



Observer Reporting Form

Table with 4 columns: Feature Evaluated, Yes, No, Comments. Rows include: Meeting started on time?, Were members courteous to each other and the public?, Agenda sent/posted 72 hours before?, Agenda items clearly described what was to be discussed?, Adequate opportunity for public input?, Was background information available to the public?, Facilities adequate? (room size, lighting, ventilation, speakers audible, accessible to handicapped)

Notes:

Bill Lyons moderated. Panelists: Dr Roger Nooe, Linda Rust, Mike Dunthorne. About 100 in the audience including several elected officials. 30 min presentation about creating the Ten Year Plan (TYP), including Dr Nooe’s Knoxville studies since the 1980’s, various causes of homelessness, increase in numbers in the past 20 years, fragmentation of services, goal was to make homeless “comfortable” on the street. 2004: Mayors’ Task Force was formed and divided into 4 working groups: housing, mental health, employment, community concerns. Best practice nationally was “housing first” as the chronic population was using the most resources. TYP is broader than Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and includes problems of discharging to the streets, coordination of services, HIMS, Safety Center, Church involvement, prevention. Community groups were represented on the community concerns working group. The TYP is a “living document” and strategies are reviewed quarterly by the Advisory Committee.

Questions from the audience included: since 2004, how many have been housed? (PSH 287 with 90% success rate). Total number of homeless? (no consensus about definitions or numbers) Who is discharging to street and are churches involved? Hospitals, mental hospitals, (funding outside local control) and church involvement has changed from meals and blankets to Circles of Compassion. Is there a cap on the # served and why not “locals only”? Practically speaking, 48 per year in PSH, or one unit at a time - subject to funding. And to define “local” the question used to be, “Where did you grow up?” but now is “What was the zip code of your last permanent address?” Who provides site security and who are the facility owners/managers accountable to? The TYP office is accountable and they were aware of some turnover in site managers, especially Helen Ross McNabb unit on Cox St. How many homeless are in US now and how many in 2000? About 1.5 million. Why is sobriety not a condition of the lease? That would actually be counter-productive at first. As relationships are developed, needs assessed, and resources accessed, sobriety becomes a goal. Who regulates PSH, enforcement, etc? City funding to individual agencies can be a tool. Who pays for PSH? Tenants pay rent from SS or SSI disability income or from wages. (Continue next page)

**The Community concerns team meets every other week and assigns responsibility for every case so that issues don't fall through the cracks.**

**Next meeting July 21 on Mental Health Delivery in PSH, probably at Cansler YMCA.**

**Were any issues on the agenda relevant to LWV positions or programs? The LWVKKC has a position statement about chronic homelessness.**

**Do you recommend League action on any of these issues? Further study**

**Other Concerns: none**

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**Observer: Judy Barnette**

**Meeting: Ten Year Plan Public Meeting #3**

**Date: June 23, 2010**