



January 22, 2015
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Catholic Charities Community Services
4747 North 7th Avenue, Phoenix, 85013

Engaging and mobilizing faith communities to improve the quality of life for vulnerable and impoverished people through a statewide collaboration of faith-based, community and governmental organizations.

Minutes

I. Welcome, Invocation & Introductions

Chuck Fitzgerald welcomed attendees by reading the Council's mission statement. Chair Gary Kinnaman was not in attendance as he was attending Movement Day in Dallas, Texas.

Attendees briefly introduced themselves; the sign-in sheet for this meeting, and all past meeting archives, can be viewed here: <http://acfbci.org/meeting-archives/>

II. Dental Mission of Mercy, community clinics, and more!

Kevin Earle, Executive Director of the Arizona Dental Association (ADA), spoke about the work of the ADA, their foundation, their community dental clinics, and the recent Arizona Dental Mission of Mercy in Phoenix.

Kevin's key points were:

- Dental Care is critical, perhaps foundational, to the overall health and wellness of children and adults.
- Prevention efforts are moving trends of poor oral care downward. But much more needs to be done.
- Many members of the ADA in Arizona donate their time, expertise and resources in service to the uninsured and underinsured people in our communities. They are truly heroes for giving so freely of themselves.
- ADA has assisted the Navajo Nation develop a nutrition and wellness plan, that includes an oral health care plan.
- Tooth decay rates for Native American children is 4 times that of other children
- ADA is very concerned about our Developmentally Disabled neighbors and is advocating for their dental/oral care. This is a very big deal!
- Uninsured adults are unable to get oral/dental care in Arizona, other than through community/philanthropic avenues. Many attend emergency rooms for pain killers and antibiotics. This does not normally cure the problem, creates drug resistance, and it is also very expensive for our community. Only 8 states do not have Medicaid dental care; Arizona is one of these states. This issue will be part of the current legislative session and state budget negotiation process.
- Arizona Dental Mission of Mercy, two day event to provide free oral care for those who need it.



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- In December of 2012 (first year), 2,000 patients were served
- In December of 2013, just over 2000 patients were served
- In December of 2014, 1,665 patients were served, but did more dental care per person

Kevin showed a couple of videos that really tell the story of oral care and what happens when people don't get the care they need. These are very serious problems for these families. Videos and information are here: www.azmom.org. Please connect directly with Kevin with any comments or questions at kevin@azda.org.

III. Updates

- HopeFest Phoenix will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2015. Terrilyn Miller, Executive Director of CityServe Arizona, spoke of this year's event and the need for donations and volunteers. The best way to find out more about how you can connect with this is to contact Terrilyn directly via email at terrilyn.miller@cityserveaz.com or through their website at www.cityserveaz.com/hopefest
- Here is the flier she distributed at the meeting: http://acfbci.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/hf15_eng_wth_letter.pdf
- Governor's Office of Faith and Community Partnerships. Chuck Fitzgerald, Director of the Office, announced the launch of the CommunitySTAR initiative which will recognize community partners who are:
 - Serving the needs of vulnerable people
 - Learning to navigate the systems of care
 - Connecting people to service opportunities
 - Strengthening safety-net partnerships
 - Engaging the CommunitySTAR network
- Other Member Updates
 - Souper Bowl of Caring update was given by Dr. Paul Eppinger, Executive Director of the Arizona Interfaith Movement. Paul encouraged faith communities to collect food and money, and then to find a soup kitchen, food pantry or food bank to donate them. Let the Souper Bowl of Caring committee know about the donation at www.souperbowl.org/Arizona.

Additionally, Paul informed attendees of the statewide door to door effort of the Boy Scouts for supporting food banks.

- Nancy Kiflemariam, City of Phoenix, spoke of the Senior Savings Guide that helps seniors to find resources. Here is the guide: <http://acfbci.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Senior-Savings-Guide.pdf>.

Nancy also referred to the Senior Savings Resources (<http://acfbci.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Senior-Savings-Resources.pdf>) and the Easy Savings



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Resources (<http://acfbci.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/EASY-SAVING-RESOURCES.pdf>).

Nancy also spoke of the City of Phoenix efforts towards ACA enrollment.

- Joyce Lopez-Powell, Valley of the Sun United Way, is working on changing how “title loan” organizations operate in Arizona. If you would like to find out more about how these organizations harm the poor, and to learn how you might be able to help, please contact Joyce jlopezpowell@vsuw.org directly. The Center for Economic Integrity (<http://www.economicintegrity.org/>) in Tucson is looking for specific case information regarding these title loans; if you know someone who can help inform CEI, please call Kelly Griffith at 520.250.4416.
- Kevin Segal, Streetlight USA, spoke of their efforts for combating sex trafficking especially now during the big sporting week ahead. He spoke of the Scarlet Cord exhibit in downtown Phoenix (<http://flourishphx.com/2015/01/scarlet-cord/>) and encouraged all to visit the exhibit to learn more about this devastating crime. You can connect with Kevin at Kevin@StreetLightUSA.org.
- Ben Sanders, Community Ministries, shared his concern for the likely closing of the downtown Phoenix overflow shelter. Ben suggested having someone present on this topic at a future meeting.

Ben also talked about Tempe’s I-HELP efforts provided by the faith community (for 10 years - Wow!) with oversight by nonprofit social service agencies. Cynthia Hardy also spoke of Chandler’s I-HELP efforts, and provided interested attendees with an information flier.

IV. Closing Remarks and Adjourn

Kevin Segal closed the meeting with a word of prayer. The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 10 a.m.; location TBA.

Submitted by
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