



AGENDA REPORT

SAN CLEMENTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Meeting Date: July 7, 2015

Agenda Item 6E
Approvals:
City Manager MM
Dept. Head CSB
Attorney MR
Finance JV

Department: Community Development Department

Prepared By: Denise Obrero, Housing Programs Planner
Kay Childs, Human Affairs Committee Chair

Subject: *HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015*

Fiscal Impact: None.

Summary: Staff recommends that City Council receive and file the Human Affairs Report.

Background: The Human Affairs Committee (HAC) was established in 1988 for the purpose of surveying San Clemente social service's needs and making recommendations to the City Council. In conjunction with the San Clemente Collaborative, committee members and Housing Staff collaborate with non-profits and community based organizations to provide neighborhood outreach events, education training sessions, and plan community-wide forums during the year.

Discussion: The Human Affairs members are the social services eyes and ears of the Community Development Department and the City Council. The HAC meets regularly every other month to discuss the social challenges in our community and to receive updates on the progress of various community coalitions, sub-committees and non-profit organizations that support San Clemente's under served residents.

Mission Hospital uses the community health needs assessment (HNA) as a time to more fully understand the significant health and quality of life needs facing its most vulnerable community members. In 2014 Mission Hospital prepared a survey that looked at five community-related areas. Based on this survey the HAC members focused this past year's work on the following topics:

- Substance abuse
- Access to affordable health care
- Affordable housing advocacy
- Support for domestic violence victims
- Planning for senior's needs in the community

Substance Abuse:

An area of concern to the HAC has been the use of alcohol and youth substance abuse in the community, in particular at San Clemente High School (SCHS). A task force has been working on these issues for over three years; they have coordinated

educational forums for the community which provided substance abuse information and resources for teachers, parents and students. San Clemente High School currently has a part-time Wellness and Prevention Center counselor and she provides guidance and support for hundreds of families. The City awarded a social services grant to help fund a small portion of the Wellness and Prevention Center's programming. Our shared community goal is for the at-risk students, parents, and guardians to become more educated about existing counseling and social service resources.

Access to Affordable Health Care:

This area has been an on-going issue identified in the last two health needs assessment surveys conducted by Mission Hospital. Currently, Camino Health Center provides a mobile medical unit that comes to Downtown San Clemente twice a month to see clients. Additionally, they run the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program, addressing the needs for proper nutrition from pregnancy through to school age children. Last year, access to low cost health care continued to be a focus of the HAC. According to Census data, San Clemente has approximately 7,851 residents who do not have health coverage. This Fall, the Camino Health Center based in San Juan Capistrano will be opening a satellite community clinic in Talega. They will have five medical exam rooms, two dental rooms and will provide behavioral health services. The majority of social service agencies, including behavioral health services, are located in North Orange County. Expanding these services to South County will also assist residents and their families with access to treating chronic illnesses such as asthma, diabetes and hypertension.

Affordable Housing Advocacy:

Construction is well underway for a 19-unit Workforce Housing Development located in the Downtown area. National CORE anticipates it will be completed in September and leased up in October. In addition, Meta Housing Corporation opened a senior affordable housing development in South San Clemente. Currently, the property is completely occupied by seventy-six residents whose affordable rents are based on HUD income guidelines.

Support for Domestic Violence Victims:

A new task force has formed under the leadership of Dr. Patty Drown to identify the gaps in services for domestic violence victims. They will be presenting their findings to the HAC and the City Council in August. The San Clemente Domestic Violence (SCDV) Task Force has trained advocates to assist victims to prepare for court; has established a free legal clinic to secure temporary restraining orders through the offices of local family law attorney Joseph Castagna. There are two events planned for 2015. The first is the **Art of Compassion** where, in partnership with the San Clemente Art Supply Store, they will host an evening where women will be able to produce art work showing their solidarity with victims. All funds will go towards a community shared fund to assist clients in art therapy programs. In the Fall a **Clothes in Compassion Event** will help to collect and distribute gently used professional clothing for women in transition to new jobs and new lives.

Planning for Senior's Needs in the Community:

Because of City Council interest, last year the HAC started a sub-committee to look at best practices and strategies to address senior needs. We do have the Dorothy Visser Senior Center of San Clemente where a variety of educational and recreational activities are available, along with meals on wheels for sick seniors and/or shut-in clients. The HAC is researching other ways to support our seniors, especially those who wish to remain in their own homes but have challenges when it comes to transportation, running errands, and regular socialization opportunities. There is a national movement to address this community concern as Baby Boomers age in place. Current data shows that Orange County adults aged fifty years and older comprise over 1.2 million persons. According to another study, there are approximately forty million seniors in the nation; however, in 2030 there will be over eighty million seniors nationwide. The HAC are helping local service providers and healthcare providers to plan for this huge demographic increase in California.

The task force is focused to establish a "Senior Village" in San Clemente. The goal of the non-profit endeavor is to have a membership organization that can provide no-cost or low-cost services to an aging population. The membership would provide transportation and other services to its members. A non-profit 501C tax application is being filed, various committees of volunteers are being formed to develop the structure of the organization and a web site is under development all with the generous help of volunteers and stakeholders.

The Community Development Department staff, residents and community volunteers have worked tirelessly the past ten years to increase community outreach efforts, help reduce crime, and bring seniors, residents and neighbors together with quarterly intergenerational activities. This past year has been a positive experience for me as the HAC Chair person. The HAC endeavors to provide support to the residents of San Clemente so that they may enjoy the quality of life described in the City's Mission statement.

On behalf of the other committee members, Vice Chair Nancy Sutherland, Patricia Drown, Patricia Pinto, Patricia Hasbrook, Bill Ewing, and Marta Smith, the HAC extends thanks for the opportunity to serve our wonderful city. In addition, we extend our heartfelt appreciation to the City Council for your support of our efforts and the financial support of the FY2016 Social Services Grant Program.

Action: STAFF RECOMMENDS THAT the City Council receive and file the Human Affairs Report

Attachments: None.

Notification: None.