

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

Meeting Minutes September 18th, 2008

<i>Bob Duranleau</i>	City of Portland, Health & Human Services Department, Social Services Division
<i>Mark Swann</i>	Preble Street
<i>Cindi Maule</i>	Frannie Peabody Center
<i>Jeff Tardif</i>	City of Portland, Health & Human Services Department, Social Services Division, Family Shelter
<i>Kimberly Curry</i>	United Way of Greater Portland
<i>Alex Thorn</i>	City of Portland, Health & Human Services Dept, Public Health Div, Healthcare for the Homeless
<i>Nancy Berg</i>	2-1-1 Maine
<i>Kyra Walker</i>	Shalom House, Inc.
<i>Joe Meyers</i>	Citizen
<i>Steve Huston</i>	Homeless Voices for Justice
<i>Dee Clark</i>	Preble Street Homeless Voices for Justice
<i>Meg Ward</i>	MAPS Shelter Services
<i>Silver Shea</i>	Family Crisis Services
<i>Donna Yellen</i>	Preble Street Homeless Voices for Justice
<i>Amy Regan</i>	Preble Street Homeless Voices for Justice
<i>Maureen Clancy</i>	Mercy Hospital
<i>Cullen Ryan</i>	Community Housing of Maine (CHOM)
<i>Doug Gardner</i>	City of Portland, Health & Human Services Department
<i>Josh O'Brien</i>	City of Portland, Health & Human Services Dept, Social Services Div, Oxford Street Shelter for Men
<i>Kathy Pratt</i>	Maine Department of Health & Human Services
<i>Cindy Namer</i>	Maine Housing
<i>Joe Everett</i>	Youth Alternatives Ingraham, Inc.
<i>Teyonda Hall</i>	PROP
<i>Cliff Marchant</i>	City of Portland, Health & Human Services Department, Social Services Division
<i>Adriene Whitakes</i>	Maine Department of Health & Human Services, Center for Disease Control
<i>Raenae Moore</i>	PROP

I. Introductions

Robert Duranleau, ESAC Tri-Chair, welcomed everyone and brief introductions were made.

II. August Shelter Bed Usage Statistics – Bob Duranleau

Bob reviewed the monthly shelter statistics for July 2008:

	<u>August 2007</u>	<u>August 2008</u>
Adolescents	10 Individuals	8 Individuals
Adults	235 Individuals	225 Individuals
Families	<u>57 Individuals (23 Families)</u>	<u>61 Individuals (24 Families)</u>
Total	302 Individuals	294 Individuals

Adolescent Shelter

The total adolescent bed nights for August 2007 were 307 while the total bed nights for August 2008 were 256. These figures indicate a decrease of 51 bed nights, or 7% between August 2007 and August 2008.

Effective the evening of September 18th, Preble Street Lighthouse Shelter will begin serving young women up to the age of 21. Under new licensing, the Shelter is able to serve the young adult population. They plan to ease into this change by slowly rolling out additional services/programs in a gradual manner, beginning with women up to 21 years old.

Adult Shelters

Adult Shelter bed nights usage decreased by 4% in August 2008 compared to August 2007. Total bed night usage during August 2007 was 7285 while it was 6960 during August 2008, a difference of 325 bed nights.

During the month of August, there were 121 intakes at the Oxford Street Shelter for Men. An Intake or New Arrival is defined as an individual that has not stayed at the Shelter for a period of three (3) months or longer.

Oxford Street Shelter for Men Support Services team placed 32 individuals into permanent housing, with three (3) of those individuals returning to the shelter within 90 days of housing placement.

Preble Street Women's Shelter served a total of 122 women during the month of August, including 32 new intakes. The Shelter placed five (5) individuals into housing, with one (1) woman returning.

Shelter usage among the adult population remains consistent.

Family Shelters

There was a total of 1891 bed nights used for all Family Shelters in August 2008 as compared to 1763 bed nights in August 2007. This represents an increase of 7% in Family Shelter bed usage between August 2007 and August 2008.

The Family Shelter received 23 new families (intakes) for a total of 78 individuals in August.

III. HUD Continuum of Care Update – Bob Duranleau

Bob distributed the Continuum of Care rankings for 2008. He also announced that HUD has extended the grant deadline to accommodate for technical issues and power outages associated with hurricanes along the Gulf and Florida coasts. The new deadline is October 16, 2008, although the Portland Continuum of Care still plans to submit their application prior to the deadline.

Bob also announced the next CoC meeting, which is a work session with grant consultant Anne Gass. The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 24th at 8:30am in the Refugee Services Conference Area at 190 Lancaster Street.

IV. Shelter Directors Meeting Regarding Housing/Shelter Options for Registered Sex Offenders - Doug Gardner

Doug reported that a meeting was held on September 4th and that the next step is to meet with the ESAC sub-committee regarding shelter options for registered sex offenders. Based on the information that has been obtained thus far, there is believed to be a relatively low number of individuals affected. Also, there were questions surrounding the role General Assistance could play in assisting registered sex offenders obtain and maintain housing. This is something that will also be discussed in the follow meeting with the ESAC sub-committee. Doug will report back after the sub-committee has met.

V. *Economic Stimulus Rebate Checks – Homeless Outreach – Bob Duranleau*

Bob informed the group that Aaron Geyer is still working with homeless individuals to assist them with completing the necessary form to receive their stimulus checks. To date, 43 people have applied. This outreach will continue up to the IRS deadline of October 15th.

VI. *Unsheltered Outreach Activities – Josh O’Brien & Amy Regan*

Josh informed the group that they have been visiting known camps in the area as well as trying new locations in order to provide outreach to those individuals not residing in shelters. Steve Huston stated that those individuals utilizing campsites are being forced to move due to police involvement and violence against the homeless. Steve offered to assist with locating the new sites. At this time, Josh stated they found approximately six active campsites that appear to be used more as day locations and during the last two rounds they have found no new sites.

Amy reported on the Preble Street Homeless Voter Registration campaign, stating they registered two additional voters during their last outreach activities. The goal is to register a total of 200 voters. She also announced that Preble Street will be hosting Maine Candidate Forums at the Wayside Soup Kitchen from 9:30-10:30am on the following dates: September 30th (City Council), October 6th (Congressional race), and October 15th (Legislative race).

VII. *Other Business*

Bob asked if the next ESAC meeting could be moved from October 16th to October 23rd. The group agreed and the next ESAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 23rd at 190 Lancaster Street.

Bob also informed the group that MAPS Shelter Services (formerly My Choice) will be added to the monthly shelter statistics reviewed at ESAC each month. MAPS Shelter Services had been included in the monthly statistics prior to their move to South Portland, but since they have relocated back to Portland, they will again will be included.

Cindi Maule announced that she will be leaving the Frannie Peabody Center, effective next Friday. Cindi is relocating to Cape Cod. Everyone wished Cindi well and agreed that she will be missed.

Cindy Namer informed the group that MaineHousing conducted tours of Portland shelters last week and thanked everyone for their hospitality. She said that it was a very eye-opening experience for some MaineHousing staff as some had never visited any of the shelters before.

Bob distributed Eligibility Documentation forms regarding homeless consumer participation at ESAC to shelter providers. These forms are required as an attachment for the 2009 MaineHousing ESG/State Shelter Funds application, which is due no later than September 25th.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, October 23rd, 2008

8:30 – 10am

190 LANCASTER STREET

REFUGEE SERVICES CONFERENCE AREA

Please contact Robert Duranleau, Health & Human Services Department, Social Services Division at 775-7915, extension 224; if you should have any agenda items for the next meeting.