

St. Perpetua Outreach Committee Meeting

September 3, 2019

Members Present: Pat Snyder (Chair), Dee Dee Hansen (Secretary), Karen Kalvass, Ann Porcella, Ann Diemer, Marielle Narkiewicz, Joan Liston, Kitty Locke, Mary Terjeson, Carol Weyer, Sandi Gritzer, Marj Ho

Welcome and Prayer: Pat welcomed everyone and began with an opening prayer.

Speaker: Bev Williams from Contra Costa Interfaith Coalition (CCIC) updated us on their outreach and work within the county. CCIC is made up of 16 faith based congregations that provide a human service network within the county. They work closely with social service agencies that provide food, shelter and clothing to the needy. Their network of volunteers collects and delivers furniture, household goods, infant items, and food boxes as well as food gift cards to families referred by county agencies. Bev said that they are grateful for St. Perpetua's continued support. They are a 100% volunteer organization.

Next month we are scheduled to have a speaker from *We Care* and in January from *Friendly Manor*.

Correspondence and Agency Updates:

- Joan Liston received a thank you for our donation to Trinity Center.
- Marj Ho said that Bay Area Crisis Nursery is still in transition but there are positive signs that differences within the agency are improving.

Agency Evaluations:

Mary has prepared a master list of agencies we support that includes a summary of services they offer, their annual budget, direct service and fundraising/administrative percentages, and funding sources. At this point we did not see any agencies from which we should withdraw our support, but there are three that we should be watching. These agencies are vulnerable to becoming less effective as their leadership may dissolve. The three mentioned are St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at St. Francis church, Bay Area Crisis Nursery, and CCIC.

Discussion revolved around possibly cutting back on donations to agencies that are well funded. We might want to consider holding a reserve for special projects or give to smaller agencies as their unexpected needs arise.

For next meeting: Come up with ideas for revising the distribution of Outreach funds. These include:

- Criteria for eliminating or lessening the funding of an agency
- If we create a reserve, how much money should that reserve contain
- Process and criteria for donating from the reserve to special projects

Financial Report:

Ann Diemer presented the Financial Report. There is one discrepancy in the current financial statement. There was an additional deposit of \$161 and, therefore, we may have \$161 more than the balance shown. Currently we have \$1400-\$1600 in the account and gave two \$500 donations in September (Loaves and Fishes and Monument Crisis Center).

Food Basket: 30 bags of macaroni and cheese and rice were collected in July and delivered to SVDP Food Pantry. In August 32 bags of peanut butter and crackers were collected and delivered to Monument Crisis Center. Next collection is September 14 and 15 (canned meals).

Blue Barrel:

The next Blue Barrel will be our annual Coat Drive on October 19 and 20. The theme is *Share the Warmth* where coats, hats, gloves, blankets etc will be collected and delivered to agencies.

Shoes That Fit:

Marj reported that Willow Cove is interested in our *Shoes That Fit* program and by mid-September we should receive the list of requested shoes. There may also be potential contact for a school in Richmond, CA.

Winter Nights

Next month we will decide on a list for our assigned week in early November. The sign-ups in the back of the church will be the weekend of October 12-13. Sandi will put the announcement in the bulletin.

Friendly Manor:

In August a group from the parish served lunch to 30 women at Friendly Manor. On September 27 Friendly Manor will have a picnic lunch at a local park. The City of Oakland will provide a bus to transport the women to and from the park. St. Perpetua will provide the lunch and the menu will include hamburgers left over from Fr. John's party. Karen needs several volunteers to help with the picnic lunch that day.

Other:

- Pat distributed an Outreach Committee Volunteer Opportunities list. For next meeting please edit so it can be distributed to the parish. The last one was sent out in 2016.
- A film about the homeless made in Contra Costa County called *211 Seeking Shelter* is still available. The filmmaker now lives in Oregon but want to continue distributing the film to interested groups and organizations. Pat asked for names of organizations where the film could be sent. Suggestions made to consider for use here in our parish included our planned November homeless month program, running during coffee and donuts after the Masses, and showing to the youth group. Because November is Homeless Month, the committee felt that several faith organizations may be interested in securing a copy of the film, especially those involved with Winter Nights.
- Joan announced that Trinity Center moved out of their 1st temporary location at 1271 S. California Blvd. They have been offered a 2nd temporary space at 1300 Boulevard Way until (hopefully!) **Nov. 24**, which is their target date to move into St. Paul's Commons.
- Karen asked about having an ongoing single item Blue Barrel for Friendly Manor. Opinions were mixed and follow-up can be at a later meeting.

Closing Prayer: We ended the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be October 1 at 7:30 pm in the Parish Office.