

HOMeward

a street journal

Volume Three,
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Member NASNA
North American Street Newspaper Association

October
1999



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Homeless Resources

Board on Homelessness Holds Public Forum

Summary of the Sacramento County & Cities Board on Homelessness Public Forum, held on September 11, 1999

This summary was taken from material handed out at the public forum, and from notes taken as the meeting progressed. There are no direct quotes from any individual.

to be action oriented, so the Board did outreach, law and social services combined. We went out to find the homeless where they were living.

food services for homeless people. •Ensure that food stamps are fully utilized to assist local homeless individuals.

Opening Remarks

Roger Dickinson, Sacramento County Board of Supervisors:

We are here because we realize this is a difficult issue, with diverse views about homelessness. We have to consider the interest of the homeless and those paying the tab. We realize that the condition of homelessness is not good for anybody involved. We need to continue to have debate and dialogue but we should be solution oriented.

Dick Skelton, Board Co-chair:

Midtown Business Association held forums in 96-97 about issues around homelessness. These meetings were precipitated by a crisis between the city and Loaves & Fishes. The MBA recommended forming a county-wide board on homelessness. The Board's goal is to develop a 5 year plan.

Cheryl Davis, Board Co-chair:

County Supervisors wanted the Board

Recommendations

The Board formed eight focus teams to research different areas of the homeless situation. These are their recommendations as written in material passed out at the forum:

Case Management and Over Concentration Team:

- Incorporate outreach efforts into an existing program.
- Extend outreach efforts to other areas of the county and city.
- Develop an interagency client tracking system.
- Initiate and implement a comprehensive ID system that shows the concentration of various social services in the county and city.

Emergency Food Team:

- Increase understanding of and partnership with local private emergency food providers.
- Utilize new data resulting from the survey/local census of homeless individuals to assess the adequacy of current

Public Safety Team:

- Team up police and mental health workers to perform in-field evaluations of those causing a public nuisance that are suspected of suffering mental illness. Partnering of both agencies would provide the mentally ill with needed treatment and care rather than unnecessary incarceration and high risk of further incident.
- Funding for reunification program to reunite individuals who are homeless with family members willing to assist them in regaining stability.
- Produce a homeless outreach in other areas of the city and county, similar to the one done on the levees.

Housing and Neighborhood Impact Team:

- Permanent housing with access to support services, or case management, is critical and may be an efficient means

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Sacramento Housing Alliance appoints new Executive Director

Cecilia Escamilla has been chosen as the new Executive Director by the SHA Board.

Cecilia previously worked as an assistant to State Legislature Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa as a bill analyst for the Democratic floor unit.

She is a 1997 graduate of UC Davis with a degree in Sociology. After graduation she completed the Coro Fellows Program in Public Affairs in St. Louis, Missouri.

Always interested in politics, she is co-founder and past president of the College Democrats of UC Davis, and continues to be involved with various causes around social/political issues.

Born in Colusa, California and raised in Chico, Cecilia has lived in Davis for 10 years.

Overflow Debate Continues

by Susan Ducker

On Tuesday, September 14, 1999, the County Board of Supervisors considered funding the Emergency Winter Shelter, called Overflow, for 1999.

From the Department of Human Assistance was Cheryl Davis and Jan Gallaway. Cheryl Davis is also Co-chair of the Sacramento County and Cities Board on Homelessness, and Jan Gallaway is a member of the Board on Homelessness' Case Management and Over Concentration Team.

Ms. Davis presented a Status to Date report on the homeless of Sacramento to the Board of Supervisors. Her report also included the results of the American River Outreach Program.

Three four-day Outreach efforts were

made in June, July, and August of 1999 during which teams of social workers and police officers went down to the American River levee looking for campers. The visits were published ahead of time and the teams only interviewed 220 campers. The campers were presented with the choice of a bus ticket home (reportedly if there were a family member who would take them in at their destination) or to sign up for social programs, or the next time they were found they would be arrested. Parolees may be violated if caught camping.

In previous years the Winter Overflow Shelter was on the grounds of CalExpo, but the buildings that were used were demolished this last year. Ms. Davis reported that the DHA had been looking

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of preventing homelessness or its recurrence.

- Transitional housing can increase effectiveness if more alcohol/drug recovery programs were available.
- Mental health system improvement (beds, treatment, case management) is an essential companion for long term housing solutions.
- Practices for successful neighborhood integration can be developed.

Employment and Economic Development Team:

- Career Development classes/Job Search and Job Club for youth.
- Increase funding for foster youth tutors in school.
- Foster youth need a "bridge" program between the highly structured foster care system and unstructured adult life. (A one to two year minimum duration).
- Teach foster youth how to access health care once they are emancipated.

Mental/ Public/ Physical Health Team:

- Integrate substance abuse and mental health treatment on the County level.
- Increase access for working poor and other at risk groups for homelessness to services that are important for preventing crisis mental and physical illness. This should include an increase in the County's Primary Care Clinic hours to 5 days a week and evening hours to accommodate the working poor.
- Provide the following to mentally ill homeless individuals: 1) quick and timely access to psychiatric services and medication; 2) intensive services and case management; 3) expanded crisis services; 4) increase in shelter beds and transitional

housing; and 5) increase in supportive permanent housing.

Homeless Veterans Team:

- Change language on all intake forms in the system indicating, "Have you ever served in the military?" instead of, "Are you a veteran?" Many female and some men respond more accurately when addressing the reworded question because they are unaware they are veterans.
- Funding for a full-time Veteran's Homeless Services Coordinator to provide an education and in-service training to service providers about homeless veterans problems.
- A Homeless Veterans' street information and referral resource pamphlet to be developed for the community.
- Funding for a veteran intake/case manager position stationed at the County Jail.

Sobriety Team:

- Develop a homeless treatment referral handbook for providers.
- Develop a comprehensive plan to assist homeless to access treatment (the team will be working on this next year).
- Support a treatment program for adolescent youth.
- A pretransitional drug and alcohol residential program for mothers with children 0-18 years old should be established.
- Solutions need to be developed for location problems for treatment programs.
- More permanent housing with support services is needed.

Questions and Answers

Anyone who had a question for the Board wrote it on a card, and a moderator read it to the Board for their response. Each response may have been from several persons on the Board. Not all questions are included here. The time ran out for the question and answer period. The Board stated that they respond by mail to the unanswered questions.

Q: How long before someone is considered to have successfully overcome homelessness?

A: Do not have tracking system in place for accurate numbers; 2-3 years in some data, six-months to a year in others.

Q: Why not a separate, unbiased commission for homeless when programs are not working properly?

A: Something that should be looked into. Homeless have access to Board and City Council.

Q: What will be the recommendation of the board concerning those individuals who, voluntarily or because of ineligibility for programs, must sleep out. Will there be a place for them besides jail?

A: We are trying to help people who want help. Our goal is to want people not to accept being homeless. We are trying to make system flexible for those currently ineligible for services. The police are working with the DHA concerning those who are out not by choice, but those who persist in refusing services will be taken to jail.

Q: What about those with special needs?

A: The current system may not be providing correct services. The profile of the homeless has changed in the last few years.

Q: Has Board noted an increase in homelessness

since welfare reform?

A: Not in homelessness, but in the use of food closets mainly because of loss of food stamps for single adults. There are still questions to be answered. People are losing housing due to increased housing costs....

Q: Has Board considered safe camping sites for the homeless?

A: Board has not. Need to consider legal liability to the county in such a situation.

Q: Persons in transitional programs are sometimes required to have savings accounts, and are being penalized by welfare for having them...

A: Going to work on, primarily CalWorks

Q: SRO policy- need to encourage SRO's, not discourage...

A: Will be reviewed.

Q: How many homeless are getting SSI, and should those persons be forced to get housing?

A: 33% of homeless have some kind of income, mostly SSI. Yes, should be used as a "tool".

Q: Since so many foster care children end up homeless as adults, are there any programs for foster children- or why not?

A: Feds have approved increased funds, still not enough- looking at transitional housing for youth.

Q: What about prescription drug abuse among youth?

A: Community needs to address this issue regardless of availability of funds.

Q: Vets- why aren't 20 year old issues being resolved?

A: Contrary to what local authorities have believed, the VA has trouble working with homeless veterans. This town does not have a large VA hospital, trying to get one at Mather.

Q: What about homeless living in cars?

A: Very few- mostly transient, moving town-to-town.

Q: Is there any effort being made to keep children of homeless families in school?

A: There are two programs- Sacramento City School Outreach, and TEACH, which covers the county. They are supposed to go out and find homeless children and get them in school and provide tutoring.

Q: There is a subgroup of teens separated from their parents who refuse foster care, who work and live independently, if not legally- is there any program to help them?

A: Two programs are on line. Drug treatment is a high priority, also drug treatment for parents who have children, before it becomes necessary to remove children from their care.

Q: Is there going to be an ID system put in place to keep track of the homeless?

A: Under consideration. The exact method is still being researched, whether hand or finger imaging or something tied to SS number.

Public Comments

Individuals who signed up to speak were allowed three minutes to address the Board. All statements given here are paraphrases and may not completely cover what was said. The names of organizers

see **Comments**
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Taylor's Campaign

Narrated by Martin Sheen and directed by Richard Cohen, Taylor's Campaign is verite documentary about unforgettable hardworking people living in cardboard lean-tos in luxurious Santa Monica, California. When new laws threaten their freedom and existence a penniless truck driver, Ron Taylor, runs for Santa Monica city council as a voice of protest. "Excellent...cuts right to the heart of the plight of the homeless." Kevin Thomas, Los Angeles Times

Purchase Price:
Individuals \$45
Organizations \$105

Purchase of these tapes is restricted to personal, campus and educational use only. They cannot be rented out, loaned, copied in any way, shown to the public, advertized, broadcast on television, cable, or closed circuit TV without the express written permission of Richard Cohen and Richard Cohen Films.

SEND CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS TO:
Richard Cohen Films, PO Box 1012, Venice, CA 90291

The video will be mailed to you by priority insured mail

For more info call (310) 395-3549 or E-mail rbc23@juno.com

Taylor's Campaign is a production of Raindog Films in association with Film Arts Foundation of San Francisco

1999 NASNA Conference

The 1999 North American Street Newspaper Association Conference was held in Cleveland, Ohio, from July 22-25. The host of this year's conference was the Homeless Grapevine of Cleveland, who held the conference at Case Western Reserve University.

Eddie Harris, president of the Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee, and Lee Parks, Homeward Street Journal's graphic designer, attended the conference on behalf of the Homeward Street Journal, a member of the organization.

The NASNA conference was opened by a welcoming speech from Congressman Dennis Kucinich, U.S. House of Representatives for District 10. Congressman Kucinich has previously served on the Cleveland city council, as mayor of Cleveland, and as a state senator.

Congressman Kucinich said he understood the importance of getting the message across to the general public about what is happening at the basic level of the streets, because he grew up living in twenty-one different places before he was seventeen, including living in the family car a couple of times. He watched his parents struggling to survive and living by their wits.



He said the streets are a part of community life that needs to be understood by everyone. That it is important there be someone to reflect back to the larger community what is happening in the lives of people who in the main-stream media wouldn't make the evening news. He said street papers are a vehicle about social and economic "presence to remind people of the plight of the have-nots."

He spoke about the tax-cut bill in Washington, and how "government is serving as an engine to distribute wealth upward." How the haves tell the have-nots to lift themselves by their own bootstraps, while taking away their boots.

It is his belief that even the most intimidating of bureaucratic policies



Congressman Kucinich speaking at the welcoming meeting.

can be changed by getting people to understand that they can change society.

The conference included three days of work shops directed towards giving individual street papers advise on subjects as diverse as homeless civil rights, urban journalism, and using advertising and corporate sponsorship to become self-supporting.

This year the conference had several guests among those conducting the work shops. Roldo Barimole, publisher of Cleveland's Point of View, and Norma Green, graduate of the Columbia School of Journalism teaching public affairs reporting for 32 years, were among the presenters of a work shop on urban/street journalism. Our own Tim Brown, member of the Sacramento Housing Alliance, was one of the presenters in a workshop on leadership. Eilyn Hains of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless did a workshop on resource development. Gino Scarselli, of the American Civil Liberties Union, participated in a workshop on the civil rights of homeless people. And Cindy Barber, freelance writer and former Cleveland Free Times alternative press editor, co-presented in a planning for sustainability workshop.

In a whole-conference panel discussion on the future of street papers, Tim Hains, past president of NASNA, and founder and Director of Real Change in Seattle, Washington, talked about how homelessness is just one of many issues affecting poorer Americans. Social problems with labor pay scales, medical insurance, the drug war, both inner city decay and revitalization, are a few of the many situations that contribute to the risk of someone becoming homeless. Mr. Hains was concerned that street papers have been focusing too extensively on one issue, and missing the opportunity to contribute as a bridge between communities.

Mr. Hains believes that there is a way for street papers to be "a good read" so that the general public will want to purchase the paper, while still

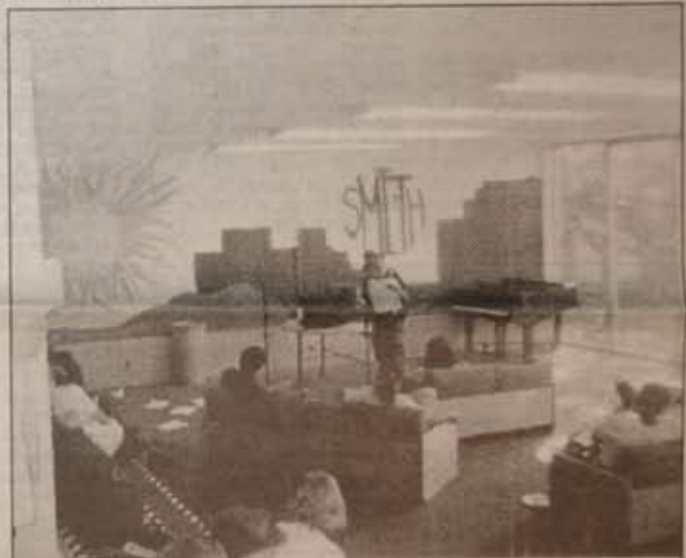
remaining relevant to street issues. By being an organization where homeless persons can become part of an institution with an objective in society, street papers can serve as a foundation for change for a long time.

At the business meetings NASNA members elected a new Executive Council to serve over the next year, renewed the special membership of the National Coalition for the Homeless of Washington, DC, for another two years, and voted to become a group member of the Independent Press Association.

There was also further discussion on the international Network of Street Papers, which NASNA has considered joining. Eric Cimon of the Journal L'Itineraire, Montreal, attended INSP's 4th Annual conference in St.

Petersburg, Russia, in November of 1998, as an observer for NASNA. He presented the NASNA conference with an interesting written report and encouraged members to participate in the next world-wide, common cover issue.

One last issue discussed was the conference for the year 2000. Unfortunately, Boston had earlier reported that it would not be able to hold the conference next year as planned. However, Michael Walters of Our Voice in Edmonton, Alberta, arrived at the NASNA conference with the plans and backing of his paper so well developed, that Our Voice became the overwhelming choice to host the Y2K NASNA conference.



The conference began on Thursday evening with a buffet and poetry reading by street poets Daniel Thompson of Cleveland, and Marc D. Gaudinger of Boston in the lobby of the campus dorms.



On Saturday evening participants gathered for a Bar-B-Q and soft ball game on campus grounds.

Overflow

cont. from page 1

for an alternative site where enough showers and restrooms would meet sanitation and public health codes. They could not find any. Ms. Davis also contacted the National Guard Army and was told they could only let the city use it if the Governor of California granted permission. The DHA decided to recommend renewal of the Overflow contract with the Salvation Army.

The EDD offices located in the trailers behind the Salvation Army will be moved to a city owned building, leaving enough room to put 80 mats on the floor for the homeless to sleep on. Ms. Davis said that would be a sufficient number, based on the attendance at Overflow last year.

Representatives from the Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee, the Sacramento Housing Alliance, the Salvation Army, Loaves & Fishes, Maryhouse, St. John's Shelter, Francis House, church leaders and concerned citizens, all spoke in favor of increased funding.

The homeless advocates who spoke considered Ms. Davis' numbers to be highly underestimated, and that it would be inhumane to require the homeless to sleep on mats. There were also discrepancies between Ms. Davis' report that none had been turned away from shelter, and the advocates who told of people they met that said they had been denied services because of lack of ID or full beds, etc. The advocates also stated that many people stayed away because of the required intake interview and its possible consequences.

In the end, the Board approved the 80 proposed beds; approved 60 beds for Richard's Boulevard subject to review, directed staff to attempt to locate 65 additional beds, and to urge the Governor of California to sign legislation that would make the Sacramento Army available for shelter. The staff must report back to the Board of Supervisors on October 12, 1999 at 11:30 a.m.

tions have been used for those persons who stated they were members of an organization, otherwise they are listed as individuals.

Individual: Need for programs such as Readiness, the Volunteers of America's Transitional Housing Program. If I hadn't received help would be out drinking and using...or worse.

Individual: Have been stopped 7 times by police in daytime on street for no cause I know of. If a person has no place to stay he is a criminal.

Volunteers of America (VOA): Need to continue funding for Transitional Housing programs. They are working to provide housing while addressing financial, legal, mental issues that caused homelessness.

NAACP: Deal daily with complaints about system. About children being taken and placed in foster care unnecessarily. About agencies which do not follow their own rules. The parent will follow the rules and still not receive child back. It will take everyone's involvement- not just agencies- to solve homelessness.

Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee (SHOC): Previous evictions keep homeless from getting apartment even if they have money.

Individual: Have been denied access to a program even though feel qualified. 86'd from property without being told why. Don't the homeless have a grievance policy when the system mistreats them?

Individual: Was raised in foster homes. VOA Readiness program has enabled me to become employed and overcome barriers.

Individual: Being homeless takes all of a person's self-esteem. VOA's Readiness program helped me to build back up and continue with career.

MidHope Community: County calls us a "non-program" ministry. Not funded by county, but we are full because county is always referring clients to us.

Individual: Homeless is only a symptom. Cause is

Comments

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competitive greed. Need to focus on public policy. There has been a 90% reduction in HUD housing since President Carter. Cut the Pentagon's budget, will save 300 millions to be used to restore funds for social programs.

SHOC: It is hard enough for the homeless to get to services now- if spread out all over town will make it nearly impossible for anyone to get from place to place without transportation. Also, an ID for tracking the homeless could be used for bad purposes. Just because a person gets a pay check doesn't make them more valuable than someone who doesn't.

Francis House: Isolation from society greatest cause of homelessness. If camping is outlawed, city should provide shelter year-round.

SHOC: City did not maintain porta-potties. No person would have used them. I know personally 3 people who lost their vehicles because of the city's camping policy.

Individual: If the city would issue camping permits it would enable to control population in any given area and could save cleanup costs.

Advocate: Homelessness is a factor of poverty. It is the difference between the amount of money one has and the cost of housing.

Sacramento Housing Alliance: With the City closing down SROs downtown, and the approval process for new ones so stringent, it is imperative that the Residential Hotel Services Program be in place to assist those SRO residents who will eventually need to relocate.

Sac Black Alcoholic Center: 102550 HUD consumer empowerment grievance policy, but is it used? Process needs to be inclusionary of homeless. Working poor really part of broad middle class. Chemical dependency a major cause, need to target. Need to lose greed, expand inclusion.

NAACP: You can have all the transitional housing and programs you want, as long as government does not address realtors and rental associations who are saying no to people who need housing, there will continue to be homeless people. =

Welcome to HOMEWARD:

Please help us make a difference!



"Homeward" is a publication of the Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee (SHOC), which is

a part of the Sacramento Housing Alliance.

Homeward's mission is to publish a newspaper for the homeless so that communication and concerns of and about the homeless are presented in a way that increases public awareness through education, involvement, and encouragement of our community about this segment of our population. It hopes to alleviate miscommunication by providing a dialogue between disparate communities. It also serves as a creative outlet for homeless people.

The opinions expressed in Homeward are those of the authors, and not necessarily the Sacramento Housing Alliance or SHOC or Homeward.

Submissions and Editorial Policy

We welcome any participation or contributions: Articles, poems and other writing can be submitted to the Sacramento Housing Alliance or given to Bette at the library in Friendship Park.

All writing submitted for publication will be edited as necessary, with due respect for the authors' intent. The editors will attempt to consult with an author if changes are necessary; however, the paper will go to print with the story as edited if the author is unavailable.

All letters to the Editor must be signed to be published. If the writer wishes to remain anonymous she should so state, but the letter must still be signed.

Poetry and graphics will not be edited, either the paper will publish the submission or not.

In submitting articles to the paper, authors give their permission to print their submissions in accordance with the above stipulations, as well as publishing excerpts on Homeward's webpage and possible reprinting in NASHA member papers, with due byline. Any requests for stories outside the above three will be referred to the author.

Subscriptions are available with a \$15 contribution. Make checks out to SHA. All correspondence can be sent to:

Homeward
926 'J' Street,
Suite 1406
Sacramento, CA
95814

For information call
(916) 442-2156.

The paper may also be E-mailed at
Homewardnews
@geocities.com

excerpts from the paper are published on the web at
www.geocities.com/
rainforest/andee/4085

No More Mail for Homeless

It has been reported that Francis House and the Union Gospel Mission will no longer be able to provide mail drop services for the homeless because of permit difficulties.

SHOC Planning Event

The Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee is organizing for an event on **Make a Difference Day**, Saturday October 23rd. Participate in the Wednesday SHOC meeting at Friendship Park to help plan this special occasion.

SHOC Elections

Annual Elections for SHOC Officers are being scheduled for the public meeting at Friendship Park, Wednesday, October 13th at 10:30 am. Anyone who regularly attends SHOC meetings is eligible to vote. Officer positions are President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer.

Joining SHA

The Sacramento Housing Alliance is a network of concerned citizens which promotes decent affordable housing for low income households and homeless people through advocacy and participation in public discourse.

The SHA does not itself provide or manage housing.

You may call for info:
(916) 442-1198

Annual Membership dues:
Standard, \$35;
Low-income, \$15
Organizations:
Full, 0.1% agency budget;
Associate, \$100

Send donations to:
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926 J Street
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Sacramento, CA
95814

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- Curtis Hagen
- Marvin Jensen
- Max Biddle



DISMISSED

by Art Clay

Friday September 17, 1999 I went to court for my first camping ticket. The judge asked me if I wanted a public defender, I said yes and he sent me out to the hallway to talk with Lisa Reynolds, the public defender. She gave me the usual options, pay a fine to avoid jail and do two days work detail. I wish you could have seen the surprise on her face when I said I will plead not guilty and would demand a jury trial. Lisa said she didn't think they would go for it and I should take the deal.

I was then asked to go out in the hallway and wait. When she returned she told me my ticket was dismissed.

The tactic I used was an idea that came from the Coalition on Homelessness in San Francisco. If we all plead not guilty and demand a trial by jury for all camping related tickets it will back up the court system and drain their resources.

I can't guarantee you won't spend any jail time if you follow this plan. But if we all do it, it will jam up their court system and

drain their revenues. They will have to stop ticketing us just to clear up their court system. If we do nothing, life for us will only get worse. It's time we all stand up and fight back and plead NOT GUILTY until they have provided us with enough beds.

Don't let them intimidate you into copping a plea. The city has only two choices, granting you an expensive and time consuming trial or dismissing your case.

∞

LETTERS to the Editor

An open letter to homeless citizens of North America

For the past two and a half decades, we have struggled with the economic issues preventing us from accessing housing. We have pressed to increase federal dollars and to create tax credits. We have fought both gentrification and urban sprawl that have consumed our affordable neighborhoods. We have taken over houses and squatted in high rise apartments and yet we remain unshoused. Our nation is still without an affordable housing stock.

In the 1970's the minimum wage allowed us to access housing - but not any more. Wages have not kept pace with inflation and for thirty years the labor bosses have kept the difference between what the federal government tells them they must pay, and the amount necessary for us to even rent efficiency apartments. Today, there is a movement sweeping the country called the Living Wage Campaign. However, this will only increase wages for city and county workers and those that contract with these government entities.

House the Homeless, Inc. is calling for a Universal Living Wage. The ULW is an amount that will help everyone including homeless citizens. It is the first time that anyone has devised a plan to truly deal with an aspect of homelessness across the broad economic spectrum.

The concept is simple. It is based on the premise that if a person works forty hours a week, then he/she should be able to access some form of housing. We use two existing Federal guidelines to determine what the Living Wage should be. The first guideline

dictates that no more than 30% of a person's gross income should be spent on housing. The second guideline used to establish the formula incorporates the use of the Fair Market Rents (FMRs). Specific FMRs are established by HUD throughout the country for each municipality and all other areas. Therefore, the living wage will vary per area in accordance with the FMR. FMRs are based on the gross rent estimates which include shelter rent and the cost of utilities, except for telephone service.

We believe that this format, using already established government guidelines, enables us to easily justify specific living wage figures. These wage amounts are based on the need for housing and are personalized to each municipality and each outlying area. Furthermore, wages are indexed to the cost of housing and are automatically adjusted on an annual basis when the federal government adjusts the Fair Market Rents (FMRs).

While the argument can be made that we need to more fully address medical and day care needs, this formula provides for the moral argument that if you are willing to work for it, you should be at least able to access the most basic form of housing and the barest of other necessities. The Universal Living Wage Formula simultaneously allows us to justifiably call for a significant increase in the minimum wage in a manner that is also politically achievable.

Richard Troxell,
President of House the Homeless, Inc.

For more information, contact:
housethehomeless@hotmail.com

Thanks & Goodbye

I guess most of you have noticed by now that a few familiar faces aren't around any more. I'm referring to the Jesuit volunteers who have spent a year at Loves & Fishes and have now moved on. We wish to say thank you to:

- Eileen Cooney, who worked the service center;
- Tera Reiley, the library & service center;
- Sarah Sheehy, in housing;
- Jessica Tweedy and Brian Pecardik, at the dining room;
- Megan McCloskey, Kelly Mahon and Meg Shaw, at Mustard Seed.

The name Jesuit means Society of Jesus, they live by what they call the four corner posts: Community, Simplicity, Service and Spirituality. The Jesuits, as I understand it, have a one year program where they serve in the United States and a two year program where the second year they can serve in the Congo, Africa or South America.

Where ever they have gone, we wish them all the best.

Art Clay

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For information and an appointment, please call
(916)979-9710.
Please call ahead.

Seattle's Street Artists Have Indoor Gallery



by Curtis Hagen

The imagination flows with a surrealistic name penciled on a paper grocery bag, ceramic plates painted with religious scenes, and the famous oil on... cardboard. There are absolutely "no rules," says current gallery president Luis Garcia.

The Streetlife Gallery is Seattle's own very low income and homeless art studio. Opened in 1994 as The Homeless Gallery, the building is provided by Catholic Arch Deices and the program sponsored by the Spare Change Homeless Empowerment Project.

While workspaces and materials are available for free, those who are interested in renting a private "section" can for five to eight dollars a month. Since private work areas are limited, a waiting period is maintained and those who are seriously interested in renting space must have a willingness to attend the gallery with regularity, and a commitment to producing a good body of work, says one artist.

Every month, a particular artist is featured and his/her artwork is displayed on the gallery walls. Not just for show, they are able to sell their art as well, with all proceeds going directly to putting "spare change" in their pockets.

"When you have limited resources, you tend to become more creative with your artwork," says Sam Blair, artist and writer.

The Streetlife Gallery is open daily 11am - 8pm. Come check out the vibrant colors and wide variety of artistic expression by Seattle's street life.

The Streetlife Art Gallery
2301 2nd Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121
(206) 956-8046



Above right: Two Hatchet holds his painting "Eagle Hawk"
Center right: A painting by Ako Procel
Below: Darcie Day holds her painting of "Another Species."
Top left: Gallery sign
Center left: A pencil drawing by Dae Gler
Below left: Inside the studio



POETRY

Special thanks to the poets of Friendship Park



WHAT DRIVES ME CRAZY?

Obsession with possessions. They label you, define me

They tie you down they get lost, stolen expropriated.

People steal - our identities

Mostly I miss my cable TV
my remote
my refrigerator
my car
my cloths
my credit cards
My Eliot, Pound, Plato, Crane,
Whitman, Frost and
Dickinson.

Jim Wiard, 1994

THE PARK

The children cry crazies bellow and grunt

Snarls of undirected rage the howl of penned dogs

Walls of despair at unfriendly reality.

Welcome to the Park.

Larry Dunlop, 1995

STONE HOUSES

Great stone houses with walls to keep all of "them" out

isolate me from feelings of community.

Larry Dunlop 1995



STONE MEN

The faces of stone men emotions frozen try to tell the sculptor's thoughts across the years to new generations.

Larry Dunlop 1995

CLASSIFIEDS

Mail your classified to the Housing Alliance or submit it at the SHOC meeting on Wednesdays at 10:30 am in Friendship Park. One ad free to private parties and nonprofits. Try to keep it under 25 words.

Donations

Wanted

Loaves & Fishes Retail Store, 1225 N. 'B' St., Open 10 am to 3 pm Mon-Sat. Donations of unwanted items appreciated.

Jobs Wanted

Give hope and happiness. Give a job, such as moving or yard work, to a homeless worker.

Call Loaves & Fishes job phone at 446-9316, or mail to Loaves & Fishes, Jobs for Homeless, PO Box 2161, Sac, CA 95812

Personal Ad

Police are now taking people to jail for sleeping outdoors. There is one exception- sleeping outdoors is legal on private property but not for more than one night. I don't want to go to jail. I am looking for 7 different places to sleep on private property in the downtown/midtown area, one place for each night of the week. I would only require a tiny corner of your yard from between 10pm and 6:30am. I am quiet (except for an occasional coughing spell). don't drink or do drugs, sleep alone and will clean area no matter who makes the mess. If you can help me or would like to consider it please leave a message for Paula at 446-4961 or 442-2156.

Favorite Reasons Countdown by Paula

I can't figure out why some people are so against the homeless! People are being thrown in jail for sleeping outdoors, it's getting so bad. I'd like to figure it out. Then maybe we could do something about it. Well, let's make a list of possible reasons why some people can't stand homeless people:

10. People sleeping out at night may witness the secret UFO conspiracy.

(Watch out for people looking like you and me but have a tiny claw coming out of the back of their necks. They can't stand us.)

9. We can never invite them over to our house.
8. We never have any money they can borrow or talk us out of.
7. We may be the visual manifestation of how messed up society is.
6. We don't support their favorite real estate brokerage or community slum lord.
5. When we talk to ourselves we're not discreet by pretending to be talking on a cell phone.
4. Could it be BO? Quick, everyone check themselves.
3. We don't hide behind walls.
2. We haven't a clue what Victor's been going through on the Young and the Restless.
1. Sometimes we can't hold it in all night until the restrooms open in the morning.