programs, coordinating with other programs and services
- Report on progress in addressing needs/producing outcomes

Using both existing and new measures, the province and the municipalities would be required to report out annually on their outcomes and progress. The new plans are expected to be developed and in place in 2012, with the first annual report due in 2013.

Today, there are more than 20 provincial housing and homelessness programs in Ontario. The Strategy would require the province to consolidate the current patchwork of housing programs. Consolidation would allow municipalities to use funding in a more flexible manner, more reflective of the local need.

For more information visit [www.ontario.ca/housingstrategy](http://www.ontario.ca/housingstrategy).

## **4. Managing Clutter and Hoarding Toolkit, Lenore Cabral, VHA Home HealthCare**

POSTPONED

## 5. New Business/Announcements

### **Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, Sonia Zyvatkaukas**

- The 2011 *Welcome Home Guide: A Guide to Services for Tenants* has been printed and is currently being distributed to those who requested copies. The new format makes information easier to find and includes maps to show locations of key services. New information has also been added, including information on complaints, driver testing, seniors' services and tenant insurance. The Guide is available online at [www.toronto.ca/housing](http://www.toronto.ca/housing).
- The Guide to Services for People who are Homeless, is currently in development and will be available online soon. This guide includes new information on services for people with HIV/AIDS, programs for high risk pregnant women and post-incarceration supports.

To request copies of either guide, send an email to [ssha@toronto.ca](mailto:ssha@toronto.ca).

### **Multi-Cultural Interpretation Services, Richard Brooks**

- MCIS is a non-profit language service agency that provides interpretation, translation, video interpretation, training and language testing in multiple languages. They are funded by the Homeless Partnership Initiative to provide translation services for homeless individuals. They also provide a variety of free and fee-for-service assistance. Visit [www.mcis.on.ca](http://www.mcis.on.ca) for more information.

### **Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, Sally Bryant**

- George Brown College is offering a Chef Training class on March 3, 2011. This class would provide tips and techniques for drop-in and shelter cooks. For more info contact Sacha Bradley at [sbradley@georgebrown.ca](mailto:sbradley@georgebrown.ca) or 416-415-5000 x3007. To register for the training visit [www.georgebrown.ca/cpo/creatinghealthplus/](http://www.georgebrown.ca/cpo/creatinghealthplus/)

### **Landlordconnect.ca, Janet Fairfield**

- Janet advised that group that membership with Landlordconnect is free and provides a wide variety of valuable information for Housing Workers. To sign up or get more information visit [www.landlordconnect.ca](http://www.landlordconnect.ca).

**Next Meeting:**

**Wednesday, April 13, 2011  
9:15 am  
Room 308/309, Metro Hall  
55 John Street**