



# Topeka/Shawnee County Homeless Task Force

c/o Community Resources Council

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## Minutes November 18, 2009

The November 18, 2009 meeting of the Topeka/Shawnee County Homeless Task Force was called to order at 1:00 pm by the chairman, Kim Swinney. Introductions were accomplished and the minutes of the October meeting were then discussed and approved.

Kim reported on the opening of nominations for officers of the organization. The Executive Committee recommends the following slate of officers:

### Officers

Chris Kratochvil	Chair
Corrie Wright	Chair elect

### At Large Members

Doug Wallace, Ken Williams, John Castello and Roslyn Crouch Neal

Kim Swinney presented a report from the Desk Audit Review Committee selected to perform desk audits. The audit committee members are Diane Etzel-Wise, John Johnston and Karen Peterson and their report covered a HUD Grant to TMAP, a HUD grant to HCCI and a HUD grant to the City of Topeka for Shelter Plus Care.

Wendy Coonrod of Community Action gave a report on their ARRA funds. They are partnering with HCCI and Kansas Legal Services in a work training program. The partnership is providing various services behind a goal of helping people gain and maintain employment. Community Action has developed a work training program for people who are studying to receive their Child Development Associate (CDA) or Commercial Drivers License (CDL) certifications. HCCI is providing workshops on financial literacy. Kansas Legal Services is providing job and life skills training. Community Action is also partnering with one or two agencies in the nearby counties of Geary, McPherson, Saline, Clay, and Ottawa to provide services.

Kim Swinney reported on the Expecting Success program which offers training for third trimester expectant mothers on various health issues and life skills including job readiness and retention plans

### Announcements

Lewis Kimsey of SRS announced that it will become harder to get assistance in completing applications for the LIEAP program due to downsizing and location movements of staff. A new application will come into use on

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January 19<sup>th</sup> and we are requested to recycle the old LIEAP applications. There is a website which can be used to gain assistance in completing applications and which will have the forms available:

[www.ks-energy-assistance.com](http://www.ks-energy-assistance.com)

Phone for LIEAP application: 1-800-432-0043

Chris Kratochvil of HCCI mentioned that anyone who is an alumni of the HCCI training programs can always come back to HCCI and get assistance in completing a LIEAP application.

Jeff Karas of the Topeka Rescue Mission announced that they had received a code variance from the City of Topeka to place cots.

Ken Williams of Cornerstone announced completion of eight units for low income rental. They expect to have twenty units total when their current project is completed.

**In attendance:**

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Kim Swinney – KLS-TMAP

John Castello – CRC

Wendy Coonrod – Community Action

Lewis Kimsey – SRS

Ken Williams – Cornerstone

Charlene Wallace – Family Service & Guidance

Kelly Matthews – Cornerstone

Jeff Karas – TRM

Jessica Hosman – TRM

Ben Whisnant – Topeka Aids Project

Chris Kratochvil – HCCI