

Memoir of a dream too far

Drive by 500 West on a cool fall evening and you will see the group of blanket covered figures. Come by on a summer afternoon you will see the blankets spread out on the grass, an endless picnic. A cold winter day you will see the blanket bundled figures huddled on the sidewalk. Who are these people?

On an ordinary day along Rio Grande street there are the street level drug pushers asking "what you are buying?", the young men socializing with the young ladies, the couples sitting and talking to each other, drugs being used, items being bought and sold, money passed from hand to hand, people talking and talking.

The people of the Rio Grande Homeless

Community have a structure, with an established economic system, with money moving into and out of the area, a social system with rules of behavior, and a pecking order. There are prostitutes and pimps, newly released felons, there are gays and straights, and there are old men and old women. There are heavy drug users and recreational drug users. There are those with mental problems, with a few off their meds who are completely out of touch.

There is "homeless on homeless" crime, stealing from each other, assaults, assaults on homeless women. Most go unreported.

There is "homeless on the public" crime, which does get reported.

Who are these people?

Some have college degrees, others have an IQ of 60.

Some are alcoholic, some drink and do drugs socially, others neither drink nor do drugs. Some are good people, others are really bad, assaultive and predatory.

Some socialize, others are loners.

Some write letters and Emails to the Mayor's office, others are illiterate.

They are all poor.

When the homeless are asked "how are things along the Rio Grande?" the answer is usually "all right". When asked "how are things at the Road Home?" the answer may be that "it is bad, really bad".

As you talk to the homeless you will find a sense of apathy, a sense of acceptance (i.e. a lack of protest), a limited view of the future, each day being its own challenge for some here and now success, a desire to get out of the homeless situation but with little hope, a sense that things are not going to get any better.

You will also find that there is little idea of working together for a common good, (the notion of "the homeless helping the homeless.")

Their attitude toward the public is a mixture of fear, anger, and envy. At the same time the public is seen as the source of their goods and services and also a game to be worked.

They do not as a rule "snitch" to the police. The homeless rules are enforced within the community by the homeless themselves with strict compliance with the drug payment aspect.

Their acceptance of LGBTQ and those on the Sex Offender Registry roughly parallels the public. Those who have done jail time for minor offenses as well as those with felony convictions are considered as no big deal.

The police are the enemy, except that occasionally they are turned to for help in recovery of a stolen item. Otherwise it is more or less a cat and mouse game where the police try another control and the homeless react.

Is there, then, a Culture of Homelessness, where the homeless have a common world view that seems quite different from ours?

(JOHN, President of SLCMCC and 95 year-old retired M.D.):

I am 95 hrs old; time that I should tell the story of my two years experience with the Homeless of the Rio Grande Community.

I moved to Gateway May 2012. That summer I would see the homeless picnics on the grassy esplanade along 500 west.

With the cool autumn evenings the blank clad figures would be in a line on the sidewalk. With the cold weather they huddled against the walls on the Rio Grande.

Who are these people?

Some time in March 2015 I began using the TRAX Old Greek Town station. I would frequently meet and

talk to the homeless of the Rio Grande area when going into the city.

An older man timidly asked me for a dollar.

He said he was schizophrenic. He also said he was on his meds and wasn't violent.

My first meeting with a homeless panhandler.

Later I answered an add in the Tribune asking for volunteers to work the Road Home.

I went to their orientation meeting with about 30 young collage men and two women.

Later, on some advice I walked down to the Rescue Mission at noon one day and walked in where they were serving lunch. When I asked about volunteering I was handed an apron. So started my three times a week volunteering, handing out bread or rolls for the noon meal.

Along the Rio Grande I see money changing hands, things bought and sold. On a hot day there is the guy with an ice cream chest on his bike with ice and soft drink cans. There are blankets spread on the sidewalk with the items for sale, canned goods, trinkets, packages of cookies. Drugs are bought and sold. The Rio Grande has a functioning economy

I talked to a guy busy rolling spice into cigarettes. Tow dollars apiece. He also sells weed, five dollars each. Later down the block I mentioned the prices and was told they were twice what the locals would pay.

One day as I walked the Rio Grande I saw a heavy older lady in a wheel chair suddenly jump forward out of her wheel chair and hurry over to a young woman, upon whom she rained blows cursing all the time. The young woman finally broke free and escaped with apparent damage. Someone in the assembled crowd asked "what was all that about?" The older lady was owed \$100

JOHN:

The Rescue Mission is supported the Evangelicals and gets no public funding. The Mission serves three meals a day to who ever comes to the door. They also maintain a 100 bed shelter as well as a rehabilitation program. The program averages about 35 to 40 programers and lasts 13 months. Many enter the program as volunteers though others have been referred by a judge in lieu of jail time.

Tadd is a programer who runs the kitchen and does the cooking. He welcomed me and handed me an apron when I first arrived.

The programers, as I observed do not consider them selves anything like the homeless that they serve. The rehab program is religious based with much talk of bible verses and Jesus. During my time at the Rescue Mission I got to know some programers quite well. I got to call one young programer "Jesus Boy".

The lunch meal is served to any person lined up at the door at noon averaging about 75 people. On special occasions up to 150 meals have have been served. A young blond woman with two little blond girls came a number of times. Much fuss and fight deference was paid to them. A heavy Latino mother with three quiet sad eyed little children came to eat. Not much attention was paid to them.

Almost all the homeless would respond to "Hello" and thank me for the food I handed out. I saw the crates of food that the programers hauled in each day for preparation. It appeared the same as that you see in the super markets or restaurants.

The door was opened for the homeless for lunch at 12 noon and finished at 12:30 after which the programers met in the chapel for a discussion group under the direction of Cassie Warner.

I was invited to one meeting. There wasn't much discussion as most of the programers seemed tired and bored.

When the group all passed through the line anyone could return for seconds while the food lasted. When all had been served I sometimes took napkins to the tables to encourage good table manners. Almost all the dinners seemed pleased to exchange pleasantries.

Cassie Warner is a tall lady with long greying hair combed down her back. She is Den Mother for the Rescue Mission's programmers, reassuring them when they get depressed, and tending to their daily spiritual needs. She is a true Christian lady.

Cassie and I talked about how to help each homeless person get a sense of self worth. A feeling that could help them with their struggle to rise out of the turmoil of the Rio Grande.

It was about this time that I began thinking about how instead of encouraging change in each individual, instead the whole Rio Grande Community should be encouraged to change.

Encourage them to begin to think of themselves as a Community in which they could take pride.

Encourage them to become responsible.

Lauren showed up one noon to volunteer for serving lunch. She needed a chaperone so I became her Chaperone.

On first sight I thought her cute though a little on the heavy side. We became friends while passing out lunches to the homeless.

Some of the programmers as well as Cassie and Lauren were dismayed to find out that I walked through the Rio Grande coming to the Rescue Mission three times a week. So I asked Rommy, a big Afro American guy to be my body guard to reassure everyone. I never felt in need of protection and the only thing that Rommy protected me from was the car traffic when I crossed 200 South.

On walking through the Rio Grand I passed groups of Afro Americans, groups of Latinos, and Native Americans. In the beginning I was generally ignored except one time a young guy asked me if "I was buying or selling."

When I greeted one of the people on the street they, with rare exception, talked to me.

Some even seemed interested, asking me if I was a cop.

As the street became used to me I was able to have conversations particularly when I offered a cigarette or two.

Things weren't "too bad living on the Rio Grande except for a few bad apples on the block". "Yes I would like things better". "Things in the Road Home are really bad."

There is a small group of Native Americans that I would often see along the edge of Pioneer Park. The head of the group was a very heavy lady who sizing up the way I dressed called me "Silver Spoon".

"Because I was born with a silver spoon in my mouth,," she said. I called her "floats as lightly as a cloud".

We got along very well, when she was offered a cigarette she would removing two or three from the pack and pass the pack around to the others.

There were periods of time when that little group disappeared from the Rio Grande, returning to their reservation. Then they would returned from the poverty, drugs and alcohol of the reservation to the poverty, drugs and alcohol of the Rio Grande.

(JOHN)

I first met Paul Cato when he came through the food line at the Rescue Mission. He was notable for his milk white damage left eye. He later told me that it was damage as a child when his little brother stuck a pencil in it. Paul attended the Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club meetings. He would describe his hope of developing a low cost accommodation for the homeless of the Rio Grande.

Later at lunch, Cato pointed out to me that the homeless may see things differently, when I couldn't understand how the homeless would say that things in the Rio Grand were OK when I saw them as pretty awful.

Another time he helped me to recall the name of Thomas Hobbes.

(CHARLOTTE MATES, Previous Vice President of SLCMCC and Community Activist/ Advocate for Peace & justice)

Saturday, July 29, 2017

As I reflect back to December, 1988, I remember my personal plight to find stable employment as I completed my long sought after college degree (taking 1 class per quarter for 18 years). My employment at Hercules ended in March, 1988, following Challenger Shuttle disaster and two years of waiting for Reduction-In-Force to befall my 3 + years of employment.

I attended what I thought was to be a celebration cocktail party honoring my dear friend, Carolyn Schubach, for her leadership in raising money through Chili Affair for newly opened Salt Lake Community Shelter and Resource Center. Little did I know that Suzanne Goldsmith would hold a business meeting in her living room.

First question, "Who knows how to get washers and dryers at cost?" Shelter is open; laundry is piling high; Health Department is likely to close us down. I raised my hand and my voice "Ask Nick Rose,

President of Questar Gas, employees receive discount to buy their appliances at cost. Who will contact them? Again, my voice volunteered, "I will; I worked for Mountain Fuel Questar for 13+ years. Next question, "Who can we get to fill in for Patrick Poulin, Executive Director, while he goes on a well deserved vacation over Christmas with his wife?" Again, I raised my hand and volunteered. My unemployment ended the next week, I had two weeks of classwork to complete my BS, Christmas was three weeks away and I didn't have employment. I am single Mom with two children.

I was asked to report to Patrick Poulin, Executive Director of Travelers Aide Society for job interview at Greyhound Bus Terminal at 9:00 AM. He was in process of moving his office to 210 Rio Grande St. Salt Lake Community Shelter and Resource Center located in newly renovated Westinghouse Warehouse Building. He hired me on the spot and I assisted him with move. From that point on, for next two years, I used every skill I had to provide assistance as Administrative Assistant and Volunteer Director at Travelers Aide.

Peoples hearts and wallets opened wide during that first Christmas as they thought of homeless people in our Salt Lake City. As I worked each day, I was so humbled to go home to my children and felt extremely blessed to be able to go to my refrigerator and provide a nutritious meal for my children in the safety of our comfortable home.

So many community members, groups, organizations, businesses came forward with gifts for those less fortunate.

I pondered reasons why homelessness existed. Patrick told me that some of the main reasons were: Reagan/Bush administrations had done away with Mental Health facilities so therefore, people had nowhere to go. All Americans were two paychecks away from losing their homes - the combination of a job loss and a medical emergency without a safety net of family or friends to take you in resulted in people forced to go onto streets or into shelters.

On Christmas Eve., I received a phone call from shelter staff saying furnace wasn't working. A newborn baby had just arrived into family shelter from hospital. I called heating contractor and proceeded to drive to shelter at 10PM. After all, this was a renovated building and some kinks were still being worked out. After a few hours he was able to restore heat.

Good nutritious meals were provided for daily and on holidays both at St. Vincent's soup kitchen (owned and operated by Catholic Community Services and staffed by churches and community groups).

Family shelter consisted of twenty families - all sizes and makeup. Santa Claus was good to children and their parents. With the help of Junior League Volunteers and community support, not many of the peoples needs went unmet except for their own house, stability for families, and jobs to sustain them..

On Christmas afternoon at 4:00 PM Santa Claus came to distribute donated gifts, I let him into staff lounge to change into and out of his suit AND then inspiration came to me - there are 350 homeless men without families to give them gifts of time or love, I asked Santa if perhaps he would have an extra hour to donn his suite again and help me distribute candy canes to Men's Shelter. He was humbled and pleased to oblige. Jim, Men's Shelter Staff Intake Employee, Santa and I proceeded with a box as big as refrigerator and gave each a choice whether they preferred a standard candy cane, a strip of small candy canes, a different colored candy cane, a quarter thick 8" long. Only one man refused to choose. To this day the look on his face and the hopelessness of his situation haunts me.

(NANCY FREEMAN, SLCMCC Secretary and former Road Home resident):

Memoirs Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club 2016-17

Having met Bernie and Marita through Understanding Us , at the Salt Lake Main Library\u2019s Street Tai Chi Club, Lauren, the newly appointed vice-president of SLM&C invited me to a meeting. I was amused that we did not march or eat chowder most of the time , but genuinely enjoyed her company and that of our mutual friend John Shannon, a retired M.D. Researching the origins of the club\u2019s name I learned it was originally used by Richard Nixon. Gerald Ford and their lady companion who together created a mandate to foster international peace. John indicated we were not affiliated and our unwritten mission was to reduce poverty and homelessness along the Rio Grande. As I had joined Lauren and John at Brian\u2019s Underprivileged Alliance meeting at the Wiegand Center, and felt our discussions aired valid concerns, e.g. staff theft at the Road Home, rudeness on the part of Wiegand staff from time to time, inedible meals at the St. Vincent Dining Hall , (turned out it was mostly too much

unrinsed soap on the trays, but the menus did improve as well) and a generally lethargic attitude on the part of staff to fix the printer in the Wiegand's computer center, to name a few. We initially hoped a few staff would be replaced, but were not focused enough to see this through, though Gloria Redbear spoke confidently that none of the Road Home staff would be employed at the two or three new shelters that were proposed by Mayor Biskupski and Council. My suggestion was that the current desk and intake staff become enrolled in social work or addiction counselling if they wished to move to the new facility. Our agenda shifted to

discussions on how to have staff improve performance and how we could network more .

This worked out to a degree. However, in spite of Lauren's and my efforts we never did see a police officer at Tai Chi. We thought it would increase goodwill and help officers relieve stress. A conflict arose over the ownership of a printer Gloria originally owned for The

Voice. It's publication was suspended while we regrouped to see it was typed in an effort to increase its professionalism.

Gloria did a great job getting stories out and writers got a little remuneration. We trust she and Brian will resolve their conflict peacefully.

I tried to start a Women's Circle , with the hope of making our stay a little more pleasant at the Road Home. Gloria Redbear and I chatted informally, no one else showed up. Dawn organized a team of four who volunteered to clean black mold from the restroom floor. The same day I bought the cleaning supplies they were stolen .I learned to put ideas into action more rapidly. John continued to suggest we homeless help each other, police each other and become entrepreneurs together and this would indirectly reduce homeless on homeless crime. Homeless helping homeless was the SLM&C wish. We did eventually share some chowder at the Copper Canyon and a wonderful elk stew and some very picturesque recipes turned up as wallpaper on the club computer. Hmmm, inspiration for future gatherings. In retrospect perhaps we should have had a potluck in someone's home and made our own chowder or created a cookbook. So much for over the shoulder thinking I believe it was a cash shortage that thwarted our entrepreneurial efforts as sticky fingers were everywhere. Closing your eyes in the shower was a bad idea.

Fall turned to winter and most enthusiastic compadre Sean. from the Northwest coast, and I inspired Bernie and Marita to extend the group's tai chi to include a ski outing. Sean missed out as there was a criteria which had to be met, attendance both at tai chi and additional workshops. Seven of us did and once again Lauren and I were thrown into each other's company, this time on the bunny hill at Nordic Valley's downhill facility. Lauren, Fred, Neil and I continued on the playground. Garret and Tony joined as spectators but injuries got in the way of their joining in. Sadly, we lost Tony later in the season, but happily the bonding in our clubs carried us through. Hopefully Garret will become strong enough to tackle the bunny hill next season. Regular Tai Chi seemed to speed heal more than one participant.

Sean, an injured marine from the northwest went MIA on us, but not until his enthusiasm for tai chi and skiing rubbed off. On the bright side, by July sixteen participants had found full time work and one returned to school and found part time work at. We hope to see everyone back at the next World Tai Chi Day , as we shared stretches and celebrated the practice of good health with master Luu. You can find his studio online. We did enjoy the rotation of leadership from time to time as Ian shared his time and talents as a guest instructor.

Bernie's theory of movement creating momentum proved itself again and again. He, Marita and members of Street Tai Chi became quite celebrity like filmed by professionals and amateurs alike.

As for marching, we spent far too much time searching for last years posters which were lost in Host's move to an adjacent facility though I enjoyed the IRISH parade immensely. We spectators jigged and cheered as numerous Irish wolfhounds walked the streets ; dogs and owners alike in sparkling emerald green top hats. There were floats galore and much dancing and music. It ended with a huge Scot in a kilt that no one would like to challenge in a log throwing contest. Only a marching tuba player could compete with these acts for attention.

Paul Cato was a guest for a few weeks. He proposed a step up to type of rooming house but we didn't succeed in obtaining a title or financing. Please see his memoirs. Brian may resume his Alliance once he and Gloria iron out their differences in court.

John Shannon declared his resignation was final but a trip to New York revived his activist efforts after so many council meetings. Mayor Jackie Biskupski declared new plans every week or two, but the constancy seemed to lie in the fact that two shelters should be built, several miles from the original and separate the genders to minimize drug dealing and other illicit behaviours in front of the general public and families should stick to Midland to shield small children from delinquent activities with the hope that they would not be passed on from generation to generation.

Best wishes to the new executive in their efforts to liaison with empowered individuals who really seemed to be focused on maintaining their positions though frequent updates were issued from the mayor's office and public meetings were certainly well timed and attended. One participant like our minutes and expressed interest in our developing an electronic newsletter.

As for future directions, perhaps networking to assist causes outside of our own would increase the kind of networking John would like to see. How about Tai Chi for Texas?

I wish you all the best!

(ANDY CIER Member of SLCMCC and Award-winning marketing and communications executive):

One of my strongest memories was participating in the St. Patrick's Day parade. So many of the floats were fun, entertaining and a bit frivolous -- as they should have been. But when the crowd saw a group of people who were homeless and a group of homeless advocates, they were initially taken aback. After a second or two, though, they saw our smiles and read our signs, and realized we were bringing an important issue to the parade that had rarely been brought up (despite the fact that the parade route essentially ends at ground zero for Salt Lake's homeless population).

Many people applauded our efforts and cheered support. I thought it was a "banner day" for the SLCMCC.

And best of all, we were marching!

Andy Cier

"Leap, and the net will appear."

(BARBARA TAYLOR – former Treasurer of SLCMCC and former Public School Teacher and Family Therapist):

I taught two sessions of beginning watercolor painting at the Rescue Mission. I taught 6 weeks in the fall of 2014 and 6 weeks in the spring of 2015. The Rescue Mission used the classes as a reward for good behavior during the week. A few of the students said it was the best part of the week and it helped them escape from their problems.

(PAUL CATO – Sergeant at Arms of SLCMCC and Road Home Resident)

I had a great experience with Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club. I think Dr. John Shannon had a great idea when he started it. We learn a lot from each other, by conversing about homeless issues down on the Rio Grande, we grow as people. My only wish is that I wanted to see members of the club have their visions carried out accomplished and made real. I wanted my vision of a hostel for the homeless, where the homeless could pay a small fee by the night for a safe and clean place to sleep and clean up, so that they could be more productive individuals to the community.

by: Paul Cato

Thanks for the opportunity

(BERNIE and MARITA HART, Founders of Understanding and Street Tai Chi Leaders):

The Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club first came to my attention in an article in The City Weekly. Just the name was enough to get me curious.

At the time, I was searching for an organization that would consider new ways of dealing with people experiencing homelessness. The article indicated they were exploring new ideas.

At the first meeting, I was impressed by the role John Shannon played. He had a unique approach to bringing people together, both the homeless and advocates for the homeless and representatives of local government. The lunches were interesting and usually attended by a half dozen people. Everyone seemed to have a project that interested them (art, housing or just doing good).

John's focus

Seemed to be something that even he could not quit describe. His dream seemed to involve transforming the homeless community into "something better". John, myself and everyone involved shared the same goals of helping the homeless, but John's wasn't specific. His was more about something he would like to have happen and he personally was searching for a way to accomplish what he saw as missing in the homeless community; a sense of purpose or a sense of wanting something better for not only themselves, but for the community as a whole.

John and I are very much alike. We are both dreamers.

The meetings were an opportunity to interact with members of the homeless community and see how they responded to what I personally had the say about their life styles. Cato, Carl, Glory Red Bear and LeRoy are people I spent time with and found very interesting.

The number of street folks attending meetings grew over time and as they grew the meetings became less organized. There were a number of individuals dealing with mental health issues.

This made getting something done difficult. As the growth occurred, John helped fund a newspaper (something I

had always wanted to do), a writing group and homeless only group to run these programs. I think John's thinking was that if the homeless were going to have a major role in improving the community, they would have to learn to deal with these efforts on their own.

The thinking was solid but I now feel that it was unrealistic to think that people dealing with fairly severe mental health issues could organize....anything. I think John probably realizes this now. His kindness and wishfulness were not enough is making a wonderful vision possible. The folks on the street are on the street because they can't deal with any structure that is not one they have self-created. It is what it is.

There was one other individual I met at the meetings who is still playing an important role in my work with the homeless. Lauren Smith was John's biggest fan and supporter. John is her hero. His commitment and way of engaging on the street with the homeless made a lasting impression on her. John, also, was a mentor for me.

SLCMCC provided an opportunity to talk about ideas and introduced me to public officials. It exposed me to the idea that financial reward for "doing good" can have an important role in any program. The many discussions led me to believe that nothing in existence was working effectively to help the homeless and their community. This confirmation of what I already thought, put me in a place where I felt comfortable exploring something that had never been done. In a way, it was an extension of what John was trying to do...with one exception.

To do what John wanted to do, first I would have to deal with the numerous mental health issues that dominated the homeless community.

John, yesterday I sat down with six members of the homeless community in Salt Lake and talked about organizing a community service program for people with outstanding arrest warrants (Homeless Court). The idea is to use regular participation in our Tai Chi as a base and to credit service hours to anyone who makes an effort to aid a struggling member of the homeless community.

Two examples:

Chris just had surgery and is having trouble seeing. Martin has agreed to keep him safe while he travels the block. Martin is coming off drugs and working to learn Tai Chi. Martin will receive community service hours for helping Chris. Within a week he will have completed his hours and in the process made a friend.

If someone wants to learn to read and someone in the homeless community agrees to teach them...they both get community service hours. This would apply to any situation where one person can benefit from what another can give.

Another aspect of the program we are developing came from John.

If people are working with ideas they believe can help others. I feel the program could potentially improve the lives of a large number of people, it is important to get people into the program. Getting the homeless to commit to anything is a problem. John solution was to pay them to come.

We adopted this idea in our current program. Eleven months ago we started with one person. Two weeks ago we had fifty-eight people at the Salt Lake City library in our program. They did not come at different times or when they felt like it. They came together and did Tai Chi as a group. It is something special to see.

We give them a coffee, a burrito and \$2.00 and in return they participate in a "therapy program" for an hour and a half, three days a week.

It is win/win and a lot of fun for everyone involved.

John, Marita and I recently left on a two week vacation. Four residents of The Roadhome kept the program going while we were gone. The numbers remained constant.

Today we talked with someone interested in writing grants for us. We hope the grants will help pay the leaders in the program for their commitment.

. And a little earlier this morning we talked with the homeless leaders in our program about starting a ski program this winter.

Thank you, John.

Bernie and Marita Hart

(JOHN):

Bill of Rights for the Homeless Community

The root cause of homelessness is poverty.

The Rio Grande Homeless Community is viewed by the public with apprehension, fear and loathing.

The Homeless Community is a bad place for the homeless.

Homeless crime on Homeless is pervasive and little reported.

In general the public tends to stereotype the Homeless, as drug addicts, mentally ill, and Incompetent.

The Homeless view the Public as not to be trusted, resentful, as a sources of goods and services, grateful.

The Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club believes that for any change in the Rio Grande Homeless Community the Homeless must be involved so that they can become part of the solution.

The SLMCC for the past year and a half has tried to find ways to encourage and persuade the Homeless Community to organize and assume responsibility for themselves and their community.

(JOHN):

The Club met Tuesdays at a small Sushi place near the Rio Grande Station. Homeless were invited and came to lunch along with the public. The idea was to have a place where the public and the homeless could meet and talk. A sort of market place of ideas.

The exchange of ideas and talking became so loud, the crowd so large that the Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club was asked to meet some place else.

The feeling of the Club members that besides thinking of new out of the box ideas the Club should become active. Barbara, an accomplished painter gave a series of painting lessons at the Rescue Mission, Lauren lead a singing group of the Homeless at the Weigand Center, Char got the city to put cross walk flags on 200 South. John set up a creative writing class.

NATE ROCKWOOD (SLCMCC Member and University of Utah Student):

The Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club opened my eyes up to the potential for individually inspired action within the "homeless community". In many situations, the humans living without homes are looked at as an eyesore of society, and further suppressed. This population must have interactions with people outside of the same situation in order to implement effective policies and have their voice be heard. The Community Voice, amongst other projects, is a good example of the SLCMCC inspiring just that: action amongst the homeless to change their own scenario for the better.

KATHY SCOTT (Client Intake, Catholic Community Services):

Dear Lauren and Dr. John,

How I miss you folks! You and the Rio Grande Coalition and the SL Marching and Chowder Club brought hope and enthusiasm to our community and the Weigand Center. Your sense of inclusiveness and

respect for all citizens made being around you and the group uplifting, indeed ... inspiring. Many good ideas grew out of the coalition and club including the fine newsletter which gave voice to those willing to participate. It was a lot of fun to see clients working together to form a group under your guidance. Your encouragement resulted in most members overcoming their homelessness. Thank you for allowing me to be part of the group. I especially enjoyed our group conversations on the meaning of community and community identity.

(LEEROY TAITO – long time member in SLCMCC and Road Home resident):

My name is LeeRoy Taito and this is my Memoir of being in the Salt Lake Marching Chowder Club. What resonated with me was their mission statement "Homeless helping the Homeless" for those who may not have the support from family or friends, members of the organization may act as a mentor or a support system for example befriend an individual, provide moral support and remind and possibly attend some appointments, court dates to provide that positive reinforcement that they need at this time in their lives.

Within the following week I had joined the organization and the first assignment that was requested was to attend a meeting at the Leonardo Building for the public regarding the approval for 3 new shelter's to be built and have the community and public's thoughts and to express what should these 3 shelter's consist of.

Other than the President of our organization, John Shannon who is a well respected MS, Master of Surgery in attendance, three members volunteered our time to attend and represent the organization. It was refreshing to meet each other out side of the building to notice all three of us had dressed for the occasion to avoid judgement and being stereotyped.

Also in attendance were Government officials, Law Enforcement, local business and restaurant owner's, college students and the local community. Upon scanning the room it was evident to me there were no homeless people in attendance other than the three of us and this saddened me. However realizing using this platform to utilize my intelligence and personality to speak on behalf of my community and represent them in the best way possible.

Due to the vast people in attendance we were separated to several different round tables with approximately 10 to 12 people at a table. We had all confided with each other and agreed to all sit at separate tables so that we may all experience different experiences. After the meeting we all met to discuss each other's experience, compare similarities we may have encountered etc. It was prevalent to me that in sharing our experiences the public/ community was very genuine in making sure that those in need were taking care of and for those in assistance were accessed resources there at the establishment.

We all three experienced different topics brought up by the group with good intentions and would be a benefit for the homeless. However contemplating the topic, recognizing immediately the outcome of the topic and the mentality, speaking up against the topic and in explanation providing a whole new mentality and noticing the subtle surprise reaction, and realizing this can only be known by experience.

Upon mingling and conversing with the plethora of people after the meeting was when we had informed several of the guests that we too were homeless and it was exhilarating to observe the response of surprise and gratitude as oppose to ignorance and profiling. Even more so after meeting with one another John expressed his appreciation on our external appearance, how we conducted ourselves and how we interacted with those who clearly would not have responded to us in the manner of which they did.

On a personal note, to other's this may have been just another community meeting, meeting new people and refreshments. From my perspective I recall vividly walking the long route to the shelter feeling spiritually uplifted, executed in representing and being a voice for my community, representing the Salt Lake Marching Chowder Club and most importantly to end the night, receiving John's approval of our demeanor and conduct. I was elated that long walk back to the shelter.

(FRED LORENZ - Former Secretary of SLCMCC and Rio Grande Homeless Coalition):

My name is Frederick Lorenz. I would like to begin by providing the reader with some brief background information on who I am and why I ended up homeless in Salt Lake City in 2016. A number of years ago, shortly after I recognized Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord and started to truly follow Him, I began to develop an interest in working with the poor, homeless, substance abusers and ex-offenders, all groups of people who, prior to my conversion to Christianity, had been foreign to me and whom I avoided at all costs. Around this time, I was quite wealthy, working in a promising career as a mathematician and computer scientist for the Department of Defense (DoD). Following Jesus' example

of the Incarnation (in which God Himself came to Earth in human form as Jesus Christ in order to experience all that we as humans experience), I decided to move into a low-income, high-crime community, where I started and ran a self-financed benevolence ministry, performing many of the same services offered by Catholic Community Services, the Road Home, and so on, just on a smaller scale. I wanted to “get my hands dirty” so to speak, to learn about and get involved in these people’s lives, to love and guide them and to help bear their burdens so that their lives could be materially altered for the better.

However, I soon found that we had difficulties forming deep relationships because our pasts, our worldviews and our current situations (among other things) were so vastly different from one another that it sometimes made relating to and understanding one another a real challenge. Sometime later, I resigned from the DoD for religious reasons and went to seminary. From there, I left to live and work overseas, first in Iraq (working with Christian, Yezidi and Muslim refugees coming out of ISIS-held territories) and later in Nepal (working with Indian Dalits [better known as ‘untouchables’] who begged on the streets of Kathmandu). I saw terrible suffering and poverty in both places. Upon returning home, I began processing all that I had seen and heard. An overwhelming urge (which had been with me for some time) to truly enter into and experience the world of those to whom I had been ministering over these past several years overtook me, particularly those who had been homeless (I wanted to identify with them and share in their sufferings in the hopes of better understanding them and thus being better able to develop deep relationships with them). What was life truly like for them? Why did they think and behave the way they did? What obstacles prevented them from “succeeding,” as we “normal” people tend to define the word? All of these questions and more (and numerous spiritual considerations as well) drove me to begin planning my descent into voluntary poverty and homelessness. So, after doing some research, I decided to live on the streets of Salt Lake City (SLC), a city where there was a large homeless population and that was far from anyone I knew. I hopped on an Amtrak train in the early morning hours of 1 May 2016 in Ohio and arrived in SLC, Utah late at night on 2 May with nothing but a couple of bags and the clothes on my back.

My purpose in going to Salt Lake City was to be a homeless missionary to the homeless, to live amongst the homeless on the streets 24/7/365, to identify with them, to share in their daily struggles, to befriend them (hanging out, talking with and listening to them, etc), to love and encourage them and to take their burdens upon me if possible so that they could be lifted up out of poverty. Being too proud to beg for money, I financed my ministry work by getting a job as a dishwasher at a restaurant in downtown SLC, Cannella’s Restaurant and Lounge [Ministry funds were primarily intended to be used for such things as helping an ex-offender get his criminal record expunged, financing educational opportunities such as helping someone get his GED or go to college/receive specialized vocational training or to assist someone in starting a business]. For about the first month I was there,

I camped out in the mountains and walked into the Rio Grande St./500 West area during the day, returning to the

“safety” of the mountains to retire for the night (my campsite was about three miles away from the Rio Grande St./500 West area, so I figured I wouldn’t be robbed, raped or murdered by some crazy homeless person because they’d be too lazy to travel that far). [I spent most of June in an apartment above Cannella’s (which was generously offered to me free-of- charge by my then boss, Joey Cannella), while it was fixed up in preparation for the next tenant to move in; for the remaining 3+ months that I was in SLC, I stayed at the Road Home.] It was not long after I arrived that I met and developed a

friendship with a homeless man named Carlos Mateo who was then a member of the Rio Grande Homeless Coalition (RGHC). Towards the end of May, he introduced me to a man named John Shannon, who had been advising the RGHC, and suggested I join the club. That was definitely a pivotal moment during my time there. You know, I think it is interesting how God seems to bring certain people into our lives. The conversations I would have with John and another fellow (Bernie Hart) would cause me to begin thinking along some new lines. At that first meeting, John described to me the goal of the RGHC (I’m not sure now, but the RGHC might have been in existence for perhaps two months or so before I joined, starting sometime around St. Patrick’s Day). I recall it was something like this: the solution to the trouble in the Rio Grande St./500 West area isn’t to apply external pressure (such as adding more police

officers or social workers) but to amass a sizable minority of homeless people who care enough about what is going on to want to change the community as a whole from within. The idea, simple and nebulous as it was, fascinated me. John lent me a book discussing the idea of community participation (the involvement of people in a community in projects to solve their own problems) that challenged me in a lot of ways. The idea was new to me. My immediate thought would have been that the proper approach would be to gather together outside “experts” (police, social workers, politicians, academics, community activists, etc) and have them develop and impose a solution on the homeless population. But John helped me to see that the true experts on homelessness were the homeless themselves and that

a true, lasting solution must come from them (they must feel some sort of ownership in the proposed solution in order for it to work).

By the time I joined the RGHC, the Guardians (another interesting, yet ill-defined idea) and The Community Voice newsletter were already in existence. The Guardians (as I understood their duties) was supposed to consist of homeless people going out amongst the people of the Rio Grande St./500 West area and performing acts of kindness, advertising/recruiting for our club, gathering reports on incidents of crime occurring in the homeless community, reporting crimes to the police that the Guardian had observed, providing information on available homeless services tailored to the need of the person on the street whom the Guardian has come across (and perhaps even to take that person to the location where the services were being offered) and so on. For some reason (probably, I suspect, lack of clearness as to exactly what the duties of the Guardians were, a lack of suitably qualified members in the club from whom to draw potential Guardians and a lack of a training program for potential Guardians), this never took off, even given that it was a wonderful idea with so much potential (Gloria Red Bear was the main [only?] person doing this sort of work; this fit her personality well and she did a fine job doing it). The Community Voice newsletter gave a voice for homeless people to tell their story. It was unclear to me who the target audience was for the newsletter (was it for non-homeless readers or homeless people or both?). The articles got repetitive after a while (it is very good that I was never editor of that newsletter, as I would have been rather severe on what articles I would have accepted) and the newsletter seemed to lack a theme (if there was ever a theme besides “Here’s how I ended up homeless” or “Homeless-on- homeless crime”, then I missed it). For instance, if the homeless community were one of the intended targets of the newsletter (and I believe it was), it would have been nice to have a newsletter devoted to “success stories” written by ex-homeless people who told us how they came to be homeless (which seemed to be the majority of the articles we carried) but then told us (in some detail) how they were able to escape from homelessness.

After each story, we could have

included lists of services (names, addresses, phone numbers) that the people in the article used to escape from homelessness (or similar services available now that someone could use to do the same thing). Such articles would have provided hope for the homeless man or woman and might have offered them a plan on how to secure freedom from homelessness. Or we could have had an issue devoted to homeless ex-cons, describing resources available to them to find work and housing, clear their criminal record, etc, with list of services specifically tailored to the ex-con’s needs. The newsletter was a potentially powerful tool for recruiting for the RGHC, for helping the homeless man or woman on the street escape from their circumstances and for informing the wider community on homeless issues from a homeless point-of- view. Once John relinquished control of the newsletter to us homeless folks (which is definitely what should have happened), it turned into a disaster. Lack of a capable editor was the main reason I should think.

We had toyed with a few other ideas (The Bum Buddy Mentoring Program, The Homeless Experience, Homeless Against Narcotics and Bum Theater) but they never developed beyond the talking stage. The Bum Buddy Mentoring Program was supposed to offer one-on- one mentoring between an ex-homeless person (or at least a homeless person that seemed to have his or her stuff somewhat together) and a homeless person. The mentor was supposed to offer guidance, encouragement and friendship, helping the homeless person escape from homelessness. The failure for this project rests squarely upon my shoulders, as this was my pet project. I failed to develop guidelines demonstrating how this would work in practice (what were the mentor’s duties, in concrete terms) and I failed to

develop a training program to train potential mentors. We ran into potential legal issues regarding The Homeless Experience program, in which a homeless person would act as a guide for a non-homeless

person so that that person could experience life as a bum (although I did see that Mayor Ben McAdams stole our idea: <http://www.sltrib.com/news/politics/2017/08/06/sl-co-mayor-ben-mcadams-posed-as-a-homeless-person-for-3-days-and-2-nights-heres-what-he-saw/#gallery-carousel-1559761>).

Homeless

Against Narcotics was essentially Narcotics Anonymous run by homeless people who had recovered from their addictions for homeless people still suffering from drug addictions. We purchased books and chips for the group, but the two gentlemen that were to run the group lacked the time because of their work schedules (and, after all, we want homeless people to be seeking work, so how can we fault them for this). Finally, Bum Theater seemed to have no supporters (I originally suggested this idea because I thought it might appeal to certain members of our club who had a flair for acting). The idea behind Bum Theater was to put on live plays for the folks on 500 West (who were just sitting around there doing nothing anyway) that taught some virtue(s) or offered a homeless person hope and a potential plan for escaping homelessness (Act I might consist of someone descending into homelessness with whom the audience could identify while Act II would show in detail how this person escaped his or her homeless situation, thus offering a model for other homeless people to do the same).

During most of my time with the RGHC (and the SLC Marching and Chowder Club, although to be honest, I am not quite sure what the difference was between the clubs), I served as the treasurer and secretary. I also tried to codify club rules and regulations into written documents (I like when rules, job responsibilities, etc are spelled out in precise, detailed language and with job responsibilities fully enumerated-- yeah, I'm weird like that). We purchased a domain name (<http://www.riograndehomelesscoalition.org>) and developed a website (it no longer exists, having expired this past summer). That was first time I ever developed a website and I believe it turned out alright. It contained a list of homeless resources (very thorough I think, and we planned to add to it as we discovered more information that could be useful to someone experiencing homelessness), information about the RGHC, its goals and its programs and information about our club business, including our financial books, meeting minutes and so on. We had also planned to file for 401(c)3 status with the IRS (so that donations to our club would be tax deductible) but failed to finish writing the bylaws (this was my fault, but in my defense,

I was a bit overwhelmed with numerous other things going on at that time). We had also looked into several possible business ideas. The main purpose for a business was to make the club self-supporting instead of relying upon John's continuous financial contributions (and we had hoped to be able to hire some homeless people from the community to work at our business, thus hopefully helping them to escape from homelessness). There was much discussion in this area and little action. (By the way, in our defense, I think most of the much-talk- little-action was due, not too laziness per se, but mostly to the fact that we had very few committed members in the club at the time, so each of us had far more responsibilities to shoulder than we were reasonably able to handle.)

It seemed all along that the RGHC was rather fluid, an idea in the making. As time went on, we steered away from the original ideal (at least as I understood it), focusing more on applying external pressure on the community to force it to change [through political activism]. Not that there was anything necessarily wrong with this. I could see how John and Bernie's approach (which I called the "top-down" approach) would bring quick relief to certain problems in the area (such as forcing the Road Home to make improvements), however, I must admit, I still favored the so-called "bottom-up" approach, which involved working with individuals or small groups in a mentoring relationship, helping those folks to change and then having them go out and mentor other disciples (who would then go out and mentor other disciples and so on), until the community begins to change from the inside out. I had hoped to find a house or apartment for rent near the Rio Grande St./500 West area into which our club could move and begin living out our lives together in community (as a family, as role models), modeling for the wider homeless community our values and a better way of life (essentially, the idea was to create a community within a community that offered something radically better than the prevailing

culture). I wrote a paper describing the idea and how it might be realized in practical terms [which I hope will be included in this memoir]. However, it became clear that it was destined for failure before it even got started, due to a lack of certain virtues in some club members that were crucial for community cohesion. This is an idea that I have not given up on though, and I continue to think about it and refine it.

Towards the end of my time there, it was clear that the club was running into trouble and that its demise was imminent unless lots of fresh blood could be pumped into it. There were several things going against us. First, there were far too few members (the core group of homeless folks consisted of Gloria Red Bear, Carlos Mateo, Brian Watson, Kristina Eckley, Leeroy Taito, Lydell Dennison, Richard Sanders and myself). This meant that a massive load of work fell upon fewer shoulders, overwhelming us all. As homeless people, our main duty is to find work and housing and escape from homelessness. All the duties with the club began to overwhelm many of us and caused several people to fall away (for instance, Leeroy Taito, Lydell Dennison and Richard Sanders began to meet with us less and less due to their work schedules). As I focused more on my vision for where I wanted to see the club head towards, I began picking up more and more hours at work (in order to save up for an apartment or house for our club), which made it difficult to focus on completing the club bylaws, developing the mentoring program, creating a club business and so on. Fewer members meant less diverse thoughts and ideas. Our club did attempt at least one major recruitment effort and it failed miserably. Plans for a second attempt never came to fruition. The homeless community itself seemed rather apathetic about our cause. Our club was plagued by internal rivalries and pettiness, ruining trust and group cohesion (plus, embarrassing outbursts in our meetings I'm sure turned off potential members from joining us). Another consideration was that of too few qualified members in the club. The homeless community isn't exactly filled with top-notch candidates. Positions such as Guardian, mentor or treasurer (for instance) require someone who is honest, trustworthy, of good moral character. I don't mean to be harsh, but the SLC homeless community had few of these sort of people. Good quality homeless people will tend to disappear quickly, since they will find jobs and housing and move on with their lives. In a related vein, given that we had few members in our club, we had certain members in positions for which they were neither qualified nor gifted. Brian Watson, for instance, was a late comer to our club. However, it was very clear to me that he was a natural born leader. Our club leadership at the time failed to provide structure for our meetings and the meetings usually ended up disorganized and in chaos. When an executive decision was made to depose the current leadership and install Brian as our leader, the two leaders fell away from the club in protest (I suppose).

This had the consequence (as it did when any member left the club for any reason) of creating a greater burden upon all of us that remained in the club as we picked up the responsibilities of those who left us.

Given all this though, I remain convinced to this day that if we had several dedicated club members on whom to redistribute our workload and each member was working in a position that suited his or her gifts and talents, the RGHC would likely have been a success.

I left SLC on 8 October to take a job up in Alaska working with my brother, whom I hadn't seen or spoken to in quite some time. It was a bittersweet moment. I was excited about a new chapter opening up in my life, but at the same time, I felt that I was abandoning the work I had committed to do in SLC with the RGHC. I have attempted to maintain the friendships I developed in SLC. I keep in pretty regular contact with club members to see how their lives are turning out and to find out what is going on in SLC in regards to the homeless situation. I have spent a fair amount of time reflecting on my time in SLC, recalling the good things and trying to learn from the things that went wrong. I have quite a bit to say about this, not all of which is relevant to this memoir and so it shall be omitted. I currently live in Anchorage and continue to do work with the homeless here (albeit, in a more conventional manner than when I was in SLC). In the coming months, Brian Watson may be moving here join me. I intend to apply some of the lessons I learned from the RGHC in the work I am now doing.

(FRED)

Future vision for Rio Grande Homeless Coalition

In what follows, the author would like to present his vision for the future of the Rio Grande Homeless Coalition

Statement of the problem

The author's view differs fundamentally from the approach that is currently being pursued by the club. Presently, we are trying to deal primarily with homeless-on-homeless crime, which is a symptom of the wider Rio Grande drug culture (which, the author contends, has an even more fundamental cause, as we shall discover shortly), and we are making appeals for help to people in positions of influence, such as politicians, the police, the Road Home leadership, etc in order to bring about change. These people of influence can apply external pressure on the community and seemingly create a mild change in people's behavior in the short term. So, for instance, a would-be thief might be deterred from committing a theft due to the increased police presence. He refrains from performing his wicked deed not because he has experienced a true heart change and sees stealing as fundamentally wrong, but because he fears the consequences of his actions if he is caught.

The author believes that the root cause of all the problems being experienced in the Rio Grande neighborhood stems from a heart problem in the population. The author spent nearly twelve years of his life working for the Department of Defense (DoD). He started there right around the time that the Iraq War was beginning in 2003. He desired to serve his country and create change in the world, by helping to crush the Islamic menace. However, deep religious convictions began to alter his view on the matter. He ended up resigning from the DoD in September 2014, for two, religiously-based reasons, one of which he will now share with you. The author saw that we could crush an enemy into submission, to make them act more or less how we wished them to act, but it produced no real change in their hearts. Inwardly, they were as much filled with hatred as ever (and, indeed, that hate spilled out in the form of new terrorist groups like ISIS). In order to effect true change, a heart transformation must be initiated, and such a thing cannot come about through pressure applied externally ¹. Let us go back to the example of the would-be thief mentioned above, who would not steal an item only because he fears the consequences of getting caught, yet, if circumstances were such that he could be certain that he could steal the item and not get found out, then he would steal it. The author contends that this man is no different fundamentally from a bolder thief that lacked that fear and that actually stole the item in question. The would-be thief still suffers from a heart problem, the same heart problem in fact as the actual thief; the would-be thief is a thief-at-heart. Similarly, a man that would look upon another man's wife and entertain lustful thoughts about her in his

1 The author contends that this can only truly come about when an individual experiences a living, fruit-bearing relationship with Jesus Christ. The solution to the problems in the Middle East is not more soldiers and bombs but more missionaries and Bibles. Likewise, the real solution to the problems in the Rio Grande area is not more police and social workers, but also more missionaries and Bibles. The people here suffer from a moral corruption of the heart. The solution that the author presents in this paper is to perform a secularized approximation of the work done in a man by the Holy Spirit.

mind but that would be too cowardly to actually engage in an adulterous relationship with the woman (for whatever reason) is fundamentally the same as a bolder man that would engage in the act; the would-be adulterer is an adulterer-at-heart. The thief (would-be or actual) does not see stealing as fundamentally wrong nor does the adulterer (would-be or actual) see sexual immorality as fundamentally immoral. One must not only behave morally in his words and deeds (to see that certain things are simply evil and wrong and to eschew them), but think

morally/have a pure heart as well. This is the heart transformation that the author wishes to call his fellow club members, and all of the Rio Grande Street, 500 West and Pioneer Park residents, to experience.

Background information on the proposed solution

The author would like to propose a solution to deal with the heart problem present in the Rio Grande population, using the historical examples of the “Jesus model” and the “Patrick model.” The “Jesus Model” is based off the ministry of Jesus, and primarily comes from Robert Coleman’s work *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. In the aforementioned book, Coleman presents how Jesus was able to effect the change that He did, using one-on-one and small group mentoring. During Jesus’ entire 3.5 year ministry, He only had about 120 disciples (that being roughly the number of disciples present in the upper room at the time of Pentecost). Of those, He focused primarily on twelve of them, and of the twelve, He really concentrated on three of them. After His death and resurrection, these men went out into all the world, turning it upside down (by using the same techniques of mentoring and role modeling to teach, and live out by example, Jesus’ revolutionary teachings) and creating the largest religion in the world today, Christianity. Jesus neither appealed to the religious leaders of His time (who had influence over the masses) in order to effect change nor did He appeal to the Roman authorities that ruled over the land. Jesus, a homeless bum Himself 2, gathered together a rag-tag group of men from various strata of society, and they lived out life together in voluntary poverty, full community of goods, etc. Jesus’ teachings, such as those presented in His longest recorded sermon (the Sermon on the Mount), are as revolutionary today as they were in His time (the author challenges the reader to slowly, carefully, attentively read through chapters 5, 6 and 7 in the Gospel of Matthew and see if he or she is not amazed at such radical teachings).

The “Patrick model” is the method St. Patrick and his successors used to evangelize Ireland. Before describing the method, the author will give a very brief summary of St. Patrick’s amazing life (taken from David Bercot’s wonderful book *Let Me Die in Ireland: The True Story of Patrick*). He was born around the year 385 AD in the Roman colony of Britain, in a village on the western seashore. When Patrick was sixteen, a group of Irish raiders attacked and plundered his village, making off with not only valuable treasures but also human beings (Patrick being one of them). Upon arrival in Ireland, Patrick was sold as a slave and tended sheep for his master, until, after six years of servitude, he was able to miraculously escape back to Britain. Patrick had not been back in Britain long before God visited him in a dream and told him that He had chosen him to take the Gospel message to the Irish people. Patrick’s parents thought their son had gone

2 You’ll notice that Jesus lived in the culture He was trying to change; He did not commute from heaven to earth each morning to be with the people, but lived amongst them and all the pain and sin we as humans experience each day.

crazy (Ireland at that time was a very dangerous place [not unlike Iraq today] and the Irish were savage barbarians [like ISIS]) and the British Church was unsupportive of his calling. It took Patrick 25 years before he returned to Ireland. He spent the remaining 30 years of his life there preaching the Gospel message. By the time of his death in 461 AD, almost all of Ireland had been converted to Christianity.

Whether the reader agrees with the tenets of Christianity or even likes the faith, one must stand in awe of this example. The question then naturally arises as to how Patrick and his successors (Columba, Aidan, etc) were able to effect such change on such a large scale. Patrick’s solution (which is mainly derived from George Hunter’s short tome *The Celtic Way of Evangelism*) involved setting up communities near the population he was trying to convert. In those communities, the members would live out the teachings of the Bible in a communal form

of the faith (such as the early church did in Acts 2 and 4). Patrick and his people would interact with the surrounding community and offer hospitality to the people. Receptive people would be invited to live in the community and participate in common life, such as join in fellowship, communal meals, work and so on. The visitors would spend time with mentors (which Patrick called "soul friends") and in small groups. The faith was more caught than taught.

Christianity practiced in community has been quite common throughout the history of the Church and the author has studied the topic in some depth. The early church lived communally (as described in Acts 2 and 4). The Roman Catholic Church has monasteries. There were also groups like the Beguines and Beghards (1200's-1500's), lay people that lived out their lives together in community. The Protestants had the Moravians. The Anabaptists have the Hutterites and Bruderhof (the author has visited a colony belonging to the latter group); the Bruderhof have a handbook describing their community that can be found at <http://www.bruderhof.com/en/our-faith/foundations>. There were also various Christian sects, like the Shakers, that lived communally. Many of these groups lived with all things in common. Some other groups, like the Alleluia Covenant Community in Augusta, Georgia (which the author has visited), live semi-communally. There is a group similar to ours, called the Catholic Workers, which lives together in community, works at a community-owned business, publishes its own newsletter and works with the poor and homeless (the interested reader is encouraged to read more about the life of Dorothy Day, the co-founder of the Catholic Workers). In addition, there have been many successful secular communes.

If the club is interested in pursuing the proposed solution offered below, the author recommends we make a study of past and existing communes/communities and even visit some communes/communities and have experts from those communes/communities instruct us on how to make this work, how to avoid common pitfalls and how to overcome the obstacles that will inevitably arise when living life together in community.

The proposed solution

The author proposes to create a community within a community (near the Rio Grande Street, 500 West and Pioneer Park areas) that offers something radically better than the prevailing culture. The author calls on his fellow club members to live out our lives together in community, as a family, as role models, embodying the message we commend to the population. We will model our values (such as Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount) and a better

way of life for the wider homeless community, putting good practical and spiritual habits and virtues into practice. Individually and collectively, we shall work on character development, practicing love, patience, mercy, forgiveness, peacemaking (non-violent conflict resolution), humility, gratitude, trustworthiness, self-discipline, diligence (good work ethic), giving, sharing, kindness and other virtues. Do we wish the broader community to be more loving? Let us first demonstrate that (genuine, pure, unselfish, unconditional) love amongst ourselves, within our own "family." Do we wish that more homeless would actively seek after work opportunities? We must ask ourselves, is every able-bodied man and woman in our club working or actively seeking work? If not, why not and how can we overcome the obstacle(s) keeping them from finding suitable employment? Do we wish to see more homeless pursue opportunities for further education? We must ask ourselves, is there anyone in our club that has failed to finish high school? If so, do they have their GED? If not, why not and how can we assist that person or persons in securing their GED? Has anyone in our club started college but failed to finish it or has someone never started college yet desired to but did not for some reason? How might we persuade and assist them to return to, or begin, college and successfully complete a degree program? Does someone in our club lack job skills? How can we persuade and assist them to develop the necessary skills (which could include seeking and securing specialized vocational training or certifications) in order to find good, satisfying work? Am I prepared to offer material

aid to fellow club members, or to give my own free time in doing chores and work assigned to them, so that they can achieve these goals, even though I will not personally directly benefit from the transaction? Do we despise the drugs, drunkenness, law-breaking, violence, sexual immorality, etc of the broader homeless community? Then let us not engage in any of these practices ourselves. Do we wish that the homeless would have a plan and purpose for life? We must ask ourselves, do I have such a plan? What are my goals (short, intermediate and long term) that will help me reach where I'd like to be and are the decisions I am making right now leading me in the direction I want to go? Do I have a purpose in life, not just as an individual, but as a collective body? If I could write my obituary, what would I like it to say, about me and our club, about what we have done to help our homeless brothers and sisters? (What do I want my and our legacy to be?) Do I actually view my fellow club members as my family, as members of one body in which when one member mourns, all of us mourn, and in which when one member rejoices, all other members rejoice with him or her as well? Am I prepared to love them unconditionally, to make personal sacrifices for the greater good of the family? Am I prepared to adopt the mentality of a servant and to serve my fellow club members? Am I prepared to view each and every member of my family as more important than myself and to view their needs as at least as important, if not more so, than my own? Am I prepared to set aside my own will, wants and desires for the greater good of the community? Am I prepared to offer mutual aid to my fellow family members, in the form of material, emotional and spiritual support, encouragement and teaching? Am I prepared to preserve and deepen my relationship with each member of my family no matter what? Do I truly believe that relationships are the most important things in life? Am I prepared to forgive each and every wrong that someone does to me (since I know that everyone, including myself, has shortcomings and character defects) and am I humbly willing to admit my mistakes and seek forgiveness from someone else whom I have offended and to offer restitution for the damage I have caused?

Am I prepared to humbly receive both counsel and rebukes from my fellow family members, to earnestly consider what has been said to me and to make changes in my life as a result? In short, we need to model the change in our own lives that we wish to see in others. 3

The family would live in shared housing and the community would be formed around a community-owned business, in which the members of the community would work. The business would also be used to employ felons, substance abusers that are currently in or seeking treatment, etc (basically people who would have a difficult time finding employment elsewhere), offering them love, encouragement, fair, livable pay, job skills training and work experience. The community economics would be either fully communal (everything in common, meaning that members contribute 100% of their income/assets to the community upon joining; guests do not have such a requirement) or semi-communal (members contribute a certain percentage of their income, say 25%, to a collective fund that will be used to, say, pay community bills such as rent and utilities, fund the education of a family member or bless someone in the community, among other things; again, guests do not have such a requirement) 4 .

In order to effect change in the broader community, we will practice hospitality, inviting members of the outside (primarily our homeless brothers and sisters, but perhaps also non-homeless people, especially if they have some valuable skill to contribute to our community) to visit and temporarily stay in our community, to temporarily join our family (if, after some suitably long period of time, the visitor wishes to fully join our community, we as a group can discuss the matter and put them on a probationary membership). The visitor becomes part of our family, and joins us in working at the community-owned business (do we still allow members to have outside jobs?), doing chores around the house, sharing in communal meals and attending small group meetings. The visitor would have a mentor assigned to him or her upon their entering our community (a male mentor will be assigned to a male visitor and a female mentor will be assigned to a female visitor). These are the keys to changing the wider community. The visitor will come to see something radically different and better from what he or she has been

used to from life in the broader community. The mentor will act as an instructor to the visitor, as a guide for the visitor while he or she is in the community, as a father or mother figure and friend that is there to listen and offer advice and encouragement, to answer questions about the community, etc. Moreover, the community-owned business will employ outsiders, which will expose them to our community. Furthermore, the Guardians will act as our "missionaries" and "ambassadors" to the broader homeless community, performing loving acts and offering kind, encouraging words to whomever they meet. The Guardians will also share about our community and our life together and will seek out people that might potentially be interested in visiting and

3 The author highly recommends that the reader check out Celestine Chua's website <http://personalexcellence.co/>. She is a (secular?) life coach that has written a number of interesting articles related to character development, self-knowledge, etc, that the author feels would be a valuable exercise for the reader to go through on his or her own (or as a small group): <http://personalexcellence.co/blog/101-ways-to-be-a-better-person/> <http://personalexcellence.co/blog/101-questions/> <http://personalexcellence.co/blog/life-principles/>

4 The author is willing to admit that he is a Christian communist and believes in this idea so much that he is willing to put his money where his mouth is, donating 100% of his income and assets to the group's collective fund even if we decide to be semi-communal. If we did decide to be fully communal, we can apply for 501(d) status (Apostolic Association) with the IRS. staying at our community. Finally, our newsletter will not only continue to carry stories produced by the homeless for the homeless, but it will also share stories about our life together. Change will occur at a slower pace than the current approach, but it will produce real heart transformations. The club could also consider a hybrid approach (combining this approach with the one we are currently using).

(JOHN)

Only a couple of the homeless showed up for the Creative Writing class. The brief items that were written told stories of what life was like in the Rio Grande Community.

Here was a group of people who had no voice in the decision make process that directly effected them. Many had stories to be told.

The Creative Writing class quickly became the office for the "Community Voice A Biweekly Publication By and For the Rio Grande Homeless Community." Vol 1 No 1 was published April 4,2016. The Editor: Gloria Red Bear. Supported by The Salt Lake Marching Club.

It was to "Provide a Voice for the Homeless"

(JOHN) Gloria Red Bear editor of the "Community Voice" collected written accounts from the homeless of the Rio Community. The writers were paid \$5 for each article. The Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club supported this program.

Many of the articles were legibly and easy to read, others not so well. In the first issue dated, April 4, 2016 the last article was written by a blind woman. It took time and effort to read this "cry from the heart".

Early on it was decided that there would no rewrites of the articles, they were to appear as written except for an offensive words which would be blacked out.

There were 10 twice a month issues of the "Voice". There was little evidence that anyone read the hard copy. There was an Email list of about 150 sent. There was little evidence that was read (JOHN) Gloria Red Bear, as editor of "The Community Voice" collected stories from the homeless in the Rio Grande Community. The homeless were asked to write about their experiences. Early on it was decided that although the hand writing for some was difficult to read that they would be printed as received. They were paid \$5. Gloria always was able to provide the 9 or 10 essays for each issue of the "Voice".

Essays were given to Katy Roberts who organized them for both an E copy and a hard copy which was printed. An Email list was developed by Lauren Smith and amounted to some 150 addresses.

Although the hard copies were passed out in the Rio Grande area they were little read or responded to. The E mail copies were forwarded the City administration and other involved individuals. There were a few responses. Later Carlos Mateo, an excellent writer, became the Asst. Editor.

With encouragement from the Club Gloria Red Bear organized the "Rio Grande Homeless Coalition". Pres. Gloria Red Bear, Vice Pres. Carlos Mateo, Sec. Brian Watson, and Treasurer Fred Lorenz. The "Coalition"

organized, made signs and participated in the annual St Patrick's Day Parade.
The Marching Club became too large and loud for the "Same Sushi" Restaurant and it moved the weekly lunch

meeting to Mestizo Coffee Shop. There the public had the chance to meet and talk to the Homeless..

THE COMMUNITY VOICE
A BIWEEKLY PUBLICATION BY AND FOR THE RIO GRANDE
HOMELESS COMMUNITY

Vol. 1 No. 1

April 4, 2016

.25 ¢ Donation

To Provide a Voice for the Homeless

Supported by: The Salt Lake Marching
and Chowder Club

Editor: Gloria Red Bear

Editor's Voice:

My name is Gloria Red Bear. I am a Native American in the Rio Grande Homeless Community. This is our Community Voice. This is our Community. How can we make it better? In the next issue we will have a section for the Public to write their comments. Please send comments to thevoiceofriogrande@gmail.com

Comments must be signed and contain a telephone number for confirmation.

Gloria Red Bear

Our Community Voices:

Hi Mr Donna I hate what I have to be subjected to on a constant daily basis down here at the Road Home Shelter due to the activities of drug sales & use - We have to one smell the awful stench from one such drug called spice - Then there's the other things that we see on going & can't do anything about - Please help us to deter this problem and stop it in its tracks. Thank You
Donna

Kairee staples

My experience in the shelter
her is that drugs are everywhere
and it's hard to stay clean every
where you go at the road home
is drugs & you can't pee or shower
without people using drugs
When you walk down the street
people as if you want drugs
It's not really a family friendly
safe place to stay some one
think of the children & what
they think of all of this.

002

I was sleeping in the family
side and I heard somebody
catch somebody stealing their
phone. I woke up and
realized she ~~that~~ had taken my
phone too. If she hadn't
have caught ~~her~~ her,
my phone would have been
~~not~~ stolen too. That would
have been the 3rd phone
that I had stolen at the
Women's shelter. ~~the~~
Security made her give
it back to me. It's
dumb to steal cell phones
because ~~then~~ they have
the phones turned off
so they can never use them
anyway.

Joan Chapman
(801) 875-9685

004

Shawn Wilkins Missy's street talk 3-22-16

Hi my name is Shawn 19
yrs. ago when I first got to Salt
Lake City I was down at the
Koolhae Shelter for five yrs.
Since I know what the Homeless
people goes through. Since I got laid
off from my Janitor Job. God
gave me a passion for the Homeless
less. I come down to the Shelter
to do Bible Studies and ministries
to help the Community.

: 1 Thes : 5 : 17 Pray ~~and~~ with
out ceasing

003

3-22-16
This is what I
experience ~~experienced~~ at the
shelter people
stealing should
stop people doing
drugs should stop
staff doing Great
Job! Security doing
their job in doing
their job the best
way they can
The Wegand Center
doing good in their
job about doing
their job

005

Lauren
Sykes

Rebecca Brasher

3.22.16

There is alot of positive here I have a hard time knowing that families are here with their children and ~~and~~ ^{there} is so much drugs and drinking the spirit is totally out of control and the children see this and I don't think that is good and I know they are trying to take care of it I believe some of the people want to be ~~in~~ in all this and then you have those who don't they just can't get out the addictions ~~to~~ they have take over and they won't ask for help do to fear of judgement and jail. There is a way. Unite together and have the faith that out there is someone or something better and bigger than us that can take away our troubles if we just ask believe and remember It is on his time not our time. I also believe that you and others are not better than you are one all human and bleed the same the humanity around here really needs

needs lots of attention I know some of them are out of control though they are still a human for the most part it is safe and am thankful for everything that is here.

Much love to

Rebecca Brasher

We all need to remember to think process and then act instead of leading without thinking

My name is Sherone & I think that the problem with the activities going on here at the Road Home is tragic but yet also sad - More should be done in the way of combating & stopping the activities, fights & drugs - We whom are residents here at times feel unsafe because of what's going on constantly on a daily basis - The activities create themselves unsafe living environment due to the discarded needles, trash, & other things that make our areas so unclean - I'm all for a change & stand behind it 100% - (Help Gloria Red Bull Clean-up Activities - Better using the street for Homeless Substitutes child
Keep the Street For Homeless, Gloria

007

What to write, what I see & hear, I can hear & I can see but write when you can't see the park or what you are writing. As far as I can tell, everyone will find what they want whether it is or not. The animals do not bark because they are not allowed to bark. No kiss & letters. They love to play but I made an effort to participate. Karen Workman

THE COMMUNITY VOICE
A BIWEEKLY PUBLICATION BY AND FOR THE RIO GRANDE
HOMELESS COMMUNITY

Vol. 1 No. 2

April 18, 2016

.25 ¢ Donation

To Provide a Voice for the Homeless

**Supported by: The Salt Lake Marching
and Chowder Club**

Editor: Gloria Red Bear

Editor's Voice:

Greetings to all of you. I am Gloria Red Bear a Lakota Sioux/Brule Sioux. My parents are deceased and so are my great grandparents. I spoke two languages in my home(Lakota and English). I was taught discipline, respect, and to be well mannered. We teach our children and grandchildren discipline and not to talk back. I started working when I was 13 years old. I was a full time baby sitter \$30 per day \$10 per kid in 1976 & 1977 when Kimberly Pampers were 99¢ for 12 in the box. I moved to South Dakota on the reservation when I was 13 ½ years old. I have witnessed much going on in the Road Home: Exiting the resident from overflow men and women out of the shelter. Not letting the women use the bathroom. I've witnessed women urinating in their pants in the breezeway. Homeless residents complaining about numbers of things. The Road Home has a policy here 210 Rio Grande homeless residents. There are residents that don't meet the criteria. The Road Home is contaminated with the ground, air, and water. I would blame the employees for the contamination here, for not letting the women & men use the Road Home bathing. To solve this the Road Home will need to Re-Hire everyone. The Community will be a lot better and not treat the Homeless like an enemy.

Gloria Red Bear

Editorial Policy of "The Community Voice:

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The public is invited to comment by using the following email address
thevoiceofriogrande@gmail.com

Gloria Red Bear

Editor, The Community Voice

Our Community Voices:

To Whom it may concern:

When I first came here, its been a year and $\frac{1}{2}$ ago. Just to look for work, I am from AZ. My first stop I made was here at the shelter for help to use the phone. I saw a lot of people here, some are kids, elderies, and teenagers, and some of the people were like they were not on their right minds.

Plus trashes, sidewalks, and all around the shelter. To this day its still like that. Some of us people that think about this shelter should STOP these drugs, alcohols, fighting, shooting, and deaths, around here.

There kids around here looking at all things going around here.

Only if we all should help each other to become strong with Respect, help each other.

and keep drugs off the shelter street and keep it clean. One day it will become a better place.

I also thanks to the people that works here, for respect, helping out for homeless people.

Thank you

#3

009

(385)210-4060

Marion Simp

Jeremy Moore 3/22/2016

My experience in the Road Home:

its hard to function when Not Allowed to Street Cause of Drug use, inside. Not to even mention Trying to Stay Sober. ive been in and out of Homelessness due to a lack of help to the ones really trying to be a productive Part of Society n go Somewhere. My wife n I also have a hard time with being Separated at Night

To Whom it may Concern:

The situation at the roughhome is unbearable. I look at it as a "wrinkle in time" or in any other words a black hole.

There is a huge amount of loneliness and despair and loss of hope.

I am a firm believer that things can be changed as we work together.

I believe we are supposed to be on the same team but too often we are fighting one another and feel alone. ~~These~~ Loss of hope and abandonment are very severe and it is rampant here.

Any, help will do!

Me

Bullock

011

(Bo) 638-8578

To: Whom it may concern.
I came out here from
Arizona looking for work a
year and a half ago. I
have seen a lot within
The shelter and the
surrounding area. Drug
dealers selling to the
homeless who are al-
ready going through
hardship. Homeless
who are hoping of changing
their lives. Boot-
leggers selling to
the homeless on
Sundays, are
exchanging for
food stamps.

With drugs being sold
The homeless, it has
caused a lot of problems
for the people. Fights
among homeless, people
not caring any more for
themselves, deaths due
to colds, overdosing,
stabbing and even
due to shellings. Drug
and alcohol has caused
more problems for the
homeless. With
those eliminate
people have a
better chance
at a bettering
themselves and
changing their
lives.

Larry Hudson

012

BEAR EDITOR AND MR. REDBEAR
AFTER LOSING MY HOME, MY WIFE AND MY
JOB. I WAS BLESSED WITH THE OPPORTUNITY
TO START AGAIN.

FINDING SHELTER FROM THIS HARD
SHIP HERE AT THE ROAD HOUSE AND
THE WILGAND CENTER I HAVE RUN
INTO SOME NEW WAYS OF LIFE.
THERE ARE MANY RESOURCES THAT
ARE AVAILABLE. THERE IS FOOD AND
CONDITIONAL HOUSING THAT WITHOUT
WOULD LEAVE MOST OF US IN
THE ELEMENTS OF THE COLD AND
DROVEN WORLD WE USED FOR SO
LONG.

REALIZING OUT OF THIS HELPS
ME REFOCUS ON WHAT IS
GOOD AND COMPROMISING ALL
I FEEL REDEEMED AND
SOBER IN MY COMMITMENT
TO BEGIN THE LIFE I KNOW
IS THERE.

THANK GOD. OUR COMMUNITY AND

ALL THOSE THAT HAVE HELPED

TIM HOWARD

013

Here is the situation as I see it. The Weigand Center, The Road Home, and the Rescue Mission have no vested interest in seeing people get up and get away from the area. So what happens is you have a sizable population that for all intents and purposes is stuck there. Being used as shields for drug dealers and users that also have no interest in making the situation any better. The cops that patrol that area are glad they don't have to go driving all over the city looking for the bad guys as they seem to all congregate in one area. So again no vested interest in making anything better. Add to that a surrounding community that really wishes it would all go away. They have money to make so who can blame them for not wanting druggies and drunks passing out or worse on the steps of their businesses. So what it comes to is the people that are supposed to help make it better don't and the ones that are making it worse win. And anybody that is trying to just get by gets caught in the middle and falls through the cracks. The situation is way out of hand so says the scar on my forehead. What I mean is the police are starting to implement what's known as broken window policing which is handing out tickets for smoking in the park, or jaywalking in the hopes that by curbing these minor infractions they can put to a stop the major cries in the area. So when I was stopped by the police for smoking a cigarette I told them to F off and to bust some real criminals...which at that point they thought involved throwing me to the ground and sending me off to jail. And your right it isn't working and is only eroding any good will that may be in place. Which they really do need in order to be effective in the Rio Grande area. So all I see is this escalating into stupidity with mostly innocent people getting hurt as a result. So for all the good it may do here is what I think needs to happen. Stop using the police as soldiers in the class war. Stop using them as social workers. They are neither. Many were soldiers at one time and have their own issues to deal with regarding that experience. Also as a rule ex-cons, addicts and the mentally ill avoid them like the plague. Which means that the very folks that need the most help will not get it. Make access to employment easier. Which could take many forms. Local businesses using the local labor pool or transit passes for transients say...open up rehabilitation centers that allow for employment and actual you know rehabilitation both as a means of addiction recovery and job skills. Someone needs to step in and lend a hand in regards to coordinating it all. So charitable organization that are trying to help, right now it's all a jumbled mess. And here is where your organization could be most effective right now.

Steven Rimmer

014

Public Comment:

My name is Jeff Williams. I've been a security guard at the Rio Grande Depot for the last 9 years.

One problem I've noticed is when the homeless gather around local businesses and our building during rain & snow storms. They don't want to get wet and can't be blamed for that.

It would be nice for the city to have some place for these people to go. My life has been in danger several times when telling people they can't gather on our property. I've seen them gather all along 3rd south from 400 west to 600 west. Police are often called causing more bad feelings.

It seems the shelters are usually closed in the daytime. It would be a big help if the city could provide a building to go to when storm fronts come in so that these people don't have to get soaked.

THE COMMUNITY VOICE
A BIWEEKLY PUBLICATION BY AND FOR THE RIO GRANDE
HOMELESS COMMUNITY

Vol. 1 No. 3

May 2, 2016

25 ¢ Donation

To Provide a Voice for the Homeless

Supported by: The Salt Lake Marching
and Chowder Club

Editor: Gloria Red Bear

Published the first and third Monday of
each month

Editor's Voice:

The Rio Grande Homeless Community has so many reasons to be homeless. From my view they need to participate as a group. That is the only way to be heard and to know their needs. Lets hear your stories about being homeless. It is a big job. We don't have a physical address. We don't have tons of property. If you can, release some of the unnecessary load.

This is our community. How can we make it better? Don't steal, don't fight, be kind, be respectful, and help each other

Gloria Red Bear

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The public is invited to comment by using the following email address thevoiceofriogrande@gmail.com

Gloria Red Bear

Editor, The Community Voice

Our Community Voices:

Cedric Davis, from Salt Lake City, fellow African American "the most humble and fulfilling service opportunity."

We Love you all. You are
The children of the most
High God. This work at
the Park ^{is a} Every Sunday
at the Highline
my Week. Peace Be
unto you.
Bob Schildmeyer

015

Dustin Orr

801-967-8271

My experience here is
Nothing short of Horrible
the violence that I witness
on a daily basis is astounding
on top of the violence for
someone who is trying to
Remain sober/get sober and
trying to rebuild there life its
so extremely difficult. the amount
of Drugs and drug dealers is
so great and that includes inside
and outside the shelter. The
violence and drugs around here
are so frequent and grow every day
I question if I should even
come down here to stay or
sleep on the streets somewhere

017

yesterday! a gentleman
threatened a friend of mine
she was told that the gentleman
was going to attack her and
her boyfriend me and my brother
came to her defense he started
to fight with us and then
he called me a Chomo
I did not like that because
I am a father;

016

There need to be better
housing options for those
that have income. A lot of
us need 30% of our income.
Plus it would be better
if people quit stealing
other people's medz. That's
why I haven't gotten my
meds yet.

It would be nice to have
a budgeting class to better
budget your money.

It would also be nice
to have mental health
and other things that we
need to be better all the
way around.

The food at Vinney's
need to improve to be
better. They should give
us better food than what
they have. This is why
I'm not feeling good cause
we're not eating right.

allie Aguirre

018

I'm allergic to a lot of food that they serve at St. Vinnies. I'm having trouble finding a place to live that I can afford on my own now that I've been approved for rapid rehousing and transportation to prospective housing to fill out applications. I ~~have~~ ^{won't} shower at the Waigand center because the shower stalls are open and I get teased about my hairiness. The mistreatment of the homeless by the staff at the roadhome and other businesses in the area is uncalled for.

Hannah Tracy

019

I SEE PEOPLE JUST LAYIN IN THE STREET SICK WITH NO PLACE TO GO AND NO WERE TO HEAL UP AND PEOPLE JUST WALK RIGHT BY AND DONT CARE AND THE DRUGS HERE ARE BAD REAL BAD. AND THIS IS ONLY THE TOP OF THE ICE BURR.

JAMES MASKER

020

RAY TACKETT

My experience here has been at Rio Grande has not lived up to my expectations of what I heard about this place. all the drugs being smoked in the streets and the staff are off the hook. the staff do nothing about it at all. all the stealing and robbing each other and telling the staff does nothing to stop it. most of the ones that are trying to stay sober it makes it harder on when the staff do anything about the ones that are smoking in the streets and corners. the cops do nothing gather about all the drugs here.

pues Bueno La Experiencia que he tenido aqui En Este lugar Es un poco de todo a lo que realmente no me voy acostumbrado a estar Es una Experiencia total Mente diferente a la que uno esta acostumbrado a vivir Es algo diferente para que realmente se en serio valorar las cosas buenas de la vida. Como sido amigos de toda clase de toda RAZA con todo mundo no Etendo ningún problema con ellos en una amistad.

Existo un poco de todo plantas a Sembrar de comer En una union local y estar es algo para algo nuevo En Este lugar al lado de mi familia que En Centro por lo sido como familia Es Es mas personal.

MARIO MANDONADO

MANDONADO

Changes that need to
be made here at the Rio Grande.

Ray Tackett

I have been here for 2 wks and the security here is a waste of time and money. I have watched 3 separate occasions in the DORMS where there are people shooting up drugs in the dorms and restrooms and all security has done is take the drugs from them not even removing the person. I believe that it is becoming a unsafe environment for people who really need the services

023

I have been staying at the Road Home Temporary for The last 2 years.

I have observed many of Character defects, and what needs to be improved as a Client. We have No Rights. Quoted as one instance "a young boy being shot, and he lay in an induced coma and came out" but Scared, where are the rights for his family that suffered through a traumatic time. The boy will sit in jail and all rights taken from him - as they deport him back to his Country.

We are only people who are in need and down on their luck. The Equal Rights amendment does not apply here. I feel as if Rights are being taken and not Restored.

Such as: there are not enough resources for people with the Special needs who need to be in a different setting where they can obtain the proper care they need, and as Homelessness continues to grow in many states. There are not enough resources.

My thoughts about Rights of the immigrants. They have No Rights. They want to take their rights away and deport them back to their own Country. Where is the Justice? and where is the support for these people?

For the people who has the addiction of Chemicals and other substances, it's not the issue of it being a problem. They know they can get help but choose to live different,

yet they are still people - with feelings, emotions - but the Law enforcements has taken their rights, and they have introduced them to more of the Justice system. Where automatically your rights are stripped and no longer belong to the people. Who is to say what's right from wrong? We all should know the difference. It's not a perfect world we live in, but it can be a lot easier. If there was less complications, let the people have their rights to choose. In the end of all - and ultimately the Creator who is alpha, will be the Judge of all. He says to all... He gave his only Son, to let us live with our on trials and tribulation and always love your neighbor.

024

I WAS RAISED HERE ON 600 WEST
AND 200 NORTH AND THIS PLACE HAS
NEVER BEEN LIKE THIS AND MY
THING IS WHY THE POLICE AND
GOVERNMENT CAN'T SHUT THE DRUGS
DOWN HERE. BACK IN THE 60
AND 70 THING WERE MELLOW
AND YOU HAD MISS TAYLOR RIB
SHACK AND POOL HALL AND BAR
BARS AND WHEN THINGS GOT
OUT OF HAND POLICE SHUT IT
DOWN AND THING ARE TEN TIMES
WORSE. THE POLICE AND GOV CAN'T
DO A THING AND ALL OF SALT LAKE
AREA PEOPLE COME HERE TO
BUY DRUGS AND POLICE AND
GOV CAN'T DO A DAMN THING
MY QUESTION IS WHO IS MAKING
MONEY thru the pipe have
some one is you CAN'T tell me
THEY ARE NOT IN OTHER CITY
THE POLICE AND GOV HAVE
TEN OR MORE SPOT TO SHUT
DOWN AND ALL WE HAVE IS
ONE SO YOU TELL ME
WHAT UP

those children will be scarred for
life they need an officer on
each sleeping room and or at
least cameras in the rooms
they steal at while you sleep and
shortup Heron all the time smoke
spice with not healthy for people
period think about 2nd smoke
that's in the rooms staff really do
~~nothing~~ nothing its nothing But a
Bad experience for us all we here
for help and end up leaving in
shape than we came there is some
very very wrong they pick pocket
cut you watch Band even cut
locks of those are lucky enough
to get locked they arent even
secure nobody care what happens
to us cause were homeless
use trash like ~~garbage~~ garbage

025

MUCH LOVE
CALVIN BELL

Edward J. Jare

026

Karen Wakman
Round 53000 I know
what I see? I don't know
I'm blind. I can't see the
lines on this paper. But I
hear more than you know.
If you don't have a sense of
humor then you

The road home is a breeze

regardless of every ones complaints

I would be under a tree I

would have it didn't make

If a person wants drugs

at all then they will find it

I'm not going to write

more because the paper doesn't

allow me to see what I'm writing

My vision is

It's probably my eyesight.

027

My name is Rina and I live at the Road Home the Weigan Center is my Salvation I access there facilities everyday. I have many memories of living here one of my favorites is of a group coming down on Christmas eve they had Christmas carolers They Asked me if I had a preference And I asked for the song Mary Did you know that song always makes me cry could you Imagain Raizing Jesus into a man what an accomplishment that would be. They said they didnt have the lyrics but they would try. They came back and started singing the song I started crying And they were having a hard time staying on key and a blind man came over and directed them all it made me cry more This is one of my favorite memories There is good and bad down here And those that donate make the bad not so bad its much a preciated even just A hug goes a long way So thank you One and All

Rina Bowen

028

Public Voice:

Hi Gloria,

I just finished reading your April 18th 2016 edition of your publication. If you are in contact with Steve Rimmer, please let him know he is welcome to come talk with the staff of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake (463 South 400 West) about joining our 13 month inpatient recovery program which includes: stabilization, education, life skills, job placement, obtaining housing, etc. Helping people off the streets, obtain recovery/life skill, employment and housing is the primary focus of the Rescue Mission. We offer daily enrollment into our recovery program for those who are honestly seeking change in their life. May God bless you and Steve.

Chris Croswhite

If Nath Salazar, in the Mayor's office reviewed your stories. I will read them carefully. Thank you for speaking up!

John Gibson

THE COMMUNITY VOICE
A BIWEEKLY PUBLICATION BY AND FOR THE RIO GRANDE
HOMELESS COMMUNITY

Vol. 1 No. 4

To Provide a Voice for the Homeless

Supported by: The Salt Lake Marching
and Chowder Club

Editor: Gloria Red Bear

Editor's Voice:

Inside story: Lakota Siouxs. My great forefathers were pilgrims. They had 8-7 wives before it became a law. One of the great fathers I came from their blood line. Lioussa Martinez. I thank her very much for who I am.

I thank you for reading the stories and lessons to what the voices experience and where they are from. Lets get involved in cleanliness, awareness, respect, well mannered, discipline, and clean up. Lets take care of hygiene. Lets stop the violence, crime, and stealing!

Please write me some more voices for the news.

The Gay Pride Parade will be June 5th. The Rio Grande Community will march with signs and banners for awareness of the homeless. Please see me if you want to march with us.

Gloria Red Bear

Editorial Policy of "The Community Voice:

The selections that are published in "The Community Voice" are written by those in the Rio Grande Homeless Community. Offensive words and personal attacks are not allowed. Both public and private organizations may be criticized. Personal stories describing the experience of being

homeless or life experiences that contributed to be homeless are valued.

There will be no editorial corrections or revisions other than addressing the above items that are not allowed. The editor makes no attempt to verify

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

A BIWEEKLY PUBLICATION BY AND FOR THE RIO GRANDE

HOMELESS COMMUNITY

author for every piece accepted by the editor.

The public is invited to comment by using the following email address
thevoiceofriogrande@gmail.com

Gloria Red Bear

Editor, The Community Voice

How I Became Homeless:

I am a Polynesian male in my mid 40's and how I became homeless is not affiliated with drugs instead it had to do with my own personal negative traits that I am known for which is being irresponsible with money, procrastinating with paying bills and not seeing eye to eye with my family. However I never thought that it would get to the point of having to decide to live in a homeless shelter.

On the night of February 1, 2016 on my way to the shelter I ran into a guy who had been living there for quite some time now in the homeless shelter and allowed me to follow him. I bombarded him with so many questions and the only response he gave me was "There's nothing I can say about it, you just have to experience it yourself" and he couldn't have been more accurate.

My first night there was awful. I had been to jail several times in my early 20's and I remember how my eye kept twitching from the shock of being in jail but this homeless shelter was making my whole body twitch. There were so many men and the filth, at least the jail makes you clean the place this was a dump! When I finally found my bunk bed the smell alone made me put my blanket over my head to not pass out instead of falling asleep...there's a difference.

Within that first week I had my iPad and my phone stolen and I had purchased another phone and as I had left my phone to charge a couple of feet away I noticed a guy attempting to steal my phone. I confronted him and asked if that was his phone and he replied "yes" but still trying to figure out the pin number. I grabbed the phone and entered the pin and was able to access my phone. I asked him why he lied and as he stood up it led to a physical altercation. Security accessed the video to see who assaulted who first and I made my first debut on a first assault in a shelter and was evicted for 20 days.

I was directed to another shelter 3 blocks down the road and just when I thought things couldn't get any worse...keep reading.

Within that first week due to the even more filth and numbing smells, you lay side by side in a big room on a carpet with a design that you can barely see from the dirt on top and lay next to multiple men like sardines. By doing so I had caught an internal like flu symptom to where at work doing Customer Service speaking over the phone I was unable to communicate very well without coughing and apologizing to the customer for trying to get over a cold.

Externally, because I was born with a skin condition my body was not immune to the dirty carpet so I began form lesions starting from the bottom of my legs and moving upward (I know...disgusting) which was very painful.

Thankfully, by volunteering at one of the centers, before they would open their doors at 7:00 A.M. I would arrive at 6:00 A.M. and I would be able to shower alone and clean and

disinfect the infection as best as I could to get ready for work. On the weekends I would stay at a Motel 6 and suffer through the pain of taking care of my body and rest as much as I could to go back to the shelter and work for that week. This went on for 2 Months and it wasn't getting any better and by this time the infection had reached up to my thighs

which made it difficult to sit at work and lay down comfortably or sleep. I would not use their blankets they provided (which would make my infection even worse) a good friend of mine provided a thick warm blanket for me and this became my “comforter” (no pun intended) however it was so thick and I had no storage so I had no other choice but to lug it with me to work. At first it was embarrassing but it kept me warm at night. I would quickly try to sneak in at work but my awkward walk from the pain of the infection and this big ole blanket just drew more attention.

I only called in sick once however my performance at work was failing due to my current situation and I was terminated from my employment.

I’ve never experienced being in shock before but I assume that’s what happened next. I don’t remember much after that other than standing at the bus stop leaving work not knowing what to do next, I remember laying in my bunk bed and not being able to get up and use the bathroom so I urinated in my bunk bed...twice, I don’t recall how I got there but I was standing in the rain wrapped in my blanket wearing nothing but my underwear, shoes and at the Salt Lake City Library and waking up on the main floor of the library by two nice men who worked for a program that the Library called and asking me if I’m okay and if I am wearing anything underneath and if I need help.

They kindly brought me some clothes, took me somewhere where I could shower, watch TV and sleep and then dropped me back off at the shelter.

After that I assume it had been a couple of days later and I woke up at the Motel 6 and I felt my entire body internally and externally feel as if the eye of the storm had passed. My mind was clear, internally I could breathe and even though my legs were still swollen with infection I could feel I was getting better. After I had taken a shower I looked at myself in the mirror and I could not recognize my own body. I was a skeleton from the waist up and I was an infected elephant man from the waist down.

I had told myself February 1st that I am only putting up with this for two weeks, it is now the beginning of May and I am still here. My legs have healed however due to the illness it has left other physical difficulties that I am slowly recovering from.

Now that I am well and starting to be my old self again I am pushing very hard in seeking a job and I am seeing the lighter side of the shelter’s services. The Weigand center with their amazing staff has been educating me and training me to be better in job interviews to seek employment and when I do find employment they will then assist me in seeking housing. And when my time is free they allow me to volunteer to make my time useful and I couldn’t be more grateful for their efforts.

To be quite honest with you I wouldn’t have changed this experience for the world because it will forever make me be more disciplined in handling my finances, not procrastinate and to not judge the shelter’s because when you put forth the effort in removing yourself from this environment they will do everything in their power to assist you...but I DO NOT want to experience this again!

(The writer of this copy prefers to remain anonymous for personal reasons. He is known to the Editor)

Our Community Voices:

So about the situation at the Rio Grande. Here it is as I see it. Hope. It's grand. If you walk through Old Greek Town you can see many people have lost it. Stay long enough and you can see why. NO prospects, no way of improving limiting the choices to getting high and staying sober and facing the street. Habits become the cause and cure for many ills. The homeless population in the Rio Grande area is far too familiar with this. So what can be done about it? Given the area has historically been the red light district of a buttoned down modest city this isn't a new situation. Folks want to find comfort in all forms of vices. So it comes down to a choice of either cracking down or containing. Personally I find path of harm reduction to be the most palatable. Which is a bit of a radical approach. Like handing out condoms and lube at a rave. Which when done at LGBT venues has been shown to significantly reduce STD's. So does that mean a clean needle exchange? Or toxic compound testing for foreign substances specifically spice? There are some that think that the problem can be legislated away or shipped to prison. This line of reasoning seems to have exacerbated the problem. As in how many decades does the war on drugs need to rage on before it occurs to folks that this approach is netting negative returns? So then what? How about providing alternatives that actually make a difference. Such as...? And this is the real challenge. If say a person with limited motivation to try is given a chance to improve their lives what help can be given? How do you provide an incentive to folks that are without hope to make a significant change? This is what city leaders and community planners need to contemplate.

029

Steven Rimmerman

My experience since I have been here at the Rio Grande has been very heart-breaking to see that staff or the police turn their noses to all the using + selling of drugs and the violence that follows. People are scared to even walk or drive down the streets with their children because of paraphernalia laying around. CCS is there to help you as individual and people take it for granted. The shelter is just as bad staff turns noses up and there is - drugs being smoked in the bathrooms. It is very hard when you are staying sober it is all will power and God.

I see the security on the women's dorm are blind to a lot of men getting through the doors and sleeping inside, that is very unsafe for the women as well as the children. I have been here 2 wks and have seen at least 10 people being assisted by ambulance because of the ongoing use of drugs (spice). The Road home should allow individuals that have experience volunteer with the homeless. The services that CCS and Road Home provide are wonderful but people abuse the services and eventually they get cut from helping.

Things that need to change here at the CCS + Road home are the drug deals that continue in the places that are here to help people and better themselves. That is not happening because if you are trying to stay sober and better yourself you get pulled in because the mind power and the will is gone. The violence is sky rocketing because of the state of mind individuals are in someone else will end up dead living the way of the street. I have been in a lot of shelters and have never seen anything like this uncontrolled.

Connie Kamen

The road home is a horrible place the workers are not nice to the people that stay here the one side of the road is alot of drug and it seems as through no one cares about the homeless they get new clothing and other items in daily but never give anything to us except a couple people that some of the staff seems to favor and give new clothing and to on a daily basis the food at vinnies is always out dated and the same food all the time theres people dying from drug over dose and the staff dont seem to care and neither do the police this is the worst place to be and people are always coughing and everyone gets sick and cant get better the 4th street clinic dont make you better you sit at the clinic all day and most of the time you dont even get to see a dr. sence I have been here all I have seen is sickness drugs and no one seems to care about the homeless. 031

Family Justice Center
Nurses came to discuss with women, safety needs, what can you do if you are sexually assaulted, Its NEVER your fault. We will be having an open class each month to discuss and learn from our community and each other
Our name is: Karen / Liz
thank you for supporting us.

032

Subject: Road Home: Out Side..

Violent & Crime & Gang related Rape. Etc OTHERS. Drug Dealing
We need to use our street for Activities with the Homeless

Like Mode clothing, Celebrate's Birthday Penny Carnivals & De Cating Karoke's. Have Activies that will lift spirits. that need to be lifted

this Push Crime & Violent Drug Dealing Give the Community Back to the Road Home Homeless. Residents We Need Voleeners to Help!! the Homeless

1. Professional Help! Health Waze Doctor. Better Care

Rehab. CNA that will Voleenters there time the Disabilities & Handicapp. Blind & Deaf. Bathing HyGene etc need Help open Doors For the Homeless and the Catholic Community Service. they need to up grade there food. lot of that Expire Food. Cans & Meat Bread. Pastry Editor Gloria Needs Positive in Put - Support Prayer & Voleenters
re Hire 2 Doctors
Road Home

Envelope

NORMAN Pierce from West Covina Calif.

I've been homeless since 2010 because My adopted Mom Couldn't handle all of My Mental health conditions, Tourette's Disorder, + 8 Major Surgeries + a Life Long trial of torment, teasing, Mimicking, Mocking + Sexual harassment, Many Many Broken Bones Mangled Face, bruised, Broken ribs, broken right Clavical, tailbone broke in half + L Knee messed up badly + Literally starving all of us in the SLC Metro Jail + I was waiting for Mental health to come talk to me for 3 hrs crying on My bed because I was there for a bunch of allegations that were blatant Lies! + I have ties where I swear + Do 8 Binding body ties + Mental ties + only 10% of the about 250,000 ppl have Tourette's in the USA + the 10% have uncontrollable Cursing, outburst of sounds they make, the Dir at the U of U Dr McMan has written novels about research for many years + said to me "people will think your weird or retarded + stupid + not empathize + many make My Days Hell but many understand + we make friends, I got Tourette's at 3 y old + have taken 100,000's of Pills to make Me somewhat Normal but the police said "quit resisting arrest + I told

them I have Tourette's Syndrome + I'm in convulsions because of extreme terror + harassing + people Judges get scared of Me Cause I'm an alien from a nether galaxy because of the extreme Misunderstanding of the Law + I've been beat Brutally + Broken all over because of my ties + I've seen Myself ALOT of Broken beatings to Mental health + physical impairment at the Metro Jail, It Needs to STOP the police break their own laws + treat inmates who couldn't help but go to Jail + get way worse because all of their meds are stopped at once when their back + animals get treated better than people do in Jail Please Stop the VIOLENCE police are here to protect + uphold the Law but they break it every day because they Play God, I want to start a new Life in California because the people are open minded + accepting on the average but Sunny warmer Skies, Sand, Sun + that's My Story in a nutshell

P.S. these people NEED NORMAN Pierce help Not hindrance Like getting a trap ticket for a Jay walking Charge + Can't pay the fine but rot in Jail till he or she loses everything

035

Edward James Jones
Ph# 385-219 6778
address 210.50. Rio Grande St
Salt Lake city Utah 84101

I come to shelter after having to in the hospital for medical Reason around Jan 6-7 its hard to stay here because of the violence + theft I got my phone, dentures, prescription Glass stolen around 3000 to replace I'm out of the staff knows who did because I gave them the bed # of the guy that took them But they say I shut + they cant do nothing because of some privacy, I talked to lawyer they when crime has committed especially felony which \$7000 is possible if felony But they are short money here a harder the violence drugs Bullying people getting threatened + fear Bad for family that are Her

So it's like terribly dark and cold as can be and all I could do is think that at 4:30am when Bob got picked up for work that morning on that same block of the Gateway Mall it might have been just as dark and just as cold I wondered if it was the same weather in Linden Utah where he flagged all day it was the same temperature as down town either way breaking on your feet all day that alone in this weather could not be easy. All I could do was try to smile and be myself and look forward to another McDonald's meal and 15-20 min of eating dinner + quality time with Bob Hope as I kididngly call my "street daddy"

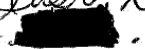
Bob gets 920 of McDonald's tray for the 2 of us + smile and thank Daria + my friends from the Mickey D's. Wishy him good night, As we're sitting there we're warmed up but

now. We are approached by two gentlemen in uniform. My head drops and peruses I feel a horrible feeling wash (I have PTSD) and men in uniform at dinner in the friendly case not 2 things you associate what could be the matter? Well to my greater shock the security guard demands that we both get up and leave the tables exit the building because "The Mall closes at 9pm. Bob and I who are 1/2 way thru our meal stare at each other in disbelief like dumbstruck.

Bob looks at the officer and says really then why did they serve me on a tray instead of a sloppy bag + take out. At Bob's remark the officer's boss voice sounded sincere + tried to console to me. They had very angry + threatened us to leave the mall now! or else. We innocently thought they just changed the rules.

or something I thought about the next day what's gonna happen when Bob gets out of work. Dropped off from work in front of the Mall at this time. I tried not to dismiss the thoughts of despair Frustration + Panic, And replace them with a solution. Well not more hurriedly + just leave the mall earlier than yesterday's hope for the best. That Beat what was my short + panic. When we did just that + the same 2 officers come out of their hiding spot as Bob + I are sharing our after dinner smokes + they start demanding our names and for us to show their cameras and threatening to arrest us + telling us that "We're Banned from the Mall for an Extra Year" + if we dare come back we'll be arrested.

Ray Tackett

Things need to change around the Block, stop all the drugs all the nasty street sales of sex. the staff does not do anything about any of it. the shelters are a joke the places are so nasty and dirty. rubber used on the Bathroom floor guys  each other, telling the staff does nothing about any of it most of it is cause the cops and staff do nothing about it. People just keep on doing the same .

the truth of the submitted comments or stories. \$5 will be paid to the author for every piece accepted by the editor.

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Gloria Red Bear

Editor, The Community Voice

029

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

A BIMONTHLY PUBLICATION BY AND FOR THE RIO GRANDE

HOMELESS COMMUNITY

To Provide a Voice for the Homeless

Supported by: The Salt Lake Marching
and Chowder Club

Editor: Gloria Red Bear

Published the first and third Monday of
each month

Editor's Voice:

Good morning to all the Road Home Community, families, women, children, men, employees, and outsiders. I'm the editor greeting you with respect and discipline.

I'm a Lakota Sioux through my grandparents whom I love very much. My grandparents, Jesse Slow Dog (Red Bear) Solomon Sr. Red Bear raised me. I was taught that Love, Optimism, Vision, Eternity is the value in our way. I am almost in my 60's. I have 32 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. I am homeless because I was paying child support. It took me 22 years to complete the child support I was ordered by the Matheson Court House to pay.

Please take care of personal hygiene. Change your clothes. Be aware, respectful, well mannered, disciplined, and clean up. Please do not trash the community and pick up after yourselves.

~~Don't beg for money there are jobs here in America.~~

Gloria Red Bear

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the truth of the submitted comments or stories. \$5 will be paid to the author for every piece accepted by the editor.

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Gloria Red Bear

Editor, The Community Voice

Our Community Voices:

My name is Bonnie Garcia, I am 57 yrs. old. People tell me my story starts out like a fairy tale, because I was raised with both my parents in the home, upper middle class. My dad was a life in the navy & then worked for ~~the~~ civil service until he retired from there. But even the perfect looking family has their skeletons, the secrets they keep about their family, so no one can look down on them, or heaven forbid "judge" ^{them} them.

I had 2 older sisters, I'm the baby, & we're all 5 yrs apart which made us too far apart in age to really ever hang together.

My sister Donna who's the middle child, started out as the black sheep. She was a teenager during the 60's when all the kids did drugs just to make their parents mad, to get a rise out of them. Of course, my dad believed what we didn't know wouldn't hurt us. Which I learned, these experiences are totally not true.

Because I was left in the dark about why Donna was going to jail all the time, & being shipped off to other relatives. When I became a teenager I didn't know, that because of all Donna's actions, is one reason why my mom had 7 nervous breakdowns, in & out of mental hospitals, because she thought she was a bad mother & that's why Donna was always in trouble.

So when I was in jr high & high school my dad started telling me if I ever ran away I should just stay gone. That confused me cause I never thought of running away.

In 10th grade I started hanging with a few wrong people, had a boyfriend & one day I got to drive my mom's car to school & we all decided to ditch school, go to the beach & drink cheap wine. While at the beach, I talked on our C.B. radio, to radio friends all around the dial. Not knowing my dad was at work listening to

me on every channel I went on ^{all} day long by the way. When it was time for school to be out, I went home & mom was good with me so I thought I had gotten away with ditching.

But when my dad got home he called me down & asked me if I had gone to all my classes that day? I lied of course & he said O.K. I was so relieved cause I'd really gotten away with ditching.

The next morning before I left for school my dad said "he'd be stopping by my school & check with the office attendance to see if I had really attended all my classes the previous day." I left for school to meet my boyfriend & all I could think of was Donna telling me years ago that she had that bloody nose & two black eyes because dad beat her when he found out she had ditched school. Scared wasn't the word for how scared I really felt. So when I got to my boyfriend I said "Take me anywhere but to school or my home."

Now I'm an official runaway. I stayed from friends to friends for well over 4 months. I stayed away from school because I was sure my dad notified the police & school that I ran away & was missing. He always had when Donna ran away.

I had finally gotten my own apartment with my boy friend, of course we were experimenting with alcohol & pot. We had the music up too loud & the police came knocking at the door. When they asked us all our ages they wanted to know why I was so young & not in school, where were my parents? They hauled me off to juvie, & called my parents to confirm my story.

When my dad got off work he stopped by the police station & told them I was no longer welcome at home & "no" he never reported me as a runaway to anyone. The police gave him 1 of 3 choices ① Take me home ② Pay for me to stay in juvie until I was 18 yrs old ③ pay me \$ to live away from home until I was

18 yrs old. He chose #3, he mailed me a check every month to live a-way from home. It broke my heart that he didn't want me anymore, I just didn't understand. ^{1/2}

To kill the pain I did drugs, & learned about all kinds of new ones. A so called friend introduced me to crack & shot me up for the first time. I was hooked!!! That's all it took, of course I was afraid of needles so I didn't know how to shoot myself up, I had to have others do me. I stayed in the drug world from 16 yrs old to the age of 53 yrs old. At 20 yrs old I got married the first time to an alcoholic. Between his alcohol & my crack we knew we didn't have a chance to make a future. I had an Aunt who lived up here in Utah, so we moved up here where we knew no drug addicts or drinking buddies. Neither of us had ever heard of state run liquor stores, California you can buy all your alcohol in the food market along with food. Well, him only having certain times & days to buy his alcohol, made his drinking NOT worse!! He'd buy more alcohol to cover the times he couldn't, but he'd drink until it was all gone.

The bikers in San Diego mailed me an oz. of crystal meth to help me financially. It was a new, more pure form of uppers. But I didn't know anyone who did uppers up here?! It didn't take long for the users to point me out because I was high! From that point on (1980) to the present, I have used & sold meth. I've been to prison 4 times from selling this evil drug, over the years. Everytime I'm in I say "I'm Done" but when I'm released as soon as I have money problems, I start selling meth convincing myself I'll only sell for a min. to get back on my feet. That's a lie I tell myself because each time I start again I get larger & larger quantities. So when I get arrested I get more & more time.

This last incarceration was when

I completely hit bottom!!! I thought I had hit bottom before I went to prison this last time. I had a dr. tell me I was in stage 4 liver disease & didn't have much longer to live. More importantly my daughter told me after I was arrested on a misdemeanor that I could no longer see my grand daughters. They were my world, I lived & breathed around my grand daughters, I was involved in every aspect of their lives. ^{1/2}

Of course, my addict convinced me I couldn't survive without my daughter & grandkids. My daughter literally ripped my heart out with this news!!! I again began self medicating with my drug of choice, I was literally trying to kill myself!!

I figured my liver would be the end of me, mainly if I kept using & using more. My liver was so damaged because I had Hep C from back in my intervenious drug use days. I watched my second husband, Larry die 20 yrs before from his Hep C, liver failure. I thank God he went quickly because I've learned of the pain he was suffering, now thru experience. They had only just come out with the interferon treatment when he passed.

July 5th, 2012 I could barely walk because of the numb, pain my legs were in. I didn't care, I still had a friend drive me from Idaho to Ogden, Utah to score my large quantities of drugs. Days earlier things began happening that weren't right with my drug dealer. So by ~~the~~ ^{July 5th} I knew I was being set-up & was going to be busted. But I went anyway, which turned out to be a "Big Blessing." This last trip to prison saved my life, literally! ^{1/2}

I knew how sick I was when I went in & just knew I'd die in prison my first 6 mos.

The dr. at prison started with one ailment at a time, which was high blood pressure first. I found I couldn't walk because my blood pressure was so high.

I did the Excell in-patient drug program at the prison for the 3rd time. My therapist helped me change the way I looked at life & things in my life. I came up with one goal I'd like to accomplish if I lived thru this prison stay, it could be anything at all whether I could afford it or not.

So I did come up with a wonderful goal, & one that was only for me.

I made it thru my 3 1/2 yrs of prison & I'm still alive. I paroled to a friend house ~~in~~ here in Salt Lake where I know no one. I don't know Salt Lake at all!! My friend knew & accepted that I was paroling from prison, she said her place was clean of everything. She also knows my bad health & medical issues,

My Husband, Daughter and I came here to S.L.C. Utah in 2006 from N.H. We had nothing but the clothes on our back and each other we got our first Apt with no money with the understanding that we pay the first months and Sec Deposit when we got our checks and we did we lived on Redwood for 9 yrs. until my husband passed away 2 1/2 yrs ago my Daughter and I couldn't afford it any longer so we became homeless most recently

Being homeless is so hard since my Husband passed for my Daughter and I But I feel most sad for the Children

C.D and S.S.

My #1 goal has been to stay clean & get the cure for my Hep C. The 4th St. Clinic has been wonderful in helping me medically & getting the pharmaceutical company to agree to pay for my treatment. I've been waiting for my meds. to arrive; for all the paperwork to be completed.

My friend recently ~~kicked~~^{kicked} me out the reason was not understandable to me at first. Which brought me here to the Road Home Shelter. I have been humbled by this experience, & after 2 wks here have learned so very much from alot of people here. I have also learned that my friend was using again, so her kicking me out was a blessing. If I would have stayed would I be using again too? Probably. Knowing myself & my addict I would have thrown all these months of clean time & my chance for the Hep C cure out the window & been back on the road to a quick death.

038

Why did I make this decision? I know how I normally handle situations. I normally walk away, especially when confronted for sticking to my morals - maintaining my dignity. Now, a calculating mind, driven by pent up frustration, holds my thinking process hostage. The aftermath of the now dead situation paralyzes me with guilt because of how I reacted. I find myself already on the defense everywhere I go. My loving, non judgmental nature slowly diminishes. What am I becoming?

USAJ.

The Community Voice
Hello Ever lived at the
shelter? The Road Home
well I am currently
living at the shelter
on the womens side.
What brought me to coming
here was being put at
by my sisters. I have
been here about more
then two times. My
experience living in the
womens side has been
pretty much laid back.
You see Im already
overwhelmed with my
life & knowing that I
will be here I know
I had to adapt and
make the best of it.
I am grateful for being
here. I am thankful to

My name is Mary Hurley
The Shelter means a whole
lot to me. at least I am not
out side on the streets. When
it is very dangerous for a women
much lease for a man. You have
a place to lay your head,
Shower also they cloth you
too. The Staff are very
nice and caring. When I
came out here from Georgia
i was very scared and nervous
The people are nice and friendly
They look out for each other.
My daughter is the one who
brought me out here. The
meals can improve a little.
I am diabetic and I have
to watch my sugar. Well its
been nice to tell you
about the shelter.

all stages. I know I can
be difficult by I am
managing. The beds
mattress has been
decent & comfortable
am able to shower
& warm up my food.
Some days I'd have to
say has been right but
I will stay strong & get
back on my feet. My
will is to survive & be
a mother again. I love
my kids.

"different 'character'"

041

WTF? This is a instant question that
enters the mind when entering The Block;
For the first time. It's sad after a while one
isn't phased by it all any more. The seed of
the slowly planted trauma has now sprouted
its leaves and blossoms of depression, anger,
despair... alcohol, drugs, fighting, death.
Sometimes we will see a beautiful blossom
and smile until it is destroyed or stolen
right before our eyes. WTF? That's the
thought at the end of my day.

Lisa Jackson

042

043

1 Lost my House due
to foreclosser on a mortgage
that I took out to
fight for custody of
my 3rd Son. Lost my
house 16 years later,
But my son served
and finished the Army
and his is in the Army
of the Lord. I planted
seeds.

Dina Bush

309.
813 509 7879.

044

^{The Dawn}
My experience at the shelter
has been both pleasant with immense
compassion to down right cruel and
vicious.

The compassion times ring out
from Christmas to where a group
of carolers took my request to
teach them that song about Mary
did you know. They got the song
on their phones by Google and
sang it most beautiful when an
old man came up and started
to sing with I started to cry such
is still today it tears me up.
To have the glory of raising such
a child into a man would be
a gift all on it own. The strength
of that woman and the glory she
must have felt must have been
immense. I felt the Glory of
God Jesus Mary and Joseph working
as a family unit as we all
still do today and family in that
light is most beautiful.

On a negative note I saw a
fight one time out here to where

LISA FITZPATRICK
Irish Jarent

I have been at the Road home since
February of 2016 and I have a mental
illness. AND I have been triggered
both here and hurt emotionally by
this individual. AND it really
bothers me I have told staff at the
Road home and staff has seen and heard
her harass me yet staff refuses to
have anything done ~~about~~ this matter
I am sick of both being bothered ~~and~~
hurt and triggered AND staff not doing
anything

Something needs to be
Done

045

A man had been shot and so
he had to be in a wheel chair
a lot of the time and one day
some body pulled his shirt over
his head and started beating
him up when the wheel chair knocked
over and caught his foot I
undid his foot and the guy
got on top of the one doing the
hitting and asked him what
was going on. I came down to
investigate, I saw the man
quite fighting and they both
came to their senses. There are
many fights down here even
all kinds of stuff but that one
was the worst.

So not everything is
bad scary down here at the shelter
people donate their time and hard
work and turn it into donations
for us on the streets and it
always a blessing I want to thank you
all you remind me of Christmas
was working as a family unit
the bad I consider the bad to be overcome.

Our Rider

Dear, to whom my read this.
Hello, their my name is Pat Case...
and I would love to tell you a story
about my old habits to the new Habits.
It started out when I was 15 years old
I found my ~~two~~ big brothers joint laying
in the bathroom, so I took it and
smoked it, we were in Hawaii,
since then I smoked marijuana for
most of my life.

Then we moved to the states "Utah".
I came here and throw the years,
I got 6 kids, I was still smoking
marijuana, allway have A house over
thier heads, allways had food, allway
make sure they had all the nesesitys,
I all way had at least 1 job,
sometimes 2 at one time.

By the time the boys got Older,
arond 2013, thats the time, that my
son came in with spice, since then thats
when I got stuck, I feeled that I
got Higher then Marijuana, so since
then I would get a 20.00 aday to
100.00 aday easily.

About a year ago my kid's was
stuck on it, and everything... as to

Marijuana to Herion, my oldest son,
had friends that we didnt have to pay
for the drug, we disire, I only wanted
spice and Meth when I didnt have spice.
Then about Feb. 2016 I got kicked off
of Housing, so I got a tent and picked
it by my son, the midite ~~drift kid~~, so
I still did what I wanted and smoke up all
my ssi money on it, and ~~accuse~~ accuse
my pay-e, the son I lied by, then my
friend who was living in a apartment
across the road, menched the V.O.A
so I sucked up my pride on the
life that I was living and got
dropped off thier, and today I fee I
better about my life and my future
to come.

Now Im Clean and Happy about
my life, Im more Content now not
rallying on Drugs.

I say "Love, Pugs

and

Not DRUGS.

Pat Case 09-26-2016

Sierra
385-250-705

My name is, Duvern Kaltenbach, a Veteran of the United States Army, have been out here at the Road Home since the beginning of January 2016. During this time I have witnessed people being beaten, drugs being sold and used as well as cars being broken into. I listen to people yell at the staff and treat them and others around them like complete shits. I have had people make threats to me personally as well as steal from me. I would be willing as a military vet to help out with the security here.

Duvern Kaltenbach

The Bum Buddies Mentoring Program

Are you looking for a friend in your life? The Rio Grande Homeless Coalition (an organization started and run by the homeless to serve our homeless brothers and sisters) would like to pair homeless folks to homeless mentors, for one-on-one mentoring (we match men with men and women with women). Our goal as an organization is to create a loving, supportive community to help our homeless brothers and sisters get back on their feet, provide fellowship and so on---a group that will love and accept you for who you are (both your faults and virtues) and who you can become, that are not frightened by, or judgmental of, you because of past transgressions (let's face it, who among us hasn't made some mistakes in the past) and that are willing to offer you the material, emotional and spiritual support, encouragement and teaching that you need to succeed, that will encourage you to cut ties with certain folks from your past that would drag you down the wrong path in life again and to just keep you busy doing positive things with good people so as to keep you from getting into trouble. We are here to support you. Our mentors truly care about you and what is going on in your life, and we will make ourselves available to you when you need us, whether it is to provide a listening ear, to attend substance abuse meetings (like AA or NA) [and act as your accountability buddy if desired], court and so on with you, offer encouragement in difficult situations or advice when appropriate, to help you find appropriate community resources to meet your specific needs, to help you discover purpose in life and set goals. For instance, perhaps you dropped out of high school---your mentor might encourage you to get your GED and assist you on preparing for the exam), to be a role model for you, helping to instill in you good practical and spiritual habits and virtues or to just hang out with you and have fun, among other things.

If you're interested in connecting with one of our mentors or to find out more about this program, contact Frederick Lorenz via e-mail at flor@glwb.net or via phone at (440) 506-2228.

THE COMMUNITY VOICE A BIMONTHLY PUBLICATION BY AND FOR THE RIO GRANDE HOMELESS COMMUNITY

Editorial Policy of “The Community Voice:

The selections that are published in “The Community Voice” are written by those in the Rio Grande Homeless Community. Offensive words and personal attacks are not allowed. Both public and private organizations may be criticized. Personal stories describing the experience of being homeless or life experiences that contributed to be homeless are valued. There will be no editorial corrections or revisions other than addressing the above items that are not allowed. The editor makes no attempt to verify the truth of the submitted comments or stories. \$5 will be paid to the author for every piece accepted by the editor.

The public is invited to comment by using the following email address
thevoiceofriogrande@gmail.com

Gloria Red Bear

Editor, The Community Voice

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Editor: Gloria Red Bear

To Provide a Voice for the Homeless

Editor’s Voice:

Published the first and third Monday of each month

Good morning to you from The Road Home Community. I am a Lakota Woman. I have read everyone’s stories. I return back to all of you my respect. There is so much going on in the Community inside and outside of the shelters. The residents are smoking in bathrooms in the shelter. That is part of the bad news. In the building there is so much fighting, violence, and crime. There has got to be a way to get support to stop this. We need to help with all of these issues.

Be careful, be safe, and keep up the environment. Have good hygiene. Shower, shave, and change your clothes. Your property should be 50 lbs. or less. Watch your documents at the shelter. Help each other and listen to each

other when they need to talk. Reach out your hand to illness, sickness, handicap, disabilities, blind, deaf, and all impairments in the Community. There are questions that need to be answered with housing, violence, crime, drugs, alcohol, prescriptions, hatred, and jealousy.

Gloria Red Bear

Assistant Editor: Carlos Mateo

The News Corner by Carlos Mateo:

LOCAL NEWS:

Luau Planned

The Rio Grande Homeless Coalition is planning to hold a luau involving local businesses, in order to gain more recognition for our group among those outside of the homeless community. A similar event will be planned to be held to make our group better known among member of the homeless community. Dates and locations for these events are still to be decided.

Site Selection Committee Meeting

A city council Site Selection Committee meeting was held at The Leonardo on 15 June 2016 to solicit feedback from the public on how to hand the obvious homeless problem in Salt Lake City, what features would be important in a new homeless facility, etc. The event was attended by four members of the homeless community and four non-homeless members of the Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club (SLCMCC). Contacts within city council were made there and those contacts plan to attend our next SLCMCC meeting. Another Site Selection Committee meeting took place on Monday, 20 June 2016 at the Marmalade Library. Finally, a third Site Selection Committee meeting took place on Wednesday, 22 June 2016 at the Salt Lake City Public Library.

Podcasts in Pioneer Park

Andy Cier recorded the stories of homeless folks in Pioneer Park on Friday, 17 June 2016, which he plans to post on the Internet via podcasts. He plans on doing it again in the future date that is still to be decided.

Guardians Take Action!

Tuesday, 21 June 2016 was an especially hot day, so the Guardians took to the street (Rio Grande Street and 500 West) and passed out bottled water to their fellow homeless brothers and sisters that were in dire need (either too old or sick to get out of the sun, passed out in the sun in a drug or alcohol induced state, etc). The Guardians plan on soliciting local businesses and other members of the public to help provide water so that this can be done on a regular basis. As the weather heats up, so does the probability of sun stroke. The Guardians envision taking care of the weak and helpless among our own people and this is on way it can manifest itself.

The Police and the New Social Workers

A meeting took place at the police headquarters (next to the library) on 22 June 2016. One homeless person and two non-homeless members of the Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club attended. The attendees learned about the Rio Grande Homeless Coalition, our purpose and some of the things we are doing or plan to do in the near future. More information was ascertained about the new social workers hired by the police and how they will interact with the homeless community.

Homeless-on-Homeless Crime

There has been an increase in homeless-on-homeless crimes, including violent assaults, rapes and thefts, among other things. Recently, the crime hit home when two of our members had things stolen from them at the Road Home and two other members were violently assaulted in Pioneer Park, with the beating severe enough that they had to go to the hospital. The Rio Grande Homeless Coalition (RGHC) plans on starting an information campaign among the homeless to encourage them to report crimes when they occur. Members from the RGHC plan on meeting with Deputy Police Chief Josh Scharman on Wednesday, 29 June 2016, where concerns will be expressed about how police have handled crimes reported by homeless people in the past and how future interaction between the homeless and police can be improved. We also hope to learn more about how our Guardians will interact with the police force's, newly hired social workers.

Mentoring Program and Narcotics Anonymous Group

The Rio Grande Homeless Coalition has begun a mentoring program called The Bum Buddies Mentoring Program that matches homeless folks to homeless mentors. They also, out of concern for the exploding drug problem in the Rio Grande neighborhood, started a Narcotics Anonymous group run by recovering homeless addicts and catering to homeless addicts in the Rio Grande Street, 500 West & Pioneer Park areas

Our Community Voices:

057

A Heavy Burden

For people who are in the sex offender registry, life can be very difficult. From the time that they get out of jail or prison they have to register on the sex offender registry for as long as the state that they are in deems necessary and the time they have to spend on it depends on the type of crime they committed. It may be anywhere from 10 years to a lifetime registration.

The burden of committing a sex crime can be heavy. A person can lose a lot afterwards. Close friends may stop talking to them. Their wife or girlfriend or husband may leave them. Their own parents may not want to help them anymore. Besides that, losing any self-pride or respect that they may have had can hurt as well.

Finding work can be difficult. A lot of businesses don't want to hire sex offenders. When they do find work they have to settle for more menial labor, even if they had a skill set in a particular field before they were convicted. The search for a place to stay can be hard. As in the work force sector a big part of the housing industry doesn't want to give them a chance and thus they struggle to find a place to stay. As a result, a good number of sex offenders end up at the local shelter. The Road home has a number of offenders that reside in it.

Aside from the things that they lose sex offenders can deal with a certain amount of hate and discrimination from certain members of the community who don't have any sympathy for them. People who don't believe that they deserve a second chance and that they should all be locked up for life. Many people like to stereotype all sex offenders as being the same. According to them they're all rapists or child molesters, and repeat offenders who are just waiting for the next opportunity to offend again. They believe that they are void of any conscience or feelings or remorse or any good quality that exists in other people.

A question arises in this situation. Should all sex offenders be treated this way or should people be given all the information pertaining to a sex offender before they judge him or her? In other words, should

research what their conviction is, or maybe get to know the person in order to maybe learn the circumstances of the situation that led them to commit the crime they committed?

I believe that the latter is more appropriate. I don't think people should be categorized into something that they may not be without knowing who they are first. Granted some offenses are more serious than others and some may not be forgivable, but can we stereotype all offenders as being the worst of their kind without knowing what they did? I don't think we should.

The truth is that not all sex offenders turn out to be repeat offenders. Some of them show remorse for their crime and are sorry, and wish that they'd never committed it. They understand that they made a mistake and that they made a very big mistake, but they also want to continue to live their lives as best as they can and have the opportunity to be a part of society in a positive way.

For this reason I believe that the ones that deserve it should be given a second chance in life. In all, ask yourself this question: If you found yourself in the same situation being on the registry for a forgivable crime, wouldn't you want a second chance also?

Writer is listed on the Sex Offender Registry and prefers to remain anonymous

My name is Pat I am an R.N. and a victim of identity theft. I spent hundreds of thousands of dollars trying to fight the terrible perpetrators who caused so much sadness and misery for my family. Some of them are involved with our major banks, and the bankers let it happen.

I have many concerns regarding the comments I have heard about the shelter. There have been complaints about the staff. These people work under pressure everyday. They must deal with those who are mentally ill, those who are angry or sad, and those who self medicate to forget their sadness. The staff deserves credit for what they do and I, for one, appreciate what they have done for me and for others.

These are the suggestions I have that I feel will help our situation...

This is my (hopefully only time) being homeless. I traveled from South Florida to SLC two weeks ago. Moving to Utah last spring wasn't the right time because my son was graduating from high school, and I wanted to see if another career opportunity would present itself in the company I worked for. I didn't. Fed up with a dead-end job that possibly crippled my career in my field and the overly-exaggerated "glamorous" lifestyle of Sunny South Florida, I hopped a plane out of "Dodge" to SLC at my earliest convenience. I knew I would be homeless, but I simply didn't care.

Homelessness and shelter life has been an humbling experience that has opened my eyes to a world most of society will not truly understand. I have met people from all walks of life who endure the toughest of challenges when trying to find employment because of medical, physical or mental issues. Although TRH and other shelters attempt to assist, most of these individuals fall through the cracks because of some invisible loophole that prevents the systems designed to help them to recover from homelessness receive what they desperately need. The programs designed to bring about self-reliance may at times fail because they are imperfect.

'Shelter life needs improvement in a variety of ways, but the two areas that really stick out to me are in the areas of sanitation and diet. I worry about staff turning a blind eye to public health safety issues such as infectious disease or infestations (e.g., bed bugs, lice). These issues are sometimes taken too lightly by staff. Food selections

- ① 0 tolerance for thieves or bullies
- ② Additional help for ~~stuck~~, when needed.
- ③ increased health standards
- ④ Bike racks for women
- ⑤ Computers and other stimulating activities
- ⑥ Library

It has been heard judgments people place on the homeless, it would if they know that 80% of the people it meet are superior in character to many people it know who are not homeless. They are willing to help others, share with others and genuinely care with compassion and empathy.

Pat Bowman

My name is Richard Sander, I am from a small reservation called Pyramid Lake. Pyramid Lake is located 30 minutes out of Reno in Nevada. I am from the Pyramid Lake Paiute tribe. ~~My~~ both my parents come from Nevada. Growing up I was always a good kid, involved in sports and school activities. Through school I was involved in band, marching, Pep Concert and played varsity soccer. After graduating ^{high} school I went on to attend Job Corps in Oklahoma, where I graduated in the trade of material handlers. I left there with certifications in Forklift, Heavy equipment operator, and my material handlers certification. After graduation I tried numerous jobs in warehouse. Honestly to say it didn't fit me. I hated those jobs so I moved to Arizona to go to college. I graduated with my A.A. in Fine Arts. During that time I managed to get married and have a son. Living there I ~~started working in~~ ~~man~~ got myself into trouble. Being young and dumb, I landed myself on Drug Court. at that time I hated that program and did everything I was told not ~~to~~ do. When I finally woke-up and realized what ~~program~~ was best for me and my family. That's when Sobriety Kicked in. I went on graduated Wellness Court and ended up working

for the program first as the white Bison Supervisor then as a sponsor then on the Panel. I did good and worked with the program over a yr then realized I wasn't ready to be a family. I put my job before my family and went through a divorce. I moved here to Utah where I decided to get a fresh start. I moved in to an apartment with a roommate who bailed on me when rent was due. She waited till I went to work then packed her stuff and moved out. I tried to stay up on rent but my pay wasn't enough. I then started staying with my Aunt where a lot of family secrets were let out of the closet, making life for me more stressful. I then came to the road home for help at first, it seemed like the right choice, then as time went on I came to see certain staff members weren't here ~~for~~ to help and the trouble started ~~as of now~~

I was always scared to be out on the block alone. I never seen anyone shoot up heroin, an never smell the awful smell of spice before. it scared me to see people ~~pro~~ flopping around, throwing up on themselves or sitting there all zombied out. I have been here almost 150 days and still never let my curiosity get the best ^{of me.} I don't do drugs but I met some people who I thought were friends and decided to drink. Bad idea, I ended up getting beat up. I now talk to nobody for my own safety. It's better to be alone. I had all my stuff stolen, Id, Birth Certificate, Everything and when I went to staff was told there was nothing they could do. The trouble with the staff didn't end there. being native american I was labeled by a graveyard worker who gave me problem after problem. always

accusing me of alcohol or sneaking in mouth wash.
he always had rude comments or negative things
to say. Glad to say he is no longer a worker here!
I am now having trouble with other staff members.
its ridiculous, but I hate to say it. a lot of
the staff here, are just here for the money they
dont care. They should be here trying to help us
get back on our feet, not trying to keep us where
we are down. There is the Awesome staff members
who do care, and are always here to help out. Even
Bend over backwards at times and thoughts are

Greatly appreciated and will always be remembered.
Being homeless has been a lesson, I have learned
to appreciate what little things I do have in life,
~~and the things people have given me~~ I am up for
housing and Cant wait to move in and out of here.
nobody ~~deser~~ deserves to stay stuck, everyone
deserves another chance, ~~with time, please~~ ~~and~~
~~have~~ ~~time~~ as long as they work hard, have a little
bit of Patience and save then they will all be okay.
Cause if I can do it, so can they...

Homeless in Akron, Ohio - Kristina Eckley

Every major city has a community of homeless people and a way to support and deal with this issue. I have had the opportunity to experience it, in many of the places I have lived. I got to experience the situation in Akron because I had been traveling with a truck driver friend of mine from home and I had gotten severely ill and had to be taken to the hospital. They decided I needed to stay at least overnight, in doing so this left me stranded, my friend couldn't stay. I didn't know anyone in Akron so it left me homeless. The hospital social workers contacted the shelter there and made arrangements for me to stay there upon my release. The shelter's name was Heaven of Rest.

Upon my release the hospital had arranged for a taxi to take me to the shelter free of charge to me anyway. The Heaven of Rest had three sections similar to The Road Home, for sleeping: A Woman's Dorm, Men's Dorm, and a Woman's with Children's Dorm. All men had to stay on the men's side. Each section had their own rules and 'Day centers', their own intake procedures. They were different than The Road Home, I think some of them should be used at all shelters. The first of which is, upon arrival they have the women go into a changing room and remove all clothing and put on a bathrobe that they provide, then they give them a change of clothing to borrow escort them to a shower room and have them shower and dress. They require all the clothes to be washed and dried, anything unable to be washed is wiped down with rubbing alcohol. This is done to prevent bed bugs from getting into the shelter. Yes the debugging is time consuming and a pain, but I believe it is a good process in shelters. They take photo copies of their ID cards and Social Security cards for their records and had

required to read them and sign an enclosed paper agreeing to follow the terms and regulations. I will say many of the rules I did disagree with due to I felt they infringed on our personal rights as humans, one of which was it forbade the woman to talk to any man in the shelter program or using their services. Others were stricter, but given the homeless community as a whole, they were understandable.

All using the shelter services were required to attend Chapel Services, they held two a day one at lunch, if you wanted to eat there you had to attend it, and one at dinner before going to dorms if you wanted to sleep in the dorm you went to service. The check in for night was at 6pm. If a woman missed this check in she lost her bed and most the time she would lose the dorm services for 90 days, unless she had a "Pass" that was preapproved by head staff members. The women also, after 30 days or immediately if a person was a return 'client', had to attend a daily Bible Study unless they had a job, they asked that appointments be made as not to interfere with this. We were also required to attend a once a week class in the main Building unless us with Bible Study we were working. If we refused to attend or if it became a habit to miss these studies we could be kicked out for 90 days. With many of their rules, violation of them could result in a 90 day refusal of services.

The use of any drugs or alcohol was strictly prohibited if we stayed at the shelter, if the suspected a woman of using either she had to consent to be tested. They had the kits for ~~urinalysis~~ that even registered drinking. Refusal to submit to the testing or if

be muggings for property, drugs or even for cigarettes, once while I was in Akron one of the muggings resulted in death. Many would hang out in groups for safety.

There was many ways for the homeless to acquire money. Some went through the temporary employment agency one of which was Triade Staffing, most of their jobs paid \$8.10 an hour. This company sent a van every morning to Heaven of Rest at 4:30am to pick up those who wanted to work. They would transport to work then back to their office, were we would have to get our own way back to the shelter by check in. Many of the homeless opted to panhandle for their money. In accordance with the laws in Akron anyone 'Flagging a sign' were required to obtain a 'Panhandlers Permit' and abide by all the regulations they set forth, some of these rules included; Only could panhandle from sun up to sun down, could not panhandle on private property or on business property, we had to maintain distance from libraries, museums, banks and bus stops. All signs must not contain a lie to get help example is It stated needed money to get needs for a child, you had to be able to prove to law enforcement you had a child. If caught in violation of the regulation or panhandling without a permit, the officers may confiscate any money the panhandler had on them due to could not prove it was not obtained while 'Flagging'. We could not verbally ask people going by for money, but upon receipt we could thank them.

There was many homeless in Akron, many refused to stay in the shelter. Of those many were able to get tents from church organizations, these tents would get set up in wooded areas around the rail road tracks. Many would 'Camp' together as groups and form what were called tent cities. I did attach my self to a couple of

and denied services. They had a dress code to be followed at chapel and on the premises. Shorts were not allowed, Tank tops were not allowed any shirt that showed a hint of cleavage was not allowed. If they felt we were dress inappropriately we were asked to change or else we could receive services. They tried to keep men and women apart at all times, we could not sit with eat with or talk to the men. Even if they were married and had proof they could not be together on property except at dinner they were allowed to sit together, but not touch. I will admit I did go against this rule alot, I did talk with and hang out with some of the men as did many of the women. The shelter did have trouble enforcing this rule, but they did kick out some of the women for it, due to problems these women and men were causing on property.

While staying at the shelter the women were required to turn in half of any money we received, we be it from any type of work or anything. Yes upon leaving Heaven of Rest we were able to get back all money we turned in, it was their way to try to help residents be able to get on their feet and out of the shelter. I myself tried to open a savings account to do the same thing and was willing to show them my account book and deposit receipts, but they said it did not count because I would have access to the money. This is one thing I disagreed with.

They had a curfew we had to abide to if we wished to stay at the Heaven of Rest, that time was 6pm. We had to check in prior to evening chapel before the meal. After we ate we had to walk as a group from the chow hall to the dorms. Once in the dorms we had to shower according to bed numbers, they allowed ten minutes per person. The showers

to go out on the balcony till 8pm to smoke one last cigarette. We were required to turn in all cellphone, electronics, cigarettes, lighters, and purses for them to lock up. Once we were a client of Haven of Rest and had a bed assigned we always had that bed during our stay there.

They had a 'Day Room' for the women to use, they would wake us up at 6am every morning and we were to be out of the Dorms by 7am. They served our breakfast in the 'Day Room', usually consisting of coffee (decaf) toast and cold cereal. When someone would donate them we would also have donuts. Many of the women would do their hair and makeup in the 'day Room' facilities. The 'Day Room' had one washer and one dryer for our use, we had to get in and sign a list to do it, if we wanted it done we had to try to be first in to sign up or all slots would get filled up. They had many rules for the 'Day Room' as well, No sleeping, NO outside food or drink in the buildings. We were all assigned a storage shelf to keep our belonging, they only opened the door 3 times a day, morning to put our overnight things away and get what we need for day. They would open it prior to lunch then again at 5:00pm so we could get what we need for overnight.

There was a small local park in the area just behind the 'Day Rooms' and 'Clothing Room' where many would hang out, the light post in the park had outdoor outlets that we would use to charge our phones. Though the park was also occupied by the dealers, the three main drugs of choice were, Meth, Crack and weed. Being so prominate and cheap we had our share of OD's around the shelter and the rail tracks that ran the edge of the property.

The cops would patrol the park and the shelter. They were serious about the violent crimes and drugs around the area. For the most part they left most of the Homeless alone unless they were violent or had a serious situation. Sometimes there

were many services available to the homeless that refused to use the Heaven of Rest. The Salvation Army had a place that served lunch and provide showers. Many of the churches traveled to different areas of the city to feed us. The only day it was hard to get food was on Sunday, where Heaven of Rest was usually the only place to eat. On Saturday a church group would serve a late breakfast or an early lunch they had a small service and they also provided clothing for those in need. There were also many of the homeless that didn't stay in shelters or the tent cities, ~~at these~~ they would sleep in church doorways or find other places to sleep, some found abandon houses. So with if they were caught they could go to jail for trespassing. For the most part law enforcement didn't harass the homeless. Many of the cops preferred to overlook the homeless.

Just like here and every where else I have been, there are many programs to try to get back on their feet. Many of these programs though were geared to the addicts, to help them get clean. Sometimes it worked many times it didn't. I believe the system is broken and needs work. To many have taken advantage of these services and have hurt the programs, making it harder for those of us that need the help, but are not addicted or recovering addicts. As I have heard it said many times "The few can ruin it for the many." I also believe that if we take pride in ourselves and the area we live, keep it and ourselves clean and present ourselves as human beings just as we would if we had a home we could show the communities, that we are just like them though we have fallen on hard time and need help, maybe by being so the community would be much more willing to provide the help we need, be it services, though donations. I have heard from many that the reason they don't help or donate to the

homeless people or organizations that help us, is because they believe that if we are homeless we are addicted to drugs or alcohol and that is where there help is really doing, supporting the addictions in one way or another. They have said if we don't care about ourselves why should they.

In all cities, they all have a homeless community, in some of those the city officials try to hide or cover it up or they try to pretend that it's not there. We need to TAKE PRIDE in ourselves and show them that just because we are at a low place of our lives, we are still worth something, we are still human and worth compassion.

The Cornerstone Mission in Rapid City, S.D.

The Cornerstone mission is a brick building in the heart of Downtown Rapid City, South Dakota. It is originally for men but during the winter months they also take in women. In order to have a bed you have to do a chore each day. Your curfew was 9pm but each night you had to get breathalized and every other night you had to get drug tested if you had ~~also~~ liquor in your system or any drug you got kicked out. The owner had three buildings The Cornerstone for men, The Cornerstone for women and children and the Cornerstone Thrift Store. At the Cornerstone for men they had three meals a day so all the women and children would do the 4.0 mile walk to the mens shelter for food each day and then you could work at the thrift store for 4 hours to have your bed for the night and get free clothes and shoes if you needed. It helped fund the Bikes for work program, which meant when you found a job we would build a bike and you would have transportation to work. Pan handling in Rapid City is illegal. The good thing about the mens shelter was it was within walking distance of everything, the Park, the grocery store which was family thrift food mart and other places you could just sit and relax during the day. The staff were great.

People but they strictly enforced the headphones rule on property. I made a lot of friends there which I would not mind going back to visit. It is a beautiful place and if you are homeless in South Dakota that mission is the only one so many people of all races and backgrounds go there and help each other out with anything they need, so there is no need to take from others because all you have to do is ask and ye shall receive. Everyone there helps everybody with food, jobs and money but you have to do your part to help also.

Remember help out Don't bring people Down and don't steal. God Bless.

Written by: Blue eyes.

Our issues and problems all started on Easter Sunday I had to work that afternoon. So me and my boyfriend decided to attend the luncheon at Pioneer park (a community event). The morning started out great, good laughs with friends, good food and music. As lunch time came we hopped in line for seconds and waited to get our plates. As we approached the end of the line a plate dropped at my feet. As I looked up to see who's it was a Native American woman started pointing her fingers in my face and yelling at me saying I bumped her causing her to drop her plate. I didn't bump her or cause her to drop the plate but apologized anyway and she just started to get all hate. She started screaming around me, demanding I give her my plate. A man helping with serving food over heard and came to help. As he approached the woman kept screaming and yelling, threatening her homies were going to get us. After that conflict we enjoyed our meals and jumped in the free haircut line. As we were waiting the same Native American woman approached us screaming and yelling. Threatening her homies were on there way to handle us. As she threatened I can smell the alcohol on her breathe so I apologized again and told her that we don't want problems, we were trying to enjoy our day and she slammed in her phone demanding

line got our haircuts and kept watch so we didn't get attacked from behind. Nothing happened that day but the next couple weeks we had our run ins with the same lady and of course she always started talking and threatening to have us handled. So after we started seeing her we would avoid her so we wouldn't have to deal with the drama or B.S.

In ~~the~~ ^{the beginning} of June we were hanging out in Pioneer Park enjoying the day and got into another scuffle with a native American woman. She got mad because we wouldn't give her money or a deer which we didn't have, and she started saying that because we don't hang out with the rest of the natives and do what they do, that we are stuck up and nobody likes us, and said we will get what's coming to us. I laughed of course and thought nothing of it or what she had to say. Like any other drunk she kept trying to aggravate us and get something started. We laughed and walked away but like with the first native lady we didn't think much of it but she always had threats and words to say when drunk but when sober she tried to be nice but as soon as she had a drink she was back to her ugly self, so ~~the~~ the best thing to do was avoid her all together.

After all the problems we have had with the staff members here at the Road home and the drama with our fellow native Americans we started to stay at the

through the Weigands Center so we came to check mail. As we were waiting the first lady we had trouble with came up. She seen us sitting waiting and sat down. After a minute or two she started in on my boyfriend. Calling names, talking crap about my boyfriend and ~~saying~~ saying things. Staff came to help of course but as she went to leave the office she hopped on her phone telling her nephew to meet her down stairs, to bring her brothers and be ready to handle us. She told us she would be down stairs waiting with her homies. Staff heard everything and was concerned so security was outside but she was no where to be seen. As usual, I figured just drunk talk and nothing would come of it.

on wednesday the 22nd of June myself, my boyfriend and another friend of ours was on our way to the mission to check in. we made the wrong decision to cut thru the park (pioneer) as we made our way to the tennis courts there was a group of people sleep/laying in the courts. as we passed a woman started talking B.S. then two guys came running out. one had a skate board the other a metal scooter my boyfriend was the first to get struck in the head with a skate board as soon as he was struck he went down. the guys and women jumped on him and our friend then jumped in to help. he was struck in the side of the head with a scooter. as he went down the same thing with him they all

boyfriend tried to help, the guy with a skateboard then approached my boyfriend and swung. the hit was blocked and I then shoved the guy with the skateboard over and tried to grab it from him. I was then punched up by the other guy and as he punched me up the guy smacked me on the head with the skateboard. After the attack the guy on the skateboard ran off and the second attacker ran behind following the woman stayed and layed in the courts. I got my boyfriend and his head and face were bloody. I made him sit away from the incident so I can run and get help. I couldn't find our friend he was gone I thought. so I tried to stay close. I went to businesses close and tried to get help. ~~the~~ but nobody would open a door and when I pushed call buttons at the inn across the street they sat there behind the desk just staring at me all stupid. I had to make it all the way to the Rescue Mission leaving my wounded companion and missing friend behind not knowing how serious the outcome was. The Rescue Mission called the cops and I met the police back at the park where ~~they~~ found my boyfriend with a wounded / split open head, broken nose and welled up face. Our friend they found by the play ground with a welled up head and split open ear. the damage done to me was numerous bruises and welts, a broken nose with blackeyes. my companion had to be strapped up were his head was split, my friend stitched up on his ear. Out of all this they got a phone but the wallet was recovered.

The next morning I woke up and went to the hospital to find my friend and boyfriend. I found our friend but my boyfriend beat us back to Weigand Center where we met with ~~over~~ staff and concerned members of our coalition. I was just glad we were all here together and OK. Later we were making our way to the library and as we got to the park we were approached by the two men who had done this. ~~to~~ They were proud and boasting about what they did to us of course trying to start it again so a coalition member who happened to be with us got the cops involved. They showed up and handled everything but now we shouldn't have to walk in fear about who's gonna get us next or what's gonna happen. Gay, straight, black, white or native american nobody should have to live in fear. We are all homeless and in the same boat so nobody should be stealing or beating each other up. As a community where nobody cares we need to stop acting like children, start taking care of ourselves and helping each other out, stop the violence and let's all start working together to make this a safer happier environment for everyone.

Homeless Started and Run Narcotics Anonymous Meetings To Begin Soon

A milestone has been reached recently when members of the homeless community concerned about the severe drug abuse problem among their fellow homeless brothers and sisters (and the drug related crime) decided to band together to start a Narcotics Anonymous (NA) group right in the Rio Grande area to begin serving the large number of drug users that congregate around and near the Weigand Homeless Resource Center, the Road Home and the surrounding area. This NA group will be run by recovering homeless addicts for the express purpose of serving other homeless addicts. The concerned members collected enough money amongst themselves to purchase 20 NA textbooks and some chips; the group is determined to be funded by the homeless themselves and does not plan to accept outside contributions. They will soon begin making rounds along Rio Grande Street, 500 West and Pioneer Park, passing out information on when the group meets to the local addicts hanging out on the sidewalks. The group plans on meeting every Monday at 1 PM at the Weigand Center. For more information, contact Lydell Dennison via e-mail at lydell1981@gmail.com or Frederick Lorenz via e-mail at flor@glwb.net or phone at (440) 506-2228.

The Bum Buddies Mentoring Program

Are you looking for a friend in your life? The Rio Grande Homeless Coalition (an organization started and run by the homeless to serve our homeless brothers and sisters) would like to pair you with folks to homeless mentors, for one-on-one mentoring (we match men with men and women with women). Our goal as an organization is to create a loving, supportive community to help our homeless brothers and sisters get back on their feet, provide fellowship and so on---a group that will love you for who you are (both your faults and virtues) and who you can become, that are not frightened of, or judgmental of, you because of past transgressions (let's face it, who among us hasn't made mistakes in the past) and that are willing to offer you the material, emotional and spiritual encouragement and teaching that you need to succeed, that will encourage you to cut ties with folks from your past that would drag you down the wrong path in life again and to just keep doing positive things with good people so as to keep you from getting into trouble. We are here for you. Our mentors truly care about you and what is going on in your life, and we will make resources available to you when you need us, whether it is to provide a listening ear, to attend substance abuse meetings (like AA or NA) [and act as your accountability buddy if desired], court and so on we will offer encouragement in difficult situations or advice when appropriate, to help you find a supportive community resources to meet your specific needs, to help you discover purpose in life and set goals. For instance, perhaps you dropped out of high school---your mentor might encourage you to get back in and assist you on preparing for the exam), to be a role model for you, helping to instill in you good character and spiritual habits and virtues or to just hang out with you and have fun, among other things.

If you're interested in connecting with one of our mentors or to find out more about this program, contact Frederick Lorenz via e-mail at flor@glwb.net or via phone at (440) 506-2228.

THE COMMUNITY VOICE
A BIMONTHLY PUBLICATION BY AND FOR THE RIO GRANDE
HOMELESS COMMUNITY

Vol. 1 No. 8

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25 ¢ Donation

To Provide a Voice for the Homeless

Supported by: The Rio Grande Homeless
Coalition

Editor: Gloria Red Bear
Assistant Editor: Carlos Mateo
Published the first and third Monday
each month

Editor's Voice:

Never be Discouraged! There is really nothing we need to know or even try to understand if we refuse to be discouraged and trust God's guiding hand.

Take heart and meet each minute with faith in God's great love. Be aware that every day of your life is controlled by God above and never dread tomorrow or what the future brings.

Just pray for strength and courage and trust God is in all things and never grow discouraged. Be patient and just wait for "God never comes too early and He never comes too late!"

Gloria Red Bear

Editorial Policy of "The Community Voice:

The selections that are published in "The Community Voice" are written by those in the Rio Grande Homeless Community. Offensive words and personal attacks are not allowed. Both public and private organizations may be criticized. Personal stories describing the experience of being homeless or life experiences that contributed to be homeless are valued. There will be no editorial corrections or revisions other than addressing the above items that are not allowed. The editor makes no attempt to verify the truth of the submitted comments or stories. \$5 will be paid to the author for every piece accepted by the editor.

The public is invited to comment by using the following email address
thevoiceofriogrande@gmail.com

Gloria Red Bear
Editor, The Community Voice

The News Corner by Carlos Mateo:

- There was a stabbing in the men's dorm at the Road Home on Tuesday, June 28. The man was stabbed in the arm and taken to the hospital but was later released.
- A host meeting took place in the Salt Lake City Police Department's Community Connection Center at 220 E. Morris Avenue, Ste. 300, in Salt Lake at 1:00p.m., Thursday, June 30th.
- A luau is planned to take place in the Rio Grande Community on July 31st for the introduction of the Rio Grande Homeless Coalition to the Community. There will be food, drinks and entertainment provided.
- The Salt Lake Community College is starting a new program designed to make it easier for low income members of the community to attend college. The program is called the Promise Program and it would basically cover any funds not provided by federal grants.
- The Rio Grande Homeless Coalition has purchased a new website domain name for the implementation of its new club website that should be up and running within the next two weeks.
- The first ever meeting of the RGHC Think Thank took place on Monday, July 11, at the Brio Tuscan Grille, in Salt Lake. The group was founded for the purpose of initiating discussion on ways to tackle the issues pertaining to the homeless community.
- The Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club was visited by David Litvack on Wednesday, June 6, at their weekly Wednesday meeting. Mr. Litvack is the City Mayor's Deputy Chief of Staff.
- There were new payment rules implemented into the RGHC by the club's treasurer that were effective immediately after being introduced at their last Tuesday meeting on June 5 at 2:00 PM. These rules will be posted on the club's new web site for those interested in viewing them.
- The UTA announced that they will be donating 200 bus passes for the disabled members of the Rio Grande Community. The exact date of the donation is to be announced.
- Inn Between Hospice announced that they will be providing services for the disabled members of the Rio Grande Community.
- Mentoring Program and Homeless Against Narcotics (Narcotics Recovery Group)

The Rio Grande Homeless Coalition has begun a mentoring program called The Bum Buddies Mentoring Program that matches homeless folks to homeless mentors. They also, out of concern for the exploding drug problem in the Rio Grande neighborhood, started a narcotics recovery group called Homeless Against Narcotics run by recovering homeless addicts and catering to homeless addicts in the Rio Grande Street, 500 West Pioneer Park areas. Homeless Against Narcotics meets every Thursday at 1PM at the Weigand Center.

The State of Homelessness

By Carlos Mateo

For the past 6 years the government has published a report on the state of homelessness through the work of the National Alliance to End Homelessness, a government agency designed to try to tackle the issues that increase homelessness. Data from their last report points that the homeless population has been on a decline since 2012, gradually decreasing every year. The national homeless rate fell to 17.7% in 2015, down from 18.3 in the previous year. 564,708 people were considered homeless in 2015 compared to 578,424 in the previous year. The number of people in poverty decreased by .3% in 2015 down from 4.8 million people.

One of the biggest reasons for this change is the implementation of the HEARTH Act that was passed in 2009, which put greater emphasis on permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing as permanent housing solutions to homelessness. Beginning in 2013 there was a shift away from transitional housing over to these more permanent housing solutions. In 2013 the transitional housing utilization was at 84%, while in 2014 this number was at 81.7% with 40 states reducing capacity. Rapid re-housing capacity grew dramatically, nearly doubling from 19,847 beds in 2013, to 37,783 beds in 2014, a 90% increase. The number of permanent supportive housing beds continued to grow from 2013 to 2014 by 15,984 beds, (5.6%), to a total of 300,282. Another important thing to point out is that the national unemployment rate has continued its multiyear decline since 2011 falling to its current rate of 4.7%, down .6% from the previous year. In 2014 the rate was 6.2%.

Despite decreases in the national homeless rate and the national poverty rate, as well as the unemployment rate, the number of people at risk of homelessness has been increasing since 2007, prior to the great recession. This is mainly because it is still difficult for them to afford housing. Unemployment rate, housing cost burden, and living doubled up are indications of this struggle to afford housing. For example, the number of poor renter households experiencing severe cost burden, or those households in poverty paying more than 50% of their income towards housing, totaled 6.6 million in 2014, increasing 2.1 percent from the previous year. Since 2007, the number of households with severe housing cost burden has increased by 25%. In 2014, 7 million people were doubled up with family and friends, the most common prior living situation before becoming homeless. This represents a significant decrease since the great recession. Still, the number of people in poor households living doubled up is 52% higher now than in 2007, prior to the recession. In 2013, this number was at 7.7 million, a 3.7% increase from the previous year.

The number of people who are homeless, defined as those living outside and in homeless assistance programs continued to decrease despite the fact that housing situations for low income populations continue to be poor. This is probably because targeted federal funding to address homelessness is at its highest level in history. In 2015 there was \$4.5 billion spent for programs including HUD, VA, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education.

Homelessness may be decreasing, possibly because of improvements to the homeless assistance system, but this system alone can not overcome the affordable housing crisis. Housing remains unaffordable for a large part of the American public. This was the case before to the recession, made worse during the recession and has not improved since the end of the recession. Mainstream, low income assistance programs should be attentive to households' living situations and help maintain housing stability whenever possible, and more importantly, communities, states, and the federal government should urgently prioritize investment in affordable housing.

(Sourced from: National Alliance to End Homelessness in America-2015, 2016)

Our Community Voices:

7/12/2018

AOL Mail (25111)

See Something Say Something. A Song by Looking Cloud [DNHjr]

*We leave the 'Home' at eight eh am, AND we're back on the 'Road' again.
Addiction or habit calling-- our old friends, AND we don't break we bend.
+Just another, the same as the other;
Just another: sheltered day.

*We ride the tracks to no destination, BUT we're away from the block;
away from 'the Island' of strangulation, but we enjoy the walk.
+Just another, the same as the other;
Just another: sheltered day.

#We visit Retail Rob and Soda Pop Bob,
we buy an eight-pack for a buck.
For those committing crime we shout 'one-time!'
for when the Please Man come.

*On the top bunk asleep at night, bottom bunk mate passed away.
He went quiet without a fight, of it we've no more to say.
++Just another (respect your), sister and brother;
with kind words to say.
++Perhaps another, day there 'I'll be other
place to be we pray.
Until then, it's:
+Just another, the same as the other;
Just another: sheltered day.
+Just another, the same as the other;
Just another: sheltered day.

LISA FITZ RUTRICK

PAGE
NO.

my experience here
in the streets has been
really bad I have seen
my share of violence
I have been kicked and
punched in the face by
women and I have had
my stuff stolen countless
times I'm sick of it
something needs to be
done

My life as a Panhandler By: Brandon

People see anyone with a sign as a low life, a scab on society. But no one knows our struggles. I personally hold a sign due to losing all I.D. and records. I have a dog to feed and house. I'm not a drug addict, or an alcoholic. I sit out holding my sign instead of asking for money because I feel it gives people a choice to help without any guilt from being asked. On any day I hear rude comments of being lazy or worthless. I have been homeless 4 years and only been panhandling 6 months.

①

I only make enough money each day to ensure my dog and I eat and have what we need to survive. I don't stay out all day and night making hundreds of dollars. Panhandlers are just people needing help that don't have any other way to get it. Please don't look down on us. We are people too.

I Rudy Flores & my wife Chevelle Flores went and reported a guy Mr. Goodman for standing by the bathroom Door until ~~he~~ she got out of the bath and then he threat us in the kitchen and we told staff about it and they ask us to UA and then we miss it due to my son ~~Jash~~ ~~Monito~~ to court and I got put on a 24 exit until 3-18-16 then we all get to be back together. Rudy Flores

I Chevelle Flores & my husband Rudy Flores ask to have them (staff) to help stop Mr. Goodman to not be harrassing me and him and next min we know they ask us to UA and since we miss it due to my son court and my son got put in ~~IT~~ due to us being late for court and when we ~~to~~ told staff that we miss it and they put my on a 9 to 5 exit and my husband on 24 hour exit but he is getting put on a 9 to 5 exit on 3-18-16 then we all get to be back together! Chevelle Flores

Our issues and problems all started on Easter Sunday. I had to work that afternoon so me and my boyfriend decided to attend the luncheon at Pioneer park (a community event). The morning started out great, good laughs with friends, good food and music. As lunch time came, we hopped in line for seconds and waited to get our plates. As we approached the end of the line a plate dropped at my feet. As I looked up to see who's it was, a native American woman started pointing her fingers in my face and yelling at me saying I bumped her causing her to drop her plate. I didn't bump her or cause her to drop the plate but apologized anyway and she just started to get all crazy. She started screaming around me, demanding I give her my plate. A man helping with serving food overheard and came to help. As he approached the woman kept screaming and yelling, threatening her homies were going to get us. After that conflict we enjoyed our meals and jumped in the free haircut line. As we were waiting the same native American woman approached us screaming and yelling. Threatening her homies were on their way to handle us. As she threatened I can smell the alcohol on her breathe so I apologized again and told her that we don't want problems, we were trying to enjoy our day and she jumped in her phone demanding her nephews and brother get here and handle us. I knew it was just drunk talk so we stayed

Classifieds

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT

Ask the reference desks for upcoming computer courses at City Library Locations.

FREE COURSES, COUNSELING, & OPEN LABS

Community Action Program (CAP)

Employment Readiness Services

801-359-2444

764 South 200 West

SLC, UT 84101

* Call to schedule an appointment or email poakey@slcap.org

River's Bend Senior Center

Northwest Community Center

385-468-3015

1300 West 300 North

SLC, UT 84116

Every Thu, 6-8pm

- Free weekly computer classes—from beginner to advanced—in Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Publisher, email, and more.

Sorenson Unity Center

Computer Center

1383 West 900 West

SLC, UT 84104

801-535-6533

Mon-Fri 11am-7pm

Vocational Rehab

Salt Lake Downtown

50 West Broadway (300 South), #800

SLC, UT 84101-2034

801-238-4560

www.workabilityutah.org/work/usor.php

- Call to make an appointment for orientation

Department of Workforce Services

Metro Employment Center

720 South 200 East

SLC, UT 84111

801-526-0950

jobs.utah.gov

- Schedule an appointment with an employment specialist today.



The City Library

Main Library

210 East 400 South

801-524-8200 • slcpl.org



Volunteers

of America

UTAH

03/22/16

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT

TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT & STAFFING AGENCIES

Volunteers of America neither works with nor endorses any of the following organizations. Nor does Volunteers of America guarantee that you will be able to find employment at the following organizations. However, there are employment offerings at these organizations that begin with short-term employment. If you perform well enough, lead to long-term employment.

Labor Ready

www.laborready.com

1081 South 300 West

SLC, UT 84101

801-521-0480

Synergy Staffing

www.synergystaffing4u.com

5578 South Redwood Road

Suite B

Taylorsville, UT 84123

801-665-1853

Intermountain Staffing

intermountainstaffing.com

2196 West 3500 South

West Valley City, UT 84119

801-964-2333

PrideStaff

www.pridestaff.com

2261 South Highland Drive

SLC, UT 84106

801-486-0501

Aerotek

www.aerotek.com

4225 Lake Park Blvd

Suite #150

SLC, UT 84120

801-844-4040

Spherion

www.spherion.com

204 East 900 South

SLC, UT 84111

801-519-5093

Your Employment Solutions

youremploymentsolutions.com

250 North Redwood

North Salt Lake, UT 84064

801-298-9377

Prince Personnel

www.parelson.com

2180 South 1300 East

SLC, UT 84106

801-532-1000

DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES

Please call or visit one of these services. It is important not to ignore domestic violence. Services are listed in order of easiest access.

24-HOUR CRISIS LINES:

9-1-1 - Emergency situation involving life threatening and violence in action

YWCA Crisis Line

801-537-8600

Toll Free: 855-YWCA-SLC (855-992-2752)

- The YWCA is dedicated to eliminating racism and empowering women. A domestic violence shelter for women and children.

Rape Recovery Center Crisis Line

2035 South 1300 East

Salt Lake City, UT 84105

801-467-7273

- 24-hour crisis intervention, advocacy, emotional support and referrals for sexual assault victims.

Rape and Sexual Assault Hotline

Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault

801-746-0404

Child Abuse Hotline (DCFS)

1-855-323-3237

- Call to report child abuse and neglect.

South Valley Sanctuary

801-255-1095

- Domestic violence shelter that provides shelter and supportive services to men, women, and children who have been forced to leave their homes due to violence perpetrated by a family member.



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Main Library

210 East 400 South

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DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES

Safe Harbor

Domestic violence crisis line

801-444-9161

- A Davis County Domestic Violence shelter for women and children that provides a safe place to stay and support.

Utah Domestic Violence Council Directory Service

1-800-897-LINK (5465)

RESOURCE CENTERS:

Family Justice Center

801-236-3370

- Serves victims of domestic violence by providing to many different critical resources under a single roof for male and female victims and survivors of domestic violence. Provides assistance with requesting a protective Order, obtaining prosecuting attorneys to discuss criminal case, exam rooms, and case management.

Cornerstone Counseling Center, Volunteers of America

801-355-2846

447 West Bearcat Drive

SLC, UT 84115

Mon-Thu 8am-6pm

Fri 8am-4pm

voaut.org

- Call for intake evaluation

FAMILY RESOURCES

FAMILIES

Pregnancy Resource Center

644 South 900 East
SLC, UT 84102
pregnancyresource.net
801-363-5433

The Family Support Center

Multiple Locations
familysupportcenter.org
24/7: 801-487-2942

- Counseling, classes, groups, & transition home for homeless single mothers
- Crisis nursery
- In-home mentoring and adoption respite care
- Day care (sliding scale based on income)

The Safety Net

24/7: 800-897-LINK (5465)
safetynetutah.org

- Support and resources for individuals and families of polygamist groups

Family Promise

814 West 800 South
SLC, UT 84104
801-961-8622
fpsl.org

- A unique comprehensive residential approach to assist families experiencing homelessness

Allies With Families

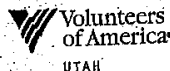
261 East 300 South, #210
SLC, UT 84111
allieswithfamilies.org
801-433-2595 or 877-477-0764

- Support and resources for parents and their children with mental health needs



The City Library
HARLEY HALL 800 PACE LIBRARY AVENUE
SLC, UT 84101

Main Library
210 East 400 South
801-524-8200 • slcpl.org



03/22/16

FAMILY RESOURCES

Utah Parent Center

230 West 200 South
SLC, UT 84101
801-272-1051, 800-468-1160
801-272-1067 – español
utahparentcenter.org

- Support and information for parents of children with disabilities

Planned Parenthood Utah

654 South 900 East
SLC, UT 84102
801-322-5571
plannedparenthood.org

- Birth control
- Medical Exams
- Family Planning

FOOD ASSISTANCE

Utahns Against Hunger

764 South 200 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
801-328-2561
Toll Free: 800-453-FOOD (3663)
uah.org

- Information about WIC, Food Stamps, Food Pantries, School Meals, Community Gardens, and Farmers markets

Utah Food Bank

801-978-2452

- Utah Food Bank's Kids Cafe Program prepares meals daily for low income Utah children at 35 after-school programs. Call for information and site locations

STORAGE FACILITIES

Salt Lake City Transitional Storage Program
502 West 300 South (north side of building)
SLC, UT 84101
Mon-Fri 7-9am, 5-7pm
Sat 9-11am

RULES

- Entry into program permitted by VOA Referral. Speak with VOA in order to obtain a referral form letter.
- Clients must check in at least once a week in order to retain a storage bin.
- Abandoned property will be held for 90 days before being disposed of.
- No Food, Drugs, Alcohol, Weapons, Bikes, or other Prohibited Materials allowed.
- No Loitering around the building or lining up to get in.
- Picture ID necessary to enter into program (can use HOST ID or booking sheet).
- One Strike Policy-- Rule breaking will result in removal from the program.
- Clients consent to searches by Staff and Police.
- Additional Program Rules can be found in our Policies and Procedures which will be provided upon entry into the Program.



Main Library
210 East 400 South
801-524-8200 • slcpl.org



03/22/16

YOUTH RESOURCE CENTER

Youth Resource Center
888 South 400 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
Phone: 801-364-0744
Fax: 801-364-0745
Street Outreach Program: 801-694-9271
voaut.org

The Youth Resource Center addresses the needs of homeless and low income youth, providing a safe place where they can receive support and resources they need. The Center serves youth ages 15 to 24.

HOT MEALS SERVED DAILY

- Breakfast 8:30-9:30am
- Lunch 1-2pm
- Dinner 6-7pm

SHELTER BEDS

- 30 beds available nightly
- Check-in anytime between 8:30am-7pm
- First come, first served

SERVICES

- Pantry food and sack lunches
- Clothing
- Shower
- Laundry
- Hygiene and sanitation items
- Bedding/sleeping bags
- Mail and telephone access

RESOURCES

- Legal services through Homeless Youth Legal Clinic
- GED/Diploma assistance
- Case management/housing
- Obtaining ID, birth certificates, social security cards
- Employment services, resume building, job coaching, interview attire
- Group activities (e.g. yoga, music, art)
- Sobriety/Addiction support groups
- Bus tokens



Main Library
210 East 400 South
801-524-8200 • slcpl.org



UTAH ID CARD

To obtain a Utah State ID card you need to have:

1. an original or certified copy of your **Social Security card**
2. an original or certified copy of your **birth certificate** from your state of birth
3. **two pieces of mail** with your name and current address on them from within the past 60 days. If you are homeless and don't receive mail you can get a **homeless verification letter** if you stay at the Road Home shelter for 14 consistent days that will suffice for the two pieces of mail.

GETTING YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY CARD

You can obtain your Social Security card for free through obtaining medical diagnostic/medical patient print forms with services you received at your doctor's office, 4th Street Clinic, hospitals, and jail or prison medical intake forms. The form needs to have your name, Social Security number, date of birth, and typically has services you received through the health provider.

GETTING YOUR BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Every state has different requirements for obtaining your birth certificate. You may ask the VOA Outreach Team for more information or go to the Emergency Services Department through the Road Home on the 2nd floor of the Weigand Center, 235 South Rio Grande SLC. **If you are currently seeking employment**, Emergency Services may be able to assist with the cost of your state birth certificate and ID card.



The City Library
we are always here for you

Main Library
210 East 400 South

801-524-8200 • slcpl.org



Volunteers
of America
UTAH

03/22/16

Public Voice:

please Kathy can
give to you if is ok
Voice Beautiful Hair Style with go
Home less make over she ask
Story.

My Name is Mercedes Becker
Dominican Republic
Santo Domingo.

Salon 126 Riverton. ↓

I'm catholic
Saint Andrew Catholic
Church.

at the catholic community
services.

Been a volunteer to do a
hair cut and stylist I feeling
I'm doing something for the
community and families

This year is the
year of Misericordia
Pope Francis
2016

People here they're very nice,
Willing to help others with love
Glorie V. Red Bear. ↓ Thank you to

Cell

801. 913. 4525

Kathy 5 for the

Salt Lake Community College, Outreach & Access Department

Kevin Miller, Assistant Director

College Costs Money – Help is Available

There's a lot of talk about the value of higher education as a gateway to higher paying jobs. Whether certification of technical skills or a formal college degree, most jobs that will pay a living wage expect workers to have more than a high school diploma in hand. Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) offers a wide range of programs leading to either a Certificate or a Degree. While tuition costs are tightly controlled by the State, everything still costs money. Thankfully, there is help available.

Federal Financial Aid, accessed through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the economic gateway for many who seek higher education. In particular, the PELL Grant offers free money for qualifying students, money that may pay tuition and, possibly, books and other fees as well. A Grant does not have to be repaid, as long as it's used for the intended purpose – to register for, attend, and complete college classes. Going one step better, Salt Lake Community College has made a promise that if a student qualifies for a PELL Grant, regardless of how small that grant might be, the College will fill in the rest of tuition and student fees in order to make attending college possible. The student will still have books and course fees, but the bulk of the costs will be covered.

The SLCC Outreach & Access department employs a team of College Funding Advisors. Their task is to help prospective students to complete the FAFSA and apply for Federal Financial Aid. Workshops are held regularly at the West Valley Center (3460 S 5600 W, West Valley City, UT). Advisors are also available to work one-on-one, by appointment, with applying students. For more information, please call (801)957-2123, selection 6 to leave a message for Emily. We're anxious to help you begin your college career.

Kevin Miller, Assistant Director

Outreach & Access

Salt Lake Community College

Kevin.miller@slcc.edu

(801)957-2122

THE COMMUNITY VOICE
A BIMONTHLY PUBLICATION BY AND FOR THE RIO GRANDE
HOMELESS COMMUNITY

Vol. 1 No. 10

August 22, 2016

25 ¢ Donation

To Provide a Voice for the Homeless

**Supported by: The Rio Grande Homeless
Coalition**

**Editor: Gloria Red Bear
Assistant Editor: Carlos Mateo
Published the first and third Monday
each month**

Editor's Voice:

Never be Discouraged! There is really nothing we need to know or even try to understand if we refuse to be discouraged and trust God's guiding hand.

Take heart and meet each minute with faith in God's great love. Be aware that every day of your life is controlled by God above and never dread tomorrow or what the future brings.

Just pray for strength and courage and trust God is in all things and never grow discouraged. Be patient and just wait for "God never comes too early and He never comes too late!"

Gloria Red Bear

Editorial Policy of "The Community Voice:

The selections that are published in "The Community Voice" are written by those in the Rio Grande Homeless Community. Offensive words and personal attacks are not allowed. Both public and private organizations may be criticized. Personal stories describing the experience of being homeless or life experiences that contributed to be homeless are valued. There will be no editorial corrections or revisions other than addressing the above items that are not allowed. The editor makes no attempt to verify the truth of the submitted comments or stories. \$5 will be paid to the author for every piece accepted by the editor.

The public is invited to comment by using the following email address
thevoiceofriogrande@gmail.com

Gloria Red Bear

Editor, The Community Voice

The News Corner by Carlos Mateo:

- The first every Homeless Against Narcotics meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 21st at 1pm. In the meeting room at the Wiggins Center. The public is encouraged to attend.
- Two men died recently as a result of injuries from a sexual assault that occurred back in the morning of June 23.
- A girl was physically assaulted by two women and a man recently where her face was bruised and swollen.
- The Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club was visited by Nate Salazar and Hildegard Koenig from the Mayor's Office at their weekly meeting on Wednesday June 20th. Nate and Hildegard are assistants to the Mayor.
- A woman was physically assaulted by another woman over the weekend as she walked through a parking lot near the Road Home. The woman assaulted was taken to the hospital for injuries sustained after the other woman hit her over the head while wearing brass knuckles.
- The SLCPD hosted a meeting for the community to talk about the issue of police violence and ways to deal with it. The meeting is part of a series of meetings hosted by the SLCPD to deal with the issue. It took place at the Sorensen Building on Thursday, June 21, and was attended by Bernie Hart who is an adviser to the Rio Grande Homeless Coalition.
- There will be a Coalition of Religious Community meeting on Thursday, August 4, at the Cathedral Church of St. Mark at 211 East 100 South from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. The meeting is designed to bring attention to the issue of Medicaid with the Governorial candidates of the next election.
- A new resolution was signed by Dennis Kelsch of the Catholic Community Services to put up "Drug Free Zone" signs around the Wiggins Center and the Vinny's Cafeteria. The resolution was proposed by members of the Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club and the Rio Grande Homeless Coalition.
- The LDS Church is offering an expungement program for ex-offenders on the first Thursday of every month from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Welfare Square Employment Resource Center at 780 West 800 South. Receive individualist help in overcoming legal barriers to employment such as a criminal record or outstanding warrants.
- Members of the Rio Grande Homeless Coalition and Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club met with members of the Pioneer Park Coalition on Friday, July 29th to discuss the importance of cooperation between the two groups and to outline the goals and tasks of the RGHC. Those in attendance were Scott Howell, former president of the Pioneer Park Coalition, John Harmon, PPC manager, John Shannon and Lauren Smith of the SLMC club and Carlos Mateo of the RGHC.
- The mayor of Salt Lake County, Ben McAdams held a meeting last night to discuss the proposed action plan to reduce homelessness produced by the Collective Impact Steering Committee. The meeting was an opportunity for stakeholders and the community to learn and provide feedback on the proposed plan.

Homeless on Homeless Crime:

The recent spike in crime in the Rio Grande community have some people wondering what the cause of it may be. It may look a little out of the ordinary, even the kind of area it is and with its history, because there have been several incidents that have taken place within a 1 to 1 ½ month period. Some people may speculate as to why the reason is; maybe the weather warming up, or an increase in drug activity, or just plain coincidence, but nobody knows exactly why. What we do know is that it has been happening a lot, and that something should be done to stop it.

The RGHC started taking notice of the incidents on the week of June 21 when there were a string of thefts in the women's dorm and the Bishop Wiggins Center. The perpetrator(s) seemed to be targeting bags and backpacks as preferred item to steal. No one caught in those incidents.

On Wednesday night of the following week there were numerous incidents of crime that happened, from physical assault to several sexual assaults. The physical assault occurred at the Pioneer Park around 11:30p.m. and included two of our own members of the RGHC as the victims of the assault. The members called police who investigated. During the same night, there were numerous sexual assaults that occurred on both women and men according to reports. The total was estimated at around 9 assaults, with 5 being men and 4 women. Two of the five men that were assaulted passed away recently. One dying about a week and a half ago, and the other passing away this past Saturday.

Since I began writing this story there has been another sexual assault committed on a girl from the area. The perpetrator was arrested but let go due to a lack of evidence. However the investigation continues.

There seems to be one over lining issue in this conversation. How do we root out the problem or the trouble makes who commit these crimes. Well, there's a couple of things that can be done to help the cause. First, there must be more of an effort by the victims to report the crimes. Some of these crimes are going unreported. Especially the sexual assaults. Nothing will happen to the bad guys if they're not told. Victims must get over their fear of retaliation and mark sure that their assailants don't go unpunished. Second of all, we have to let the police do their job and follow the process that begins from the moment a crime is reported to the point that an arrest is made.

The RGHC has a special member of the club with the title of Police Liaison who attends police sponsored meetings and relays any questions or messages to the police on behalf of the club. Recently, the club outlined a group of questions for this member to ask at the next meeting that are related to the process of processing a crime report and whether the police shows biased when a report is submitted. This member will bring back the information that he learned and present it to the club, and we will make sure we inform the community about it.

Our Community Voices:

MY LIFE RIGHT NOW
BY NIKO MACDONALD
DRA. B. G. M. A.

SOMEONE RIGHT NOW IS
GOING VERY CRAPY BECAUSE
MY SISTER TASHA DYER WAS
TALKING 2 ME & SHE SAID
THAT SHE IS VERY PROUD
OF ME FOR TALKING 2 A
COUNSELOR HERE AT THE
SHELTER & SHE IS ALSO
PROUD OF ME FOR
REALIZING THAT WHAT
I HAVE DONE 2 MY
PARENTS WAS VERY
WRONG & NOW SHE
SAID THAT THE BALL IS
IN THEIR COURT BECAUSE
I AM TRYING TO MAKE
THINGS RIGHT WITH
THEM & I HAVE TRIED
2 MESSAGE MY DAD TELLING
HIM THAT I WANT 2 TALK
SO I CAN MAKE THINGS
RIGHT WITH HIM BUT

HE DOESN'T WANT 2
RESPOND BACK 2 ME
& I TALKED 2 ME
IS EX MY MISTAKES
I & I HAVE MADE
ALL I AM ASKING FOR
IS MY SISTER TASHA
IS PROUD OF ME FOR
CHANGING & BY THAT
SHE MEANS BY BECOMING
A WHOLE DIFFERENT
PERSON & I AM NOT
THE SAME PERSON
I WAS BEFORE & WHEN
I TALKED 2 JESSICA
JONES ABOUT MY PAST
SHE SAID THAT I HAVE
GOTTEN 2 ALSO HAVE
HAD 2 SEIZURES BECAUSE
MY MOM HIT ME ON MY
HEAD 15-20 TIMES
NOW I HAVE HAD
SEIZURES BECAUSE
OF HER & I HATE IT

Pg 2

In Prison for lying to the cops
Dustin Hulbert said guilty
Because he is scared of her
he dose not like utah Because
of her. I know Dustin scott
Hulbert he would not hurt
any one in his whole life
he is sweet loving caring
man trust me I went to
school with him so I hope
utah has good hearts to let
Dustin scott Hulbert out of
prison to come home to me
his Doc # is 148954 I hope
his parole officer caroline
maggie and the prison has the
heart to send him home to
me and put her Behind
Bars

Nora Singh
571 - 0482

(5)

the bomber. but I don't want to
get rape and kill either. I
take care of my self as much as
I can. you have to be strong
to be homeless and don't give
up.

I need a home a place to
live. so I work my ~~life~~ life

I really need the Medical
problem fix so I can work -

I know I can do it this time.
just need a apt - home -
that I ^{can} afford.

please people help me - Medic
get bugs out

I need bugs out of my head.
please

I know friends get apt's but they
can't afford it - they are back on
the block. I am so broke right
now - help, help, help, help
My family will not help me. Kill

Companies That Hire Felons in Salt Lake City, Utah

ADM	Best Western	Dairy Queen
AT&T	Big Boy Restaurants	Darden
Aamco	Black & Decker	Dart Container
Abbott Labs	Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association	Deer Park Spring W
Ace Hardware	Boeing	Delta Air Lines
Alaska Airlines	Braun's	Delta Faucet
Albertsons	Bridgestone Americas	Denny's
Allied Van Lines	Buffalo Wild Wings	Discount Tire
Allstate	CDW	Dole Food
Altria	Caldwell Banker	Dollar Rent a car
American Airlines	Calvin Klein	Dollar Tree
American Express	Campbell Soup Company	Domino's
American Financial	Canon	Dr Pepper Snapple G
American Greetings	Captain D's	DuPont
Ameriprise	Carl's Jr	Dunkin' Donuts
Andersen	Carrier	Duracell
Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield	Casio USA	Eddie Bauer
Apple	Caterpillar	Eddie V's
Applebee's	Chick-fil-A	Embassy Suites
Aramark	Chili's	Enterprise
Ashley Furniture	Chipotle	Epson
Avis Budget Group	Cintas	Exelon
Avon Products	Clear Talk Wireless	FCA Fiat Chrysler Automobiles
Bahama Breeze	Community Education Centers	Family Dollar Store
Bally Technologies	Compaq	Fedex Express
Baskin Robbins	ConAgra Foods	Firestone Complete A Care
Baxter	Concentrix	Food Services of Ame
Bed Bath & Beyond		

7/19/2016

Jobs For Felons In Salt Lake City, Utah

Fred's	Kelly-Moore	Radisson Hotel
Fruit of the Loom	Kohl's	Ralphs
Fujifilm	Kraft Foods	Red Lobster
GE	Longhorn Steakhouse	Red Robin
Genentech	Lowe's	Republic Service
General Mills	Macy's	Restaurant Depot
Georgia-Pacific Corporation	McDonald's	Reyes Beverage Group
Giant Food Stores	McLane Foodservice	Rumpke
Golden Corral	Men's Warehouse	Safeway
Goodman Manufacturing	Menards	Salvation Army
Goodwill	Metals USA	Sam's Club
Goodyear Dunlop Tires	MillerCoors	Sara Lee
Great Clips	Motorola Solutions	Sears
Greyhound	Navistar	Seasons 52
Hanesbrands	Newell Rubbermaid	Shell
Hhgregg	Nordstrom	Shoprite Supermarket
Hilton Worldwide	Old Republic	Sony
Huddle House	Olive Garden Italian Restaurants	Sprint
IBM	PCA	Subway
IHOP	PFS Group	Supervalu
Ikea	Pactiv	Support.com
Illinois Tool Works	Papa John's	Sysco
In-N-Out Burger	Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen	Target
International Paper	PepsiCo	Tesla
Interstate Batteries	PetSmart	The Home Depot
J. C. Penney	Philip Morris USA	Trader Joe's
Jack in the Box	Pilgrim Quality Solutions	Tyson Foods
Jiffy Lube	Pilot Flying J	U-Haul
Jimmy John's	Praxair	U.S. Cellular
KFC	R.R. Donnelley	US Foods
KMart		United Airlines

7/19/2016

Jobs For Felons In Salt Lake City, Utah

United States Steel

Walgreens

WinCo Foods

Verizon

Walmart

Wyndham Hotels &

Vons

Wendy's

Resorts

W.W. Grainger

Williams

Xerox

Yard House

321 East 2100 South
SLC, UT. 84115
(801) 313-1234

Skills Staff Salt Lake
227 West 600 South
SLC, UT. 84101
(801) 486-6700

Skill Staff West Valley
2196 West 3500 South
WVC, UT. 84119
(801) 486-6700

Labor Ready SLC
1081 South 300 West
SLC, UT. 84101
(801) 521-0480

Labor Ready Kearns
4090 West 5415 South Suite #119
Kearns, UT
(801) 967-5440

Labor Ready WVC
2427 South Redwood Rd. Suite #3
West Valley City
(801) 886-9675

145 East 1300 South Suite #103
SLC, UT. 84115
(801) 328-9567

Apex West Valley
3280 West 3500 South
SLC, UT. 84119
(801) 596-8119

Strategic Staffing SLC
3761 South 700 East
Suite #200
SLC, UT. 84106
(801) 994-9494

Strategic Staffing WVC
3040 W. 3500 South Suite - B
WVC, UT. 84119
(801) 417-8010

Strategic Staffing
West Jordan
6671 South Redwood Rd. Suite
#120
West Jordan, UT. 84084
(801) 305-0900

2036 Lincoln Avenue Suite #25
Ogden, UT. 84401
(801) 334-0080

Strategic Staffing Orem
1423 South State Street
Orem, Utah 84097
(801) 404-5020

S.O.S. Staffing SLC
420 East South Temple
Suite #150
SEC, UT. 84111
(801) 322-1233

S.O.S. Staffing WVC
2723 West 3500 South
Suite #130
West Valley City
(801) 963-9090

Manpower Staffing Sandy
9669 South State Street
Sandy, UT. 84070
(801) 262-9466

Salt Lake County Area

GENERAL RESOURCE LIST

Phone: 801-468-7200 FAX: 801-468-7200

EMERGENCY (24 HOURS)

Child Abuse Hotline (24 hours) 801-468-7200
 Adult Protective Services (APS) (24 hours) 801-468-7200
 Police (24 hours) 801-468-7200
 Fire (24 hours) 801-468-7200
 Poison Control 801-468-7200

ADULT & CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT

Adult Protective Services (APS) (Regional Office) 801-468-7200
 Child Abuse Justice Center (Salt Lake) 801-468-7200
 West Jordan Child Abuse Center 801-468-7200
 Division of Child and Family Services 801-468-7200
 Abuse Reporting (Injury & All other needs) 801-468-7200
 Family Support Center (Injury & All other needs) 801-468-7200
 Midvale Child Abuse Center 801-468-7200
 Sugarhouse Child Abuse Center 801-468-7200
 Guardian Ad Litem/Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) 801-468-7200

CHILD/YOUTH/FAMILY SERVICES

See Single Parent or Youth Resource List

COURTS/GOVERNMENT SERVICES/LAW ENFORCEMENT

See Government Resource List

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic Violence Information Line 800-897-LINK (5465)
 Legal Aid Society of Salt Lake, Inc. 801-328-8840
 South Valley Sanctuary 801-255-1055
 Utah Office of Crime Victim Reparations 801-238-2300
 VINE (Victim Information & Notification Everyday) 1-877-884-8463
 Victim Advocate Program, Draper City 801-576-6355
 Victim Assistance Program, Murray City 801-284-4203
 Victim Resource Center, Salt Lake City Police Department 801-580-7909
 Victim Assistance Program, Sandy City 801-568-6082 (child), 568-7283
 Victim Services Program, South Jordan City 801-258-4708
 Victim Assistance, South Salt Lake 801-412-3600
 Victim Advocate Program, Unified Police Dept 801-573-2297
 Victim Assistance Program, West Jordan 801-566-6511
 Victim Advocate Program, West Valley City 801-3223, 231-8185 (Crisis line)
 Victim Services, Utah Attorney General's Office 801-281-1200
 Victim Services, Office of, Utah State Dept of Corrections 801-545-5658
 YWCA 801-537-8600

EMPLOYMENT/JOB TRAINING

(See also "Employment/Temporary" in the Yellow Pages)

Department of Workforce Services (DWS) 801-526-0950 x1
 Deseret Industries (DI) (Wellfare Square) 801-240-7202
 Division of Rehabilitation Services 801-538-7530
 Indian Training and Education Center 801-973-0484
 Job Corps (Centerville) 1-800-733-5627
 (Salt Lake) 801-693-2902
 (West Valley, Glendale, Rose Park, Magna) 801-898-7302
 LDS Employment Services (Wellfare Square) 801-240-7240
 Labor Commission 801-530-6800
 People Helping People 801-583-6300

FINANCIAL COUNSELING

AAA Fair Credit Foundation 1-800-351-4195
 American Credit Foundation 801-208-1000
 Community Action Program 801-350-2444
 Cornerstone Financial Education 1-800-336-1245
 Extension Services, USU 801-468-3170
 Financial Vital Signs 801-977-0555
 NeighborWorks Salt Lake 801-537-1900

FOOD/ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

100% Pantry (See Resource List or dial 2-1-1)
 Community Food Corps of Utah 801-468-7200
 Food Stamp Department of Workforce Services (DWS) 801-526-0950
 Home Delivered Meals/Congregate Meals (Senior Citizens)
 Salt Lake County Aging Services (Senior Citizens)
 Prepared Meal Sites/Soup Kitchens (See Food Resource List)
 Homeless Resource List or dial 2-1-1
 Utah Corp 801-555-1111
 Utah Food Bank 801-468-7200
 Senior Food Bank/Commodity Supplemental Food Program 801-526-0950
 Utahns Against Hunger (Referral/Advocacy) 801-328-8840
 WIC (Women, Infants & Children) Utah Department Health 801-531-1111

HEALTH CARE/HOSPITALS/CLINICS

See Salt Lake Area Health and Dental Resource List

HOMELESS SERVICES

See Homeless Resource List

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS/FURNITURE/CLOTHING

Crossroads Urban Center 801-328-8840
 Deseret Industries (DI) (Wellfare Square) 801-240-7202
 (For Items at no cost must receive referral from LDS Bishop) 801-240-7202
 Rescue Haven (Women & children's clothing) 801-531-1111
 Rescue Mission (Men's clothing) 801-531-1111
 St. Vincent de Paul Center 801-531-1111

HOUSING/UTILITIES

American Red Cross (Utilities, seniors/people with disabilities) 801-328-8840
 Assist, Inc. (Emergency home repairs/accessibility) 801-328-8840
 Community Action Program, Salt Lake (CAP) 801-328-8840
 Community Development Corporation of Utah (Home purchase) 801-973-0484
 Department of Workforce Services (DWS) 801-526-0950
 Eligibility Services 801-526-0950
 Habitat for Humanity, Salt Lake Valley 801-240-7202
 HEAT (Home Energy Assistance Target) (Nov. - April) 801-240-7202
 Housing Authority, Salt Lake City (Rental subsidies) 801-240-7202
 Housing Authority, Salt Lake County (Rental subsidies) 801-240-7202
 Housing Authority, West Valley City 801-240-7202
 (Rental subsidies, home purchase, emergency home repairs)
 Quasar Gas (Customer Service) 1-800-555-1111
 Gas Leaks 1-800-555-1111
 Blue Stakes 801-531-1111
 NeighborWorks Salt Lake (Home purchase/rehab) 801-537-1900
 UTAP (Utah Telephone Assistance Program) - Lifeline 1-800-555-1111
 Utah Housing Corporation (Home purchase) 801-973-0484
 Rocky Mountain Power 1-888-888-8888
 Outages 1-877-777-7777

LEGAL INFORMATION/CONSULTATION

Consumer Protection, Division of 801-531-1111
 Salt Lake Legal Defenders (By court appointment only) 801-531-1111
 Disability Law Center 801-531-1111
 Legal Aid Society of Salt Lake, Inc. (Family law) 801-328-8840
 Utah Legal Services 801-531-1111
 Utah State Bar 801-531-1111
 Tuesday Night Bar (Call Mon. 1-5 pm for appointment) 801-531-1111
 Utah State Courts Self-Help Center 1-888-888-8888
 Utah State Law Library 801-531-1111
 Free legal clinic listings www.utcourts.gov/howto/

LIBRARIES

Salt Lake City
 Anderson/Edhill
 Chapin
 Day/Riverside
 Main Library
 Sprague
 Sweet

HEALTH SERVICES

Child Abuse Reporting Program	801-261-3500
Children's Shelter Care Unit	801-261-3500
Community Health Center	801-261-3500
Health Services	801-261-3500
Health Services	801-261-3500
Health Services	801-261-3500
Health Services	801-261-3500
Health Services	801-261-3500
Health Services	801-261-3500
Health Services	801-261-3500
Health Services	801-261-3500

MENTAL HEALTH/COUNSELING

Children's Center (6 years old and younger)	801-582-5534
Family Counseling Center	801-261-3500
Family Support Center (Parents and Children)	801-955-9310
Holy Cross Ministries	801-261-3500
Jewish Family Services	801-746-4334
Jordan Family Education Center (Parenting)	801-565-7412
LDS Family Services	801-240-6808
NAMI-UTAH (National Alliance on Mental Illness) (Helpline)	801-231-9900
Salt Lake County Division of Youth Services (Ages 8-18)	385-248-4590
Shepherd's Staff Christian Counseling Center	801-561-9987
Utah Youth Village	801-272-0980
Valley Mental Health (Admin)	801-263-7100
Adult Services	801-270-6550
Children's Services	801-284-4990

OTHER SERVICES

Better Business Bureau (BBB)	801-892-6009
Plasma Centers (Bio-Mat Plasma Services)	801-363-7697
(CSL Plasma Services)	801-485-5085
Pregnancy Testing	see Single Parent Resource List or call 211
Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce	801-364-3634
Salt Lake Convention and Visitors Bureau	801-534-4900
Senior Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)	801-746-2269
U.S. Small Business Development Center	801-957-4654
Utah Transit Authority	801-RIDE-UTAH (287-7433)

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

711 Relay Utah	7-1-1 or 801-715-3470
Columbus Community Center	801-262-1552
Disability-related information	2-1-1
Division of Rehabilitation Services	801-538-7530
Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD)	1-877-568-0684
Neighborhood House (Riverside Adult Day Center)	801-365-4593
(Cottonwood Adult Day Center)	801-277-3264
Rise, Inc.	801-208-1031
St. Joseph Villa	801-487-7557
Turn Community Services	801-359-8876
Utah Independent Living Center	801-460-5565
Utah Parent Center and Autism Information Resources	801-272-1051
Work Activity Center	801-977-9779

PREGNANCY (SEE ALSO HEALTH RESOURCE LIST)

Baby Your Baby Hotline	1-800-826-9662
LDS Family Services	801-240-1711
Planned Parenthood Association of Utah (Administration)	801-532-1586
Salt Lake City Health Center	801-322-5571
South Jordan Health Clinic	801-254-2052
West Valley City Health Center	801-973-9675
Pregnancy Resource Center	801-363-5433
Pregnancy Riskline	801-728-2229
The Children's Service Society of Utah	801-355-7444

REPORTING SEXUAL ASSAULT

Police (Sexual Assault Unit)	801-467-7100
Police (Sexual Assault Unit)	801-467-7100
Police (Sexual Assault Unit)	801-467-7100
Police (Sexual Assault Unit)	801-467-7100
Police (Sexual Assault Unit)	801-467-7100
Police (Sexual Assault Unit)	801-467-7100
Police (Sexual Assault Unit)	801-467-7100
Police (Sexual Assault Unit)	801-467-7100
Police (Sexual Assault Unit)	801-467-7100
Police (Sexual Assault Unit)	801-467-7100

SENIOR CITIZENS

AARP	1-866-448-3133
Neighbors Helping Neighbors	801-581-1111
Salt Lake County Aging Services	385-468-3333
Senior Center Programs	385-468-3333

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES/AIDS INFO

People with AIDS Coalition of Utah	801-484-1111
Planned Parenthood Association of Utah	801-532-1111
Salt Lake City Health Center	801-322-1111
West Valley City Health Center	801-973-1111
Primary Care Alliance - Ryan White Title III Program	801-581-1111
Bureau of Epidemiology	801-538-1111
STD/HIV/AIDS Education, Salt Lake Valley Health Dept.	385-468-1111
Utah AIDS Foundation	801-487-1111

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

(for information on inpatient and outpatient substance abuse treatment programs, please call the county's Assessment and Referral Unit or 211)

AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)	801-481-1111
Al-Anon Family Groups	801-261-1111
Interim Group Services	801-531-1111
Narcotics Anonymous	1-877-475-1111
Nicotine Anonymous	801-721-1111
Salt Lake County Assessment and Referral Unit	801-461-1111
Tobacco Quit Line	1-888-567-TRUTH

SUPPORT GROUPS

Call for details on various groups

VOLUNTEER

211 Volunteer Center	801-531-1111
Lowell Benjimon Community Service Center, U of U	801-531-1111
Thayne Center for Service & Learning, SLCC	801-531-1111

WELFARE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

Department of Workforce Services (DWS)	
Eligibility Services	801-531-1111
Constituent Affairs	801-531-1111
Office of Recovery Services (ORS)	801-531-1111
Social Security Administration (SSA) (National)	1-800-772-6237
Murray Office	1-866-531-1111
Salt Lake Office	1-866-531-1111
Unemployment Insurance Center	801-531-1111
Worker's Compensation Fund (WCF)	1-800-530-5090

United Way 2-1-1 is the place to call if you need help or want to learn more about the services available from health and human services programs throughout the state.

Last Update: March 2013; Please Visit www.211ut.org for the most current resource lists. If your cellular phone or office phone system does not recognize the 211 number, you can dial 1-888-822-2111 for the same free service.



Inquiry for Affordable Housing

Thank you for your interest in obtaining housing with Utah Non Profit Housing Corporation. We will be happy to assist you with finding your new home.

We have multiple properties with different program requirements which you may be eligible for. If you are interested in more information about our properties and specific eligibility, please complete the form on the back of this page and return it to us in-person or by first class mail.

Once your information is received it will be forwarded to the properties in the areas you requested. Please contact the property directly to discuss the application process.

For your convenience, a list of properties is included that contains contact and location information for each of our properties.

You may return the form in person or by mail to:

UNPHC
223 W. 700 S.
SLC, UT 84101

Or by Fax to:
(801)364-7070

Please feel free to contact us with any further questions. We look forward to serving you with your affordable housing needs.

Sincerely,

Utah Non Profit Housing Corporation
223 W. 700 S.
SLC, UT 84101
(801)364-6117

T	Aspenview	Studio	Special Needs	1230 East Elgin Ave (no office)	SLC	UT	84106 (801) 485-2111
H	Dominguez Park I & II	1 & 2	Senior (62)	3990 South 700 West	SLC	UT	84123 (801) 261-3061
H	Dominguez Park III	2 & 3	Family	3970 South 700 West	SLC	UT	84123 (801) 268-4177
H	Escalante Park I & III	1	Senior (62)	1040 North Redwood Road	SLC	UT	84116 (801) 364-5682
T	Escalante Park II	1	Senior (55)	1660 West 1000 North	SLC	UT	84116 (801) 364-5682
H	Glendale Senior Housing	1	Senior (62)	1239 South Glendale Drive	SLC	UT	84104 (801) 952-9115
H	Hamilton Place	1	Senior (62)	764 South 800 East	SLC	UT	84102 (801) 524-0727
*	Jacob Apartments	2 & 3	Permanent	303 East 600 South (no office)	SLC	UT	84111 (801) 359-2160
T	James E. Kier (Liberty Wells)	1 & 2	Senior (55)	260 East 800 South	SLC	UT	84111 (801) 355-2000
H	Lorna Doone Project-Annie Laurie	Studio & 1	Family	326 East 100 South	SLC	UT	84111 (801) 355-8059
H	Lorna Doone Project-Lorna Doone	Studio & 1	Family	320 East 100 South	SLC	UT	84111 (801) 355-8059
H	Lorna Doone Project-Los Gables	Studio & 1	Family	135 South 300 East	SLC	UT	84111 (801) 355-8059
H	Lorna Doone Project-Wilshire Arms	Studio & 1	Family	234 1st Avenue	SLC	UT	84111 (801) 355-8059
T	Lowell Apartments	1	Senior (55)	756 South 200 East	SLC	UT	84111 (801) 534-1065
H	Multi-Ethnic Senior Citizen Highrise	1	Senior (62)/Disabled	120 South 200 West	SLC	UT	84101 (801) 328-2090
H	Preston Place	1	Senior (62)	2673 South Preston (1935 E)	SLC	UT	84106 (801) 485-2111
T	Riverwood Cove Apartments	1 & 2	Family	582 North Riverside Drive	SLC	UT	84116 (801) 595-8555
*	Sedona	Studio	Special Needs	562 West 200 North (no office)	SLC	UT	84116 (801) 359-2160

H= HUD Subsidized

T = LIHTC/Affordable Housing



223 WEST 700 SOUTH
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84101

The following are minutes from meetings 9/8/2015 – 5/9/2017

Minutes of the Salt Lake City Marching Club 9/8/2015:

Voting – how do we help them get registered? They can use Road Home for address

Road Home ~800 people serviced – publicly funded - beds, daycare, meals, job placement

Other programs religion based:

Weigand & St. Vincents – Catholic

Rescue mission – evangelical, independent

Deseret Industries – LDS

Can we have a creative writing contest? Talk to Wesley Spry from slug magazine to see if they will publish

Pioneer Park Consortium – Uday Teki manager of creative work – can we get him involved in artwork project?

Date: 9/15/15

Start: 12:16pm

End: 1:09 pm

Meeting commence: All said aye 2:16pm

Funds available: \$5.00

Motion to appropriate \$1.50 for flags, All said aye,

Slogan/Mission objective sheets were passed out to attendees

Role sheet passed out

Attendees:

John Shannon, President of SLCMCC

Charlotte Mates, Vice President of SLCMCC

Lauren Smith, Secretary of SLCMCC

Barbara Taylor, Treasurer of SLCMCC

Elizabeth Buehler, Homeless Services Coordinator of Salt Lake City

Catherine Birch, NAMI Representative in Davis County

David Holbrook

Whitley Howard

“Sosa”

City (County too?) currently working on 3 main housing issues:

1) “House 20” The 20 individuals who are in most need will be housed immediately

- 2) The “facilities commission”
- 3) 300 “permanent support housing units”, 50 of which are for single mothers (program is 3 years out)

Salt Lake City:

2 drug squads employed, buyers and sellers under suspicion

350 bins to store belongings, 150 are occupied

Shopping cart roundups and petty crime enforcement in motion now

Construction is beginning for public restrooms to “Portland Loos” to discourage public defecation

Josh Sharman: employment representative

Police Chief over HOST program: Mark Brown:

Bureau is expanding their office, 8 new social workers are being hired

Officers: Brandi Palmer

Mike McKenna

County: “Collective Impact”

Shaleane Gee

Helpful people (among many others):

Gina Lopez & Kathy Scott weigand center

Cassie at rescue mission

Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club minutes from 9/22/2015

Meeting commence: All said aye 12:16pm

Minutes recorded by Lauren Smith

Attendees: John Shannon (President of SLCMCC), Char Mates (Vice President and Project Manager of SLCMCC), Lauren Smith (Secretary of SLCMCC), Maryann Martindale (representing Jackie Biscupski), Cree McNulty (representing Nate Salazar)

Mission objective:

“Our goal is to enable the homeless to advocate for themselves by using existing public services to improve their community through empowerment”

Treasurer, Barbara Taylor has \$3.50 left from membership dues

Mission objective sheets were passed out to attendees

Role sheet passed out

The name "Marching and Chowder" was chosen to keep the conversation light even though the "homeless" problem is a very serious problem.

We are concerned that problem will expand to other districts. There is a much bigger problem than just Rio Grande

People in the "homeless" community are starting to realize and acknowledge the problems. They are ready for a change.

2 main business matters:

- 1) Flags for 200 south & Rio Grande (to start, Mike Berry expected to sign for flags)
- 2) Advocate for the "homeless" to vote (they can use Road Home as their address)

Ballot box already at the Crossroads Urban Center, would like to place 5 more at The Rescue Mission, 4th Street Clinic, Weigand Center, Road Home and HOST headquarters

Portland Loos near St. Vincent de Paul

Shalene Gee: County homeless coordinator

Action Items:

Char to contact Michael Berry from city

Char to ask organizations above about allowing ballot boxes (Can we ask the County to install silver boxes later?)

Meeting adjourned: none said nay 1:16pm

Meeting Minutes from The Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club
9/29/2015 recorded by: Lauren Smith

Begin 12:00

Attendees:

President, John Shannon; jshannon1923@gmail.com

Vice President, Charlotte Mates; char.mates@yahoo.com

Secretary, Lauren Smith; laurensmith1018@gmail.com

Catherine Birch, NAMI Davis County; cbhotshot47@gmail.com

Rodney Morehead a "homeless" individual (801) 637-8279,

Charlotte's Report:

Voting boxes from county clerks office placed at:

- 1) Cross Road Urban Center
- 2) HOST
- 3) Weigand Center

Charlotte will check with Cassie at Rescue Mission to see if we can place one there.

Boxes will be picked up on October 10th and taken to County Clerk's office.

Flags to be positioned on the intersection of 200 South & Rio Grande

When Charlotte went to get the flags, the Street Department did not charge for them.

We will work with Jackie Biscupski and Nate Salazar about what the next step for the flags

Lauren's Report (acting as interim Treasurer)

On hand: \$5.00

Excerpt from Pioneer Park Coalition literature:

"Move to a culture of transformation (versus the old culture of warehousing). Homeless individuals must be engaged and no longer enabled. Everybody within the service delivery system (e.g. general, public, media, elected politicians, appointed officials, board, staffs and volunteer's of service agencies and most importantly the homeless themselves) must embrace a culture of transformation. A culture that through the help of others homeless individuals can transform and integrate themselves back into society. For moral and fiscal reasons homeless must become unacceptable condition that is not tolerated in the USA".

We at The Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club view this opinion as a fantasy that will never be a reality. The "homeless" problem will never go away entirely. But the situation can definitely improve. The action that needs to be taken is to open up communication lines between law enforcement and government entities, service organizations, clergy, social workers and "homeless" individuals.

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS:

Jackie Biscupski's fund raiser 9/30/2015 6:00pm - 8:00pm
1100 East & 2200 South (Kimi's restaurant)

University of Utah Medicaid meeting 10/1/2015 6:00 pm

260 South Central Campus Drive

Open Discussion:

Our guest Rodney is a very spiritual man. He is on a mission to help people to get closer to Jesus Christ. He believes the only way to tackle the problem is for people to choose to go with God. John asked him if he needed anything from us and he said he only needed our prayers. I think that's pretty cool. Rodney also suggested the great idea of handing out T-shirts.

It is time to take action! The situation should no longer be treated like a hot potato. No more "tail tucking", everybody needs to get to work if this is to work! Type your paragraph here.

Minutes 10/6/15

Meeting Minutes from The Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club

recorded by: Lauren Smith

Attendees:

President, John Shannon;

Vice President, Charlotte Mates;

Secretary, Lauren Smith;

Jonathan Harman, Pioneer Park Coalition

Rodney Morehead, homeless

The "top down" approach has been used to deal with the homeless problem in recent years. Our goal at The Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club is to help them heal from the bottom up. Many of these people are extremely vulnerable and can't stand up for themselves. Some of them are children. The issues need to be contained and controlled so that the weak ones are protected from harm.

We want to encourage them to take better care of themselves and each other. We want them to be able to take pride in their community as they reach out to one another. They need to have a voice. We hope we can help them get that voice.

We encourage the homeless themselves to take pride in their community and to help each other out.

They are prone to addiction and disease.

Pioneer park coalition; what is their stance on helping the homeless (Scott Howell)? Impression is that instead of solving the problems, they want to move the problems away.

Open discussion when we talked about God and listened to Rodney's gospel music

Rodney: they have made a deal with the devil, God is the only one that can save them. Start when they are young.

Jonathan Harmon joined discussion. He has been out with an infection for several weeks.

Pioneer Park coalition, started January, 2013

Business owners became more aware because no one would lend money due to safety status. The coalition is many businesses working together. They want to work with us because they care about the neighborhood. They are looking for solutions just like we are. Type your paragraph here.

Minutes from the Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder
Club 10/13/2015

Meeting Minutes from The Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder
Club

recorded by: Lauren Smith

Attendees:

President, John Shannon;

Vice President, Charlotte Mates;

Secretary, Lauren Smith;

Catherine Birch, NAMI Davis County

Rodney Morehead, homeless

John and Char met a man they call "Tool" yesterday, He suggested a carpentry class for the homeless. The members of the community could start by building their own workbench in a highly visible area outside. They could then move on to make things like planter boxes and bird houses that could be sold. The hope is that more and more people would want to join as they saw each other working. The first steps would be to get permission for people to work outside and to create a drive for

donated materials and tools.

John and Char talked to someone named Christine about the creative writing project. Can we still get her contact information?

Char talking to Alexis at Media One about having donated newspapers delivered for the homeless community. So far, she has taken addresses and seems willing to help. We could have the Deseret News and/or the Tribune.

Safety flags: Char to talk to Michael Berry about buckets and flashing signs for the intersection of 200 South and Rio Grande. We already have the flags.

Pioneer Park Coalition meeting tomorrow from 8:30 – 10:30am at the county building on 2100 south and State Street. North building on the 2nd floor in N2-800. Jonathan Harmon represents Scott Howell at the coalition.

Dr. John interviewed yesterday for television program. It will be good to get our name out there to help the people. Many people are reluctant to have the spotlight on them for fear of retaliation, rejection and/or embarrassment. It is important that everyone in the community has a chance to shine since everyone wants to “matter”, as well they should.

Open discussion with Rodney about God and how He working through all of us. We are all fortunate to have the chance to make a difference. We are not the ones who decide what ultimately happens but we can each influence others to do the right thing. Type your paragraph here.

Minutes from the Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder
Club 10/13/2015
Meeting Minutes from The Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder
Club
recorded by: Lauren Smith

Attendees:

President, John Shannon;

Vice President, Charlotte Mates;

Secretary, Lauren Smith;

Catherine Birch, NAMI Davis County

Rodney Morehead, homeless

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Meeting Minutes from The Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club

10/20/2015 recorded by: Lauren Smith

Attendees:

President, John Shannon;

Vice President, Charlotte Mates;

Secretary, Lauren Smith;

Matthew Melville, Catholic Community Services

They are tracking people with barcoded ID at the Weigand center to reduce the number of repeat consumers. 51 million dollars

We think there is about 51 million dollars a year allocated for the homeless in Utah.

We should ask 2 main questions:

Where is the money going?

Who is the money going to?

They cannot use services at the Weigand Center unless they are documented as homeless

The County and The City are mainly focused on actual placement and not on services

They don't provide housing at Catholic Community Services

Catholic Community Services have the same funding for 500 people as they did when they began and they were serving 100 people. They are especially in need of a case worker

Violence and drug issues getting worse near The Rio Grande and we want to weed out the people who are not seeking services.

We are looking for ways to encourage people in the homeless community to take ownership and to have pride. John is looking for leaders from each ethnic group and/or religion so that everyone is represented.

We need to get the mothers working hard and leaning on each other

We want them to behave because there are social consequences for misbehavior.

Some people are selling sodas and being productive

Bottom up approach, has anyone attempted it?

Look at Vancouver where they did a census so they knew what types of people are in the homeless community

State Summit on Homeless on November 18th at the Sheraton. "Point in Time Count"

There is a drive up drug trade, and it's easy for the dealers to hide among the vulnerable

Dennis Kelsch is director in charge of St. Vincents and Weigand Center

Some people find the lifestyle attractive. We want to make it less so.

Many live at baseline to keep getting assistance because the gap between poverty and lower middle class is so small

They all say they want a job, a place to live, etc. but many aren't doing anything about it

Tuesday meeting, Are we welcome, Matthew to ask Liz Buehler?

Clothing room open 2x a week so that people don't treat donated clothes as disposable. People can't do their own wash because the washers and dryers could get broken and they can't afford to replace them

Bring in art supplies to the Weigand center.

How can religious groups work together?

One size fits all approach does not work with these individuals any more than it does with the general population.

Minutes October 27, 2015

Recorded by: Lauren Smith

Attendees:

SLCMCC President, John Shannon

SLCMCC Secretary, Lauren Smith;

SLCMCC Member & Davis County NAMI representative, Catherine Birch;

Visitor and University Student, Nate Rockwood;

SLC District 4 Candidate, Nate Salazar;

Artist and local business owner, Jason "Seven" Olsen;

Nate Salazar is a social worker who was a case manager

There are 9 sub groups among the homeless population

Youth

Families with children

Women with children (they are often left homeless as a result of Domestic Violence)

Veterans

Individuals homeless by choice

Chronic homeless

Temporary homeless

Episodic

Men (criminal/non-criminal)

Statistic approx. 73% homeless experience mental illness, domestic violence or other barriers to stable housing

We have a lot of silo type work being done from different service groups developing different plans there is strength in numbers and service groups should band together to eliminate competition for federal grants and limited resources

We need to break down the silo groups by getting everyone together and sharing data

We need to put egos aside and work on collective impact by strategic planning

It would be a good first step to get a MOU contract (Memorandum of Understanding)

“Housing first” took 10 years to come together

Fast track same day voter registration

\$51 million from the county’s budget

What makes up a community and where are the leaders?

We need to look at each sub population differently

Homeless suggests housing would fix the problem

Group of people who may not be happy, but they get by

We can provide programs, we can add stability

The homeless need to be involved personally

It’s ignorant to not involve the people who we are trying to help

How do we get them motivated?

Jason is a drug court graduate who has been sober for 5 years. His motivation is his son.

The City has the opportunity to give drug users a treatment option instead of jail.

The war on drugs will not end. We have been trying to make it work for 100 years.

If we drive the dealers out of the gateway district, they will just move on to sugarhouse

Religion can help. John asks again: where are all of the “Jesus Boys”?

Minutes from the Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder
Club 11/3/15

Minutes taken by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, President SLCMCC

Lauren Smith, Secretary SLCMCC

Catherine Birch, Davis County NAMI

Rebecca Henshaw, homeless individual

Nate Rockwood, University of Utah student

Aiden Tourek, University of Utah student

Mormon missionaries are prevalent in residential areas in Utah. Why haven't they broken down the barriers among homeless people? We need to open up the conversation with officials to see if they would be willing to teach the homeless and work with the other churches who already have a presence.

Attendee Nate R. lived near Cape Cod. There, the homeless could stay at the shelter for a maximum of 2 weeks. There is a disconnect between the people staying in the shelter and the people who absorb the costs. Heroin was a big problem

Attendee Aiden lived near Las Vegas where homelessness is a severe problem. He worked as a hotel clerk nearby. He was in the young men's service league who provided basket meals for the homeless (the program is called "3 square")

People in the homeless community are afraid of coming out with their issues.

The City should have more places where the homeless can seek shelter during the day. Many are using free public transportation not for travel, but for getting out of the elements.

Attendee Rebecca is Canadian and has been homeless for 3 years, she spent 1 year at the Road Home and has been in Safe Haven for 2 years. Anti-white racism is a major problem in the community that mainly affects white females. Rebecca is called "white trash" on a regular basis.

Rebecca told us something black males have that is called the "Knock Out Game" where they punch or kick unsuspecting whites in the head so that they lose consciousness. This happened to her friend on Friday at the Weigand Center when he was kicked in the head by a black man with steel toed boots. She has never seen anyone kicked so hard before. The police were not called and no paramedic was sent. There is a fear among victims and service workers that if they call authorities, they will be labeled as "rats" which makes them easy targets for more violent crimes. Luckily, the attacker was arrested later for something else.

Rebecca said that there is definitely a hierarchy in the community and that white sane people are becoming the minority. "The crazies" are the group of people who are most feared internally and externally. There is, however, a sort of justice that is being served which is hard to explain. For example, her friend's assailant was arrested for another

matter.

It is Rebecca's opinion that the focus should be on the crimes and the violence rather than on the drugs. Many of the drug users are non-violent and they are self-medicating with illegal drugs because mental health services and medications are not available to them. The troublemakers, the bullies and those who have inappropriate behavior are the ones who should suffer consequences.

Rebecca believes that the "them" vs. "us" attitude needs to change. In the general population, it is assumed that all homeless people are bad or disgusting, but the truth is that they have individual problems with individual solutions. She says that the poor are being marginalized again as they were in biblical times and that there is a war raging between good and evil.

How do we get the service organizations to share information? Communication lines need to be opened between the homeless themselves, the service organizations, the government entities and big business.

People who can make a difference are so worried about being caught doing or saying something offensive to an ethnic or religious subgroup that we are paralyzed as a community. The last thing anyone wants is rioting due to alleged police brutality. Everyone is thinking it but no one is brave enough to talk about it.

We need to get women and children separated and empowered. Sexual harassment is a problem.

Broken windows theory: if you allow one building to have a broken window, they will soon all be broken. The theory is that maintaining and monitoring urban environments to prevent small crimes such as vandalism, public drinking, and pan handling helps to create an atmosphere of order and lawfulness, thereby preventing more serious crimes from happening. If we can get the bulk of the people making right decisions, the rest will follow

The only difference between the homeless population and the general public is that the homeless are very poor. We need to follow the money trail and look at the crime to find out what is really happening.

The homeless area has a social scene and there is a certain type of "seductiveness" to the lifestyle

Preventative action such as providing clean needles saves lives and is far cheaper than providing after care

Desperation is well portrayed in "Another Bullshit Night in Suck City", a tragedy Nick Flynn wrote about his alcoholic homeless father. The movie is called "Being Flynn"

We need to get people "down below" and people "up above" working together

Minutes from the Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder
Club 11/10/15

Minutes taken by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, President SLCMCC, jshannon1923@gmail.com

Lauren Smith, Secretary SLCMCC, laurensmith1018@gmail.com

Barbara Taylor, Treasurer SLCMCC, bjbtaylor22@hotmail.com

David Holbrook, 2040dlh@gmail.com

Rebecca Henshaw, homeless individual, rebeccahenshaw95@yahoo.com

Rodney Morehead, homeless individual

Treasurer Barbara Taylor's report: After \$1.00 collected for Rebecca Henshaw's membership fee, treasury has \$8.00. No withdrawals this week. Treasurer's report is accepted.

Before accepting last week's minutes, member Rebecca wanted to clarify her stance on separating the men from the women at the Road Home. She believes that it is a very complicated issue with no easy solution. Although separation would help with abuse between the men and women, it is her opinion that same sex abuse and racial tension would remain problematic and possibly escalate.

Last week's minutes were accepted

Two Rose initiative: John and I passed out roses to 24 women in the homeless area. They were each given two roses with a little note. The note said to keep one rose and give the other to a stranger that was somehow different from them. We think it went well and we plan to do it again in the future.

We chose women because we hoped appealing to their maternal instincts and their inner beauty might lessen the fear and help them relate to each other better. The children need to have positive role models to build a better future from the ground up. We wanted to offer a gift to those who might not have received flowers in a long time to make them feel valued.

We believe that a shift in morale is the key to calm the savageness and rage present in some members of this community. The only way to begin to shift to a more peaceful atmosphere is by way of strength and love.

We think that if we can get them to act more civilized, they will govern themselves to a greater degree and resolve conflicts from within. Member, Rebecca says that there is already a common bond among many the people because they are experiencing similar issues but that their community rules are different. The rules at the shelter are necessary

and help to maintain some semblance of order.

It is Rebecca's opinion that the only way to understand what is going on is to look closely at the environment to understand the situation. We need an observer who fits in. The truth is that they are not all homeless like the public think. Many of the people in the district are visitors.

There is a subset of this population (both visitors and homeless) who have college degrees and there is resentment among these educated people. This is because the mindset of the general population is that the homeless are all unintelligent criminals which simply isn't true. The image of this district needs to change.

We should adopt and translate historical success stories. One of the ways to get through to people is through spiritual connection. Charismatic leaders such as Billy Graham and Martin Luther King were able to organize and uplift people, but there are also some major drawbacks to religion and the fact is that people can be led astray. There are times when religion went horribly wrong because religious zealots used faith to mislead followers into cults that made them do terrible things such as the Branch Davidians and the Heaven's Gate community.

We should focus very little on religious tenets and instead stress the importance that people of all faiths need to come together and treat each other gently and with mercy so that we can all have the possibility to receive the gift of grace.

Minutes of the Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder
Club 11/17/15

Prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

President, John Shannon;

Secretary, Lauren Smith;

Member Catherine Birch;

We had a small, short and less structured club meeting last week.

Somewhat rhetorical question: Why should the homeless have as many (or more) rights as people who are contributing to society?

Why aren't the people who are receiving services required to identify themselves?

You need to have proof of identity in order to receive minimum wage, yet transients are allowed to slither around the country and are hiding among the weak. Some are hiding from authority and their enemies

Why don't they have any responsibility?

Should the homeless community members be required to take classes such as carpentry, writing, art, computer programming or in some cases classes such as family building or AA?

Catherine asked a sociology professor to come to a club meeting and she suggested someone at the Road Home (I missed the name, but I will talk to Catherine next meeting).

Questions to ask:

What constitutes a community? What are the features?

What are characteristics of a successful community

How is the behavior of a community influence (community leader)?

How do you change a non-functional community to a functional community

We should find out how the social workers plan to integrate into the homeless community

To keep people from becoming homeless, LDS Church help people pay their rent and they give out clothing vouchers and food allocations. Again, communication among the different faiths is crucial.

Get transients who are interested excited that they can interact with one another and feel better about themselves and their community

Other unanswerable questions:

Why do some people take so much kindness for granted? Why do some people use power in such an abusive way?

Minutes of the Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder
Club 11/24/15

Prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

President, John Shannon;

Secretary, Lauren Smith;

Vice President, Charlotte Mates;

University of Utah Student, Nate Rockwood;

Salt Lake City Police Department, Josh Scharman;

Salt Lake City Police Department, J. Eddie Cameron;

Homeless Scenarios

All-inclusive campus

Scattered Facilities

Scattered shelters with centralized facilities

Scattered facilities is the choice that has been adopted for Utah. Good because the women, men and families will be separated. Good because everyone will go through the same intake process and can be placed according their needs. Good because other Utah cities can share the responsibility. Good because it will save money in the long run.

Discussion:

Specialized transport system could be used to get individuals to other campuses if they needed to go.

The Road Home is an emergency shelter not designed for long term occupants. It is not for sustainability.

Housing people is hard and takes a lot of time.

Centralized process doesn't work because you can't have kids near sex offenders, alcoholics around drinking, etc.

There are several specialized campuses in the state that have very low impact on the community such as YWCA and Odyssey House.

Rio Grande area has become a social scene where drug and sex trafficking occur.

There are 2 main gangs

The Hondurans (the kids are especially in danger and/or dangerous. They have a lot to gain and little to lose here. There is greed because the amount of money that can be made on the streets is a fortune compared to in their native country and in some cases their families are being threatened. Arrest is a small price to pay either way).

Everybody else (rivals)

It is intimidating to see menacing people such as those with hoodies or blankets covering their heads. Some members of the general public may think that neighborhoods will stay bad or get worse with scattered facilities

It would be easier to control crime in scattered facilities and people who are no longer

homeless would still be able to visit friends and relatives there.

Human and drug trafficking will never be eliminated entirely, so that is not a goal that is made.

The way things are, a vacuum is created whenever more drug arrests are made. There will always be a rival group that will take over to sell drugs as long as there are people doing the drugs.

As things are now, people/subgroups can't be lined up in order of power or importance because there are so many cliques and so many different types of criminals.

People need to have a viable alternative to get better

There is fear among and between subgroups. Empowering individuals will only work if the right people/subgroups are empowered, otherwise things could get much worse.

Subgroups must be somewhat divided before serious issues can be addressed.

All we need is a group of people who want to do better to start making a difference near Rio Grande. We can't help every vulnerable individual at once.

Prostitutes are kept in line with drugs. Vulnerable people could use the buddy system when they are in a bad situation.

Social worker Lana Dalton is hired and 7 more are budgeted for. The hiring process is very long.

There is a glass storefront next to Spyhop that will be used as Lana's office and later a police substation.

Could ads for unpaid interns/volunteers be posted in newspapers and/or social media sites?

Nate suggests getting help from college kids because they need volunteer hours to graduate anyway.

Start with students volunteering in soup kitchens so that more would want to get involved.

Maybe college students could volunteer to speak at Junior High assemblies in the future. Kids are more likely to listen to people their own age. Students could talk about their bright futures and could be mentors.

It would be great to get help from people who have been on the streets and/or addicted but have risen above those issues.

Peers can't be on the City/State/County payroll even for minimum wage if they can't pass a background check.

Older students, grads and peers could volunteer to talk to people in scattered facilities to

show them how they can come back from hardship.

Smaller groups are less “edgy” and there is a much better chance that people in the Rio Grande area will start acting better if some of the subgroups are broken up.

The problems in the Rio Grande district need to be smaller to get people to be involved with community outreach.

Minutes of the Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder
Club 12/1/2015

Prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

President, John Shannon;

Vice President, Charlotte Mates:

Secretary, Lauren Smith;

Treasurer, Barbara Taylor:

Catherine Birch:

Bernie Hart:

Marita Hart:

Avis Laray:

David Holbrook

Bal Maler

Treasurer's report: no money in or out. We have \$8.00 on hand

Last week's meeting minutes were accepted

There was a movement called Occupy in 2011. A self-sufficient community was formed in Pioneer Park. Residents policed themselves. They had pride in their community and they had their own dynamics. It broke down because around 70% of transients are mentally ill. Also, they were in need of a support system for addiction which they didn't have because they were homeless. Even though it failed, there is a lot we can learn about community

from the incentive. People feel good and are more responsible when they are empowered to make decisions about their lives.

Pouring more money into the system will not solve problem. It is frustrating that 75% of time spent on efforts to clean up the neighborhood is spent on talking about more funding and more services. There is an excess of both available as things are. Too often, egos are not put aside, so new ideas don't come often.

It is not that people are not willing to help. They jump at the chance once a decision is made. Example: With the help of the LDS church, Pamela Atkinson was able to put together steak dinners for 600 people cooked by the Grand America Hotel Chef one Christmas.

The system is broken. Kids fall through the cracks. Family promise is a good program with a high rate of success, but they only pick up kids that they can help. The children that have PTSD from abuse are hard to place in foster homes. Some foster parents are very committed and try very hard, but they feel like failures.

There are many veterans who suffer from PTSD who are not getting help.

Volunteers need to be matched up to consumers and act as mentors. They can help people with self-esteem based on their own life experience. Everyone has something valuable that they can teach to those in need.

According to a resident at the Road Home, there are 5 corrupt individuals who are either officials or who work for a service organization. Some have gang affiliation. He would not say who they are.

They do take care of their own to some degree. For example there is a saying, "baby on block" where people hide their drugs when children are coming. Could there be other key phrases to warn people in a "neighborhood watch" type scenario?

We need to cut to the chase and get to the root cause.

We need to research successful programs and to continue brainstorming the problems.

We believe that most of the people in the community want to earn for themselves, almost no one wants to be handed everything.

We need local people working together and comparing success stories.

We need to find people who are homeless and in the system who are willing to act as leaders.

There is a severe disconnect between the transient population and the members of typical society. But help from the community is necessary for their survival. Drug addicts have to decide for themselves to get help. Once they make that decision, they need to work 1 on 1 with qualified professionals.

The positions that are available in the Mayor's office will be filled after the first of the year. There is some paranoia that exists among the Road Home residents. Some are wary of officials and government representatives because they are not upstanding citizens.

200 hours community service needed for University of Utah pre-med students. Nate will be the liaison for college students and will work with Char to coordinate efforts. Can we set up a meeting with Char, Nate and Lana (new social worker) to meet after Nate's finals?

The new members introduced themselves.

Bernie & Marita: They are strong activists. They "played hard" and they owned a business for 30 years (machine shop). They moved downtown to be closer to the problems they are concerned about. They are interested in anything that helps our community and they want to work with kids in detention.

Avis: she thought article in City Weekly was good and that our approach is a great way to help the homeless. She has been in the medical field. She is very artistic and very spiritual. She believes that people need to be healed from the inside out. She believes in divine appointment.

"Friday": is John's new "bodyguard". He is from Sudan. He has been here since 2008. He lived in Denver and used to drive a taxi.

Minutes from the Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club
2015

12-8-

Minutes prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, President SLCMCC,

Charlotte Mates, Vice President SLCMCC,

Lauren Smith, Secretary SLCMCC,

Nate Rockwood, student,

Bernie Hart, member SLCMCC,

Gina Cross, member SLCMCC,

Jacob Yardley, member SLCMCC,

Carl Spitzmacher, local resident,

Xander Smiley, student,

Bradley Weischedel, John's friend,

John would like to remove the term "homeless", better to call people "local residents"

Minutes read and accepted

Treasury report: \$11.00 + \$2.00 pending (see below)

Lauren accepted \$1.00 membership fee from Gina Cross + \$1.00 from Jacob Yardley for membership dues. To be given to Barbara next meeting

New visitors and members introduced themselves.

Brad: Met Dr. Shannon through several months ago through Susan Terry (Dr. Shannon's wife). He is interested in our work and thinks he can help.

Carl: John calls him the "con man" in jest. He grew up with cash in the bank and is now on the street by the objective choice of others. He is very active politically and thinks he can be objective about local resident problems.

Gina Cross: Does volunteer work at a hospital and at the homeless shelter. She has been homeless before and has spent nights at St. Anns, the Rescue Mission and at YMCA. She wants to make a difference

Jacob: A friend of Gina's

Xander: Bountiful High school student and Lauren's son

John believes that the \$52 million dollars a year that is being paid by taxpayers is well spent and believes the services are very good. It is good bang for the buck. He wanted to make a quick reminder from that we are here to exchange ideas about how we can encourage good behavior by lifting spirits. As we inspire individual people, we hope they can build a better community from the ground up.

We need to remind ourselves and each other continually that there is no solution, only progress.

This is a marketplace of ideas where people with different backgrounds can meet each other and talk freely.

Brad wants to find a way to dignify smaller communities. They need to be able to do things like putting on a clean shirt. We are creating the way to listen to local residents and learn about them. The connection between people is his goal in coming to club meetings. He would like to witness success stories.

Gina said there are 2 types of homeless people. Those who have accepted that they have hit bottom and those who are in denial about how bad things have gotten. She thinks lack of daycare is a major problem. She had no one to watch her son while she went to work when she was homeless.

Complaints could go to City Council through self-appointed “leaders” in the community.

Carl thinks that officials seem to be having a popularity contest. He mentioned that we might want to get in touch with John Nadle. He is a key person who was once homeless and is still involved in the community.

Brad is a social worker who lived in Detroit and did community organizing with people who lived in community housing. He wants to discuss how to create programs and write grants. It is his opinion that we should get away from City Hall and work more with focus groups.

Bernie emphasizes that focus groups need a focus such as mothers advocating for children to get daycare.

We are planting seeds. There are people in the community who want to become involved.

Carl says we need to pay attention to what people are not saying in regards to infrastructure. John is giving more credence to the idea that Jesus is working through us (atheist, my foot ;))

Brad connects with refugees at the clinic, but he doesn’t work with the homeless directly. He is not here professionally.

Bernie thinks that the reason the system is so screwed up is because mentally ill people are expected to do something that they are incapable of. They are expected to take care of themselves. There needs to be a way to verify that a good job is being done. We need evidenced feedback.

We need to make people more accountable. Local residents need to comply with some standards. Issues need to be discussed and bars need to be set.

There is a grocery list of unacceptable behavior. People have to respect one another.

What kind of consequences can they give themselves and each other?

Is it within taxpayers’ rights to separate people who cannot verify identity?

“Occupy Salt Lake” was dysfunctional because the functional people left the group. There was paranoia and the inability of people to keep a grip on themselves. The larger the group, the harder to manage.

Bernie says that are two groups of transients. One group is at the Rio Grande and the other is the library. People outside of the community who are interested in drugs go to Rio Grande.

Carl says addicts should not be able to demand respect. He thinks that overdose is the cure for addiction. The club does NOT share this perspective. He says that cops are the last resort.

Carl is getting contact information for Judge Baxter to invite him to a club meeting. He says that he is a dynamic guy who knows about infrastructure.

It is hard to get people to care about respect because you can't take things away from someone who has nothing. We should strive to help people change their priorities and give them "dollops" of responsibility.

Carl approached representative Sandra Hollins LCSW as the meeting was wrapping up. I got her card and will invite her to the next meeting

Bernie has been politely banned from service organizations because he pushes people out of comfort zone. He has 3 main ideas:

Dream jar: where people write down their dreams and put them in a jar
Giving people a way to express themselves
make a newspaper where no one is censored, voice

Not part of the minutes:

A question came to me when I was preparing the minutes. I am wondering how the State weighs in on the "scatter" system that the City/County has decided upon.

The group will talk more about Bill Gates community in Seattle, Boston, Vancouver, etc.

We need to start giving action items in the future. Lauren to research Souper Tuesday and transitional housing and report next week. Also look up what Ben McAdams has done for Magna.

Minutes from the Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club
15-2015

12-

Minutes prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, President SLCMCC,

Charlotte Mates, Vice President SLCMCC,

Lauren Smith, Secretary SLCMCC,

Barbara Taylor, Treasurer SLCMCC,

Bernie Hart, member SLCMCC,

Marita Hart, member SLCMCC, slc.touchstone@gmail.com

Carl Spitzmacher, local resident,

Gina Cross, member SLCMCC,

Peter Smith, Lauren's brother,

Susan Terry, John's wife

Camille Winnie, Downtown Alliance Director of Community Service,

Change the "raise the bar" from last week's meeting to "raise the standard"

Last week's minutes read and accepted

Treasury report: \$14.00

Introduced one another around table. New members:

Susan: John's wife, here to support John and for a free lunch

Peter: Lauren's brother, here to check it out

Camille Winnie: From "Downtown Alliance", non-profit organization who put on the farmers market in Pioneer Park. They have a Safety and maintenance meeting monthly on first Tuesday.

John: we are not a service organization, we get people to behave better by acting like an effective community. We have 2 focuses:

The notion that we can encourage local residents to begin to act better by lifting single individuals' self-esteem.

If/how the locals in the Pioneer Park area and Road Home residents can take on the aspects of a functional community as individuals to begin to take responsibility for their actions.

Bradley Weischedel is helping by doing a literature about how the "bottom up" approach in working in other cities. He was not able to attend this week.

What will happen to the men if the scatter proposal comes into effect?

Camille says that there is no official word and that additional sites have not been chosen. She stresses that any speculation is premature and will not be helpful.

There are at least 2 facilities recommended under the Mayor's new plans. The Midvale Family Shelter only operates 6 months of the year.

The Road Home will not operate "as is". Mayor McAdams and Jackie Biskupski's team will work together after Jackie is sworn into office. The first priority is a family shelter.

The “Housing First” program is statewide and borders are not (at least, should not be) drawn by county/city boundaries.

Carl talked about “eminent domain” where there is sale of private property for a public purpose. How does this affect the homeless?

Bernie wonders what will become of Rob Barrus funded land. Local residents aren’t stupid, they communicate. The better the services are, the more people will show up. When word about how good Utah’s transients have it was on the Cobert show, there was an influx of transients.

John says that decisions are being made from people who don’t know who they are servicing. He wants to know if there is a structure. He wants to find out about accountability.

Camille says that there is a collaborative structure called Collective Impact being led by the County and that people are working hard to coordinate efforts locally that were formerly in siloed groups.

Carl wants to go with us on a tour at the Road Home at night on the men’s side. He used to stay there but would only go from 10pm – 5:30am because of the conditions. He says it will be a real eye opener as to how bad things really are. Action item.

Bernie went to the Weigand center to talk to women about daycare service and was offered drugs at least 5 times. He was nervous because the problems are right there and in your face. Mental health service providers know which ones have the problems but they are powerless to help,

Char thinks that the new social workers will have the ability to bring local residents together and that is where we should get hope.

Bernie had meeting with a professor from Utah State who is in the mental health field. There are no answers about how to deal with PTSD even though there have been extensive studies on meditation, cognitive behavioral therapy, etc. like the study in Fort Bliss, Texas. If we had a solution to the problem, we would be using it.

John has been getting through to local residents for 4-5 months, but different people have different ideas. Some say the services are lousy and some say it’s OK. He wonders if we can make things better. As an outsider, he wants to understand the structure. He wants to know if they really do take care of each other.

Camille says that most of the fights and stabbings are drug deals gone wrong.

Char asked Peter about carpentry and he suggested that we should figure out a way for local residents to make a profit, perhaps at the Farmer’s Market on things like bird houses.

Carl said that there are organizations like Labor finders and APEK who pay 50 cents on the dollar to hire people

Gina stresses that it's the little things that make a difference. Things such as providing Lysol to the mothers for the bedbug problem. It does help and it makes them feel much better about bringing their kids to a shelter.

Camille mentioned a book called "Bridges out of Poverty" that can help people understand class rules for people in poverty. She says that educational processes like one-on-one mentoring are most successful and that people have to be ready to change their lives. There is a Salt Lake program called "The Other Side Academy" which is a residential program for people who have been homeless or incarcerated. They learn life skills and job skills while in the program. There are also classes taught at the Weigand Center that she organizes in the classroom to help the homeless. There is no one-size-fits-all approach. It has to be done one on one.

There are good programs such as Transitional Housing where you have to earn your way in.

The Weigand center employs many local residents.

Mentally ill people cannot be expected to take responsibility.

We need to keep opening communication lines between the people who have the money and get them talking to each other.

Camille says that there is one-on-one help for things like finding rides and locating paperwork for those who want the help from the HOST program and street outreach teams.

Gina asked if local residents have enough resources to help find housing. She says that people need guidance.

Meeting adjourned.

Action Item:

Lauren to set up tour at Road Home

12/22/2015 meeting attendees:

Charlotte Mates, SLCMCC Vice President

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary

Carl Spitzmacher, local resident

Paul Cato, local resident

No formal meeting minutes this week because President, John Shannon was absent
Merry Christmas!!

12/29/2015 meeting attendees:

Charlotte Mates, SLCMCC Vice President:

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary:

Bernie Hart, member SLCMCC

Marita Hart, member SLCMCC,

Carl Spitzmacher, local resident / chronically homeless

Paul Cato, local resident / business owner,

No formal meeting minutes this week because President, John Shannon was absent

Happy New Year!!

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
1/5/2016

Minutes

John Shannon, SLCMCC President

Charlotte Mates, SLCMCC Vice President

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary

Barbara Taylor, SLCMCC Treasurer

Bernie Hart, member SLCMCC,

Marita Hart, member SLCMCC,

Brad Weischedel, member SLCMCC

Carl Spitzmacher, local resident / chronically homeless

Paul Cato, SLCMCC Sergeant at Arms,

Treasurer's report: \$16.00 on hand

Action Items from last week:

Char to write up outline for "Tools" project

Done, will be posted by Lauren on website next week

Cato to write outline of business plan for low cost bunks, showers & laundry facilities

Done, his mission statement is: "To provide the poor with an affordable and efficient living space".

Carl to contact Mr. Naeto and Judge Baxter

Done, Carl gave card to Judge Baxter representative, will follow up with Judge Baxter on the 8th at the Weigand Center, Mr Naeto not available at this time.

Minutes accepted with action items

New agenda items:

Cato nominated for "Sergeant at Arms", appointment accepted

Lauren to begin classes for the Rio Grande Women's Auxiliary Group. A forum mainly for single moms where they can meet each other, identify leaders and be able to voice their common goals as organizational changes take place.

Action items:

Carl follow up with "Community Action" group

Lauren to contact Road home and Weigand center for classroom time for the Rio Grande Women's Auxiliary Group

Done. We have been welcomed at the Weigand center and we are waiting for a response at the Road Home

Lauren to add mission statement to agenda

Done

Brad to work with Char and Nate R. and Cato about getting together a needs assessment

Char to find out if there is a homeless rep from Jackie's office who will come to our meetings

As group, come together to get the "wet shelters" open. Will work with Francis Davis, George Chapman

In progress. Petition started

Lauren to email Barbara Camille's email information

Done

Bernie and Marita to find out about van.

Carl to invite George to come to meetings

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
1/12/2016

Minutes

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President

Charlotte Mates, SLCMCC Vice President

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary

Barbara Taylor, SLCMCC Treasurer

Carl Spitzmacher, SLCMCC Chief Researcher

Paul Cato, SLCMCC, SLCMCC Sergeant at Arms

Camille Winnie, Downtown Alliance

David Holbrook, Member of SLCMCC

Note on minutes: Previous week's action items present in agenda from now on

Minutes accepted

Treasurer's report: \$16.00

Action Items:

Barbara to follow up with Camille Winnie about GED classes at the Weigands center

Done. This is Camille's pet project and she will follow through when she contacts the appropriate person

Carl to follow up with "Community Action" group and to talk to George Kein (community outreach for VOA)

Not yet done, carry over to next week

Brad to work with Char, Nate R. and Cato about getting together a needs assessment

Brad not here this week. Char has meeting with Lana Dalton on Tuesday of next week and with Nate on Monday at 3:00

Char to find out if there is a homeless rep from Jackie's office who will come to our meetings

Char approached Patrick Leary. Future representative is unknown but Liz Buehler is currently homeless service coordinator.

Bernie and Marita to find out if van is available for "Tools" project

not here, carry over to next week

Lauren to get member list and post on website

Done. John Shannon, Charlotte Mates, Lauren Smith, Barbara Taylor, Sherome Bradshaw ("Romey"), Peggy Hostetter, Catherine Birch, Rebecca Henshaw, Avis LaRay, Bernie Hart, Marita Hart, Bal Maler ("Friday"), Gina Cross, Jacob Yardley, Susan Terry, Brad Weischedel

Lauren to follow up with Road Home and Camille Winnie about women's group

In progress, I borrowed the book "Bridges out of Poverty" from Camille and I am in the process of reading it.

Lauren to post Cato's business plan

I left an email for Bernie to get a copy

Lauren to post "Tools" preface

Done

Follow up with Gail Miller, Dr. John to do this (?)

Carl to research "shelter the homeless" and to get a point in time count

New agenda items:

Carl nominated for chief researcher, accepted position

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
1/19/2016

Minutes

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President

Charlotte Mates, SLCMCC Vice President

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary
Carl Spitzmacher, SLCMCC Chief Researcher:

Paul Cato, SLCMCC Sergeant at Arms

Bernie Hart, member SLCMCC:

Douglas Cotant, local resident:

Andy Cier, local business owner (Metcom Studios)

Minutes from last week were read and accepted

Treasurer's report: Barbara will be out for 6 weeks, Char is acting treasurer, the club has \$16.00

Action Items:

Carl to write 1 page of information about "Community Action"

Brad to work with Char, Nate R. and Cato about getting together a needs assessment

Nate and Char met. Char has meeting set up with Lana Dalton 1/25/2016

Char to find out if there is a homeless rep from Jackie's office who will come to our meetings

Homeless rep. still unknown. Nate Salazar has been hired as Community Liason.

Bernie and Marita to find out about van availability

Lauren to write up proposal for Women's Auxiliary Group to give to Camille Winnie

Lauren to post Cato's business plan

Bernie will bring it next week

No new agenda items
Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
1/26/2016

Minutes

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Charlotte Mates, SLCMCC Vice President

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary

Carl Spitzmacher, SLCMCC Chief Researcher:

Paul Cato, SLCMCC Sergeant at Arms

Bernie Hart, member SLCMCC:

Marita Hart, member SLCMCC:

Douglas Cotant, local resident:

Steven Rimmer, Road Home resident:

Charlene Albarran, candidate for 2nd district congress:

Minutes from last week were read and accepted

Treasurer's report: Char is acting treasurer, the club has \$36.00, \$19.00 of which will be returned to Andy Cier.

Action Items:

Carl to write 1 page about "Community Action" group

Carry over to next week. He is trying to get an interview

Brad to work with Char, Nate R., Cato and Lana Dalton about getting together a needs assessment

Char met with Lana Dalton on Monday and it went well. She will be invited to meeting on Monday, 2/1/2016 at 3:00 with Brad, Nate & Char.

Char to find out if there is a homeless rep from Jackie's office who will come to our meetings

Still unknown, Liz Buehler is currently Homeless Service Coordinator and Nate Salazar is Community Liaison.

Bernie and Marita to find out if van is available for "Tools" project

Done. Update from Char: Lana Dalton has the van and will be hiring 2 drivers.

Lauren to follow up with Camille Winnie about women's group

I emailed Camille a proposal and we will discuss it after club meeting this week.

Charlene to research Palmer Court status.

Done. Charlene's report:

Thank-you for inviting me to your meeting. I congratulate all of you for reaching out to those in need.

I mentioned I would get more details on the Palmer Ct.

Palmer Court functions as a permanent assisted living home for the chronically homeless. It serves single men and women as well as families with children, providing tutoring for students grades k-12 as well as a kids' book club, childcare services, on-site case managers, and other services to help get families back on their feet.

SLC still has a significant lack of affordable housing and other services for the chronically homeless. Since most of the burden falls on the county to provide funding and services, but the majority of the homeless are in SLC, Mayors Biskupski and McAdams are currently working with the state legislature for \$27 million of funding for homeless services. (\$20 mill in one-time funding to build new shelters, \$7 mill in recurring funding for rehabilitation, addiction, and other services.) So far Gov. Herbert has allowed \$6 million in his proposed budget, so the mayors are continuing to push for the additional \$21 million from the legislature.

From what I can find, the State of Utah and Salt Lake City are both keeping up with federal requirements to continue receiving federal grants for homelessness prevention programs.

Bernie, Marita and Carl to research and report information about Home Inn

No new agenda items

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club

Minutes

2/2/2016

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Charlotte Mates, SLCMCC Vice

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC

Paul Cato, SLCMCC Sergeant at Arms:

Bernie Hart, member SLCMCC:

Marita Hart, member SLCMCC:

Douglas Cotant, local resident:

Steven Rimmer, Road Home resident:

Camille Winnie, Downtown Alliance:

Minutes from last week were read and accepted

Treasurer's report: Char is acting treasurer, the club has \$36.00, \$19.00 of which will be returned to Andy Cier.

Action Items:

Action Items:

Carl to write 1 page about "Community Action" group

Carl not here this week. Carry over to next week

Brad to work with Char, Nate R., Cato and Lana Dalton about getting together a needs assessment

Meeting postponed until February 22nd. Carry over to next week

Char to find out if there is a homeless rep from Jackie's office who will come to our meetings

Still unknown, Liz Buehler is currently Homeless Service Coordinator and Nate Salazar is Community Liaison.

Lauren to follow up with Camille Winnie about women's group

Done. I will be conducting group every Tuesday at 3pm in the classroom at the Weigands Center beginning this Tuesday.

Bernie, Marita and Carl to research and report information about Home Inn

Done. Addressed by Camille Winnie

Home Inn is run by a private business that has single room occupancies (SRO's). The property is owned by RDA. It was intended to be a transitional housing facility, however there are some residents who are allowed to stay longer if they are stable and have an income. The rent is \$320 / month. There is a waiting list and it is easy to get kicked out for failure to comply with the house rules.

New agenda items:

Area from 200 South – 600 South and from 300 west - 500 West will now be referred to as the "Rio Grande community"

"Tools" project should be back on agenda next week

Clarification that "Tools" project will have a stationary location so the van will not be needed as was stated in previous minutes. Van will be used to take clients to and from meetings, other facilities and/or their jobs.

Prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary:

Paul Cato, SLCMCC Sergeant at Arms:

Douglas Cotant, SLCC Member:

Steven Rimmer, Road Home resident:

Dave Robinson, SS Consulting:

Andy Cier, local business owner:

Minutes from last week were read and accepted

Treasurer's report: \$17.00 after \$19.00 was returned to Andy Cier.

Action Items:

Carl Spitzmacher to write 1 page about "Community Action" group

Action item will be dropped due to Carl's recent absence from club meetings.

Brad Weischedel to work with Char Mates, Nate Rockwood, Paul Cato and Lana Dalton about getting together a needs assessment

Meeting is scheduled for February 22nd. Carry over to next week.

Char Mates to find out if there is a homeless representative from Jackie Biskupski's office who will come to our meetings

Lauren Smith to follow up with Community Liaison, Nate Salazar to see if there will be a homeless representative hired in addition to the Homeless Service Coordinator, Liz Buehler.

Lauren Smith to follow up with Camille Winnie about women's group.

Done. The first "music and lyrics" session was at the Weigand Center on 2/9/2016 at 3pm. We will continue to meet every Tuesday at 3pm.

Char Mates and John Shannon to follow up with Mr. Kelsch from the Weigand Center to get permission to use space on their campus for "Tools" project ("Tools" project is outlined on our website, slcmcc.org)

Char will return on 2/15/2016. Carry over to next week

Steven Rimmer to contact labor halls to find out which of their programs or classes are fastest and easiest. Local residents in the Rio Grande community could become employable quickly if they knew which programs were the best to enroll in and attend. Lauren Smith to post Paul Cato's business plan to website

I now have it and will post it this week

New agenda items:

Douglas Cotant paid his \$1.00 membership fee. Welcome, Doug!

Dr. John's creative writing class: They meet Tuesdays at 2pm in the Weigand Center classroom. They have been talking about a newsletter or newspaper by and for the people of the Rio Grande community. "Jason" from the class wants to be the editor.

The possibility of a Slug Magazine podcast will also be explored. Andy Cier has experience with that type of media and says that Steven Rimmer has a great voice for it.

President out of town. No meeting this week 2/16/2016

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
2/23/2016

Minutes

Prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Charlotte Mates, SLCMCC Vice President:

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary:

Carl Spitzmacher, SLCMCC Chief Researcher:

Paul Cato, SLCMCC Sergeant at Arms:

Steven Rimmer, Road Home resident:

Andy Cier, local business owner:

Sam Lavers, neighbor:

Minutes from last week were read and accepted

Treasurer's report: \$18.00

Action Items:

Brad Weischedel to work with Char Mates, Nate Rockwood and Paul Cato about getting together a needs assessment

There was a meeting 2/22/2016. Nate is typing up notes.

Is there a someone from Jackie Biskupski's office who will come to our meetings? Lauren Smith to follow up with Nate Salazar and Simone Butler to see if there will be a homeless representative hired in addition to the Homeless Service Coordinator, Liz Buehler.

Done. Waiting for replies.

Char Mates and John Shannon to follow up with Mr. Kelsch from the Weigand Center to get permission to use space on their campus for "Tools" project ("Tools" project is outlined on our website, slcmcc.org)

On hold until after St. Patrick's Day parade. Proposal will be set up after parade.

Steven Rimmer to contact labor halls to find out which of their programs or classes are fastest and easiest. Local residents in the Rio Grande community could become employable quickly if they knew which programs were the best to enroll in and attend.

Done. They are looking for skilled laborers such as framers and concrete workers. Food handler's permit and flagging classes are taught during the day and last for 1-2 hours.

Discuss possibility of a Slug Magazine podcast. Give action item to Andy Cier for next week. Steven Rimmer to possibly be the voice.

Done. Andy had several different discussions.

Interviews with previously homeless people. This type of podcast might be more hopeful to currently homeless individuals because they would be able to hear from others who have "been there".

Interviews of social workers and case managers by homeless and/or formerly homeless people. These talks would be more authentic and helpful if they were written, recorded and produced by the people who are or have been receiving services.

Some sort of homeless youth resource center podcasts with a "story corps" like format would be interesting and useful.No new agenda items

Open discussion meeting. No formal minutes.3/1/2016

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club

Prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Charlotte Mates, SLCMCC Vice President:

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary:

Carl Spitzmacher, SLCMCC Chief Researcher:

Paul Cato, SLCMCC Sergeant at Arms:

Steven Rimmer, Road Home resident:

Latragia Lawson,

Minutes from 2/23/2016 were read and accepted with action items

Treasurer's report: \$18.00

Action Items:

Char Mates and John Shannon to follow up with Mr. Kelsch from the Weigand Center to get permission to use space on their campus for "Tools" project ("Tools" project is outlined on our website, slcmcc.org)

On hold until after St. Patrick's Day parade.

Lauren Smith to change logo on SLCMCC's Facebook page to the graphic on our sign.

Done

Lauren Smith to help John Shannon to email detailed parade instructions

Done

All to march in St. Patrick's Day Parade on 3/12/2016

Done. Marchers were John Shannon, Charlotte Mates, Lauren Smith, Barbara Taylor, Tom Maloney, Jason Rathjen, Bernie Hart, Paul Cato, Carl Spitzmacher, Andy Cier and Brad Weischedel with his twin toddlers. Local residents Dottie and her husband Giovanni joined us with their dogs Pearl and Lilly. Ken Kohler from Veterans for Peace marched alongside us. (I think I got everyone)

Lauren Smith to post photos to our Facebook page

No new agenda items
Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
3/15/2016

Minutes

Prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary:

Carl Spitzmacher, SLCMCC Chief Researcher:

Paul Cato, SLCMCC Sergeant at Arms:

Ken Kohler, SLCMCC member,

Andy Cier, SLCMCC member,

Minutes from 3/8/2016 were read and accepted with action items

Treasurer's report: \$18.00

Action Item:

Char Mates and John Shannon to follow up with Mr. Kelsch from the Weigand Center to get permission to use space on their campus for "Tools" project

Lauren Smith to meet with Andy Cier to set up Google analytics

John to meet with 3rd possible newsletter editor, "Gloria red bear"

New agenda items:

SLCMCC has been meeting for over 6 months now. Ponder what effect, if any, our organization and our march has had on the Rio Grande community.

Our plans for the next 6 months include marching in upcoming parades (pride parade, 24th of July parade, etc.), raising awareness about voting rights and continued discussions about two-tiered organizations (such as food and/or beverage carts)

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club

Minutes

3/22/2016

Prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Charlotte Mates, SLCMCC Vice President:

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary:

Barbara Taylor, SLCMCC Treasurer:

Romy Taylor, visitor,

Carl Spitzmacher, SLCMCC Chief Researcher:

Paul Cato, SLCMCC Sergeant at Arms:

Gloria Red Bear, editor of the Community Voice:

Martin Sanchez, visitor:

Laura Day, visitor:

Ali Raafati, visitor:

Ken Kohler, SLCMCC member,

Andy Cier, SLCMCC member,

Bernie Hart, SLCMCC member,

Mathu Gaia, visitor:

Tim Howard, visitor:

Minutes from 3/15/2016 were read and accepted with action items

Treasurer's report: \$19.00

Action Items:

John Shannon to meet with editor Gloria Red Bear at creative writing class to discuss guidelines for The Community Voice. She already has around 15 possible entries. There were two beatings in the Rio Grande community last week. One was a woman and one was a veteran.

Carl Spitzmacher to speak with Mark Miller about a convertible for the Gay Pride parade

New agenda items:

We will march in early June in the Gay Pride parade. There are LGBTQ displaced homeless teens who are vulnerable in the Rio Grande community. All to ponder a theme for the float.

There is a public meeting about police training taking place a week from Wednesday. It would be good if 2-3 homeless people could be present to weigh in on the conversation.

No meeting this week. Future meetings will be on Wednesdays at noon at the Mestizo Coffee House.

631 west, North Temple in Salt Lake City 3/29/2016

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
4/6/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded by Charlotte Mates at Mestigo Coffeehouse and prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Charlotte Mates, SLCMCC Vice President:

Carl Spitzmacher, SLCMCC Chief Researcher:

Andy Cier, SLCMCC member:

Bernie Hart, SLCMCC member:

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor:

Action Items:

Carl Spitzmacher said he contacted Mark Miller – out of town.

Dr. John wants to set up carpentry, arts and crafts for sale to monetize. Concrete proposal to Weigand Center through Dennis Kelsch.

On hold until a person who can spearhead operation is found.

Get ready for pride parade in June

Election attempt to vote in September to encourage notion that “I can vote”.

Continue to improve Community Voice

Bernie Hart reported on meeting with police. He felt that it was too mellow. It occurs every other Wednesday at 2pm. He was disappointed that no other SLCMCC members attended.

Gloria Red Bear said that lots of people are sick due to employees not letting homeless use restroom. There are 4 main problems

Panhandling
Soliciting
Prostitution
Hustling

Community Voice 10am first and third Monday - Gloria Red Bear and her husband do the circulation

Power of press: the purpose is better behavior, education and community camaraderie

Bernie Hart said: Road Home needs a council from within to suggest how to handle drug problems (the core issue) and to stand up for staff who are taking care of people so it's a better environment. He believes that the police have been the "fall guys" for too long.

To ponder: Salt Lake County "pay for success" program. What works and what doesn't?

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
4/13/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded and prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Charlotte Mates, SLCMCC Vice President:

Carl Spitzmacher, SLCMCC Chief Researcher:

Bernie Hart, SLCMCC member:

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor:

Action Items:

Get ready for pride parade in June (float, etc.)

Help Rio Grande community residents to register to vote / vote in September

Continue to improve Community Voice

Bernie is impressed with SLCPD meetings. Since their ability to respond and react to homeless issues is limited, they are eager for suggestions and are ready to implement change. They need a long-term plan that points them in the right direction even if it takes 2-3 years. He maintains that nothing we have done so far has worked and that the same efforts will have the same results time and time again.

John points to the fact that change is on a continuum. At one end there are the people who don't want anything to change. At the other end of the spectrum are the people who are so desperate for change that they work hard until they achieve it. We need to address the apathetic mindset of those in the middle. "The Voice" (SLCMCC's newsletter) will encourage these people to care enough to organize, so change can evolve. We are already getting a large backlog of stories. Many are willing to put in their 2 cents (for 5 bucks).

Gloria Red Bear has been homeless for more than 20 years due to a child support obligation that she is now free from. She says that there are reasons why many of the people remain anonymously hidden out of want or need. She has found Veterans who want to be “Guardians” to protect the weak and knows there are many others who want to volunteer their time and effort to making things better.

There needs to be an “internal police department” who take care of petty crimes so that the SLCPD can take care of the real criminals. We have to find established people in the Rio Grande community who are willing to share their ideas with law enforcement agencies and service providers so that change can happen from within. They’ve got to keep each other in line.

Gloria mentioned that there are many people who are mentally disturbed who are unable to cope without self-medicating with alcohol and drugs.

John says that everyone has a story and thinks that most of the mentally ill are well enough to understand three words: “Don’t do it”. He just wants the people in the community to act better.

Gloria Red Bear says they need another building. She has experience writing grants and is willing to work on a business plan to have a separate space for people who are established in the identification process from those who are not. She is willing to run the new facility. She thinks that when supervised, many will work with her on a volunteer basis.

No minutes this week. General discussion reported. Role and notes were misplaced. 4/20/2016

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
4/27/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded and prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary:

Bernie Hart, SLCMCC member:

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor:

Charlene Albarran, Congress candidate:

Carl Spitzmacher, SLCMCC Chief Researcher:

Andy Cier, SLCMCC member:

Reading of 4/13/2016 minutes by Lauren Smith

Action items:

Pride parade – Gloria volunteered to be in charge of the arrangements for the parade. Club members will support her and participate in the march.

Community Voice – continue efforts. Third issue will be published on Monday, May 2nd. Gloria to report on the progress of the publication on Tuesday at creative writing class in the Weigand Center

Note: John clarified what he meant by the term “continuum” in 4/13/2016 minutes - he was referring to the people in the Rio Grande community. The ones who don't want change are drug dealers who profit and/or the mean people who take advantage of the weak.

Minutes accepted with action items

Floor turned over to President

No new agenda items

No new action items

General discussion

Post meeting: President John Shannon would like to thank Gloria Red Bear for her editorship of the Community Voice. He mentioned that feedback is beginning to come in and that all feedback has been positive. John went on to comment about the potential for this publication. He hopes that it will implement changes in the Rio Grande community and it will inform the authorities and general public about the homeless people.

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club

Minutes

5/4/2016

Minutes recorded and prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary:

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor:

Andy Cier, SLCMCC member:

Barbara Taylor, SLCMCC Treasurer:

Leeroy Taito., Road Home resident:

Reading of last week's minutes by Lauren Smith

Minutes accepted with action items

New action items:

Lauren to get paperwork turned in for pride parade

Leeroy and Gloria Red Bear to rally people from the Rio Grande community to march in the pride parade.

John and Lauren to have T-shirts made for marchers.

John and Lauren to get old signs together ("HOMELESS MOMS", "HOMELESS VETS", etc.) and make new signs about homeless awareness. We will make a big sign that says: "HOMELESS LGBT YOUTH"

Gloria Red Bear to get picture of her polygamist great grandfather/mothers to use as a background.

Community Voice – continue group efforts. In the future, we'd like more than just complaints. For example, we'd like people to write about how they became homeless. Also, John wants to create a dialog that could extend into the general public because there is no dialog now. There is fear.

Gloria Red Bear to add section in Community Voice about cleaning up the ...dare we say neighborhood (?)

We should discuss: What are the current short term and possible long term benefits for our efforts?

Leeroy will offer his perspective on living homeless and being Polynesian, he is also an artist.

Carpentry arts and crafts. Can Leeroy help with the "tools" project?

John talked about monetizing. The homeless can produce, exhibit and market arts and crafts. They can sell all of their own merchandise.

Barbara mentioned that there is a big celebration in park after the pride parade. Can we get a booth to sell things that the homeless have made?

Andy suggested that someone go to Michael's to get wooden boxes for the homeless to paint and sell.

Gloria used to do some beading. She has done jewelry for famous people and is connected with people in Bolivia for supplies

We have to break the walls down so people can get out of homelessness

Leeroy said that he judged people when he first got there. He planned to be there for 2 weeks, tops. He has been there for 3 months now and feels like there is a wall that he is stuck behind. He had a job when he first got there but he lost his job from sickness. He can't believe he has been there for 3 months and feels like "he is no better than them"

Let's get some guardians going. The veterans want to do it. They could be on shifts.

Gloria Red Bear thinks they would need 30 – 50 and that she could find people who are willing

John doesn't think that public perspective is correct. He believes that stereotype is wrong because "these are real people"

Gloria Red Bear says that many elderly people have black eyes. She thinks that drugs are doing it

Andy says we need to meet with volunteers of America. Action item for Andy?

LGBT teenagers are being displaced.

Gloria met pioneer park coalition at HOST program 3 years ago.

Gloria Red Bear wonders if "Don't buy drugs" signs would be helpful, much like "don't support panhandlers"

John: It is the drug culture that leads economic structure in the area. All principles of economic structure are obeyed. Everything is based off of supply and demand, of which there will always be both. We're not going to solve the drug problem. We are stuck with the drug problem. He told Gloria Red Bear that it's not time for the war on drugs yet.

Andy mentioned replacement theory. To replace the drug economy with something else (art, etc.) How do you replace the drug economy?

Andy used to work at west temple and 2nd south and there were panhandlers everywhere, He is now right near the "bad" area and hardly ever gets asked for money.
Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club Minutes
5/11/2016

Minutes recorded and prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary:

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor:

Bernie Hart, SLCMCC member,

Ali Raafati, SLCMCC member,

Last week's minutes read and accepted with action items

Treasurer's report - \$16.00, email from Barbara.

Action items:

Lauren to get paperwork turned in for pride parade

Done, John and I went to the parade orientation on May 10th.

LeeRoy and Gloria Red Bear to rally people from the Rio Grande community to march in the pride parade.

Done, Gloria gave me a list of 30 people (on file). LeeRoy and Carlos to help rally more people

John and Lauren to have T-shirts made for marchers.

Done. 7-10 days for delivery

John and Lauren to get old signs together ("HOMELESS MOMS", "HOMELESS VETS", etc.) and make new signs about homeless awareness. We will make a big sign that says: "HOMELESS LGBT YOUTH"

Carry over to next week. John wants to have about 15 signs total.

Community Voice – continue group efforts. In the future, we'd like more than just complaints. For example, we'd like people to write about how they became homeless. Also, John wants to create a dialog that could extend into the general public because there is no dialog now. There is only fear.

Done, we have a story about how someone became homeless in issue #4 (Out on Monday, May 16th).

We have the email address: thevoiceofriogrande@gmail.com for public to respond to and we are sending out 100 emails with copies of the voice to individuals who are in decision making positions. Police department was reached out to on May 15th.

Gloria Red Bear to add section in Community Voice about cleaning up the ...dare we say neighborhood (?)

Carry over to next week because section is not in yet. Gloria has been told by multiple sources (Maverick, Sushi restaurant, SLPD, Security & TRAX) that her cleanup efforts are going very well and to keep it up.

New action items

Bernie and Marita to provide meal for marchers after the parade. We will feed them in the library.

Ali to continue talking to people in Pioneer Park. His goal is to help hurting people feel better, not to give more services. He listens to them.

Discussion was centered around what the root cause of the homeless problem is. There

are differing ideas. John maintains that the main problem is drugs. Bernie believes that it is not. He thinks it as a “people problem” rather than a “drug problem”. John suggests that the root cause is economic. Bernie doesn’t think so, he thinks it is all about perspective and the clash in perspective between the liberals and the conservatives.

We need to evaluate the way think about and the way we talk about the issues. Is it more important to defend perspectives or to solve the problem?

How much encouragement is too much before we are “doing it for them”?

Even though we all have differing ideas of what the problems are and how they can be helped, we all have the same goal – to help people.

It is great that we have been able to “make contact”. Thank you, Gloria Red Bear.
Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
5/18/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded and prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Diana Shannon, John’s daughter:

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary:

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor:

Bernie Hart, SLCMCC member,

LeeRoy Taito, Community Voice editor assistant:

Last week’s minutes read and accepted with action items

Treasurer’s report - \$17.00.

Action items:

Gloria Red Bear and LeeRoy to make signs for the pride parade.

Old signs and material to make more dropped off at the Weigand Center. LeeRoy has begun sign making

Section in “The Voice” about clean-up to be added.

Done. Gloria is adding it to the editor’s section

Bernie and Marita to provide meal for marchers after the parade. We will feed them in the library.

They are planning to cook food for about 30 people the day before the parade.

Lauren to contact Volunteers of America

Done, I spoke with Kathy Bray 5/18/2016. She plans to come to a SLCMCC meeting on June 1st

Minutes accepted with action items

The “powers that be” can do 2 things only:

Aid. Give more services
Punitive. Hire more police

They have done both and conditions are just as bad. Do the homeless themselves want the community better?

We at The Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club are adamant that change has to come from the homeless themselves. They are beginning to identify their own leaders and the people are starting to become interested and active in what happens in the community.

We discussed “critical mass”. How many homeless people in the Rio Grande community are needed to “get the ball rolling” towards a better community?

Say there are 1000 homeless people who are rooted in the community. Would 100 be enough to spur change?

Gloria Red Bear has around 40 published stories in “The Community Voice” so far. We have another 10 stories yet to be published. 5 more issues will involve 10% of the people. Gloria will call a meeting when she feels they are ready to make some requests and be heard.

Bernie says that they need to have hope. He believes that the critical mass is the number of people who will show up to march in the parade. Even if it is only 10 people. We can’t expect them to change the world, but they can make a statement.

Gloria says that people are ready and willing to make a change. They think nobody is listening. What we are doing is waking people up to follow the lead. They need supervision and guidance and they can do good things.

Bernie says there are lots of things to do to get your voice heard. They must be willing to get attention and disrupt the process. There is an example of someone getting her voice heard when a homeless woman named Victoria Ramos bid on BLM land. There were only 2 pieces of BLM land that were sold. One of them was to her. She didn’t have enough money but someone paid for her.

Leeroy thinks that the gay pride parade is a great way to get noticed. He thinks that the

people who are leasing the new apartments in the area have no idea how bad things are down there. Leeroy says he had no clue how disgusting it was. He thinks people in new real estate need to get their voices heard that it is gross. They need to be more active in the community.

John wants to help the people who are “stuck”. Our efforts should be to make things better for the people who are there.

Gloria mentioned a meeting of UTA, where they took 2 percent of people off of the streets (for mental health issues). It helped. The next day, she says that people were putting their garbage in the garbage. They are starting to focus on mental health. Next will be drug users, next will be drug dealers. Doctors came, ambulances came, it was very hopeful.

LeeRoy thinks we are already talking to the few who want change. He says he can't find anyone else like him. Not even one. He has tried to find people to have a normal conversation with. He thought he found one until they started to talk to a third person. Leeroy was sparked by listening to us at weigand center and “bravely asked to join the conversation”.

Bernie is pragmatic. He wants to start with something that can be done. Find people who want to stay together. Get them hopeful to really make change and the answer will come to them.

Leeroy: Polynesians are “mellow”, so he doesn't understand how people are constantly using, sleeping, talking, etc. He lived in Australia and says that they do not have shelters.

Gloria Red Bear says that on the reservations, the main problems are alcohol and young suicide. Gloria has joined the community. People are looking for love and looking for life. She says that the values of their grandmothers were lost.

Diana suggested that Working middle and upper class need to be part of the solution.

No new action items

No new agenda items

No minutes this week. Secretary off 5/25/2016

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
6/1/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded and prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor:

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary:

Lydell Dennison, road home resident:

Richard Sander, road home resident:

Kristina Eckley, road home resident:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President:

Omer R. Namdar, road home resident:

Bernie Hart, SLCMCC member,

Terry Hogan, John's friend/neighbor:

Timothy Woods, road home resident:

No minutes last week

Treasurer's report - \$17.00.

Action items:

John and Lauren to get old signs together ("HOMELESS MOMS", "HOMELESS VETS", etc.) and all to help make new signs about homeless awareness. We will make a big sign that says: "HOMELESS LGBT YOUTH".

Done, all signs are ready.

Community Voice – all to continue group efforts.

5th newsletter to be released 6/6/2016.

Gloria expects there to be about 30 people from the Rio Grande community who will march. She will print vouchers for marchers so they can eat after the parade.

Bernie and Marita to bring food, water, plastic forks and knives and napkins.

Pioneer Park instead of the library after the parade.

Lauren to bring cooler with ice for bottled water and paper plates.

John to bring signs, clip boards and waivers.

The new people introduced themselves:

Kristina Eckley, "Cricket", has been in Utah for about 5 months and has spent the last 2 weeks at the Road Home. She will act as Gloria Red Bear's secretary.

Richard Sander is from Pyramid Lake Reservation in Nevada has been in the community

for about 2 years.

Lydell Dennison from is from Tohatchi, New Mexico and has been in the community for about 2 years.

Omer Namdar is from Houston, Texas and has spent about 3 weeks in the Road Home.

Timothy Woods is from Alabama and has been at the Road Home for about 3 weeks.

Terry Hogan is John's friend and neighbor.

New agenda item: Marchers to assemble in Pioneer Park at 8:30 am ready to sign waivers. Food will be served in Pioneer Park after the parade

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
6/8/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded and prepared by Lauren Smith

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Secretary

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor

Lydell Dennison, road home resident

Richard Sander, road home resident

Kristina Eckley, road home resident

Omar R. Namdar, road home resident

Timothy Woods, road home resident

Jesse Brooks, road home resident

Fred Lorenz, road home resident

Peggy Hostetter, SLCMCC Member

Carlos B. Mateo, road home resident

Andy Cier, local business owner

Martin Garza, road home resident

Ben O'neal, Rio Grande camper & client of Weigand Center

Debra Atkinson, road home resident

Last week's minutes read by Lauren Smith

Minutes accepted as read

Treasurer's report - \$17.00.

New agenda items:

Lauren Smith will be out of town from June 11th – June 18th

The Rio Grande Homeless Coalition (RGHC) has been formed. Gloria Red Bear is President, Carlos Mateo is Vice President, Kristina Eckley ("Cricket") is Secretary and Debbie Atkinson is Treasurer. They will meet every Tuesday at 2:00 at the Weigand Center.

Action items:

Gloria to recruit as many volunteer members as possible to become members of The RGHC. The goal is for everybody to bring 1 friend to their next meeting.
Gloria to organize RGHC attendees for the functions on the press release (listed below).
Kristina to read RGHC meeting minutes at Marching and Chowder meetings.
Gloria to define "guardians" at next meeting.
Lauren to find out about toastmaster training for Lauren, Kristina and Jennifer (Kristina's assistant, not sure of last name) to attend
Carlos and Andy to discuss the possibility of podcasts to post online to go with stories in the "Rio Grande Community Voice" for people who have trouble with written communication.

This is copied text from the press release that came from Mayor Jackie Biskupski's office on June 7th, 2016. Contact: Matthew Rojas: matthew.rojas@slcgov.com, (385-228-2365):

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Salt Lake City seeks public input on new resource centers for those experiencing homelessness.

The Salt Lake City Homeless Services Site Evaluation Commission (HSSEC) will host four community workshops between June 13th and June 20th, to provide the public an opportunity to hear about the site selection process, learn about the population, and

provide feedback on how new homeless services can be incorporated into local communities.

During the workshops, members of the community will be asked to prioritize fifteen criteria for resource centers established last fall by the HSSEC. The prioritized criteria, including elements such as “close to public transportation”, “utilize technology”, and “include space for intake and case workers”, will help guide the HSSEC as they work to establish locations for two new resource centers in Salt Lake City. Local officials will also be on hand to answer any questions and take feedback from the public.

On March 25, 2016, Governor Gary Herbert signed into law HB436, providing \$9.25 million in state funding during Fiscal Year 2016. HB 436 represents the first appropriation of the state’s commitment to fund the \$27 million request over a three-year period. This initial state funding must be used to support homeless programs and services, as well as to begin initial plans for resource center sites in Salt Lake City.

On April, 18, 2016, Mayor Jackie Biskupski reconvened the Homeless Services Site Evaluation Commission, led by Gail Miller and Palmer DePaulis, to take the next steps of advising and recommending locations for resource center. The HSSEC has set a timeline for progress reflecting a number of factors, including the upcoming 2017 legislative session, and will present potential sites by Fall 2016.

Workshop Information:

Workshop #1

June 13, 2016, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Sorenson Unity Center

1383 South 900 West

Workshop #2

June 15, 2016, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

209 East 500 South

Workshop #3

June 16, 2016, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Dilworth Elementary
1953 South 2100 East

Workshop #4

June 20, 2016, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Marmalade Library

280 West 500 North

Note: Salt Lake City will also host a feedback session targeted at those currently experiencing homelessness. The session will take place at St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen during lunch on June 13th.

For more information on the workshops and process visit:

www.slc mayor.com/homeless-services

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
6/15/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded and prepared by Fred Lorenz

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor

Lydell Dennison, road home resident

Richard Sander, road home resident

Kristina Eckley, road home resident

Fred Lorenz, SLCMCC Secretary

Peggy Hostetter, SLCMCC Member

Carlos B. Mateo, road home resident

Andy Cier, local business owner

Martin Garza, road home resident

Kathy Moreno, road home resident

Jesse Brooks, road home resident

Kevin Callaway, road home resident

Jenna Destiny, road home resident

Leeroy Taito, road home resident

Bonnie Garcia, road home resident

Bridget, road home resident

Shawn, road home resident

Robert, road home resident

RGHC plans:

Briefly discussed having a Lu'au to help RGHC receive more recognition in homeless community. Group agreed to start local Narcotics Anonymous group run by homeless and catering to homeless addicts on the Rio Grande St. and 500 West area. It will be funded by homeless. Books and chips were ordered using homeless people's money. Gloria introduced four guests who shared their stories of homelessness. Bridget shared what it was like to be homeless in Miami and New York City and Jenna and her husband shared what it was like to be homeless in South Dakota. The group discussed redesigning The Community Voice, including new artwork, adding homeless resource lists to the end of the newsletter and adding new sections, like a comics section. Gloria is to pick out Guardians and John will provide a job description to those people. An idea was brought up for homeless people to teach classes to other homeless people. Andy will meet the group at 1300 on Friday, 17 June 2016 in Pioneer Park to record people's stories.

Attend meeting tonight (15 June 2016) at Leonardo for Site Selection Committee meeting.

Done, attended by John Shannon, Frederick Lorenz, Carlos Mateo, Leeroy Taito, Bernie and Marita Hart

John, Lauren and Fred to meet with Josh Scharman

John to meet with Bernie about food for RGHC Lu'au

Frederick was elected Secretary/Treasurer

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
6/22/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded by Lauren Smith and prepared by Fred Lorenz

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President

Fred Lorenz, SLCMCC Secretary/Treasurer

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Assistant Secretary

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor

Lydell Dennison, road home resident

Richard Sander, road home resident

Kristina Eckley, road home resident

Peggy Hostetter, SLCMCC Member

Torrence Briggs, road home resident

Martin Sanchez, road home resident

Leeroy Taito, road home resident

Bernie Hart, SLCMCC Member

6/8/2016 Minutes read by Lauren Smith

Minutes accepted as read

Treasurer's report - \$17.00.

RGHC report:

Briefly discussed Narcotics Anonymous meetings (about date/time and location). Decided that non-homeless guests can come to the Wednesday SLCMCC meeting but Tuesday's meeting is just for the homeless. RGHC decided it needs to get representative from Road Home to attend meetings, as there have been a lot of bad things happening at the Road Home including woman getting sick from second hand

smoke from drug users, unreported rapes, theft, etc. Leadership for Road Home not meeting with us; we talked about protesting/sit-ins and calling the media. The Guardians, their role and how they should interact with the police and social workers was discussed. Gloria is to announce soon who the Guardians are. Issues will SPS Security Guards at the Road Home and issues with the Salt Lake City Police Force were discussed (such as police harassing people for small things while ignoring drug users, police not listening to women reporting rapes, etc).

Action items:

Meeting at Police Headquarters at 1700 on 22 June 2016. Fred and Bernie and Marita Hart attended.

John, Lauren and Fred to meet with Josh Scharman

Meet on Wednesday from 0830-0930 on 29 June 2016 at Police Headquarters

John to meet with Bernie about food for RGHC Lu'au

Frederick was elected Secretary/Treasurer

Andy to begin building a repertoire of podcasts

Happening now. Gloria red bear was interviewed

John, Lauren and Fred to speak to Camille Winnie about Clean Team jobs

Meeting is 6/27/2016 at Tuscan Brio Grille at noon

No new agenda items:

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
6/29/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded and prepared by Fred Lorenz

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President

Fred Lorenz, SLCMCC Secretary/Treasurer

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Assistant Secretary

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor

Lydell Dennison, road home resident

Richard Sander, road home resident

Kristina Eckley, road home resident

Leeroy Taito, road home resident

Bernie Hart, SLCMCC Member

Andy Cier, SLCMCC Member

Carlos Mateo, road home resident

Nikki, road home resident

Xander, road home resident

6/22/2016 Minutes read by Frederick Lorenz

Minutes accepted as read

Treasurer's report - \$17.00.

RGHC report:

John, Lauren and Fred met with Josh Scharman and Andrew Obald on 29 June 2016 at Police Headquarters. They presented the results of the meeting with the rest of the group, which generated a great deal of discussion. The need to educate homeless people to report crimes was mentioned and RGHC will take this issue up in their next meeting. The group briefly discussed renaming the Narcotics Anonymous group and Lydell and Richard solicited feedback from the group. Leeroy brought up the topic of the lu'au. He wishes to hold it at the end of July (although at least one member is trying to persuade him to hold it sooner due to the need to recruit more members into the RGHC club). Gloria brought up the topic of starting a business (deli and arts and crafts store). This interested several group members and will be discussed in further detail later (along with the idea of getting small business training). Also to be discussed at a future

date is Brigit's desire to hold classes for homeless (from Tuesday's meeting). Carlos brought up SLCC's Promise Program; further education for homeless should be discussed later and articles for The Community Voice should be written to educate our fellow homeless brothers and sisters about the opportunities available and to encourage them to seek those opportunities out.

Action items:

Fred is to contact Barbara Taylor about getting the \$17 treasury funds back. He will hopefully have some news before the next meeting (6 July 2016).

Fred and Carlos will meet with new social workers at their store front office on 29 June 2016

- Done.

Fred will attend HOST meeting between homeless and police on Thursday, 30 June at 1300. These meetings will be each Tuesday and Thursday at 1300.

Fred and Leeroy (and possibly SLCMCC) will pay for the lu'au. Leeroy will have the cost breakdown by next meeting (6 July 2016).

Gloria will create flyer for lu'au and Leeroy will create the banner. This will be done by 17 July 2016.

Fred and Carlos will work on an RGHC website. The time of completion is to be determined.

Carlos is going to try to schedule a meeting to talk with James Wolf from the Road Home before the next meeting (6 July 2016)

Andy to begin building a repertoire of podcasts

- Happening now. Andy will talk with Xander about his life story.

John, Lauren and Fred to speak to Camille Winnie about Clean Team jobs
- Meeting is 7/5/2016 at Tuscan Brio Grille at noon

No new agenda items: Salt Lake Marching and Chowder
Club Minutes 7/6/2016

Minutes recorded and prepared by Fred Lorenz

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President

Fred Lorenz, SLCMCC Secretary/Treasurer

Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Assistant Secretary

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor

Lydell Dennison, road home resident

Richard Sander, road home resident

Kristina Eckley, road home resident

Carlos Mateo, road home resident

Kathy Moreno, road home resident

Nikole MacDonald, road home resident

Brigitte Romoleros, road home resident

Paula Golesh, road home resident

Lyndsay Davie, road home resident

Martin Sanchez, road home resident

David Litvack, Salt Lake City Mayor's Office

Richard Goldberger, News Editor/Concerned Citizen

6/29/2016 Minutes read by Frederick Lorenz

Minutes accepted as read

Treasurer's report - \$17.00.

RGHC report:

John suggested Richard and Lydell should take the lead on the Guardians because they have experienced crime themselves and know how to respond to it (and thus can educate others on the process). Richard and Lydell will have a new name for the Narcotics Anonymous group before the next meeting (so Fred can print up business cards). Leeroy was not present at this meeting due to work. However, efforts will be made to contact him about the Lu'au and how our group can help him prepare for it. Gloria is picking out dancers and requested we make efforts to arrange our schedules so that we can do a run through before the actual event. Several members shared information obtained by meetings with the social workers at their store front office on 500 W 200 S, the HOST meeting and a meeting with Camille Winnie. Several victims of homeless-on-homeless crime (including theft, assault and rape) were brought in. The victims were questioned as to how their cases were handled by the police. Richard Goldberger, a concerned citizen, brought up several interesting suggestions such as setting up a victim's assistance taskforce in the Road Home and Library to assist victims of crimes in receiving their due benefits and closing down and repossessing "slumtels" (low-rate motels that typically harbor criminal activity) to use for housing the homeless, among other things. David Litvack from the Salt Lake City Mayor's office responded to Richard's suggestions. Gloria mentioned several interesting things, including talks with The Inn Between to provide hospice for the homeless, UTA providing monthly bus passes to our group and for the weak amongst us, like the blind, disabled, etc and that Andy will bring concert tickets.

Action items:

Barbara Taylor is to send a \$17 check to Fred (or John or Lauren) to recover the missing treasury funds.

Richard and Lydell will have a new name for the Narcotics Anonymous group before the first meeting on 11 July 2016 so that Fred can get business cards produced for the group.

Fred and Carlos will begin work on an RGHC website. We plan to have a start on it

before the next meeting (7/13/2016).

Fred will contact Leeroy (who was not present at today's meeting due to work) about how the RGHC can assist him on preparing for the Lu'au. Gloria will pick out some dancers.

The RGHC members will discuss what to issues to bring up to the Road Home leadership concerning conditions within, and crime occurring in, the Road Home. This will be done by Tuesday, 12 July 2016. Once this is accomplished, aggressive attempts will be made to contact Road Home leadership about these issues, via e-mail, phone or, as a last resort, media-covered protest outside the Road Home itself.

Andy, who was not present at today's meeting, plans to continue recording people's stories for his podcasts.

David Litvack, from the Salt Lake City Mayor's office, promised to contact the Office of Victims and Crime about Richard Goldberger's suggestion to set up victim assistance task forces in the Road Home and Library and get back to us. He is also going to provide us more information on nuisance abasement. Finally, he wishes to assist in facilitating conversation between the homeless and the police.

Gloria will contact Fred after receiving the UTA monthly bus passes for distribution.

No new agenda items:

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
7/13/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded and prepared by Fred Lorenz

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President
Fred Lorenz, SLCMCC Secretary/Treasurer
Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Assistant Secretary

Bernie Hart, SLCMCC Member
Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor
Lydell Dennison, road home resident

Richard Sander, road home resident
Carlos Mateo, road home resident
Leeroy Taito, road home resident
Nikole MacDonald, road home resident
Richard Goldberger, News Editor/Concerned Citizen and SLCMCC Member

7/6/2016 Minutes read by Frederick Lorenz

Minutes accepted as read

Treasurer's report - \$17.00

RGHC report:

The group discussed some possible topics for Bernie Hart, the new RGHC police liaison, to discuss at upcoming meetings with the police. The vice president is composing a written list of topics to pass along to Bernie. The RGHC members are responsible for trying to educate the homeless to report crime. The Homeless Against Narcotics meetings have moved to Thursdays at 1 PM. Fred, Richard and Lydell are to work on promoting the meetings (Fred was going to produce business cards and Richard and Lydell are making a flyer). Fred and Carlos have made a good start on the RGHC website and hope to have it completed soon. Leeroy was at the meeting and discussed what has been going on at the lu'au. It has been postponed until 31 July. Flyers have been made up and are being distributed in the community. The group discussed issues to bring up in a potential upcoming meeting with the Road Home leadership. The vice president will compose a list of topics to discuss with them and will schedule the meeting. Gloria mentioned that the bus passes might be available after 24 July. Fred mentioned that he might know a donor for a printer for the RGHC newsletter. Richard Goldberger, a concerned citizen, reiterated several interesting suggestions he had brought up in a prior meeting (on 7/6/2016) such as setting up a victim's assistance taskforce in the Road Home and Library to assist victims of crimes in receiving their due benefits (basically, setting up a victim's bill of rights) and closing down and repossessing "slumtels" (low-rate motels that typically harbor criminal activity) to use for housing the homeless. It was decided that the RGHC should bring this topic up. Richard Goldberger was to write up his thoughts (in a formal written statement) and the group was planning on signing the document. It was determined that we need a liaison to the mayor's office. Richard joined the SLCMCC. Some members of the group toured the 4th Street Clinic recently and received a very nice e-mail that reads as follows:

Dear Lauren -

Thank you so much for joining us this morning at the Fourth Street Community breakfast. We enjoyed hosting you and hope that you found the information and tour informative and inspiring. Please let us know if we can answer any additional questions you may have. We appreciate your interest, time and support.

Please give my thanks as well to your colleagues from the Chowder and Marching group. I hope that by learning more about what the Clinic provides, it will help your grassroots efforts and work with the homeless.

Warm regards,

Cindy

Lucinda L Kindred
Fourth Street Clinic
(801) 949-0241

Action items:

Fred will look into getting a donated printer for the RGHC's The Community Voice newsletter.

Done. Printer arrived 18 July 2016.

Gloria to attend the "Meet the Candidates" meeting put on by Urban Crossroads Center.

Done. Gloria will give a report on the event next meeting.

Fred, Richard and Lydell will begin aggressively promoting the Homeless Against Narcotics meeting that begin on Thursday at 1 PM at the Weigand Center.

Fred and Carlos will work on an RGHC website. They hope to have it finished before the next meeting (7/20/2016).

Leeroy will continue preparing for the lu'au and will contact the group if he needs any assistance. He will distribute the flyers to appropriate venues. Fred and Carlos will prepare a written statement telling about the RGHC, who they are, what we have done so far and what we plan to do. The statement will be read at the lu'au. They hope to have it done before the next meeting (7/20/2016) so the group can comment on it.

The RGHC members will discuss what to issues to bring up to the Road Home leadership concerning conditions within, and crime occurring in, the Road Home. This will be done by the next meeting (7/20/2016). Once this is accomplished, aggressive attempts will be made to contact Road Home leadership about these issues (by Carlos), via e-mail, phone or, as a last resort, media-covered protest outside the Road Home itself.

Andy, who was not present at today's meeting, plans to continue recording people's stories for his podcasts.

David Litvack, from the Salt Lake City Mayor's office, promised to contact the Office of Victims and Crime about Richard Goldberger's suggestion to set up victim assistance task forces in the Road Home and Library and get back to us. He is also going to provide us more information on nuisance abasement. Finally, he wishes to assist in facilitating conversation between the homeless and the police.

Gloria will contact Fred after receiving the UTA monthly bus passes for distribution. This won't happen until sometime after 24 July 2016.

The RGHC members will discuss topics that they wish the new police liaison Bernie Hart to discuss with police in upcoming meetings. This will be done by the next meeting (7/20/2016). Carlos will prepare a written list of topics to Bernie by the next meeting.

Related to the last point, the RGHC will discuss methods on how they themselves can educate the homeless to report crimes and develop a strategic plan on how to move forward with this. This will be done by the next meeting (7/20/2016).

Richard Goldberger will codify his thoughts in the form of a written statement and present it to the group for discussion and signing at the next meeting (7/20/2016).

The RGHC will discuss selecting a liaison to the mayor's office.

No new agenda items:

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
7/20/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded and prepared by Fred Lorenz

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President
Fred Lorenz, SLCMCC Secretary/Treasurer
Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Assistant Secretary
Bernie Hart, SLCMCC Member
Barbara Taylor, SLCMCC Member

Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor

Lydell Dennison, road home resident
Richard Sander, road home resident
Carlos Mateo, road home resident
Nikole MacDonald, road home resident
Emily Watson, road home resident

Ryan Klaus, road home resident

Xander Larucci, road home resident

Debra Atkinson, road home resident

Richard Goldberger, News Editor/Concerned Citizen and SLCMCC Member

Nate Salazar, Mayor's Office

Hildegard Koenig, Mayor's Office

7/13/2016 Minutes read by Frederick Lorenz

Minutes accepted as read

Treasurer's report - \$17.00

RGHC report:

At this meeting, we had two representatives from the mayor's office, Nate Salazar and Hildegard Koenig. They promised that one or both of them will be present at each future meeting. Due to their presence, several action items were tabled and we discussed a lot of incidents of homeless-on-homeless crime in the Road Home and a rape victim shared her story with us (incidentally, the man that raped her was arrested later that same day). John discussed an upcoming meeting with Dennis Kelsch from CCS about them declaring CCS a drug free zone. Several people suggested improvements that could be made at The Road Home. Richard Goldberger brought up several interesting comments, including that the city should create something like a refugee camp, where bums could set up tents and camp (spots outside of this refugee camp would be illegal for them to camp in), that The Road Home needs multiple layers of security (similar to airports), such as showing ID, having a reason to be there and following a code of conduct, and finally, he suggested we look into the example of the Black Muslims' community police force.

Action items:

Fred will help Carlos and Gloria get the new printer setup so they can start printing the newsletter before the next meeting (7/27/2016).

Gloria and Carlos (and perhaps other members) will attend the police meeting at the Sorenson Center on 21 July 2016 and give us a report on what went on. They will also attend several other important meetings in the coming weeks (including one with Dennis

Kelsch from CCS on 22 July 2016 to encourage them to declare CCS a drug free zone).

Fred, Richard and Lydell will begin aggressively promoting the Homeless Against Narcotics meeting that begin on Thursday at 1 PM at the Weigand Center.

Fred will continue to work on an RGHC website. He will solicit feedback on the website at the next RGHC meeting (7/26/2016) and hopes to have it closer to completion by the next SLCMCC meeting (7/27/2016).

Leeroy will continue preparing for the lu'au and will contact the group if he needs any assistance. He will distribute the flyers to appropriate venues. Gloria and Leeroy will prepare a written statement telling about the RGHC, who they are, what we have done so far and what we plan to do. The statement will be read at the lu'au. They hope to have it done before the next meeting (7/27/2016) so the group can comment on it.

The RGHC members will discuss what to issues to bring up to the Road Home leadership concerning conditions within, and crime occurring in, the Road Home. This will be done by the next meeting (7/27/2016). Once this is accomplished, aggressive attempts will be made to contact Road Home leadership about these issues (by Fred), via e-mail, phone or, as a last resort, media-covered protest outside the Road Home itself.

Andy, who was not present at today's meeting, plans to continue recording people's stories for his podcasts.

David Litvack, from the Salt Lake City Mayor's office, promised to contact the Office of Victims and Crime about Richard Goldberger's suggestion to set up victim assistance task forces in the Road Home and Library and get back to us. He is also going to provide us more information on nuisance abasement. Finally, he wishes to assist in facilitating conversation between the homeless and the police. SLCMCC will interrogate Nate and Hildegard as to how this is coming along.

Gloria will contact Fred after receiving the UTA monthly bus passes for distribution. This won't happen until sometime after 24 July 2016.

The RGHC members will discuss topics that they wish the new police liaison Bernie Hart to discuss with police in upcoming meetings. This is a continuing action item that will be brought up at each meeting.

Related to the last point, the RGHC will discuss methods on how they themselves can educate the homeless to report crimes and develop a strategic plan on how to move forward with this. This will be done by the next meeting (7/27/2016).

Richard Goldberger codified his thoughts (on slumtels) in the form of a written motion. He will present it to the group for discussion and signing at the next meeting (7/27/2016).

No new agenda items:

Minutes recorded and prepared by Fred Lorenz

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President
Fred Lorenz, SLCMCC Secretary/Treasurer
Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Assistant Secretary
Bernie Hart, SLCMCC Member
Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor
Carlos Mateo, road home resident
Kristina Eckley, road home resident

Nikole MacDonald, road home resident
Emily Watson, road home resident
Ryan Klaus, road home resident

Helen(?) Bowers, road home resident

Brandy Lytle(?), road home resident

Lealynn(?) Carlson, road home resident
Richard Goldberger, News Editor/Concerned Citizen and SLCMCC Member

7/20/2016 Minutes read by Frederick Lorenz

Minutes accepted as read

Treasurer's report - \$17.00

RGHC report:

Neither Nate Salazar nor Hildegard Koenig showed up to today's meeting. The SLCMCC expressed its great disappointment in their failure to show up. The RGHC printer still has not been setup but Fred and Carlos hope to have it done by Thursday, 28 July 2016. The group discussed The Guidelines for the Peaceful Resolution of Internal Conflict. There was much debate and the idea was tabled until the next RGHC meeting on 2 August 2016. John and Lauren discussed what occurred at the Sorenson Unity Center meeting and the meeting with Dennis Kelsch. In regards to the Sorenson meeting, Lauren said that Hildegard mentioned having a similar meeting at a closer venue that was easier for the homeless to get to. A number of further homeless-on-homeless crime, Road Home and police issues were discussed. Bernie agreed to try to contact The Road Home leadership to set up a meeting between them and us. It was determined that the Homeless Against Narcotics meeting needs better advertisement and the leaders of that program would see that it gets better exposure for its second meeting. Fred updated us on the progress being made on the RGHC website.

Action items:

Fred will help Carlos and Gloria get the new printer setup so they can start printing the newsletter before the next meeting (8/3/2016).

Fred, Richard and Lydell will begin aggressively promoting the Homeless Against Narcotics meeting.

Fred will continue to work on an RGHC website. He hopes to have it closer to completion by the next SLCMCC meeting (8/3/2016).

Gloria and Leeroy will provide us with a report on how the lu'au went.

Bernie will attempt to contact The Road Home leadership to set up a meeting for us.

Andy, who was not present at today's meeting, plans to continue recording people's stories for his podcasts.

David Litvack, from the Salt Lake City Mayor's office, promised to contact the Office of Victims and Crime about Richard Goldberger's suggestion to set up victim assistance task forces in the Road Home and Library and get back to us. He is also going to provide us more information on nuisance abasement. Finally, he wishes to assist in facilitating conversation between the homeless and the police. SLCMCC will interrogate Nate and Hildegard as to how this is coming along.

Gloria will contact Fred after receiving the UTA monthly bus passes for distribution.

The RGHC members will discuss topics that they wish the new police liaison Bernie Hart to discuss with police in upcoming meetings. This is a continuing action item that will be brought up at each meeting.

Related to the last point, the RGHC will discuss methods on how they themselves can educate the homeless to report crimes and develop a strategic plan on how to move forward with this.

Richard Goldberger codified his thoughts (on slumtels) in the form of a written motion. Our group will sign it at the next meeting (8/3/2016).

Fred will get in contact with Bernie about forming a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

No new agenda items:

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
8/3/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded and prepared by Fred Lorenz

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President
Fred Lorenz, SLCMCC Secretary/Treasurer

Audrey Lorenz
Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Assistant Secretary
Bernie Hart, SLCMCC Member
Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor

Martin Sanchez, road home resident

Kathy Moreno, road home resident
Carlos Mateo, road home resident
Richard Goldberger, News Editor/Concerned Citizen and SLCMCC Member

Brian Watson, road home resident

Willy, road home resident

Willy's sister (Nora Singh?), road home resident

Monica Mason, Road Home employee

Mike Young, Road Home employee

Hildegard Koenig, SLC mayor's office

Moana Uluave, SLC mayor's office

Andy Cier

7/27/2016 Minutes read by Frederick Lorenz

Minutes accepted as read

Treasurer's report - \$17.00

RGHC report:

The newsletter was discussed. Specific mention was made of designing and printing it on our own. Carlos suggested moving the printer to the HOST office at the Community Connection Center (which has been done). It appears that Richard and Lydell are leaving the club, so it was briefly discussed what to do with the Narcotics Anonymous material that had been purchased for the meetings. It was decided to hang onto the materials in case another opportunity comes up to run the meeting under a different group leader. Fred continues to work on the website and finished posting a large amount of homeless resources. The lu'au was briefly brought up and it was decided to wait until Tuesday's meeting to discuss the lessons learned and future recruitment efforts. Carlos

invited some Road Home employees to come to our Wednesday meeting. We expressed some of our concerns to them and asked about the proper way to file complaints at the Road Home. We expressed our interest in speaking to a high level representative like James Woolf as opposed to voicing our complaints through intermediaries. Mike and Monica expressed interest in coming to our Tuesday RGHC meeting. We discovered through Hildegard that David Litvack contacted Richard Goldberger about his ideas, specifically the slumtels. Evidently the mayor's office and health department are looking into the matter. Hildegard also mentioned that Wendy Isim, a victim advocate at the mayor's office, will help victims of crime. John announced a new committee to write the RGHC bylaws in preparation for starting a non-profit, to be headed by Fred.

Action items:

Fred will help Carlos and Gloria get the new printer setup so they can start printing the newsletter before the next meeting (8/10/2016).

Done. Brian and Carlos got printer working. Printing of newsletter should begin soon.

Fred will continue to work on an RGHC website. He hopes to have it closer to completion by the next SLCMCC meeting (8/10/2016).

Fred plans to verify and homeless resource information currently on the website and post new material by the SLCMCC meeting on 17 August 2016. He also will update certain sections, like The Guardians program, as he begins thinking about and writing the organization's bylaws. He removed the link to The Homeless Experience program due to an issue brought up by Chris Croswhite from the Men's Rescue Mission.

RGHC members will discuss the lessons learned from the lu'au and talk about future recruitment efforts at Tuesday's RGHC meeting (8/9/2016).

Bernie will attempt to contact The Road Home leadership to set up a meeting for us.

Temporarily tabled now that we have Road Home representatives at our meetings. Carlos will prepare a list of items we (the members of the RGHC) wish the Road Home to address for our representatives if they cannot schedule a meeting between us and the Road Home leadership (James Woolf in particular). The RGHC wishes to discuss these items with a meaningful representative of the Road Home and, if the leadership expresses disinterest in correcting these matters, the RGHC will consider further actions.

Fred will bring up the "drug dog" idea with our Road Home representatives.

Andy plans to continue recording people's stories for his podcasts.

Carlos will tell his story on or shortly after the next SLCMCC meeting (8/10/2016).

David Litvack, from the Salt Lake City Mayor's office, promised to contact the Office of Victims and Crime about Richard Goldberger's suggestion to set up victim assistance task forces in the Road Home and Library and get back to us. He is also going to provide us more information on nuisance abasement. Finally, he wishes to assist in facilitating conversation between the homeless and the police. SLCMCC will interrogate Nate and Hildegard as to how this is coming along.

Hildegard is to let us know when David Litvack plans to return to our meeting.
Wendy Isim is supposed to come to our next SLCMCC meeting (8/10/2016).

The RGHC members will discuss topics that they wish the new police liaison Bernie Hart to discuss with police in upcoming meetings. This is a continuing action item that will be brought up at each meeting.

John suggested that we may want to use HOST to contact the police given our new relationship with the CCC office.

Related to the last point, the RGHC will discuss methods on how they themselves can educate the homeless to report crimes and develop a strategic plan on how to move forward with this.

Tabled; to be discussed at a future RGHC meeting.

Fred will get in contact with Bernie about forming a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Fred is in the process of doing research and will soon begin writing the bylaws to bring before the group for a vote at a future meeting.

No new agenda items:

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club
8/10/2016

Minutes

Minutes recorded and prepared by Fred Lorenz

Attendees:

John Shannon, SLCMCC President
Fred Lorenz, SLCMCC Secretary/Treasurer
Lauren Smith, SLCMCC Assistant Secretary
Gloria Red Bear, Community Voice editor
Martin Sanchez, road home resident
Carlos Mateo, road home resident
Richard Goldberger, News Editor/Concerned Citizen and SLCMCC Member
Brian Watson, road home resident
Brigitte Romoleroux, road home resident
Paula Golesh, road home resident
Nikole MacDonald, road home resident
Lealynn, road home resident
Monica Mason, Road Home employee
Mike Young, Road Home employee
Hildegard Koenig, SLC mayor's office
Wendy Isim, Victim Advocate SLCPD
Lana Dalton, Social Work Manager SLCPD
Andy Cier

8/3/2016 Minutes read by Frederick Lorenz

Minutes accepted as read

Treasurer's report - \$17.00

RGHC report:

Fred announced that he will be pursuing his intentional community idea on his own. He has picked up a number of hours at work in order to save money to achieve this goal, and, as a result, he is cutting back on his commitments to the RGHC and SLCMCC clubs. He announced his resignation as treasurer and secretary of the SLCMCC and as secretary of the RGHC and surrendered the SLCMCC treasury funds to Lauren. The printer has been setup and copies of the latest edition of the newsletter have begun coming off the presses. Fred gave a brief update on the work being done on the website. Our Road Home representatives were present to discuss a few points in a list of issues that had been e-mailed to them prior to the meeting. Mike and Monica told us to contact Benita Flores to schedule a meeting with her to discuss our issues. Wendy Isim was present to tell us about her role as victim advocate of the SLCPD. She relayed valuable information on benefits available to a victim. She talked with Richard Goldberger about a few of his concerns related to a victim's bill of rights. Richard was also able to discuss his tent city idea with Hildegard.

Action items:

Carlos will ensure that the next newsletter is put together in a timely manner and distributed to locations frequented by the homeless.

Fred will continue to work on an RGHC website. He hopes to have verified existing (as well as added new) information to the homeless resources section by the next SLCMCC

meeting (8/17/2016).

RGHC members will discuss the lessons learned from the lu'au and talk about future recruitment efforts at Tuesday's RGHC meeting (8/16/2016). If it does not get completed then, it really ought to be discussed in the SLCMCC meeting, given its importance to the future of the club.

We will bring up new, as well as revisit old, issues concerning the Road Home with our Road Home representatives. We will schedule a meeting with Benita Flores as well.

Andy plans to continue recording people's stories for his podcasts.

- He will record Carlos' story by the next SLCMCC meeting (8/17/2016).

David Litvack, from the Salt Lake City Mayor's office, promised to contact the Office of Victims and Crime about Richard Goldberger's suggestion to set up victim assistance task forces in the Road Home and Library and get back to us. He is also going to provide us more information on nuisance abasement. Finally, he wishes to assist in facilitating conversation between the homeless and the police. SLCMCC will interrogate Nate and Hildegard as to how this is coming along.

- Hildegard is to let us know when David Litvack plans to return to our meeting.

Richard Goldberger will commit his ideas to writing to present to the Road Home (secure zone around and in the Road Home, to combat drugs and crime), the mayor's office (tent city, slumtels) and the SLCPD's victim's advocate (a victim's bill of rights).

No new agenda items:

Recess 8/3/2016 through 2/7/2017

Minutes

Marching and Chowder 02/07/17

Present: Dr. John Shannon, President, Lauren Smith, Vice President, Nancy Freeman, Secretary

Bernie and Marita Hart, Tai Chi instructors

Special Guest: Peter Corroon, past mayor of Salt Lake City

General Topic: Solutions to Homelessness

John stated the Rio Grande Community is a community, though a dysfunctional one.

All were in agreement. John led the discussion by identifying the paternalistic attitude

many take towards the homeless themselves and would like to see the homeless take more

initiative in creating solutions. The issue of an approach to a housing solution was addressed by

Peter who stated in Portland the placing of persons from a shelter into apartments had an 80%

success rate. He endorsed Bernie and Marita's efforts to introduce Tai Chi to the homeless as

Bernie explained how the discipline necessitates thought patterns resulting in movement.

All were hopeful this movement would be in a positive constructive manner. Nancy

commented the health and appearance of participants for the most part has improved

Peter was pleased the Housing Authority and employees at the Emergency side of the

Road Home are addressing placement of homeless individuals and Nancy confirmed progress is

being made, surprisingly more rapidly than one may think. Peter reminded the group that the

Sunrise Manor and other property management sites are screening applicants and actively

taking applications.

Bernie would like to work more closely with persons who frequent the Wiegand Center

to arrange community service with the intention of dissolving warrants.

It was noted however that panhandling in the area has nearly been eradicated and the illegal sales of stolen

bicycles parts seems to have disappeared from the Library site. Bravo to Bernie and Marita!

Discussions on possible sites included the facility across from Deseret Industries Clothing Store

and the topic of decentralization was raised once again. Four smaller, newer facilities are under consideration with mandatory services offered by trained professionals in the Wiegand Center..

Feedback from the residents of the Road Home was not supportive of the Sugarland site due to the

displacement of one hundred fifty pre-registered pre-school students parented by local homeowners.

Minutes SALT LAKE MARCHING AND CHOWDER CLUB 02/14/17

John: What is the underlying cause of homelessness?

Nancy: Poverty

John: This is correct. There are sub factors: drug abuse, personality problems like stealing.

Nancy: Let's focus on solutions. May I reiterate what ex-mayor Caroom said. In Portland 80% of

homeless related problems disappeared when housing was established.

John: How can the homeless help themselves?

Nancy: By working. Some members of the homeless community are making less than \$3.00/hr for street clean-up.

Lauren: We should advocate for that wage go up. What is minimum wage?

Nancy: Ten dollars hourly.

Other matters:

Free flu shots at the Road Home?

A police officer who Nancy spoke with indicated that a full time security guard on site at the Road Home would be an asset. SLCMCC members were in agreement.

Cameras should be on at all times and footage should be readily available for SLCPD.

If future facilities go ahead as planned, all staff should be trained social workers or students of social work

Future invitees to Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club:

Dennis Kelsch and/or

Matt Melville

Judge Baxter

John: It would be nice to see The Community Voice back

Nancy: I would like to know when do we march and where's the chowder? (Laughter)
Maybe we could

have a march with a five dollar fee and provide corn and clam chowder afterwards. Great response.

Homeless awareness rocks, in the meantime we could take a suggestion from John and consider marching in the St Paddy's Day parade again this year.

Minutes from Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club

02/24/17

Present: John Shannon M.D. president. Lauren Smith , BSCi, VP, Nancy Freeman BEd secretary

Regrets were received from Mat Minkovitch who sent word via Jeannemarie that he had a more compelling agenda as did Pam Atkinson. Jeannemarie reminded us of Helen Keller's quote:

"Together we can do much but alone so little."

Nancy: Ten women are interested in forming a Womens' Circle of residents. Jeff has been unable to assign a room. The Wiegand Center will be approached.

Lauren. They have been co-operative in the past.

John: I'm concerned about the Mayor Jackie Biskupski's reversal of the Simpson Ave, purchase and the refusal of interest the 600 St. S property.

Nancy: I can see where residents , more specifically homeowners would be upset as the behaviour on the street is appalling. Drugs are openly smoked and the filth is unbelievable. More signage, eg. NO TRESPASSING< NO CAMPING< NO LOITERING would be helpful .

John: What wasn't helpful in Portland was an increase in sentencing to create possession of small amounts of marijuana to a felony which could result in a sentence of twenty years.

Lauren: Has someone looked into the signs for St. Patrick's Day?

John: I was hoping the homeless would do that themselves, Leroy possibly. He has participated in the past. We once met in two other locations where numbers were huge and the crowd was unruly. This new setting is working out well.

Lauren: Is something else in the planning?

John: Marita and Bernie are having a potluck but won't be in the Parade this year. They will expect a cash donation with our presence.

Furthermore, I have a vision where the homeless will accept more responsibility and contribute to the well being of their community.

Nancy: this is occurring. Wages for the Green team seem acceptable. Street cleaning is continuing as part of President Donald Trump's initiative. The police have addressed matters on the Street by St. Vincent's three times since we last met. The bicycle patrols and security foot patrols have been discontinued.

All were in agreement it would be nice to see them back.

John: we must encourage requests be made by greater numbers which should then produce more effective results. Let's hope Jackie Biskupski will join us soon. Future invitations should be restricted to Tuesday luncheons. This Friday was an accommodation to Matt Minkovitch and still he didn't show up.

Nancy: This over accommodating has proven unsuccessful with other organizations. Tuesdays it shall be.

Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club Minutes

2/28/17

Club Officers Present: John Shannon MD. President Lauren Smith BSC., VP, Nancy Freeman B.ED, secretary Guest: PCato No regrets from Mr. Iverson

John: Poverty is the root of the problem along Rio Grande St, not drug dealing. How do we combat it? We are inviting the power people but they are not responding.

Nancy: Create jobs. The Trump initiative has a Green Team street cleaning and hires the homeless. This is a positive start. With the recent war effort opportunities lie with the military. President Bush spent a lot of money on the war effort. Perhaps President Trump will address job creation.

John: I fear his administration will neglect the working class: the man for example who works two jobs then loses one.

Nancy: The Wiegand Center and the Road Home provide a safety net. If we feel there is economic neglect in an area it is our duty to write President Trump and ask for his assistance.

John: The communists addressed poverty successfully and they were a small group when they started.

Cato: This small group should follow this example and could experience the same success.

Lauren: What should I do with Hannah's contact?

Nancy: Hannah is the volunteer coordinator for the Road Home and wants your photo from the St. Patrick's Day Parade emailed so she can trace the posters.

John: Too many actions produce few results.

Cato: Staff are perpetuating poverty to protect their own jobs. Nancy It seems that way

sometimes, but we must pause when we meet failure then take the next step forward, rather like a rock climber.

Cato: We get poor results because we don't approach persons with power with clear objectives.

Nancy: We have affected homeless on homeless crime. I counted only eighteen people on the street yesterday. Two incidents of theft were resolved in the Road Home Saturday night by SLPD. Cameras in the women's dorm have been turned on, resulting in improvement. This group has had a positive impact.

John: I still wish to see more homeless helping themselves and wonder if this is possible.

Perhaps you both can apply for a 501C3 and start a non-profit. (All agreed.)

John" Please contact Gloria re: the parade. I'll cover the entry fee if we get a good response.

Minutes for Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder 3/7/17

Officers present: John Shannon MD, President, Lauren Smith BSC., Vice president, Nancy Freeman B Ed Secretary Guest : P Cato

Topic : Poverty is the root of homelessness, not necessarily drug abuse. How can we impact Poverty and thus positively influence the Rio Grande area?

P Cato: Why not invite more persons with power.

Nancy: This is continuing. We are working through John's list and requesting RSVP's so we have a new guest with each meeting.

John: Parliament is out . I would especially like to see Pamela Atkinson.

Lauren: Have the posters for the St. Patrick's Day March been located?

Nancy: Dennis K. indicated they are at the Community Connection center.

John: I wonder if crimes, eg. rape are addressed the same way in the Avenues.

Nancy: Possibly not. We should all pay our taxes.

John: A prestigious address seems to be held in high regard by the police . Why is this?

Nancy: Possibly because they pay higher taxes.

John: I would like to see the homeless empowered. Uniting, organizing and having a strong leader would assist with this empowerment. The Tai Chi group has had such a positive effect. The Tribune gave this group front page coverage and I would like to see this go national.

Nancy: I'll contact U.S.A.Ttoday.

John: Time is of the essence with the parade. I will pay the entry but would like to see fifteen participants. What will we advertise if we start anew with posters.

Nancy: Perhaps a lemon poster with Homeless Awareness Keep section 8: Don't squeeze us out!

Another lighthearted message such as Happy St. Patrick's Day would be fun.

John: We must decide by next Tuesday or wait for the Gay parade in July.

All were in agreement.

P Cato: I would like to see some landlords invited. How does Habitat for Humanity work.

Nancy: The senator holds a public meeting. Applications are passed out. Volunteer work hours in construction are recorded and the person with the greatest contribution gets the house. In my case a \$52000,00 requirement was requested in New Mexico. I could not meet this. A mortgage is set up. I'm not sure about a down payment. I should have continued negotiating.

Nancy: I have looked into a business share for Tai Chi etc. and will provide and address on this and a possible renovation project for a rooming house which could be renovated.

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Club Minutes

Present: John Shannon M.D., President

Lauren Smith B.Sc. Vice president

Nancy Freeman, B.ED. Secretary

Paul Cato: guest

3/21/17

John: Continuing last week's discussion, we established poverty is the underlying factor of homelessness. While 28% of the

population have drug issues requiring treatment, most need housing and I ask you, what do they all need?

Nancy: Money and support.

John: I can always rely on you to answer! Yes, monetary support. Be specific.

Lauren: A coffee wagon, perhaps a taco stand.

John: Yes, not everyone can hold a job.

Nancy: Some women are crafters. I have seen three women other than myself knit and crochet neck warmers and scarves.

Paul: I would like to establish an affordable residence and am studying business.

Nancy: I have explored a studio which could be shared by three of the tai Chi participants. One feels it is a legal risk. I

disagree. Another, a ballet dancer in transition has yet to contribute his view. We need more information. I'll continue to

look into this.

John: I want the power people to come and talk to us. They have money and position and may have something to

contribute.

Lauren: Employment is part of the solution, but there are children to consider as well.

John: What do you think of the decentralization plan?

Nancy: I like it. The neighbors will be positive role models. More signs are needed in the vicinities. It would give the Gateway

a chance to flourish.

NO TRESPASSING, NO LOITERING. VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED. It works for apartment buildings. It could work for the

shelters.

John: Do we need more police. Nancy: I think so. There was not much attention to the Rio Grande Area during the winter

and now the bicycle officers are out. They could be a little more regular if there were more. Yesterday there was a sheriff

and two police cars. The camping and loitering has been reduced.

A staff member, Sasha pointed out it is not a bad shelter. We have workforce Connection, Case managers and narcotics

anonymous circles. San Francisco has serious problems, burning homeless people while they sleep.

Nancy: In Santa Fe, high school students kicked two homeless men to death. We do

have a terrible situation on the sidewalk, however.

John: Will the wall help?

Nancy: I think not. Save the money and push on the new facilities. The infestation is problematic and the facility has many

issues. It would help to move away from the Gateway Mall to a neighborhood where people do regular things: raise

families, garden, shop for groceries and so on

Nancy: It seems the wall stemmed from a singular traffic violation, a car running into the TRAX stop.

John: Let's push on the invitations and resume next week.

No meeting this week 3/28/2017

Salt Lake Marching and Chowder Mniutes: 5/2/17

Present: John Shannon M.D. President Lauren Smith, Vice President, Nancy Freeman, secretary

Paul Cato, guest

Discussion Topic: What is the reason behind the poverty on Rio grande, especially in light of the recent

rapid rehousing movement. John suggested further discussion on this topic.

Nancy: Perhaps the success of Salt lake's program was spread to other states and out of stste persons

became interested thinking they would be shortlisted and housed quickly.

Lauren: How many of the Road Home's residents are from out of state?

Nancy: According to a survey done approximately two years ago and posted at the Methodist Church i/2

The guests are not long term Utah residents.

John: More recent statistics show most, likely two thirds have resided in Utah one year or more.

Paul: peple ask me why I don't work but work is not possible or for everyone.Work is not

the only answer.

Lauren: Work would improve conditions for most and increase their feelings of self worth. I would like to see

the Road Home residents lift their spirits and hope to make the women guests feel more positive about their

potential. Women may have some answers if we could rally.

Nancy: We ran into a bit too much red tape trying to start a women's circle. Just as problems unsolved

cause feelings of frustration and may lead to depression, hopefully this is not the end result. We have to

pause then continue taking positive constructive steps.

All were in agreement. Comments seemed to support the idea that problem solving in this manner could be

expedited by networking. Homeless helping homeless is preferred to homeless on homeless crime.

Lauren: Doubling up our efforts and networking are positive routes to bringing about positive change for

individuals and the community as a whole.

John: Now it's time for a question. What is needed to assist with generally improving the area?

Comments revolved around better management of the facilities and it was recognized that a previous guest,

Matt Minkovitch, was accountable for fundraising and details were not always released to the public or

necessarily their concern.

John: We have a concern as nearby residents. We would like to see the sidewalk dwelling population

minimized or eliminated.. I feel panhandling is not such a bad thing as individuals who can donate increase

their own feeling of well being having been able to help someone else.

John: Do you know what the financial projection is for the cost of three new Shelters?

Nancy: Twenty-one million.

John: Correct.

Nancy: There must be alternatives.

Paul: if we are able to take over the title of an abandoned house, I would like to see your friend, who had a

cleaning business in California collaborate with us.

The meeting concluded with an invitation to attend the Pioneer Park Coalition's meeting at 30 S. Rio grande

at 3:30 and the city Councils' open meeting this evening at 7 p.m.

Next week we hope several guests will respond as after next week we will adjourn for several weeks.

Salt Lake City Marching and Chowder Club Minutes 5/9/17

President: John Shannon, President Lauren Smith, Vice-President Nancy Freeman, Secretary

Guest: Paul Cato

John Shannon has announced his retirement. Members of the executive and our guest were disappointed but respect his choice

and hope to stay in touch. A future lunch with Fred, a former member who has relocated to Alaska will hopefully bring us

together. Progress over the last six months has been recognized. Leadership has indeed emerged as Gloria ran The Voice, our

newspaper, Brian organized the Underprivileged Alliance. Carlos was remembered by John for his efforts to start a group.

Bernie and Marita have successfully established Understanding Us with Tai Chi and a ski club. Eight participants now have full

time employment one has part time and and is now a student. Another, Frieda has gone on to take advanced Tai Chi classes

with her daughter, Lupe. Paul Cato is considering the concept of homeownership with tenants. It was recognized that that

becoming a student would establish an income and raise one's financial credibility.

The approved and improved co-operation of the police department regarding to offences along the Rio Grande and in the Road

Home should also be recognized.

John: Many citizens at large are afraid of the homeless. I have learned a lot from this experience . Let's leave Gloria be and

move on to new talents.

Paul: She's no longer homeless.

Nancy: We enjoy your leadership , John,and hope you take a two week vacation then reconsider returning. I'll look for Gloria next

week. She just won a settlement and may return after a break.

John: I'm tired and want to shift the focus from this two year look at poverty begin some study.

Lauren: You have done a lot. Your contribution is greater than you realize. We have learned how to avoid group cross talk.

Nancy: In response to your question, John,,Brian appears at the library His group focused on staff misbehavior and was hoping

for change. The focus shifted to co-operation: now he's trying to raise money.

John: I still would like to see more homeless helping homeless. Poverty is the problem. Drugs and mental illness are merely

components. Let's look at the concept of homelessness as a culture.

Nancy: That scares me. We have to do certain things to receive food, clothing and shelter. Then we may watch a movie , but I

want to exceed this lifestyle and become self sufficient. Components of culture are good, jewelry making, cooking etc.(Gardening

came up at an earlier meeting.)

Paul: I'll go along with that. People should be the change they want to see.

John: I'm very disappointed that more city leaders didn't show up. I miss getting together with Mayor Jackie. She's so

entertaining. There are members of the homeless population who don't want change. We could round everyone up and establish

a tent city, but no one wants to live near it. I think the Gateway is making a comeback just

the same..

Nancy: You have made so many positive contributions . We have yet to live up to your ideas.

Lauren; We've had positive responses from David Carum, Matt Minkevicth, and others.

John; I enjoyed your invitations, Nancy.

Nancy: Thank-you.

John: The Native American, interesting. Membership is one dollar annually. (Nancy paid up.)

It was suggested the club may resume under a new name with the concept of a going Dutch. In other words each person would

pay for their own.