

ST PERPETUA OUTREACH COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 7, 2017

Members Present: Ann Porcella, Sandi Gritzer, Joan Liston, Mary Terjeson (Chairperson), Carol Weyer, Marj Ho, Marielle Narkiewicz (Secretary), Kitty Locke, Ann Diemer, Karen Kalvass, Mary Kuhn, Diane Hansen, Tamara Hunter (speaker from Putnam Clubhouse unable to attend, see replacements under Speaker below)

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

Speaker: We have two guests from Putnam Clubhouse: Yan Bennis, Program Manager and John Coombs. Putnam Clubhouse is operated by the Contra Costa Clubhouses, Inc and is accredited by the Clubhouse International. Clubhouse International, began in New York City, and supports "Clubhouses" around the world where people living with mental illness can thrive. There are now clubhouses in 33 different countries. Putnam Clubhouse is the only accredited clubhouse in northern California. Our Mission: Affords people living with mental illness the opportunity to recover meaningful and productive lives through reintegration with the workplace and the community.

Putnam Clubhouse provides a safe and accepting place to spend the day, valuable work to perform within the organization, career development support returning to school and work, opportunities to socialize, wellness programs, expressive arts activities and outreach. Only four mental illnesses qualify for this program - bipolar disorder, major depression, schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder. The participants are called members, not clients or patients, share responsibility for the Clubhouse's success. They are open from 9-5. They do not offer housing; they only offer day hours. They have at least two outings a month on the weekends. To become a member, someone (doctor or therapist) must verify the member's illness. They are about 2/3 men. There is no membership fee.

One of the members was a speaker: John is a member of the clubhouse for close to 4 ½ years now. He feels it's a very tight knit community. A clubhouse is a social, vocational and rehabilitation facility for people who have mental illness with one of four major illnesses. What they do is the work order day- they work running the clubhouse of all the different jobs needed to make the clubhouse function. They cook, clean, laundry, shopping, and clerical work like data entry. They also have a lot of videos online made by members of staff. They also help members go back to school.

They have a gala once a year to fundraise. It becomes your community, your friends, family, and support system. They can see that what they are doing has a positive outcome. Every morning they have a meeting at 930 and will ask who wants to work where (“who wants to work in the kitchen today?”) and everyone is assigned tasks they want to do. They have about 800 members total, they see about 350 yearly, and about 40-50 members a day. Their members work 50K hours a year. Age range is 18-35 for young adults and then no cap on anyone older than that- their oldest member is in their 70s. They have 3 work units: Hospitality (kitchen, cleaning, shopping); Clerical Administrative and Multimedia; and Vocational, educational, retail, development and enrichment (they help provide some of the career services they offer). They have a thrift store, and lunch is only \$2 and dinner is only \$1, they also have a snack-bar area. It’s more about the relationships that are built that brings members back. The members have a benefit of writing work experience on their resume as volunteering, to help them with job opportunities. They will help members search for job opportunities to get them the job, rather than finding the job for them. Having something meaningful to do, which has nothing to do with mental illness, that’s what the clubhouse gives their members.

Next event is April 22nd (Earth Day) to clean Willow Pass Road. They have raised \$150K last year from their gala. They will be doing a dancing with the stars themed event with each “vote” being a donation to the clubhouse. They also have about 2/3 of their budget from MHSA (Mental Health Services Act) money (~ \$600K).

What else do they need other than monetary help: Thrift store needs: they could use interview clothes, larger sizes especially- and the Outreach Committee may be able to help with that.

Future Speakers: No One Left Behind for April.

Correspondence and Agency Updates: Mary/All

Outreach discussion regarding Putnam Clubhouse: Should we add them to our list? If so then we would need to fill out the profile sheet to ensure it meets our requirements. Mary Kuhn & Diane Hansen volunteered to be co-liaisons.

We still have three other opportunities to act as liaison for new group:

1. Bay Area Rescue Mission – Ann P and Mary T visited and recommend they stay on the list
2. Child Abuse Prevention - Ann Diemer will visit them in the next month to determine viability
3. Options for Women

Friendly Manor is having a gala in April and they are looking for prizes.
Meals on Wheels senior outreach has a gala coming up May 18th and they are also looking for prizes.

Spring Into Action luncheon for Birthright on Thursday March 30th.

Options for Women is having Walk for Life on Saturday May 20th.

Financial Report & Fund Distribution: Ann D / All

We received permission to spend the unallocated money remaining at the end of the fiscal year in December. The winter nights ticket sales was money in, and the winter nights check was money out. This is the first-year Outreach has managed the funds through our reporting.

February funds to allocate: \$6,829. \$5500 allocated, each are \$500 donations:

1. Putnam Club (for speaking today)
2. Bay Area Crisis Nursery
3. Bay Area Rescue Mission
4. CCIC
5. Child Abuse Prevention Council
6. Contra Costa Food Bank
7. Shelter Inc.
8. STAND for Families Free of Violence
9. Trinity Center
10. We Care
11. Youth Homes

Blue Barrel: Mary

We are set for 18th /19th for collection: gently new and used bath towels and new pajamas for children, teens and women.

Sorting Monday March 20th at 9:00am and distributions: STAND for Families and Sandi will distribute; Friendly Manor with Karen to distribute; And CCIC cleaning kits with Kitty to distribute.

Winter Nights: Karen/Mary

Thank you received from Monica Chappell for ORC help with ticket sales. Program went very well.

Food Basket: Virginia / Kitty

March 11/12; items: Canned Fruit / Vegetables / Hominy- Monument

Shoes that Fit: Marj / Carol

Carol and Marj met with the Vice Principal. They have nine new teachers this year as well (lots of people unfamiliar with this program). They are also getting donations for shoes and clothes from another organization. So, we should stay with this school, but also look to an additional school to give help where it is needed. The plan is to have two more lists: the week of March 20th and another in mid-May.

Marj will look for a different Catholic school that we may be able to donate to. Another idea is to donate nice shoes for high school graduation at the end of the year instead.

Other: Refugee Family: Mary K

Mary K had 37 people sign up after her presentation/talk during mass. There is a meeting, Thursday March 9th at 7pm at the church hall, with Mary K along with two other speakers to meet with those that signed up to give information on how they hosted families themselves and what is involved. After this meeting we will understand what is needed from St Perpetua and the Outreach Committee.

Other: Lenten Simple Soup Supper: Mary T

Supper will be 3/23 - Ann D can help (will take the lead); others who can help -Marielle, Sandi, Carol and Mary T. Ann D will coordinate with Christoph and send a note out to outreach on more details needed.

Shelter Dinners: Ann Diemer

School will do it this month and in April we will need help.

Publicity: Sandi

Sandi has everything she needs.

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

Next Meeting: April 4, 2017, Chairperson will be Mary Terjeson