
From: Sue Hack [mailto:suehack@sunflower.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 5:24 PM
To: Dave Corliss
Subject: RE: Lawrence Community Shelter SUP

To: Lawrence City Commission

From: Marceil Lauppe, Lawrence KS

Regarding: Lawrence Community Shelter SUP, April 17, 2007

This is my fifth year of involvement with the homeless in Lawrence. The progress toward a comprehensive program is amazing. Credit is due to an incredible director, Loring Henderson who came to Lawrence with an impressive background working with homeless and not for profit organizations abroad and in Washington DC. Credit is also due to progress in city government with increased funding for case managers through Bert Nash. The Shelter has progressed from a place for individuals to drop in, to a place where a case manager does an intake to determine critical individual needs. From the intake individuals are given assistance with getting jobs and assisted by Cottonwood job coaches to be successful. Working with other community resources individuals obtain housing. A back to work training program has been developed that is turning into a business making dog treats. There are indeed many successes. Success is also having a place to lie on a mat on the floor out of the heat and freezing weather at night. Success is also a hot cup of coffee and an 8:00 PM meal, thus not going to bed hungry. So much more is planned for a more comprehensive program. Space and money are huge issues. As the board continues to work on both issues I urge you to grant the three-year renewal for the SUP as recommended by the Planning Commission.

Community support for the Shelter is remarkable however there are always those that wish the homeless would just go away, or at least not be next door. So much has to do with lack of understanding, compassion and not seeing the big picture.

There is a large percent of the homeless population that is so often miss understood. Homelessness is not the major problem of the majority of the homeless individuals. Homeless is the result of mental illness and addiction. As a society we allowed the closing of the state institutions that housed and treated addiction and severe mental illness. That responsibility was channeled to local communities without funding. Having worked as a nurse in the late fifties in the Kansas State Hospital in Topeka, my association with the Shelter is a repeat of individuals seen at our Lawrence Community Shelter but without funding and manpower to offer badly needed care and treatment.

Your support in granting a three-year SUP for the Lawrence Community Shelter is appreciated as our community responds to the needs of the homeless.

From: Dave Corliss [mailto:DCorliss@ci.lawrence.ks.us]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 5:20 PM
To: Sue Hack
Cc: Bobbie Walthall
Subject: RE: Lawrence Community Shelter SUP

Sue, I didn't get the attachment – thanks, dave

From: Sue Hack [mailto:suehack@sunflower.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 5:19 PM
To: GeoCeilL@wmconnect.com
Cc: Dave Corliss
Subject: RE: Lawrence Community Shelter SUP

Thank you for the email. I will ask Dave Corliss to get this posted as a part of the info that the Commissioners receive with their agenda information. Sue

From: GeoCeilL@wmconnect.com [mailto:GeoCeilL@wmconnect.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 11:22 AM
To: suehack@sunflower.com
Subject: Lawrence Community Shelter SUP

Congratulations was our new Mayor! Will you please see that all Lawrence City Commissioners get the attached email. Thank you for your support. Marceil Lauppe 842-1541.

L D C METRO PLANNING OFFICE
BOX 708
6TH AND MASS.
LAWRENCE, KS 66044

3-28-07

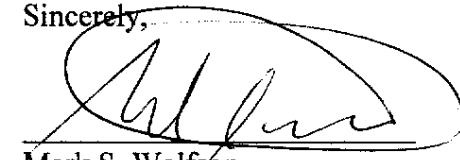
To whom it may concern,

I have been a contributor to the homeless shelter in the form of cash and providing meals one night per month.

I feel this is a very worthy cause and have been very impressed with Mr. Henderson and his caring staff.

The residents always seem friendly and very grateful for what they receive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark S. Wolfson', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is enclosed within a large, hand-drawn oval.

Mark S. Wolfson
4241 Briarwood Dr
Lawrence, Ks 66049

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2007

City County Planning Office
Lawrence, Kansas

From: Pamela Casagrande [mailto:pmchambone@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2007 1:08 PM
To: Denny Brown; dhuggins@ku.edu; loring@lawrenceshelter.org
Subject: March meeting of the Douglas County Planning Commission

Please forward this e-mail to the Douglas County Planning Commission members for the March meeting.
Thank you. Pam Casagrande, Lawrence Community Shelter Board member

Dear members of the Douglas County Planning Commission,

As a Lawrence Community Shelter board member for six years, I write to ask your help in providing more stability for LCS. Last year the Commission asked LCS to provide the information for a "Use-Permitted-Upon-Review" application yearly. This is time-consuming on a yearly basis for LCS's limited staff. If the Commission could grant a five year UPR, the Commission could help LCS continue to provide "a path to a positive future" to Lawrence's poorest residents. A five-year UPR also allows the Commission to call for a review at any time it has reason to question LCS's use of the 214 West Tenth Street property. This would save both the Commission and LCS the time and energy needed for other pressing concerns.

Also at last year's review, the Planning Commission asked for more communication between the neighborhood and LCS. To that purpose LCS has written a Good Neighbor Policy with the help of the neighbors. In April, 2006, LCS initiated three meetings at the Lawrence Public Library. The meetings were open to all who cared to attend and address the topic. The meetings were advertised in the Lawrence Journal World. Also a KU student group, the Peace Builders, blanketed the Oread Neighborhood with fliers to each residence announcing the time, place and purpose of the meetings. These meetings were attended by Oread neighborhood residents, LCS board members, members of several homeless organizations and other interested individuals. The information collected from these three meetings was written into a draft of the Good Neighbor Policy; and another two meetings were held at the library in October and November, 2006, to distribute the draft. Individuals attending these meetings came from the neighborhood, the LCS board and other homeless organizations. The draft was revised after each of these meetings to reflect the concerns of the neighbors and the final draft was presented at a public meeting at the library on 19 November. These meetings were also advertised in the Lawrence Journal World. A copy of this Good Neighbor Policy should be available for you to read. It addresses many of the six concerns the Commission had with LCS when it granted LCS's last UPR request.

You are invited to tour LCS at any time and talk with the Director, Loring Henderson, or LCS board chairman, Don Huggins. The evening shelter opens at 8:00 pm and closes at 8:00 am each day. Because of space constraints, LCS can only house thirty-two individuals overnight on a first-come basis. The day shelter opens at 8:00 am and closes at 8:00 pm and is open to anyone during this time. At the day shelter, LCS attempts to help each guest work towards more positive outcomes for his/her life. Guests can use the shelter's address for their mail. Guests can launder their belongings. Guests have access to social services, a social worker, AA meetings, legal advice, job skill training, or just hot coffee and snacks and a newspaper. In order to continue to serve guests in a more peaceful and positive manner, the staff instituted a No Intoxication policy for the daily shelter. However, the evening shelter is open to anyone who will come in to eat a simple meal and sleep quietly.

The Lawrence Community Shelter has a dedicated staff and volunteers who believe that individuals have a right to safe shelter and positive activities to better their situation. LCS is open twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week to provide these services. LCS is an good example of a community-based, not-for-profit agency supported by the city and county government, many individuals and churches and businesses in Douglas County.

Sincerely,

Pamela Casagrande, LCS Board of Directors' Member

To: Lawrence Planning Commission

From: Marceil Lauppe, Lawrence KS

Regarding: Lawrence Community Shelter UPR, March 28, 2007

This is my fifth year of involvement with the homeless in Lawrence. The progress toward a comprehensive program is amazing. Credit is due to an incredible director, Loring Henderson who came to Lawrence with an impressive background working with homeless and not for profit organizations abroad and in Washington DC. Credit is also due to progress in city government with increased funding for case managers through Bert Nash. The Shelter has progressed from a place for individuals to drop in, to a place where a case manager does an intake to determine critical individual needs. From the intake individuals are given assistance with getting jobs and assisted by Cottonwood job coaches to be successful. Working with other community resources individuals obtain housing. A back to work training program has been developed that is turning into a business making dog treats. There are indeed many successes. Success is also having a place to lie on a mat on the floor out of the heat and freezing weather at night. Success is also a hot cup of coffee and an 8:00 PM meal, thus not going to bed hungry. So much more is planned for a more comprehensive program. Space and money are huge issues. As the board continues to work on both issues I urge you to grant a five-year renewal for the UPR.

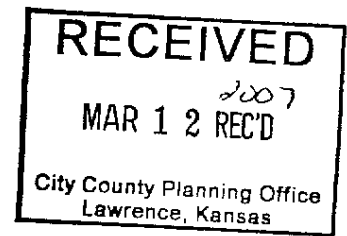
Community support for the Shelter is remarkable however there are always those that wish the homeless would just go away, or at least not be next door. So much has to do with lack of understanding, compassion and not seeing the big picture.

There is a large percent of the homeless population that is so often miss understood. Homelessness is not the major problem of the majority of the homeless individuals. Homeless is the result of mental illness and addiction. As a society we allowed the closing of the state institutions that housed and treated addiction and severe mental illness. That responsibility was channeled to local communities without funding. Having worked as a nurse in the late fifties in the Kansas State Hospital in Topeka, my association with the Shelter is a repeat of individuals seen at our Lawrence Community Shelter but without funding and manpower to offer badly needed care and treatment.

Your support in granting a five-year UPR for the Lawrence Community Shelter is appreciated as our community responds to the needs of the homeless.

MORNING STAR MANAGEMENT

917 Tennessee
Lawrence KS, 66044
(785) 841-7827 (STAR)
Fax (785) 841-4144



Lawrence Douglas County
Metropolitan Planning Office
Sixth and Massachusetts St.
PO Box 708
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

March 7, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to give input regarding the shelter. In addition to owning a rental near the shelter, I have an office in the 900 block of Tennessee. In the recent past, a time that corresponds with the existence of the shelter, I've noticed increasing problems and have witnessed many things, including:

1. Numerous forced entries at my office. Vandalized breaking of windows.
2. Human feces in common areas of my rental
3. Homeless trying to establish residence in our basements.
4. Stolen items, including a lawn mower and power washer
5. People sleeping in the yard
6. Drug and alcohol use occurring in the alley behind the office on Tennessee.
7. My customers being verbally harassed as they enter the office
8. Consistent trespassing in my yard and trash left - most often empty vodka bottles and cigarette butts.

I am of the opinion that the shelter is a detriment to the community. No one, including myself, is opposed to helping the 'destitute'. However, it is obvious that whatever programs are in place are not effective.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul R. Horvath".

Paul R Horvath

----- Original Message -----

Subject:

Date: Tue, 13 Mar 2007 22:09:44 -0500

From: Mary Easterday <MaryEasterday@mmrabbit.com
<mailto:MaryEasterday@mmrabbit.com>>

Reply-To: MaryEasterday@mmrabbit.com
<mailto:MaryEasterday@mmrabbit.com>

Organization:

To:

Dear Planning Commission,

You will be considering the Lawrence Community Shelter SUP renewal on March 28.

Our church and family has been involved with LCS for 10 years, as it began as the Community Drop In Center and Lawrence Open Shelter.

It is important for you to know how hard the director, staff, and board work to carry out the SUP requirements and how professional the people who work with LCS are in their responsibilities.

The board has over the years looked into developing a shelter that serves the homeless and near homeless and helps them to a path to a positive future. Many consultants from Seattle, Boulder, Kansas City and Topeka have either come to the board meetings or shared information with us.

The ministry and mission of LCS is to help everyone as much as possible. There are rules and consequences. There are partnerships with other service providers in the Lawrence area.

The board consults with three lawyers and an accountant to be as professional as possible.

The board and director and neighbors have developed a Good Neighbor policy to work with the neighbors in every way possible. The people at the shelter shovel neighbors walks, have neighborhood cleanups and have offered to build fences for neighbors so that the people do

not trespass.

A job-training program has been started through a grant from the National Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Cottonwood and the KU Small Business Center consult with the shelter.

The clients at LCS are worked with on an individual plan of action. They are driven to rehab programs, taken to doctors appointments, and work closely with AA, DCCCA, and Bert Nash.

It is important that the good things that happen at the shelter, which are many, are shared with you and the community.

Thank you for considering a 5 year SUP approval. This will give the director, staff and board the needed time to spend on every day business and plan for the future.

The board is looking at larger building spaces, as we realize that our vision and mission can only be accomplished with added space for services.

Thank you for seeing the positive things that are being accomplished through alot of hard work. We have received volunteer services and financial aid from over 1500 people which include churches, individuals, businesses and government funding sources.

Thank you again for looking carefully at the service that Lawrence Community Shelter provides for the Lawrence area.

Sincerely,

Mary Easterday
LCS Board Member



214 W 10th
Lawrence, KS 66044

PHONE: (785) 832-8864

FAX: (785) 832-1053

www.lawrenceshelter.org

Grant Eichhorn, Vice Chair
Lawrence Douglas County
Metropolitan Planning Commission
6 East 6th Street
Lawrence, KS 66044

March 20, 2007

Dear Mr. Eichhorn:

As you prepare for the review of the SUP for the Lawrence Community Shelter (LCS) to be considered by the Planning Commission on March 28, I would like to submit the accompanying materials about the shelter's programs. On March 28, LCS will be asking for a 5-year SUP. The 5-year SUP will reduce the significant amount of time the shelter staff spends each year in preparing for an annual SUP review and will increase the amount of time available to search for a better location of the shelter without giving up any oversight of LCS activities.

In the past year, the LCS has successfully fulfilled the conditions of the 1-year UPR as requested by the Planning Commission in 2006. Records were (and are) kept and have been submitted in conjunction with the current SUP application showing police calls, and jobs and housing assistance. The LCS has proven itself to be cooperative organization for which a 5-year SUP would be appropriate.

The Lawrence Community Shelter is the result of a merger at the beginning of 2005 between the Lawrence Open Shelter and the Community Drop In Center, both located in the building at 214 West 10th Street/944 Kentucky. The Drop In Center has been at this location since May 2000 and the Open Shelter since December 2003.

The subtitle of the Lawrence Community Shelter is "a path to a positive future". The shelter is committed to moving people from homelessness to housing, employment, health care, or whatever goal is appropriate to resolve their situation. To this end, LCS collaborates with every resource possible. It has close working relationships with a range of organizations including DCCCA, Bert Nash, the Lawrence Police Department, WorkForce Center, detox and rehab centers in Topeka and Kansas City, and Kansas Legal Services. Many of these programs are co-located at LCS to provide in-house assistance directly to LCS guests. In addition, LCS has its own Back-to-Work job coaching program (in conjunction with JobLink/Cottonwood), the Joseph Project for small business entrepreneurial employment of homeless adults (with cooperation from the KU Small Business Center), an AA presence, work-for-shelter tasks, storage, art therapy, mediation and counseling, and daily living services (mail, telephone, laundry) through either the daytime Drop In Center or the nighttime shelter. In addition, the Lawrence Community Shelter has been the lead agency in implementing the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database for Lawrence and Douglas County as mandated by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) with nine local participating agencies.

Mission Statement: The mission of the Lawrence Community Shelter is to provide safe shelter and comprehensive support services and programs that provide a path to a positive future for people experiencing homelessness and people who are at risk of homelessness.

The Lawrence Community Shelter has modeled much of its organization on best practices of shelters in Boulder, Topeka, Kansas City, and Seattle. The director of LCS has 30 years experience in working with direct service programs for low income and homeless populations in Washington, D.C., Kansas City, and Lawrence. Over 100 individuals make up the volunteer pool for various activities at LCS from cooking meals, staffing fundraising events, and working directly with guests to helping with maintenance. The depth of programs at LCS is limited only by the restrictions of space and funding. LCS is constantly looking for a better location and has an active building development committee.

Lawrence has done well in recent years to begin to grasp the scope of the homeless problem in our community and to reduce chronic homelessness locally. (See the January 2007 survey count in the accompanying materials.) The Mayor's Task Force on Homeless Services issued its report in the summer of 2005 with recommendations for a full service, 24-hour shelter which the Lawrence Community Shelter uses as its guide. To further the goals of the Task Force Report, LCS works with the Community Commission on Homelessness, the Interfaith Initiative, the Housing Practitioners' Panel, The Salvation Army, ECKAN, WTCS, and other service providers. LCS has developed a Good Neighbor Agreement through a series of public meetings and work sessions with the Oread Neighborhood Association, the Community Cooperation Committee, and other groups. A copy of the Good Neighbor Agreement also is attached to this letter.

The efforts and programs of the staff, board, and guests of the Lawrence Community Shelter have not made everything perfect, however. Problems continue with neighbors because of the large number of users of the shelter who trust its space for their safety and for its offer of assistance to get out of homelessness. The foot traffic at LCS causes difficulties in the part of the city where it is located. The LCS recognizes its responsibility in dealing with communal problems and will continue to work with all individuals and organizations necessary to accomplish the best results for Lawrence and Douglas County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



Loring Henderson
Director

Enclosures

cc: All members of the Planning Commission

March 26, 2007

To: The Lawrence – Douglas County Planning Commission

From: Shirley Martin-Smith, Chair
Community Commission on Homelessness

Re: The Lawrence Community Shelter SUP review

In June of 2005, the Lawrence City Commission established the Community Commission on Homelessness in order to work with existing service providers and agencies to facilitate implementation of the Homeless Services plan as recommended by the Task Force on Homeless Services.

In December of 2006, the City Commission was updated regarding the status of our work. I am attaching the letter to the commission for your information.

The Community Commission on Homelessness is working to meet the deadlines we have set and look forward to presenting our recommendations to the City Commission in June of 2007.

We urge the planning commission to take into account the work of the Community Commission on Homelessness and to work with the existing providers who must remain in place until better housing alternatives are determined.

Thank you for your serious consideration of our request.

December 19, 2006

Mayor Amyx and City Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to briefly update you on the status of the work of the Community Commission on Homelessness.

After working together for most of this year, the commission agreed to participate in a retreat that was held on December 7th. The purpose of the retreat was to try to move beyond personal frustration and discouragement to produce a plan to implement the task force recommendations for consideration by the City Commission.

At the retreat, our chair, Jane Faubion resigned to take a new career position and subsequent workload. The commission elected me to finish her term as Chair. Kim Gouge is Vice-Chair, and we both represent business on this commission.

As a result of our retreat we have been able to move beyond our differences and have a plan of work over the next 6 months to gain ground and focus on what we must be done to move the task force recommendations forward.

The work plan will establish a common vision and desired outcomes for emergency shelter and service delivery for those who experience homelessness. We will be taking the plan to the public with the assistance of the Community Cooperation Committee (outreach), to gain public input and support, prior to bringing any recommendations to the commission.

We anticipate a study session with you in June to review the recommendations and possible funding sources.

This is an aggressive agenda but we are committed to the task we have set for ourselves.

We have asked The Salvation Army, ECKAN and The Housing Authority to be part of our work groups and participate in our meetings for the next 6 months and they have agreed to do so. To their credit they want to be part of creating the recommendations, and we need their help.

Again thank you for letting me give you this update and a special thanks to Margene Swarts and Leslie Rigney who are very helpful in supporting our work.

**Shirley Martin-Smith
On behalf of the Community Commission on Homelessness**