

## ST. PERPETUA OUTREACH COMMITTEE MINUTES

December 3, 2019

Members Present: Marielle Narkiewicz (Chair), Pat Snyder, Mary Terjeson, Karen Kalvass, Ann Diemer (Treasurer/Acting Secretary), Joan Liston, Kitty Locke, Carol Weyer, Sandi Gritzer,

Welcome and Prayer: Marielle welcomed everyone and began with an opening prayer asking the Holy Spirit to help us put our trust in the power of good to overcome evil.

Speaker: In January we are scheduled to have a speaker, Yani Hyman, from Friendly Manor.

### Correspondence and Agency Updates:

- A number of Thank You's were received for recent donations.
- Joan Liston announced that Trinity Center will soon be impacted by two retirements, Donna Columbo expected to retire in June, and Carol Lombard also expected to retire in 2020.
- Karen Kalvass noted she will complete the Agency Profile for Friendly Manor soon as Yani Heyman was ill but will soon have time to complete.
- Virginia LaFaille is not able to continue on the Committee. The collection of food and distribution to the Food Pantry at St. Francis of Assisi is being taken care of but we could use additional help and we do not have a replacement liaison. Sandi Gritzer will include an announcement in one of the next bulletins asking for assistance with this agency and see if we get any volunteers.
- Pat Snyder gave an update on the ANKA/Project Hope situation. Unfortunately, the entire program is no longer being funded by the County. The County has added staff and will be bringing these services inside and no longer relying on outside agencies. The County will not be sending people into the encampments, as Project Hope had done. However, some of the agencies intend to continue to send people into the encampments, even without County funding. Pat would like to go forward with the socks and gift bag program this year and will work through the agencies to distribute. She will investigate how this program can be continued next year in light of this reorganization.

### Agency Evaluations:

Mary had 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. Most recently Mary had sorted by total budget and budget not including in kind services. At a prior meeting it was suggested that perhaps the top ten agencies in order of size of budget be limited to a total of \$1000 in donations each year so that more money could be reserved for the less well funded agencies. In looking at the master list with in kind services removed, several of the agencies in the top ten appeared to be less well funded than originally perceived. There was some discussion and Ann Diemer suggested that the top six agencies still appear to be well funded, as well as the ninth agency. She proposed that these seven agencies be limited to a total of \$1000 in donations in 2020. Marielle Narkiewicz suggested that we try this approach for one year and then re-evaluate. All agreed that this seemed like a good approach and should probably be re-evaluated each year going forward.

To Summarize, the following seven well funded agencies will be limited to \$1000 in donation in the year 2020 in order to reserve more funds for the less well funded agencies.

Food Bank of Contra Costa And Solano, Shelter, Inc., Bay Area Rescue Mission, Youth Homes, STAND, We Care, and Child Abuse Prevention Council.

#### Financial Report:

Ann Diemer presented the Financial Report. There is one discrepancy in the current financial statement. Because the October check to ANKA was not cashed, the balance in the Outreach account is \$500 more than expected. Ann zeroed out the October check to ANKA and the office report now concurs with Ann's spread sheet. The disbursements in November were \$1645 and the collections were \$1309. The current balance in the Outreach account is \$1,674. In reviewing the agencies it was noted that only two agencies have received less than \$1500. The Bay Area Rescue Mission and the Contra Costa Food Bank have each received \$1000 year to date. These are the two agencies for which the Cash for Turkeys is typically earmarked. In looking at other expense, there is an outstanding expense of \$586 for socks for ANKA gift bags and Kitty Locke also has some outstanding expenses for CCIC kits. The group decided it would be prudent to preserve most of the balance for outstanding expenses and limit donations in December to the Cash for Turkey agencies. It is assumed that something close to \$1000 will be collected through Cash for Turkeys (last year it was \$800) and we will go forward with a \$500 donation to Bay Area Rescue Mission and a \$500 donation to the Food Bank to round out the year 2019 donations.

#### Christmas Food Drive:

Most of the bags were handed out at last weeks Masses. The collection will begin this weekend, December 7/8 and the remainder of the bags will be handed out. The collection will continue on December 14/15. The first week donated food will be sorted Monday December 9 following morning Mass and will be taken to Monument Crisis Center. The second week donated food will be sorted Monday December 16 and will be taken to the food pantry at St Francis of Assisi. There was general discussion and coordination of who will attend each Mass and assist throughout both collection weekends. Marielle will send out a list to remind folks of what they signed up for.

#### Shoes That Fit:

Carol Weyer reported that she and Marj Ho are still waiting for the first list from Los Medanos. It has now gotten so close to Holiday break that filling the list will need to wait till January. The communications with Los Medanos have been poor. The program is working much more effectively at the Willow Cove school.

#### Winter Nights

Karen Kalvas reported out on the November Winter Nights assistance that St Perpetua provided. She noted that the program has been embraced by St Perpetua and that 121 people donated their time and many more donated money. The Winter Nights program has been very successful in placing people in permanent housing. They continue to expand. This year they started two sites with Parking Lot programs where homeless can park their cars and be safe and have bathroom facilities available. Next year they plan to start a program in East County, first for just six weeks. This may take a few churches from the current program so they will be looking for additional church sites. Karen mentioned she is hopeful that St Perpetua will be able to host the program in the new Community Center in the future. She said many of the St Perpetua volunteers had expressed to her that they would like to see St Perpetua hosting as they used to in the past.

Ann Diemer mentioned she had heard from Julie Sabaddini that Julie and Monica Chappell are planning to do a pasta feed to raise money for Winter Nights on February 8. Ann has reached out to Monica to see how the Outreach Committee can help, particularly with selling tickets at weekend Masses.

#### Friendly Manor:

The November 22 lunch was well received. Clients at Friendly Manor were interviewed about what improvements they would like to see and they were unanimous that more hot meals would be appreciated! They are very thankful to St Perpetua. The next lunch is December 20 and Marie Ward is coordinating.

#### Shelter Dinners:

Ann Diemer reported that the October and November dinners went well and that the December dinner is being handled in its entirety by Maureen Vierengel.

#### Other:

- The Assistance League Thrift Shop has offered to give us any linens they receive if we can find a home for them and keep them from accumulating at the Shop, as they have no storage room. Mary Terjeson and Karen Kalvass are following up to see which of our agencies can use linens and if there is a match where we can collect and distribute the linens from the Thrift Shop.
- Karen Kalvass reported that she had potted 650 daffodils for next springs daffodil sales.
- Karen recalled that in the spring she had given daffodils to those who take communion to shut-ins for them to give to those individuals. The recipients were very pleased with the thought and Karen would like to do the same thing during the Christmas season. She asked for approximately \$100 to fund purchasing some bouquets and they will be supplemented by cookies baked by Karen and others. Karen said she considers it Outreach within the Parish! The Committee agreed to this expenditure.
- Thanks to Carol Weyer for updating the Committee Roster

#### Publicity:

Sandi Gritzer noted she has everything she needs for publicity in the bulletin. She will include a request for volunteers to assist with collecting and delivering food to St. Francis of Assisi each month and also for someone to possibly join the Outreach Committee and be the liaison to St. Francis of Assisi, if they wish to become more involved.

#### Closing Prayer:

We ended the meeting with the Hail Mary.

NEXT MEETING: January 7 at 7:30 pm in the Parish Office.

Mary Terjeson and Pat Snyder will draw straws for who is the next Chair person.