**True Hope Village: Community Advisory Committee Meeting Notes**

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| CAC Name: | True Hope Village |
| Date: | Tuesday, January 15, 2019 |
| Meeting Location: | New Hope Missionary Baptist Church |
| CAC members present: | Sohroosh Hashemi, Natalie Bicknell, Tre Argerious, Bernie Creaven, Ursula White-Oliver, Rev. Dr. Robert L. Jeffrey, Sr. |
| LIHI members present: | Josh Castle, Sasha Koeberling, John Brown, Kayla Martinez |
| City of Seattle staff present:  | Lisa Gustaveson |
| Members of the public present:  | None |
| True Hope residents present:  | None |
| Note taker:  | Tre Argerious |

**Introductions**

**Discussing and approving last month’s notes**

* Last month loud noises and disturbances coming from the Langston Hughes’ parking lot were mentioned. John and Sasha pointed out that they spoke with the staff at Langston Hughes and the residents. They also noted that they did not receive any calls from neighbors.
* The building of a barrier to increase privacy around the bathrooms is underway, but some other projects have taken priority due to the recent weather. Following the windstorms and cold weather LIHI is working to repair the tent, improve traction on the ramp, and salt areas where ice/frost may occur.

**Village update**

1. Houses
	1. 57 residents in total
	2. 43 adults
	3. 14 children
2. Demographics
	1. 57% Black/African American
	2. 23% White/Caucasian
	3. 7% Asian
	4. 6% other (Hispanic)
	5. 3% US Indian/Alaskan Native
	6. 3% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
3. Move Outs
	1. 22 successful (this includes transitional and permanent housing. Next month Sasha said that she will try to disaggregate this number).

**Announcements**

* On 1/22/18 King County Public Health will visit the village and provide free Flu and Hepatitis A shots.
* The Christmas events went well. The highlights included the following:
	+ A christmas tree was donated to the village.
	+ 35 children came to the village to carol.
	+ The village received more than enough gifts for every resident to receive a present.
	+ The village was visited by Santa.
* John will be transitioning to manage a new site in Olympia. LIHI is close to hiring his replacement. John noted that he will stay involved and make sure that his replacement is introduced to the community.
* Sasha made the members aware of the limitations on available housing in the Seattle area. She pointed out that many of the residents are having to be resettled in other cities or counties in the state.

**Open discussion and questions**

Questions from the CAC:

* Do we know that the residents retain their benefits through their transition?
	+ Josh explained that through the continuum of care (CoC) that LIHI works to ensure that all residents are connected with new case workers when they move to transitional or permanent housing. Sasha gave the CAC some examples of how she has done this with residents that have recently moved out.
* Are their opportunities to volunteer at the village? Are there opportunities for the villagers to volunteer?
	+ Lisa from the City of Seattle discussed how many LIHI residents help out as Guides for the Point In Time (PIT) count of homeless people living in King County. As guides they are paid by the city for their time and work.
	+ Josh pointed out that there are opportunities to volunteer, but fortunately many of the families transitional so quickly to better housing that the need or volunteers is difficult to set up in advance.
* Do the villagers need any donated books?
	+ John pointed out that currently the village has a large surplus of both children’s books. Additionally, the village currently receives a number of books for adults from local literature reviewers and editors.
* Does LIHI track the academic progress of the youth in the village?
	+ It was pointed out that academic performance is outside the scope of LIHI’s services, but through the case management process the youth are often connected with other organizations where they receive educational services and support.

*Next CAC meeting: Tuesday, February 19, 2019 6-7:30pm at New Hope Church*