

Southernmost Homeless Assistance League, Inc.

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SHAL Monthly Report May 2016 SHAL News

SHAL Outreach Reaches New Heights

SHAL Outreach Director **Elicia Pintabona**, in addition to delivering her first child in May, oversaw and assisted Case Managers **Amy Yancich** and **Channing Lamar** delivering over 800 services to 152 sheltered and unsheltered homeless men and women during the month. The new SHAL record for services in one month included **32** relocations (almost \$6,000), **28** Birth Certificates, **19** health care appointments, **22** assists for food stamps and **39** Coordinated Assessment referrals to other agencies.

Breakfast at the Shelter

The **Key West United Methodist Church** sent an early morning crew out to the Shelter on Memorial Day with a delicious spread of breakfast treats for the clients. Pastor **Rev. Terri Hill** and mission leader **Kris Pabian** and numerous church members were on



hand to get KOTS clients off to the second pre-dawn nourishment of the week. The church also donated bags of much-needed personal items for each client, with a big supply left over for future use. A wonderful way to start off the holiday!



Other churches, civic groups and clubs are encouraged to contact Executive Director **John Miller** (ExDir.SHAL@gmail.com or 502.876.5092) to make arrangements to provide breakfast, supplies or other items for our neediest citizens.

The first breakfast of that week was SHAL's run-through of our new in-house breakfast program which we plan to be a regular feature. Shelter Director **Mike Tolbert** and John Miller personally served the simple biscuits & gravy (and juice!) breakfast as a test for the program that will begin soon. SHAL thanks **The Community Foundation of the Florida Keys** for awarding SHAL the seed money to buy some used equipment and initial food supplies for the much needed program.



SHAL SHELTER OPERATIONS

Shelter Usage

The Client Track database shows that there were slightly less than **100** clients sleeping in the Shelter on an average night in May 2016. The Shelter was not full by 9 pm on any evening. The data also show that **239** different (non-duplicated) individuals stayed at the Shelter for an average stay of **12** days during the month. SHAL served a total of 312 unduplicated homeless persons in during the month.

Shelter Director **Mike Tolbert** treated the facility with scabicide during May, and continues to improve safety, cleanliness and make operational changes so that more homeless persons will utilize the shelter, helping to integrate them into SHAL programs and Case Management, and move them more quickly toward self-sufficiency.

There were only **2** EMT calls made for Shelter clients in May. Clients with non-urgent medical needs are transported via the SHAL automobile, saving an ambulance run.

SHAL OUTREACH

Service Summary Report • May 2016

SHAL Outreach provided over 800 services to 152 clients in April. This included services to **73** Sheltered and **79** unsheltered homeless persons in Key West & Marathon. **Thirty-two** more individuals were relocated back to the mainland and other states in May alone.

Total Services: 834, Case Management contacts: **152**

Health Care Services Referred: 19

Mental Health: 1 Prescription Assistance: 2

Other Services:

Case Management: 214

Information Services: 208

Cell Phones: 15

Food/Clothing: 19

ID/Residency Services: 62

SS Issues: 9

Birth Certificates: 28

Trans. Services: 7

Food Stamps: 22

Mailing Address: 133

Long Dist. Relocation: 32

**Coordinated
Assessments: 39**

May SHAL Success Stories

SHAL worked in conjunction with dePoo social workers to assist a client who was a double amputee and blind. SHAL was able to assist with obtaining a birth certificate and ID for this client, which assisted his ability to apply to an Assisted Living Facility in Homestead and get him off of the streets. He was accepted into the Assisted Living Facility and is now stably housed!

A male client that SHAL assisted back in December to receive surgery for his vision was finally approved for Social Security and should begin receiving his checks next month.

SHAL assisted a male who became homeless after losing his leg in a scooter accident to get food stamps, Medicaid, and has a social security application pending.

The SHAL Housing First program will be dropping off checks for a woman who was homeless with her 10-year-old daughter. With the assistance of our program, she and her daughter will be stably housed in Marathon.

SHAL relocated M.C. & R.G. back in March 2015 to Minnesota. Clients were very motivated to relocate and both clients had very promising jobs awaiting their arrival. They stayed with friends and family until they could find permanent housing. They went through a Homeless Program in MI. The Case Manager then contacted me to verify services given to clients while in SHAL's Program. Clients were awarded permanent housing due to their long term homeless services thru our SHAL Case Management Program and their motivation to improve their situation.

Other Highlights

- SHAL continued to provide temporary mailing address for SS, Food Stamps and Birth Certificates.
- Were able to pay for clients' medication for acute illnesses.
- Continued outreach to the Middle Keys with a limited presence in Marathon funded by Monroe County.
- SHAL regularly attends meetings for the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Council.
- Continued case management services to jail clients.
- SHAL continues to work with the Public Defender's Office and the JIP program to assist clients upon release from jail.