

ST PERPETUA OUTREACH COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 2, 2017

Members Present: Ann Porcella, Mary Terjeson (Chairperson), Carol Weyer, Marielle Narkiewicz (Secretary), Ann Diemer, Virginia LaFaille, Pat Snyder, Diane Hansen, Mary Kuhn

Welcome and Opening Prayer: Mary welcomed everyone and handed out a prayer for the evening.

Speaker: Guest speaker: Drea Requelme from RotaCare

This is a regional organization that has 12 clinics in the Bay Area (Contra Costa county has the most RotaCare clinics per county). Drea Requelme has been with them for 5 years and opened their Richmond clinic. In every clinic there are only two paid positions: the clinic coordinator (Drea's position) and the nurse manager, so their success is due to the large number of volunteers they have. RotaCare gathers volunteers (medical and non-medical) to help uninsured adults. Visits include general doctor visits, 30 days of medications for free, diagnostic testing and some outpatient surgeries. They are an urgent care-based health system, which mostly sees asthmatics, diabetics (type 2), and similar diagnoses. Most clinics are open 4 days a month (usually every Tuesday) but the Pittsburg clinic is open 6 days a month (every Wednesday and sometimes on Saturdays). They see 15-20 patients on a Wednesday night clinic and about 15 patients on a Saturday clinic.

RotaCare gets their patients through phone calls; Drea describes it similarly to calling a radio station to get concert tickets- it's often a busy signal due to the need for care. Despite the difficulty getting through, they tell patients to keep calling to get an appointment. And though it's frustrating, it assures them that they are seeing the people they really need to (those who take the time to keep calling). They see patients that may have too-high insurance costs. They also see patients that are undocumented. They do not see: DMV notices, workers-comp, etc.

There are 3 clinics in Contra Costa County - Richmond, Concord, and Pittsburg. Pittsburg is in the process of being certified by the state as the lead clinic for the RotaCare system in the Bay Area. As such it will be responsible for compliance and licensing procedures for the network. When that is accomplished, it's hours will expand. Each clinic works through partnering with other organizations. In Concord, for example, they have a mobile vehicle provided by John Muir and they are able to travel and help people; the Pittsburg clinic is located at St. Vincent DePaul (which opened in February 2011 and is still increasing their numbers). They are open 20 hours a week and also

adding a Friday clinic and also every Saturday clinics. They've also started doing not just urgent care, but also primary care for more chronic issues (such as diabetes). Right now the Pittsburg clinic has 75 volunteers that come in and out (some come once a quarter and some may come every week).

They don't accept any federal funding and only accept in-kind donations to make sure that the payment for their patients is actually free. They also can provide gas cards as well as bus passes to help the patients get to the clinic they need to. Each clinic is responsible for generating their own funds for themselves. OpEx: \$275K per year. The Pittsburg clinic saved over \$275K in patient expenses from July 2015-June 2016.

*Good idea from Pat: ask Sandi to add something into the bulletin soliciting for volunteers.

Future Speakers:

June: Monument is set up to come.

Correspondence and Agency Updates: Mary/All

1. Putnam Clubhouse – research being done to determine if we add to permanent list; still on hold before making a decision.
2. Meals on Wheels – federal funding cuts- are other agencies impacted? Could this change the way that we give our funding (possibly giving more than we normally do)? Continue to watch.
3. We still have opportunity to act as liaison for Options for Women.

STAND is having some funding challenges; their administration costs were out running their budget and they are currently trying to solicit for funding.

Financial Report & Fund Distribution: Ann D / All

April funds to allocate: \$4667 reported by parish office. Ann D. recommended distributing to 8 agencies each are \$500 donations for a total of \$4000, and keeping \$667 reserved:

1. Project Hope - Anka
2. MOW/SOS
3. RotaCare
4. SHARE

5. Shelter Inc.
6. STAND
7. Trinity Center
8. We Care

Postpone the New Treasurer until we have developed a more standard routine with the parish office and possibly recruit from the parish.

Blue Barrel: Mary

Next collection ideas:

- Socks/underwear (men's), Diapers for Trinity Center
- Women's Health - Menstrual materials/feminine hygiene products for Shelter Inc. and STAND
- School supplies for August?

Food Basket: Virginia / Kitty

May 13/14 – Oatmeal, cereal (unsweetened) for St. Vincent DePaul

Shoes that Fit: Marj / Carol

No updates right now. Marj would like to reach out to a different school that could benefit from the donations. Also get a feel from Father John to see if we can donate to a Catholic school (he was opposed in the beginning). This will likely need to wait for the start of the next school year, as it is already end of school.

Other: Refugee Family: Mary K

The solicitation of donations to get the family's bedroom set up worked well; their bedroom has now been set up. Right now for the family, it might be best for them to stay with their brother (where they are currently staying). Is there any way as a parish that we could supplement their financial needs for a period of time? Another idea would be to add this family as a recipient for the natural things that Outreach does, rather than doing something specific for them, which would make them feel more comfortable. Right now most immediate needs: transportation to places they need to be; language lessons; help to meeting/knowing people; finding people with the same aged kids, same interests, etc. Mary will speak with Father John to discuss possibilities and then update Outreach as needed.

Other: Rotating Chairperson:

We need volunteers for August-December.

Shelter Dinners: Ann Diemer

How will we continue to do Shelter Dinners when they begin the kitchen remodel? If we increase the stipend, we could buy more prepared food rather than need a kitchen for all of the food. There is also a nearby commercial kitchen that might be able to donate their kitchen for a short time to complete the dinners (Back to the Table). Loaves and Fishes may also be able to help with the donation of their kitchen as well.

Chef for May: Stacy Lewis and Rob and Carla Combe will be the transporters and Betty Clover will help them along the way.

Publicity: Sandi

Has all the information she needs for the bulletin.

Closing Prayer: The meeting was ended with group prayer of the Hail Mary.

Next Meeting: June 6, 2017, Chairperson will be Mary Terjeson