

February 22, 2006

**Minutes from West Metro Homeless Youth Task Force
February 21, 2006**

Present: Geraldine Beckmann, Heidi Behrends, Bobbi Pointer, Veta Segal, Jen Silverberg, Rob Ward, Brenda Shores, Carol Bergenstahl, Theresa Ledermann, Judy Paul, Marilyn Berthe, Mary Jo Fischer, Michele Schnitker, Lydia Kihm

Lydia Kihm called the meeting to order.

Brenda Shores, of the Bridge for Runaway Youth, relayed west suburban youth usage of The Bridge. Numbers included walk-ins and stays at the emergency shelter. Transitional and scattered housing numbers were not included. 13-Hopkins, 7-Minnetonka, 20-Maple Grove, 2-Excelsior, 2-Shorewood, 1-Corcoran, 19-Eden Prairie, 40-Bloomington, 1-Orono, 2-Wayata, 29-St. Louis Park.

Since it was a small group, there was general conversation about housing, transportation, and additional services necessary to support homeless youth.

At some point, the group wants to bring in specialists with both transitional and scattered site housing. The groups mentioned were:

Scattered Site: Project Solo (already in St. Louis Park), Youth Link, Freeport West, Evergreen (northern MN), and the Bridge (18-21 year olds).

Transitional Living Programs: Avenues, Hope Street, and The Bridge

The group wrote a rough draft Task Force Vision:

West suburban homeless youth (including youth in housing crises) will be safely sheltered and will receive necessary support services in or near their home community.

Plan of Action:

Before the March 14 meeting, the following terms will be defined:

West suburban

Youth

Safely sheltered

Support services

Next meeting, Tuesday, March 14, 7:30 a.m., Room 207 B, Eisenhower Community Center