

BETTY CHINN OUTREACH PROJECT... BUILDING ORGANIZATIONAL
CAPACITY

By

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A Project Presented to
The Faculty of Humboldt State University
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Social Work

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May, 2015

Abstract

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This project explores capacity building in the form of grant writing, donations and building community awareness through education for the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation. The Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation is a local non-profit organization that addresses issues of homelessness by providing street outreach in the form of: meals, case-management, stabilization services, children's programs, transitional housing and many other services designed to meet the needs of the local homeless population. This project will be conducted in collaboration with the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation to assess the needs of the homeless community in Humboldt County. The homeless population in Humboldt County has an under met need for food, personal hygiene supplies and other vital day to day necessities. This project will complete three grant proposals designed to address the needs of the homeless population. The grant proposals will open up further networking and grant opportunities. Ecological systems theory will be utilized in driving the theoretical framework for this project.

Keywords: non-profit organization, grant, Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation, homelessness

Acknowledgements

I would like to express many thanks to the dynamic staff at the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation; particularly, its founder, Betty Chinn. I consider it an honor to have worked with a passionate, hardworking humanitarian such as Betty Chinn. I am grateful to my committee members for the feedback and guidance they've offered; including Serenity Bowen, Betty Chinn, John Gai, and Dr. Jennifer Maguire, with a special thanks to John Gai whose ongoing support provided me with opportunities to further my learning and growth. His contributions to this project have been invaluable. Finally, I would like to thank my mother, Emily Shears, for being the kind of social worker I hope to one day become and for promoting in me a passion for social justice.

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Introduction

Poverty is one of the most pressing social concerns in the United States today. Of the poor, the most visible are the homeless. Whether they are panhandling drifters, chronically homeless, or transitionally homeless due to a crisis, no society is unaffected by the social problem of homelessness. Since the economic crash of 2008, many individuals and families have been facing greater struggles in meeting basic needs, such as adequate food and shelter, and have become homeless in the process (Goff, 2013).

Those experiencing homelessness have a profound risk for being exposed to a variety of harms. Many of the harms homeless people experience are due to inadequate hygiene. Not only is the quality of life diminished for homeless individuals but so is the overall life expectancy. Many are susceptible to communicable diseases, as a result of living in groups or open spaces (Raoult, 2012). Common infections homeless individuals are exposed to include: scabies, tuberculosis, viral hepatitis, respiratory infections, and hepatitis A, B and C (Raoult, 2012). These infections are significantly higher in homeless populations than in the general population. The risks for infectious diseases remain a public health challenge for the overall population. The need to implement strategies to reduce these risks is crucial.

In addition to lack of proper hygiene, those experiencing homelessness also face greater challenges in parenting and raising children. Amid the difficulties that homelessness poses, parents often express how relationships with their children are an extremely important and central aspect of their lives. Homeless families have frequent

moves and short stays in shelters, friends' and/or relatives' homes or on the streets (Daryn, 2013). Homeless families also experience difficulties when enrolling in school, obtaining proper records, transportation, residency requirements, and lack of clothing, food, school supplies and hygiene facilities. Due to these difficulties, homeless children evidence reduced educational outcomes compared to poor-but-housed children (Daryn, 2013). Additional challenges include: poor physical, mental, and dental health, developmental delays, poor school performance, social issues and stigma. According to the Better Homes Fund (1999) children without a home are more than two times as likely as poor-but-housed children to experience hunger, have serious and untreated health concerns, and have higher rates of asthma, ear infections, stomach problems, and speech problems (as cited in Daryn, 2013).

While there are many issues that impact the lives of homeless individuals, macro policy on a federal and state level is lacking. Policy regarding the homeless has been haphazardly left to local communities to develop. Fortunately many communities have been stepping up to the challenge by addressing barriers to housing. Humboldt County has a high percentage of homeless individuals and struggles to house community members who desire housing. Recently there has been much effort in Humboldt County to address the complex needs of the homeless population. "Public agencies, private non-profit organizations, for-profit businesses, collectives of affiliated groups, and activists alike are working together and separately to minimize the risk of entering homelessness, decrease the amount of time people spend homeless, and reduce harmful effects of homelessness" (Swartz, 2013). The Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation is one such

agency that seeks to address the barriers faced by many individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness.

The Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation is one local non-profit organization, which operates the Betty Chinn Center in Eureka, California. Betty Chinn, a long time Eureka resident and nationally known advocate, began providing outreach services for children more than a decade ago, when her sons attended Lafayette elementary school. She started by making extra food at home and bringing it to the school along with other necessities such as clothing and school supplies. Due to an outpouring of support from the community, Chinn's efforts have been able to extend far beyond Lafayette school and now reach children throughout Humboldt County. The Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation was established in 2006.

As a result of community support and Chinn's passion, Chinn has been able to make a large impact in Humboldt County. Chinn has inspired the community collaboration towards ending homelessness. Community members donate everything from their time, to a box of wool socks or large monetary contributions to support services like the shower facilities or the children's center. Businesses also give to Chinn's effort; some donate weekly, and others contribute on a daily basis. At a time of increasing need, the community is coming together to sustain Chinn's growing endeavor. With Chinn's example, the Foundation's hope is that this will soon be a community mission.

Project Aim

The increasing needs of the homeless population both nationally and locally are chronically underfunded. Organizations such as the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation are imperative for improving the lives of homeless individuals and preventing others from becoming homeless. Chinn's accomplishments include raising over \$150,000 for a public laundry and shower facility, and receiving many awards, including a \$25,000 grant as part of the Minerva Award bestowed upon her by California's First Lady Maria Shriver in 2008. When asked, Chinn would say, that her greatest accomplishments are the changed lives of the individuals she has dedicated her life to. She helped hundreds of people off the streets last year, including runaway teenagers. This help includes reconnection with their support communities. The awards and accolades, Chinn says, only help bring attention to the needs of those she serves.

This project intends to enhance the sustainability of the center's ongoing programs. Securing additional funding will be achieved via writing grants and independent outreach to community organizations for donations. The grant proposals will focus on gaining resources for the children and youth served by the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation.

Literature Review

Background

The National Alliance to End Homelessness (2014) recently released the study *The State of Homelessness 2014*, which analyzes trends in homeless demographics, populations at risk, and other factors contributing to homelessness in the U.S between 2012 and 2013. Some examples of other factors include the fiscal state of the country and the availability of affordable housing. Data from the study shows that homelessness was decreased from 2012 to 2013 by 3.7% (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2014). There were also reductions in all major subpopulations. Families experiencing homelessness, which had increased in 2011-2012, had decreased by 7% in 2012-2013. The chronically homeless and homeless veterans also decreased by 7.3 % (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2014). Homelessness was decreased in 31 states, however, 20 states saw an increase in homeless populations, and nationally there were 19 homeless persons per every 10,000. These numbers differ drastically depending on the state. In Washington, there were 108 homeless per 10,000, while there were only 8 per 10,000 in Mississippi (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2014). The populations most vulnerable to becoming homeless were those living doubled up with family and friends, the unemployed, poor renter households and single parent families. Many of the homeless were staying in shelters, however 35 percent (215,344 people) went without

shelter, which means they were living in areas not designed for human habitation (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2014).

Data from 2012-2013 shows that the median household income has increased slightly from \$ 51,915 in 2012 to \$52, 250 in 2013 (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2014). Although there is a slight increase in median household income in the last two years in general, there has been a decline since 2008 with only small increases in the last two years (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2014). The numbers don't always look significant; however, a decrease in median household income over the last 6 or 7 years shows a general economic decline. The decrease in income increases the difficulty for low wage workers to meet basic needs and secure better paying jobs. These circumstances can lead to homelessness. Indeed, the national poverty rate has stayed the same at 15.9% which means 48 million individuals are in poverty, one third of which are children (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2014).

Definitions

The U. S Department of Health and Human Services (2014) defines a homeless person in section 330(h) (5) (A) as “an individual who lacks housing (without regard to whether the individual is a member of a family), including an individual whose primary residence during the night is a supervised public or private facility (e.g., shelters) that provides temporary living accommodations, and an individual who is a resident in transitional housing.” Another definition is: an individual: without permanent housing who may live on the streets; who stays in a shelter, mission, single room occupancy

facilities, abandoned building or vehicle; or who stays in any other unstable or non-permanent situation. [Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C., 254b)](As cited in the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, 2015).

Causes of Homelessness

There are a variety of reasons that cause homelessness, from individual to systemic issues. These issues can include mental health and substance use problems, family history, personal resources, lack of affordable housing, and livable wage employment. The National Coalition for the Homeless (2014) list lack of affordable housing and poverty as the two main reasons why individuals and families become homeless. The U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) now estimate that 12 million homeowners and renters pay over 50% of their annual incomes for housing (as cited in National Coalition for the Homeless, 2009). HUD states that housing affordability should not exceed 30% of a family's income. The families in the U.S who are paying over 30% of their income for housing; are at increased risk for being unable to afford the most basic necessities such as food, clothing, proper medical and dental care, and toiletries. (National Coalition for the Homeless, 2009). Due to the high cost of living most families are barely making it month to month. Families are often a paycheck, accident or catastrophe away from becoming homeless.

Lack of Affordable Housing

As stated above, lack of affordable housing is one of the primary causes of homelessness. Not only is there a lack of affordable housing, there are also few housing assistance programs, causing many individuals and families to remain on the streets. Due to the great recession, foreclosures have also added to the number of individuals experiencing homelessness. The National Coalition for the Homeless (2009) released a report linking the high rate of foreclosures to the growing homeless population. The report stated that there was a 32% jump in foreclosures from April 2008 to April 2009. Since the start of the recession, six million jobs have been lost. In May 2009, the official unemployment rate was 9.4% (National Coalition for the Homeless, 2009).

The National Low Income Housing Coalition estimates that 40 percent of families facing eviction due to foreclosure are renters and 7 million households living on very low incomes (31 - 50 percent of Area Median Income) are *at risk* of foreclosure (National Coalition for the Homeless, 2009). The 2014 Out of Reach Report, put out by the National Low Income Housing Coalition (2014), found that the average wage an individual must earn to afford a two bedroom house at HUD fair market rent while spending no more than 30% of their income is \$18.92. This is over two-and-a-half times the federal minimum wage. There is no state in the U.S. where a person living off the federal minimum wage can afford a one or two bedroom rental unit at Fair Market prices. Currently the federal minimum wage is \$7.25 an hour (National Low Income Housing Coalition, 2014).

The inflation adjusted value of the federal minimum wage is about 20% less than it was in 1981 (National Low Income Housing Coalition, 2014). These numbers show that the federal minimum wage is not able to keep up with the rising costs of rent. While there are regional differences between what an individual earns and housing costs, there is no state where a minimum wage worker working full time can afford the price of a reasonable one or two bedroom rental unit. Overall, it takes 2.6 minimum wage jobs to afford housing in the United States (National Low Income Housing Coalition, 2014). Workers are unable to afford sufficient housing even in states where the minimum wage is more than the Federal minimum wage. The average number of full time jobs a minimum wage worker must work to afford housing ranges from 1.4 (Puerto Rico) to 4.4 (Hawaii) (National Low Income Housing Coalition, 2014).

California is the third most expensive state to live in after Hawaii and the District of Columbia (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2014). Having affordable housing and higher wages are inextricably linked to homelessness. Hawaii, District of Columbia and California are the top three most expensive states to live in and they are also the top three states with the highest homelessness percentage (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2014). In the state of California, in order to afford a two bedroom rental without paying over 30% of your income or working more than 40 hours per week, a renter needs to make \$26 an hour (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2014). Therefore a renter living in California would need to work 130 hours per week to afford the cost of an average two bedroom rental if they were making minimum wage.

Humboldt County is an expensive county in terms of living expenses. To afford an average two bedroom rental, an individual needs to make \$18.96 per hour. The average rent for a two bedroom unit is \$986 a month in Humboldt County (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2014). A minimum wage worker would need to work 2.4 full time jobs in order to afford a two bedroom rental unit in Humboldt County. As of 2014, the average hourly wage of a renter in Humboldt County is \$10.27; the monthly rent this wage could afford you is around \$500 dollars (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2014).

Poverty

In 2011 there were 46.2 million people in poverty, which accounts for 15% of the total population in the United States (National Coalition for the Homeless, 2014). An erosion of work opportunities and fewer options for public assistance has also contributed to the high rates of poverty in the U.S. Globalization, a lack of manufacturing jobs, and part-time jobs in the service sector inhibit many from making a livable wage. Simply acquiring work is not enough to keep a family out of poverty.

The value of the minimum wage has been steadily decreasing since the 1970's, while the cost of living keeps going up. These hardships are also exacerbated by the decline in public assistance and public housing programs over the last decade. In 1996 Aid to Families with Dependent Children was cut as a result of welfare reform laws and TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) was put in its place. The amount of time families can spend on TANF is much shorter than AFDC. As of 2005, TANF had

only served about 50% of the families in poverty that were being served under AFDC (National Coalition for the Homeless, 2009). This combination of unstable employment, low wages and less public assistance puts already vulnerable families at a high risk for losing housing.

Policies need to be centered on ending homelessness. The decrease in the numbers of special populations such as chronically homeless, homeless veterans and homeless families was heavily influenced by the simultaneous increase in federal funding. This funding created innovative solutions such as the implementation of the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). Many of these programs, such as the HPRP, were funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act President Obama signed in 2009 (U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2013). The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act included 1.5 billion to HUD for homeless prevention and HPRP was given funding for two years. Data taken from year two shows that HPRP was able to prevent or end homelessness for more than 670,000 individuals. During the two years HPRP had funding (July 2009-Sep 30 2011) over 1.15 million people were served, or approximately 470,000 households (U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2013). In addition 3,180 unaccompanied youth were prevented from becoming homeless and 1,676 unaccompanied youth were provided with rapid-rehousing during the second year of HPRP (U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2013). Considering HPRP was only given federal funding for three years, and the first year was primarily spent in the planning and implementing stage, this program was very successful in preventing many individuals and families from becoming

homeless. Unfortunately federal funding streams for new and effective programs are often insecure and short term, like the HPRP program.

In order to effectively prevent and stop homelessness, more advocacy and awareness needs to happen in order for agencies and other non-profits to effectively serve the homeless population. Funding streams are often insecure at best, and macro policy around managing homelessness has haphazardly been left to local communities to develop, rather than a department of homelessness.

Homelessness in Humboldt County

Homelessness is widespread in communities throughout the United States, and Humboldt County is no exception. Currently in Humboldt County, there are many agencies and organizations dedicated to ending homelessness. The Humboldt Housing and Homeless Coalition (HHHC) is one such agency. Established in 2004, HHHC is comprised of service providers, social workers, local government agencies and other individuals who are committed to helping prevent and end homelessness. The county provides some support, however most of the work is accomplished through HHHC's wide volunteer base. Those at HHHC collaborate on certain issues such as feedback for the general plan, working with law enforcement, and policy (HHHC, 2014). HHHC also identifies service gaps within the community and often takes on projects to address these gaps. Projects may include: the homeless connect day, the point in time count, the ten year plan to end homelessness and the homeless prevention and rapid rehousing program (HHHC, 2014). In addition to special projects, HHHC began a housing forum in 2006, to

better address homelessness and the effect it has on the community. The housing forum is founded by the Northern California Association of Nonprofits, the Humboldt Area Foundation, and the McLean Foundation (HHHC, 2014).

The HHHC took part in the ten year plan to end homelessness in Humboldt County. According to the *City of Arcata Homeless Services Plan 2007-2016*, there are roughly 900-1,000 people who are homeless annually in Arcata. The reasons why someone may become homeless are complex. These reasons can range from mental illness or physical disabilities, to disadvantaged youth aging out of the foster care system. Other reasons may include single parents leaving intimate partner violence, runaways, and veterans, low income families who lack savings and are experiencing an unexpected job loss or illness, and emancipated minors. These are a few examples of individuals who may be experiencing homelessness.

In 2009, the North Coast Journal reported that over 50% of the homeless adults surveyed in Humboldt County had been homeless for more than a year and 19% of the homeless population had been without a home for five years or more. Homelessness can stem from personal difficulties or can be a result of systemic breakdowns.

The *City of Arcata Homeless Services Plan 2007-2016* provides a list of examples of the types of personal hardships and systemic breakdowns than can cause an individual or family to become homeless. Here are a few of the examples:

- Generational poverty
- Lack of family and social networks
- Lack of education and job skills

- Domestic violence or divorce
- Serious illness
- Mental health conditions
- Alcohol or drug addiction
- Unwillingness to work and/or hold a steady job
- Mechanical problems while traveling
- Poor rental and credit history

Systemic breakdowns may include:

- Lack of affordable housing
- Cutbacks in health, mental health, and alcohol and drug treatment services
- Lack of other key services including affordable child care, transportation education and job training
- The lack of living wage employment opportunities
- Lack of Student Loans; educational grants and/or scholarships; increased tuition and student fees
- Lack of pre-release housing planning for persons discharged from the foster care system, jails and prisons, mental health programs, and drug and alcohol programs and hospitals

The *City of Arcata Homeless Service Plan 2007-2016* gave a detailed account of the Humboldt Housing and Homeless Coalition (HHHC) January 25, 2005 “point-in-time count” of the homeless population in Humboldt County (Report on People without Homes in Humboldt County, CA, January 25, 2005). The point-in-time count was a

sample of unique respondents, not a census. The survey documented a total of 755 homeless persons, of which 550 were adults and 205 were minor children (City of Arcata, 2007). Seventy percent of the respondents were in Eureka; 16.6% were in Arcata; and 6.8% were in southern Humboldt. Males comprised 82% of the homeless population (City of Arcata, 2007). Thirty eight percent of respondents were between 20 and 30 years of age, and 27% were between 40 and 49 years of age (City of Arcata, 2007). The HHHC report also documented that 57% of respondents do not choose to remain homeless; eight percent choose to remain homeless, and 32% did not provide a response (City of Arcata, 2007). Though efforts were made to count all people without homes, an unknown number were not located and surveyed or refused to be interviewed. For this reason, the count represents a lower estimate of the actual homeless population (City of Arcata, 2007)

One basic element to foster the end of homelessness is the creation of affordable housing. The National Alliance to End Homelessness (2014) states that, “Homelessness is a complex problem, fraught with many associated challenges and variables. But for all of its complications, the solution to homelessness is surprisingly simple – housing.” The City of Arcata realizes how imperative housing is for the homeless. The Arcata City Housing Element asserts that,

Homeless individuals and families have perhaps the most immediate housing need of any group. They also have one of the most difficult sets of housing needs to meet, due to both the diversity and complexity of the factors that lead to homelessness, and to community opposition to the siting of facilities that serve homeless clients (City of Arcata, 2007).

Betty Chinn Center

Locally, the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center in Eureka seeks to address the issue of personal hygiene and humanizing services for the homeless by providing showers four days a week at West Third Street in Eureka. The Center's shower project began in the fall of 2008 after Chinn received the Minerva Award from Maria Shriver, then First Lady of California. From the award Chinn received \$25,000 which she used to build a shower and laundry facility for the homeless. Chin was able to raise enough money to build a high quality facility complete with a laundry facility due to the generous donations from community members (Betty Kwan Chinn Outreach, 2014)

Chinn's passion to start the shower program began in 2008 when a local homeless man in a wheelchair was too embarrassed to approach Chinn to get food because he 'stunk.' He said he would bathe in the bay that night, and asked for some clean clothes. That night the man drowned, and Chinn vowed to make it her goal to get a shower facility built (Betty Kwan Chinn Outreach, 2014). The shower facility was finished in 2010, built off the back corner of the St. Vincent de Paul Dining Facility in Eureka. Showers are made available to people living in their cars or outdoors (Betty Kwan Chinn Outreach, 2014). In 2011 after the showers had been open for a year, Thadeus Greenson of the Times Standard wrote an article about the facility. Sherri Call, one of the volunteers interviewed, stated how she sees an immediate change in people after emerging from the showers, "It's like there's been a cloud lifted," Call said.

Entering downtrodden and covered in dirt (Greenson, 2011), “It’s like they come out a whole new person. The shower changes them,” (Greenson, 2011).

Within the first year of being open, over 600 people combined to take 4,500 showers (Greenson, 2011). Dan Wortman described how he personally benefited from the shower facility after spending a year sleeping in his car. Wortman knew he was not making positive impressions when he went for job interviews because he was not able to get clean by washing up in his storage facility. “The showers do a lot for your self-esteem,” he said, “as does working” (Greenson, 2011). After using the shower facilities and meeting Betty Chinn, Wortman found a job at the Elks club and is working on finding an apartment (Greenson, 2011).

Not only did the community rally to raise funds for the initial building of the showers, they continue to support the program by donating clothing, soap and shampoo. The showers are run by 21 volunteers and local churches contribute funds to cover the \$400 monthly utility bill (Greenson, 2011). Chinn feels that the community is so supportive because they too believe that people have an individual right to clean showers and clothes. Chinn’s goal is to “lift people up...In this environment, it’s so easy to be judgmental. Here, we just lift people up” (Greenson, 2011). Eureka Main Street Executive Director Charlotte McDonalds feels that the showers have been a positive addition to the area and has had no complaints from local businesses. McDonald stated, “I think nothing but positive things have come from it, anytime you can give somebody some dignity, it’s a good thing,” (Greenson, 2011). Police Chief Garr Nielsen, also had positive things to say about the shower facility. Nielsen stated that there have been less

frequent calls since the installation of the showers; and that the facility is a “tremendous asset to this community (Greenson, 2011).”

In addition to launching Humboldt Counties first shower facilities in 2011, Betty Chinn also offers a wide array of other services for homeless individuals. These services include case management, which includes finding housing resources and locating job training opportunities. Specifically, the Coach 2 Career program offers an employment readiness service that includes a 7-week class on how to job search in the modern market. They also offer the Hire Attire Closet, which provides professional interview clothing (Betty Kwan Chinn Outreach, 2014).

Not only does Chinn serve hundreds of homeless adults and older adults, she also provides many needed services to local homeless children. Through Betty's Blue Angel Fund, Chinn has been able to reconnect runaway teenagers with families, take children to school in the mornings, provide showers for high school students before class, help children with homework, buy school supplies, makes sure children have enough food to eat, help with medical expenses, and other vital day to day necessities (Betty Kwan Chinn Outreach, 2014).

It is Chinn's dream to break the cycle of homelessness by working and supporting the children. Chinn does not feel the center is a place to give handouts, but a place to effect change for people who are ready and willing. She has said this is not her work but her passion (Greenson, 2013). Chinn is dedicated to showing people that change is possible and that we can make a difference, “we have to prove that everyone's donations were worth it,” (Greenson, 2013). The mission statement for Betty's Blue Angel is: “*To*

honor all of humanity by providing direct responses to immediate needs and helping the destitute achieve the dignity needed to return to society as contributing members,” (Betty Kwan Chinn Outreach, 2014). For many homeless individuals and their families Chinn’s mission has become a reality. The center has become a place where hundreds of individuals who might have otherwise fallen through the cracks have been lifted up and given a second chance. Many of the least fortunate among us have been able to realize their potential and break free from the cycle of homelessness due to Chinn’s hard work and vision.

Similar Programs

Similar programs have been implemented or are beginning to be implemented in other communities. In San Francisco there are only eight places in the city that offer showers for the homeless. Each of these eight facilities has one to two shower stalls at most, which translates into less than 16 showers for the 6,000 plus homeless men, women and children living on the city’s streets (LavaMae, 2015). This is why Doniece Sandoval began the San Francisco Lava Mae mobile shower program in 2013 (LavaMae, 2015). Sandoval began working to transform the San Francisco muni busses into “mobile hygiene machines” (LavaMae, 2015).

The U.N. and the World Health Organization define access to water and sanitation as a basic human right. Unfortunately many San Franciscans go without access to this basic right (LavaMae, 2015). Don Suiter, a homeless San Franciscan says, “My God, go three days without a shower. Just three days. Pretty soon, you just feel like a worm, a social worm,” (LavaMae, 2015). Sadly this man is among over six thousand homeless

people who live in San Francisco; over fifty percent of them make the streets their home (LavaMae, 2015). Doniece Sandoval believes everyone has the right to be clean. Which is why Lava Mae's mission is to deliver "dignity and unlock opportunity for those experiencing homelessness one shower at a time," (LavaMae, 2015).

Lava Mae's was inspired by the mobile food movement. The goal is to put showers and toilets on wheels by converting four donated decommissioned muni buses into mobile hygiene machines that will allow them to reach the thousands of men, women and children who struggle to meet basic hygiene needs (LavaMae, 2015). When complete there will be a total of four busses each with two showers and toilets and a private changing area. The buses will be driven by volunteer bus drivers and will traverse the city making stops at organizations serving the homeless. Lava Mae's goal is to provide 100-125 showers per bus per day. By the third year their goal is to provide 400-500 showers every day (LavaMae, 2015). The shower program will launch in the spring of 2015 (LavaMae, 2015).

Lack of access to decent well-paying jobs is one of the primary causes of poverty. Without proper hygiene many homeless individuals find it near impossible to find work or sit for a job interview. Donna Erickson of Chandler, Arizona found herself living on the streets, sleeping wherever she could find a spot and taking sponge baths in public restrooms (Steckner, 2014). Job hunting under those circumstances proved almost impossible for Erickson. How could a potential employer hire her if she wasn't presentable? Erickson stated, "You have to smell clean, look clean and look professional to stay in the workforce, you can't do that when you take a sponge bath," (Steckner,

2014). Erickson's story is common among people who are homeless and trying to find employment. Landing a job is imperative to self-sufficiency, and being well groomed is an important first step. This is why the city of Chandler started the Chandler Clean Machine, which is a new mobile-shower trailer. The trailer has three showers, private changing areas and an on-site washer and dryer (Steckner, 2014). For Kevin Hartke, Chandler City Councilman, the mobile showers are a dream come true (Steckner, 2014). The mobile shower not only will boost employment but will help people stay employed. Studies show that about one-third of people who are homeless who find employment can't pass the probationary period because of hygiene issues, Hartke stated, "What's more, having access to a shower will help increase self-esteem and reduce the risk of infection and illness," (Steckner, 2014).

In the fall of 2014, the archbishop who distributes charity on behalf of Pope Francis has announced that the public restrooms in St. Peter's Square will include showers where the homeless can wash (Wooden, 2014). Many people living on the streets of Rome or in tents say they are able to find a parish or charity where they can eat, but finding shower facilities is next to impossible. The remodeling work will begin November, 2014 and will include three shower facilities. The Archbishop Krajewski told Vatican Insider that he is visiting parishes in areas where homeless people gather and is encouraging them to install public showers if they have not already (Wooden, 2014). Krajewski said his office will help fund the showers. "It is easier to prepare sandwiches than to run a shower service-you need volunteers, towels, and clean underwear," (Wooden, 2014). While these programs take much effort, passion, commitment and

money, they are vital necessities when you are sleeping outside, especially for those seeking employment.

Risk of infection or illness is a serious issue within all homeless populations. *The Lancet Infectious Diseases* (2012) reports, “The life expectancy of homeless people is much shorter than that of the general population, and rates of traumatic and infectious diseases are higher. Many of the main infectious diseases in homeless people are related to hygiene,” (Raoult, 2012). Therefore, having access to toilets and showers is not only necessary for creating a sense of self-worth, dignity, and self-esteem, it is also imperative to life expectancy and overall health. Didier Raoult a researcher on infectious diseases says that, “Targeted actions are needed to address the susceptibility of homeless people to infection. Homeless people should have access to new clothes and shoes and easy access to showering facilities,” (Raoult, 2012).

Theoretical Framework

Ecological Systems Theory

Ecological systems theory is based on a model of society, social life, and human behaviors that focuses on the interrelatedness of people and their environments as well as their interactions with and adaptations to each other (Robins et al.,).

In the United States, independence and individuality are seen as the norm. The assumption is that competition and individuality are part of human nature. While there are benefits to this thinking such as individual responsibility, rational for achievement and a sense of personal freedom, there is also a cost. The cost comes in the form of people viewing their failures solely based on what they perceive as a personal deficiency, which creates social isolation and loneliness. Society tells us that everyone is an individual and free to make their own choices, but what we often don't realize is that this creates a sense of stress and fear about life that can lead to alienation and put people at higher risk for depression. James Garbarino believes this kind of thinking impacts children most negatively in our society. "They pay the price because this network of values leading to social isolation and alienation undermines responsible parenthood. Altogether, our excessive and unrealistic valuing of independence sets us up for unhappiness and our children for impaired development," (1982, p. 50). One of the primary stressors homeless parents face is the degrading and negative stereotypes regarding homeless individuals. Swick, (2013) says that, "homeless parents are often viewed as lacking in overall competence. Their strengths are typically overlooked while the focus is on negative elements in their functioning." Parents often state that a major stress in their lives comes in the form of negative evaluations of them by society. These views can then create barriers for those who wish to access education, employment or other needed resources and services.

At the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center, Chinn works to ameliorate some of the social stigmas and challenges homeless individuals and families face. When the Center

was built, it was Chinn's goal to create a space where people could come in and feel clean, respected and at peace; she wanted the center to have an uplifting and aesthetic quality. Chinn has also stated that the children's center is her heart; Chinn realizes that in order to break the cycle of homelessness you need to start at a young age. The Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation works to make sure the children served do not feel they are second class citizens just because they are homeless. Chinn goes out of her way to make special days, like birthdays, feel important to the children she serves.

The Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center is able to effect change both on a micro and macro level. Chinn works with individual children and families to give them a sense of hope because they know they are loved and supported each day. At the macro level change is being made by bringing awareness to social issues around poverty and homelessness. The building of the center has created awareness around homelessness both on a community and national level. Nationally, Chinn has been given the Presidential Citizens Award in 2010; this award is given to individuals who perform exemplary deeds of service for their country or their fellow citizens. This recognition has brought many community members forward who might have otherwise been unaware of the social issues homeless individuals and families face. Garbarino says that interpersonally well-connected people are the happiest and most satisfied with their day-to-day existence (1982). The work Chinn and her volunteers do at the center creates a sense of connectedness with individuals and other organizations. The Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center can provide an effective model of how organizations can work together to create lasting and effective change. This project recognizes the importance of building

relationships both on an individual and organizational level, and recognizes that the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation serves this function. Therefore, this project is committed to securing additional funding so that the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation can continue to offer support to homeless individuals and families throughout Humboldt County.

Methods

Introduction

This project utilized what Stoeker (2013) defines as Applied Research. Applied Research is community driven as opposed to driven by the interests of the researcher. Applied Research should come from the interests of an organization, which is closely related to the organization's immediate practical needs. Most research in community settings goes beyond applied research and utilizes a project based research model. Project based research models should become an active part in a social change project. An effective project-based research model should address issues that are a part of real people's lives, and the research should support that effort. The project based research model begins with diagnosing and prescribing the problem or issue and then implementing a plan. The last step in the research model is to evaluate the plan to see if the project is effecting the desired change or intended outcomes. This community project utilized all four steps of the project-based research model to identify needs, create a plan, and then evaluate the plan for effectiveness.

Participants

This project worked directly with the Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation program manager, Mark Amacher, and Executive Director and Founder, Betty Chinn. Amacher and Chinn diagnosed the most pressing issue to be increasing funding streams for

programs such as the shower project and the after school program for children and youth.

Betty Chinn and Mark Amacher prescribed fundraising and grant writing as potential solutions to increase funding streams.

The participants affected by increased funding streams will be the hundreds of local homeless individuals and families who utilize the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center on a daily basis. From October 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 alone there were 1,170 general showers and 1,562 high school showers taken. During the October 1 through December 31, 2014 quarter over 200 new participants were registered at the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center bringing the total up to 653 clients registered since 7/1/14. The shower program as well as the after school program are run primarily through the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center's extensive volunteer base. Many of the volunteers were previous clients of the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center who continue to offer support by donating their time and energy.

This author's primary role was to co-identify needs with the provider of services and then implement a plan that addressed those needs. Plan implementation consisted of drafting grant proposals, participating in fundraising, and then working with the program director, Mark Amacher, to evaluate the proposals.

Project Design and Implementation

The core elements of this project consisted of identifying grants the Betty Kwan Chinn Day center qualified for, and drafting three grant proposals. The time frame for implementation was January 25, 2015 through April 10, 2015.

The first grant proposal was written and submitted to the Humboldt Sponsors, Inc. on February 13, 2015 (See Appendix A). The grant asked for a total of 5,000 dollars to be utilized during 2015. The funds would be used to purchase school/art supplies, food, clothing, and medical expenses for the children and youth served by the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation (BKCHF). The in-kind donations from the BKCHF include: tutoring support, computers, travel expenses, meals, showers and the facility. The BKCHF will also provide vans to transport children and youth, and volunteers to serve the youth coming to the day center.

The Day Center is open all year, Monday-Friday for children, youth and families to access. Children and families are referred by the schools they attend and the Marshall Family Resource Center. Children are also accepted after caregivers receive walk-in services from the Day Center. The activities and resources provided are free of charge for the participants. Clients are also able to give back and be a part of the community through volunteering.

The second grant proposal was submitted to the Humboldt Area Foundation on April 1, 2015 (See Appendix B). The second grant was a community grant. The Community Grant Program at the HAF supports a broad spectrum of projects that help build strong communities and foster prosperity in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. The grant proposal requested a total of 5,800 dollars for fiscal years 2015-2016. If awarded the grant money would be used to keep the shower program operational for 12 calendar months. Specifically the money would be used to pay for liability insurance, utilities, sanitation products, hygiene kits, clothing and undergarments, and for vehicle operating

costs. In-kind contributions made by the Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation include: hygiene kits, clothing donation, volunteer support, and money for liability insurance, and additional utility costs.

The shower program is open Monday through Thursday, with drop in appointments available on Tuesday's and Thursday's. Participants who utilize the shower program also have access to laundry facilities, clean clothes and hygiene supplies. The showers are 100% volunteer run, so funds received for the showers are not used for overhead or administrative costs. Currently there is an effort being made to recruit more volunteers so the showers can be run five days a week.

The third grant proposal was written for the Betty Chinn Day Center Summer Program. The grant proposal was submitted to the Humboldt Area Foundation on April 10, 2015 (See Appendix C). The grant requested a total of \$1,000 to be appropriated during the summer of 2015. If awarded, the grant money will be used to take 18+ children to Blue Slide summer camp. Specifically the 1,000 dollars will be used to pay for: food, gas/transportation, equipment, art/craft supplies, and a lifeguard. In-kind contributions from the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation include: food gas, equipment, camping supplies and volunteers.

The summer camp will take place Monday, June 15, 2015 through Friday, June 19, 2015 in Maple Creek, at Blue Slide Camp, which is located in Humboldt County, Ca. The summer camp is available for children enrolled in the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center after school program. The after school program is in partnership with Eureka City schools and provides a safe nurturing environment after every school day for children

experiencing homelessness. Those attending the camping trip will be able to participate in recreational activities, swim in the river, and learn about nature and camping. Both the after school program and the camping trip are free of charge for participants and their families.

All funds raised for this project will benefit the programs of the Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation and will not enter the hands of this researcher. All funds will be raised in the name of the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation and will be handled by the executive director Betty Chinn and/or program manager, Mark Amacher.

Project Element

To implement the project, this researcher met with the executive director on multiple occasions to identify the most pressing needs of the homeless population. Once needs were identified with the provider of services this researcher spent time searching for local funding sources and grant opportunities. This was a time consuming process due to the fact that the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation already receives many grants from local donors and does not meet some of the qualifications for other grants.

The main problem identified by Betty Chinn was lack of funding for services such as the shower facilities and services for local children and youth. While costs of the shower program are kept down due to it being run by volunteers, there are also many operational costs, such as utilities and supplies. Because there are few free and accessible showers for the homeless in Humboldt County the need for the shower program is high.

Within any given month there can be over 1,000 showers taken by the homeless and vulnerably housed.

After speaking with Betty Chinn, this researcher contacted Humboldt Area Foundation grant coordinator, Lynn Langdon. Lynn stated that the grant most applicable for the shower program would be the 5,000 dollar community grant. After the grant was identified this researcher met with the program manager, Mark Amacher to discuss the budget and go over the grant narrative.

The next step before writing the proposal was to do research on grant writing as well as research on the importance of humanizing services for the homeless. Several scholarly articles were utilized to reinforce the importance of hygiene services for the homeless. Local newspaper articles were also used to describe the importance of the Betty Chinn shower facilities.

After the proposal was drafted and the budget was written up, this grant writer and the program manager met to make edits and necessary changes to the proposal. After making additional edits, the final draft was sent to the program manager, who gave it the final approval. Once final approval was received this grant writer submitted the proposal to the Humboldt Area Foundation.

The methods used by this researcher to apply for the community grant were also used to apply for the Summer Youth grant and the Humboldt Sponsors grant. Throughout the process this researcher was in close contact with the executive director and program manager via email, telephone and in person meetings. No part of the project was done without the input of the program manager and/or executive director, thus ensuring that

necessary evaluation and changes took place throughout the process. Grant approval will be done through the granting organizations.

Results

Rational

This community based research project was intended to reflect the needs of the community served. The primary stakeholders of this project are clients that benefit from the direct services offered at the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center, community members, schools, social workers and anyone else who has a vested interest in providing services for the homeless and vulnerably housed. The implementation of this project was guided by continuous feedback from staff at the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation.

Grant writing is essential for the success of non-profit organizations. The idea for the first grant came about after many local schools voiced concerns about the homeless youth population. Many young children and youth were not attending school due to a variety of issues including lack of transportation, no hygiene facilities, lack of food, and medical issues. By finding and applying for additional funding, this project hopes to improve school outcomes for local children and youth.

The rationale for writing the second community grant came from the high need for shower facilities in Humboldt County. Due to Humboldt Counties rural nature there is often a lack of access to vital resources, such as showers, toilets and laundry facilities. Many of the local homeless population has voiced concerns that not having enough access to appropriate shower facilities directly impacts their ability to find housing, employment, attend school and access medical care. The shower facility is an important

step in reducing marginalization. If the community grant is awarded it will allow Betty Chinn and her Street Outreach Team to continue to focus on serving the needs of the local homeless population by covering the logistical costs of the shower project and purchasing supplies needed to operate.

The third grant written for this project was identified by the participants and volunteers at the Betty Chinn Day Center after school program. Many of the children attending the after school program do not have access to recreational activities such as camping, sports or travel. The children attending the camping trip will be able to participate in recreational activities such as swimming, hiking, and playing sports. For many of the children, this will be their first time experiencing Humboldt Counties natural beauty. If awarded, the Summer Youth Grant will cover the logistical costs of the summer camp and purchase more than half of the food and supplies needed.

Summary

As stated previously, this project completed three grant proposals for the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation. The first grant proposal was written to apply for the Humboldt Sponsors grant (see appendix A). The grant was requested specifically to obtain funds for school supplies, clothing, and food and to pay for medical expenses for the children and youth served by the BKCHF. The total amount requested on the grant proposal was \$5,000. The grant application required ten copies to be submitted by the deadline of February 13, 2015. On March 31, 2015 Humboldt Sponsors granted the Betty Chinn Foundation three thousand dollars as a result of this grant application.

The second grant was written to apply for the Humboldt Area Foundations, Community grant (See Appendix B). The Betty Chinn Foundation has requested the maximum amount of five thousand dollars from the granting foundation. Funds received from this grant will go to support operational costs for the shower program. At the time of this projects completion, results of the grant application are unknown. The results of this grant application will be announced June 15, 2105.

The third grant was written to apply for the Humboldt Area Foundations, Summer Youth grant (See Appendix C). The Betty Chinn Foundation has requested one thousand dollars for their summer camping trip. Funds received from this grant will cover the cost of travel, food, and a stipend for a visiting lifeguard and camping supplies for the children attending the camping trip. At the time of this projects completion, grant results are unknown. The results of the grant will be made available as of May 15, 2015.

Discussion

Implications to Community

Poverty and its consequences are some of the most pressing social concerns in Humboldt County. Often, the most common symptom of poverty is homelessness. In 2013, the Humboldt Housing and Homeless Coalition (HHHC) conducted a Point-In-Time (PIT) count through a survey of Humboldt County individuals without housing and found 1,579 individuals experiencing homelessness. Of the PIT count survey respondents, 43% were unsheltered, 29% reported the lowest level of income: \$0 to \$100 per month, and 11% had been discharged from the hospital to the street. Today, the Humboldt County community is highly affected by this social problem. Many of these families and individuals are struggling in meeting basic needs like: adequate food, shelter, and hygiene resources, including shower facilities. Infections are significantly higher in homeless populations than in the general population. This also imposes an increased infectious disease risk for the general population. The need to implement strategies to reduce these public health risks is crucial. The lack of personal hygiene facilities was significantly addressed by the Betty Chinn Foundation in 2010 with the completion of its public shower services. The shower facility is an important step in reducing marginalization, the hope of the Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation is to continue to foster resiliency and personal self-esteem through providing humanizing

services. The intended goals of this project are to increase funding streams for the programs provided by the Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation.

Implications to Social Work Practice

The primary focus of the social work profession is to promote the well-being of all people and to assist individuals in insuring that their basic needs are met. Community work, advocacy, and participatory project based research are core elements of social work. According to the National Association of Social Workers *Code of Ethics* (2015) “Social workers pursue social change, particularly with and on behalf of vulnerable and oppressed individuals and groups of people. Social workers’ social change efforts are focused primarily on issues of poverty, unemployment, discrimination, and other forms of social injustice.” In addition, the International Council on Social Welfare lifts up the idea of community work and social justice, in their mission statement, “ICSW’s basic mission is to promote forms of social and economic development which aim to reduce poverty, hardship and vulnerability throughout the world, especially amongst disadvantaged people.” This project intends to address the social issue of homelessness and in so doing reflects the ethical principles of the social work profession.

Sustainability

The purpose of this project is to build on the already existing strengths of the Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation. The Foundation will continue to foster positive relations with community members; thus far, the Foundation has survived due to the

work of dedicated volunteers. Not only did the community rally to raise funds for the initial building of the showers, they continue to support the program by donating clothing, soap and other hygiene supplies. The showers and the after school program are also run primarily through Betty Chinn's extensive volunteer base and local churches contribute funds to cover the \$400 monthly utility bill. Chinn's ultimate goal is to lift people up by providing humanizing services. This project's aim was to contribute to Chinn's goal by finding grants that fit the needs of the program. To date the Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation had not heard of or applied for the Humboldt Sponsors grant. After the grant proposal was sent in and the grant was awarded, the Humboldt Sponsors committee informed the Betty Chinn Center that they would be able to apply for the grant annually. The proposal that was written can serve as a template for future grant writing proposals. Ideally, each grant that was applied for can continue to be awarded each year for as long as they are needed.

Ethical Considerations

When applying for the grants this author ensured that all solicited materials were accurate and correctly reflected the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation's mission. The project worked with the program manager to ensure that the grants will be used in accordance with the grant's intent if awarded. This author also spoke with the program manager to discuss writing up a report of the funds allocated from the first grant that was awarded according to the grants guidelines (See Appendix A). This helped ensure the

work done was needed by the organization, rather than something placed on the by an outside entity.

Limitations

This project has the following limitations:

- There has been a long history of homelessness in Humboldt County. Humboldt County has recognized the problem but has yet to come up with effective solutions.
- This project has made a small impact on a very large problem, but it is a beginning. By writing grant proposals this project attempted to break down the problem into a workable component.
- Time constraints have also been a limiting force. Due to the academic year coming to an end this writer was unable to apply for grants that come open only in the summer and early fall.
- Two of the three grant results will not be made clear until after this project is submitted. If grants are not awarded, the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation will still need funding for the projects specified in the grant proposals.

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**Humboldt Sponsors, Inc.
2015 GRANT APPLICATION**

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The primary purpose of Humboldt Sponsors is to raise funds to distribute to Humboldt County youth. **All recipients must provide proof of tax-exempt status or proof of eligibility through a tax-exempt entity.**

Please enclose the original application and ten (10) copies of all materials. This includes signed application form, detailed narrative, budget, and any additional information by the deadline of Friday, February 13, 2015

Mail to:

Karen Childers
Funding Committee Chair
PO Box 444
Eureka, CA 95502

Please complete the application by writing or typing in the box beside each question.

1. Organization Information												
Name of organization:	Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation P.O. Box 736, Eureka, CA 95502											
Address:												
Does your organization have a tax-exemption? (Humboldt Sponsors requires proof of tax-exempt status or proof of eligibility through a tax-exempt entity.)	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>No</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tax I.D. Number</td> <td>46-1413135</td> </tr> </table>		No		Yes	X	Tax I.D. Number	46-1413135				
No												
Yes	X											
Tax I.D. Number	46-1413135											
Name of agency/organization holding tax-exemption (if other than the applicant, include letter of authorization):	N/A											
Grant Amount Requested	\$5,000											
How will the funds be used (please be specific)?	These funds will be used to purchase school/art supplies, food, and clothing and pay medical expenses for the children and youth served by the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation.											
How many children will benefit from these funds?	50+ monthly											
Location of camp/activity:	Streets of Eureka/Betty Chinn Center/Greater Humboldt area											
Date of camp/activity:	Ongoing											
Has this camp/activity been previously funded by Humboldt Sponsors?	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>What year?</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>How much?</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> </table>		No	X	Yes		What year?		How much?	\$		
No	X											
Yes												
What year?												
How much?	\$											
Is your organization presently receiving funds from any other source (United Way; service groups; or local, state or federal funds or private donations)? Please list all sources and amounts. If you are handwriting the application and require more space, please attach an additional page.	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>No</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>From whom?</td> <td>Private donations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>For what?</td> <td>Children/Youth Outreach</td> </tr> <tr> <td>How much?</td> <td>\$750.00 per month (approx.)</td> </tr> </table>		No		Yes	X	From whom?	Private donations	For what?	Children/Youth Outreach	How much?	\$750.00 per month (approx.)
No												
Yes	X											
From whom?	Private donations											
For what?	Children/Youth Outreach											
How much?	\$750.00 per month (approx.)											
Board of Directors (person or persons in charge):	1. Name Address Phone	Betty Chinn, Founder/President Board of Directors (707) 407-3833 ext. 11										
	2. Name Address Phone	Roland Richmond										
	3. Name Address Phone	Dan Price										

2. Detailed Narrative	
<p>Please provide a detailed narrative about the program. Make sure you include program objectives and a description of the program.</p> <p>If you are handwriting the application and require more space, please attach an additional page.</p>	<p>Please see attached description.</p>

3. Detailed Budget	
<p>Please submit a detailed budget for the program.</p> <p>If you are handwriting the application and require more space, please attach an additional page.</p>	<p>School Supplies-25% Food-20% Clothing-20% Medical Expenses-10% Art Supplies-10% Bedding-10% Other Misc. (Set aside for emergencies)- 5%</p> <p>*These amounts are approximations because the needs and size of the population served change monthly as does the amount of private donations coming in.</p> <p>All donations go directly toward the children and youth accessing the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation, no funds are used for salaries, administrative costs or this grant writer.</p>

4. In what form will Humboldt Sponsors receive recognition for this contribution?	
Local Newspaper	
Verbal Announcement	
Banner – Sign: Sponsors will be printed on side of outreach van.	
Brochure Ad	
Other (Explain): On the Betty Chinn website and Facebook page.	

5. How are Volunteers used in this project? Volunteers help with shopping, cooking, teaching, serving and organizing.	
6. Contact Information	
Final Report Contact Name: Althea Jones MSW	
Title: MSW Student/Volunteer for the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation	
Phone: (707) 499-8254 Email: amj103@humboldt.edu	
Date: February 11, 2015	
Signature:	

When you have completed this form, please enclose the original application and ten (10) copies of all materials by Friday, February 13, 2015. This includes signed application form, detailed narrative, budget, and other additional information.

Application Checklist

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have completed the application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have signed the original application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have included additional information for the application (optional)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have made nine copies of the application and additional information

2. Detailed Narrative

Dear Humboldt Sponsors, Inc.

Betty Chinn a long time Eureka resident and nationally known advocate began providing outreach services for children years ago when her sons attended Lafayette elementary school. She started by making extra food at home and bringing it to the school along with other necessities such as clothing and school supplies. Due to an outpouring of support from the community, Betty's efforts have been able to extend far beyond Lafayette school and now reach children throughout Humboldt County. Through this support Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation, a local non-profit was established in 2006. The mission statement for the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation is: *"To honor all of humanity by providing direct responses to immediate needs and helping the destitute achieve the dignity needed to return to society as contributing members."*

Through the Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation, Betty has been able to: reconnect runaway teenagers with families, take children to school in the mornings, provide showers for students before class, help children with homework, buy school supplies, make sure children have enough food to eat, pay for medical expenses, and other vital day to day necessities. The Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation works to make sure the children served do not feel like "second class citizens just because they are homeless", Betty goes out of her way to make special days like birthdays feel important to the children she serves. Children and youth also receive special events such as pizza parties when they are doing well academically or have good school attendance.



HUMBOLDT AREA FOUNDATION

COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

Grant size: **Open** (If requesting more than \$10,000 please contact an HAF Program Manager)

Eligible Areas: **Humboldt, Trinity, and Del Norte Counties**

Deadlines: **October 1, 2014; January 12, 2015; April 1, 2015; July 1, 2015**
(Notification of results within 10 weeks)

Email to: LynnL@hafoundation.org

Or, Mail to: **Humboldt Area Foundation**
Community Grant Program
363 Indianola Road
Bayside, CA 95524

For questions or application assistance, please call HAF at (707) 442-2993

GRANT CRITERIA

The following is our funding criteria. We will use the following criteria to evaluate proposals:

- 1. Supports an effort that is clearly important to community members and that they are coming together to address**
 - Demonstrates that there is broad community energy and support that has led to the grant proposal
- 2. Addresses a pressing community issue**
- 3. Involves the people who are directly impacted by the effort**
 - People who are directly impacted participate at various decision-making levels to ensure the effort is relevant and appropriate to the community being served, as well as sustainable over time
- 4. Makes use of collaborative relationships and partnerships**
 - The effort includes local expertise, leadership, youth, community partners, funders, and/or businesses
- 5. Includes and supports the interests of historically excluded people and groups**
- 6. Makes a lasting impact, such as by:**
 - Providing a long-term, comprehensive solution to the problem being addressed ;
 - Changing a problematic system or policy that has far-reaching effects; or
 - Improving a community's ability to continue to address the issue/s into the future.
- 7. Develops a plan for sustainability, including diversification of funding sources, so that the effort is carried on without assuming reliance on future grant sources**
- 8. Integrates and promotes youth leadership skills and develops their ability to address issues of importance to them**
- 9. Develops residents' leadership skills and ability to address issues of importance to them**
- 10. Addresses social inequity**

SAMPLE PROJECT BUDGET

- 1.) Please indicate specifically how grant funds will be spent in the "Amount Requested from HAF" column.
- 2.) When listing staff expenses, please include pay rate and number of hours.
- 3.) Please asterisk (*) any funds already confirmed for this project.
- 4.) Please list the monetary value and source of in-kind contributions.

Glossary -

In-kind contribution: donations that are done in goods or services, not money. For example: rent, staff time, equipment usage, etc.

Other funding sources: federal or state grants, local foundations or grant programs, individual contributions, other fundraising efforts.

Expense	Amount Requested from HAF	In-kind Contribution (list source)	Other Funding Sources		Total Budget
			Amount	Source	
Teen internships	\$5,000.00	0	\$2,000.00	Local fundraising	\$7,000.00
Staff & training support to youth leaders	0	Volunteer mentors	\$2,000.00	Magic Foundation*	\$4,000.00
Mileage to rural meetings & presentations (\$0.50/mile x 1,000)	\$500.00	0	0		\$500.00
Digital storytelling training & equipment	\$2,000.00	0	\$3,000.00	Magic Foundation*	\$5,000.00
Totals	\$7,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$7,000.00	Grand Total	\$16,500.00

Please provide more information about budget items that are not explained elsewhere in the application.

We were just notified of the grant award from the Magic Foundation for staff time and equipment last month and are expecting a contract soon. The students are hosting a fundraiser for their internships next month that raised \$2,000 last year.



HUMBOLDT AREA FOUNDATION

COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION

Project Title: Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation: Shower Program Amount Requested: 5,800

Primary Contact: Mark Amacher Date: 3/31/2015

Position: Program Manager Executive Director / Betty Chinn
President Contact: _____

Organization (*if applicable*): Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation

Mailing Address: P.O Box 736

City: Eureka, CA Zip: 95502

Phone: (707) 407-3833 Email: mamacher@srcharities.org

Tax ID Number (*required*): 46-1413135 Website: Bettychinn.org

PROJECT INFORMATION

Please give a brief overview of your organization – why it exists, how long it has existed, and what types of work is accomplished.

The Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation is a local non-profit organization that addresses issues of homelessness by providing street outreach in the form of: meals for the homeless, case-management, stabilization services, transitional housing, shower facilities and many other services designed to meet the needs of the local homeless population.

The Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation was established in 2012, the mission of the foundation is: to honor all of humanity by providing direct responses to immediate needs and helping the destitute achieve the dignity needed to return to society as contributing members.

Funds are to be used for:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Effort, Project or Program | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operating Support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Existing Effort, Project or Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Expanding an Existing Effort, Project or Program | |

Please indicate the geographic region that will be served through this effort: Humboldt County

HAF use only: Please do not write in the box below

Program Manager: _____	Committee: _____	Fund ID: _____
Review Date: _____	Action: _____	Profile #: _____
Grant Date: _____	Amount: _____	Grant #: _____
		Batch #: _____

Award Letter Only:

Award Package (letter, grant report, photo release & folder):

Special Instructions: _____

Program Area: ANML COMM ARTS ENV HEAL TA YUTH

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Please limit your completed narrative to no more than four pages.

1. Describe the current challenge or opportunity that your effort will address:

Poverty and its consequences are some of the most pressing social concerns in Humboldt County. Often, the most common symptom of poverty is homelessness. In 2013, the Humboldt Housing and Homeless Coalition (HHHC) conducted a Point-In-Time (PIT) count through a survey of Humboldt County individuals without housing and found 1,579 individuals experiencing homelessness. Of the PIT count survey respondents, 43% were unsheltered, 29% reported the lowest level of income: \$0 to \$100 per month, and 11% had been discharged from the hospital to the street. Today, our community is highly affected by this social problem. Many of these families and individuals are struggling in meeting basic needs like: adequate food, shelter, and hygiene resources, including shower facilities.

Due to inadequate hygiene, our homeless populations are highly susceptible to many communicable diseases. Some of the common infections homeless individuals are exposed to include: scabies, tuberculosis, viral hepatitis, respiratory infections, dental disease and hepatitis A, B and C. These infections are significantly higher in homeless populations than in the general population. This also imposes an increased infectious disease risk for the general population. The need to implement strategies to reduce these public health risks is crucial.

While there are many difficult issues that impact the lives of homeless individuals, macro policy on a federal and state level is lacking. This leaves the burden resting almost entirely on local counties. Recently there has been much effort in Humboldt County to address this complex set of needs. The Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation is one such agency that seeks to address barriers and challenges the homeless face.

The lack of personal hygiene facilities was significantly addressed by the Betty Chinn Foundation in 2010 with the completion of its public shower services. This facility is strategically located in the Old Town area of Eureka near St. Vincent De Paul dining facility. This vital service has provided thousands of showers to those who would otherwise lack access to personal hygiene. From October 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 alone there were 1,170 general showers and 1,562 high school showers taken. During these months Betty also passed out 3,510 garments and 240 blankets.

This community grant will allow Betty Chinn and her Street Outreach to continue to focus on serving the neediest among us by covering the logistical costs of the shower project and purchasing almost half of the annual supplies needed to operate.

We respectfully request your support and funding for Betty Chinn's outreach.

2. How were these challenges/opportunities identified? (e.g. community interviews, within your agency, other?)

The U.N and the World Health Organization define access to water and sanitation as a basic human right. Unfortunately many Humboldt County residents go without access to this basic human right. The Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation's mission is to restore dignity back to the individual through this right.

Betty's passion to start the shower program began in 2008 when a local homeless man in a wheelchair was too embarrassed to approach Betty to get food because he 'stunk.' He said "he would bathe in the bay that night, and asked for some clean clothes. That night the man drowned, and Betty vowed to make it her goal to build a shower facility (Betty Kwan Chinn Outreach, 2014)."

3. What change do you want to see in the community?

A simple fact is that individuals experiencing homelessness are not able to access jobs and housing or maintain health if they cannot get clean. Our hope is to increase the quality of life by lowering the risk of disease, enhancing dignity through personal hygiene, and increasing opportunity. According to the City of Eureka's August 2014 Homeless Policy Paper, "According to the most recently available data, the City is home to approximately 600 homeless people at any given point in time."

This past quarter, Bettys shower project served 600 individuals in 4500 showers taken. One of these individuals, Dan Wortman, had just spent a year sleeping in his car. He was actively seeking work but knew he was not making a positive impression during job interviews due to his inability to achieve adequate hygiene. "The showers do a lot for your self-esteem," he said, "as does working (Greenson, 2011)." After using the shower facilities and meeting Betty Chinn, Wortman, found a job at the Elks Club enabling him to seek adequate housing (Greenson, 2011).

The shower facility is an important step in reducing marginalization, the hope of the Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation is to continue to foster resiliency and personal self-esteem through providing humanizing services such as the shower facilities.

4. What do you plan to do to achieve that change?

We hope to achieve change through providing ongoing outreach to community members who are passionate about the work being done at the Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation. We will continue to foster positive relations with community members; thus far the Betty Chinn Foundation has survived due to the work of dedicated volunteers. Not only did the community rally to raise funds for the initial building of the showers, they continue to support the program by donating clothing, soap and shampoo. The showers are also run by volunteers and local churches contribute funds to cover the \$400 monthly utility bill. Betty Chinn feels that the community is so supportive because they too believe that people have an individual right to clean showers and clothes. Chinn's ultimate goal is to lift people up through providing humanizing services. The volunteers at the Foundation have respectful contact with those that are disadvantaged and face challenges. Many of the volunteers come every day to make lunches, provide tutoring, run showers and provide other needed services. This helps provide the homeless population with positive contact from community members when they otherwise may receive none. Betty Chinn herself is a kind of role model for positive regard. Everyone that comes into the Center is treated with kindness and respect. The Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation receives several grants each fiscal year, but relies primarily on private donations. The Foundation gets around 75% of its funding from private individual donors; this is primarily due to the positive relationships that Betty Chinn fosters within the community. Through continued relationship building, advocacy and community outreach the Betty Chinn Homeless foundation hopes to maintain quality relationships within the community while also bringing awareness to the sensitive issue of poverty and homelessness.

5. What is the duration of the proposed effort? Please describe your timeline:

The Betty Chinn center has a commitment for matching funds, that when combined with the proposed grant money, would keep the shower facility operational for 12 calendar months.

6. How will people who are directly impacted (i.e. service recipients, clients, consumers, members, and/or community members) be involved in creating, carrying out and evaluating the work?

The Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation has continued to seek input from participants including the street youth population who have a high need for personal hygiene maintenance to achieve social and school inclusion.

The executive director has been successful in collaborating with program participants and community members to recruit volunteers and promote outreach.

The Foundation is committed to building on this collaboration. The Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation will work to increase effectiveness of the shower program by continuing to involve participants, staff, and community members in the evaluation process.

7. Describe the ways in which you are working with other groups or agencies. What is your common goal? What is the role of each of your partners in working to achieve that goal?

The Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation partners with St. Vincent De Paul and St. Joseph Community Resource Center, with the mutual purpose of enhanced quality of life and opportunities for the most vulnerable members of our community. Both partners help to identify clients and give referrals for the Shower program. Catholic Charities has been an effective partner in acquiring additional funds and support.

8. If awarded, would you use this grant to leverage additional grants, contributions, or community support? If so, please explain how.

In addition to the previously stated commitment of matching funds, should this grant be awarded, we will continue to seek additional funding sources through local organizations and individuals. The Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation has 22 volunteers who participate in administration and direct support services. They donate 1,024 hours a month in combined service totaling 12,288 hours yearly. Thus funds will only be used to help the homeless and not on overhead or administrative costs. By investing in Betty Chinn's work, Humboldt Area Foundation will participate in the betterment of the lives of children, families, and vulnerable adults in Eureka, and the building of a safer, more prosperous community.

9. How does your effort/project develop a plan for sustainability, including diversification of funding sources, so that the effort is carried on without reliance on future Humboldt Area Foundation grants?

A proven track record: As the need has grown Betty's efforts have grown. From that first family for whom she prepared meals, Betty has increased her outreach. Five years ago Betty teamed up with St. Vincent de Paul's Free Dining Facility in Eureka to raise more than \$125,000 for a public shower and laundry facility. Under the mantra "Providing Dignity One Shower at a Time," the project was made possible through a diverse group of volunteers and donors, many of whom had never before donated to a cause of that sort. The project also introduced Betty's work to a wider community, which has been deeply impacted by her story as well as her mission, and is beginning to follow her empathetic example. Providing the seed money for the effort was a \$25,000 grant that Chinn received as a part of the 2008 Minerva Award bestowed upon her by California First Lady Maria Shriver. The award set off a string of honors for Chinn, including being named the California 1st Assembly District 2010 Woman of the Year and the Presidential Citizen's Medal, awarded by President Obama in August 2010.

10. Describe the process you will use to evaluate this effort. Who will be included in the evaluation process and how will they be involved?

Current need for service is tracked through daily usage sign in sheets. Additionally staff solicits verbal feedback from participants. The program director regularly meets with staff to evaluate participant input. Evaluations will be used to make necessary changes to ensure the value and effectiveness of the program.

11. May we share your proposal with other potential funders?

Yes we would appreciate you sharing our application with other potential funders. Thank you.

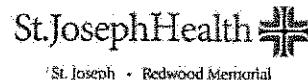
References

Greenson, Thadeus. (2011). Public Shower in Eureka Celebrates Anniversary. Retrieved January 4, 2015, from <http://www.times-standard.com/20110512/public-shower-in-eureka-celebrates-anniversary>

PROJECT BUDGET

Please refer to the sample project budget on page two for instructions and examples.

Please provide more information about budget items that are not explained elsewhere in the application.



SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM 2015 MINI-GRANT APPLICATION – HUMBOLDT COUNTY

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5 PM, APRIL 10, 2015 (postmarked or delivered)

Mail applications to: Humboldt Area Foundation, 363 Indianola Road, Bayside, CA 95524

Please provide 10 total copies of this application. Only one request per organization will be accepted.

ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION

Organization Requesting Funding:	Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation		
Brief Description of Organization:	Local non profit. Established in 2012		
Primary Contact:	Mark Amacher	Title:	Program Manager
Mailing Address:	P.O Box 736		
City/State/Zip:	Eureka, CA, 95502		
Phone Number:	(707) 407-3833	Email:	mamacherasrcharities.org

*To receive this grant your organization must have federal tax exempt status.
Please check the most appropriate response and provide your Tax ID #: 46-1413135*

501(c)(3) 501(c)(4) Educational/Governmental Institution Faith Based
(OR)

I have a Fiscal Sponsor or am sponsored by an Umbrella Organization (must be a 501c3)*

* Please indicate the organization name & Tax ID #: _____

Who should the public contact for questions about your Summer Program (if different from above) ?

Name:	Mark Amacher	Title:	Program Manager
Phone:	(707) 407-3833	E-mail:	mamacherasrcharities.org

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

PROGRAM TITLE: Bridges

AMOUNT YOU ARE REQUESTING: \$ 1,000

Total number of Humboldt County children anticipated for your 2015 summer program: 18+

If your organization offered a Summer Program in 2014, please list the number of Humboldt County youth served:

(0-5):		(6-10):		(10-14):		(15-18):		TOTAL:	20	Total * Scholarships:	Free
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**If scholarships were provided for low income families, please attach your criteria for awarding funds.*

For Office Use Only:

Program Officer:	LLA	Committee:	SYP	Fund ID:	SYPP
Review Date:	_____	Action:	_____	Profile #:	_____
		Amount:	_____	Grant #:	_____
				Batch #:	HSYP15
Program Area: <input type="checkbox"/> ANML <input type="checkbox"/> COMC <input type="checkbox"/> CULT <input type="checkbox"/> ENV <input type="checkbox"/> HEAL <input type="checkbox"/> TA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YUTH					

PROGRAM NARRATIVE

Please supply all of the information requested below in the space provided (please be brief). Feel free to attach any information you have that will help us understand your program (flyer, application, etc.).

1. Description of Summer Program and how it fulfills a recreational and/or youth developmental need:

The after school program at the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center began in January, 2014. In partnership with Eureka City schools the after school program provides a safe, nurturing environment for children experiencing homelessness to attend every day after school. The after school program provides academic support including homework help and tutoring groups. It also provides children an opportunity to develop the mental, social and personal resources that will help to break the cycle of poverty. The main goal of the after school program is to provide children and their families with a community support system and embed a feeling of self-worth and belonging in all participants. The Day Center also supports children's needs for school clothes, school supplies, and nutrition.

This summer the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center is organizing a summer camp for the students enrolled in the after school program. The children attending the camping trip will participate in numerous recreational activities, such as swimming, hiking, and playing sports. For many of the children, this will be their first time experiencing Humboldt Count's natural beauty. Those attending the trip will be able to swim in the river, play sports, and learn about nature and camping. The camping trip is a safe and exciting activity for local youth to participate in enriching activities.

This Summer Youth Grant will allow the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center to cover the cost of travel, food, and a stipend for a visiting lifeguard, and camping supplies for the children attending the camping trip.

2. Projected dates, hours, and location of Summer Program:

The summer camp will take place Monday, June 15, 2015 through Friday, June 19, 2015 in Maple Creek at Blue Slide Camp, which is located in Humboldt County, Ca

3. Geographic region your program will serve:

Our program serves Eureka, CA

4. Cost to participant and criteria for participation:

There is no cost for the youth who are attending the Maple Creek camping trip and/or who access the after school program at the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center. The after school program is designed to meet the needs of children and youth who are homeless or vulnerably housed. Children and families are referred to the after school program by the school they attend and the Marshall Family Resource Center. Children are also accepted after caregivers receive walk-in services from the Day Center.

5. If you provide scholarships or camperships to participants in your program, please explain the criteria that is used to select recipients for assistance:

The summer and the after school program at the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center are free to participants. The summer camp is open to all children currently enrolled in after school programming. Thus far there are 18 children signed up to attend the Maple Creek summer camp.

6. If you received a Summer Youth Mini-Grant for your Summer Program last year, please give a brief accounting of the expenditure of those grant funds:

The Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation did not apply for or receive a Summer Youth Mini-Grant for last year's summer program.

7. Do you have or will you seek funding for this program or for scholarships from other sources? If so, from whom and how much?

Currently we receive funding from local private funding sources and private donors. Should this grant be awarded, we will continue to seek additional funding sources through local organizations and individuals.

8. Please describe the process you use for advertising and doing outreach to the community for your Summer Program:

Outreach for the Betty Chinn Summer Camp was done through a newsletter to participants and from word of mouth.

- 9. If you are applying for more than \$500, please describe your special need (i.e. serving low-income, disabled or disadvantaged youth; serving youth in an outlying area; operating for a long duration, serving extremely large numbers of youth, etc.).**

Those attending the Betty Chinn Day Center after school program and the summer camping trip have limited resources. Much of the work Betty Chinn does focuses on prevention and breaking the cycle of homelessness. The Betty Chinn summer camp provides a week away from conflicts at home, from the stress of poverty and home instability and an opportunity for children enrolled in our center to feel supported. Participation in community based recreation helps people experiencing homelessness overcome social isolation, and promotes integration and self-efficacy. Community recreational activities foster equality, mutual respect and normalization when devalued people, such as the homeless, are appropriately integrated. For homeless youth participation in community based recreation can help them to develop self-awareness, increase self-esteem, learn social interaction skills and appropriate social behavior, and develop a sense of community. The services provided by the Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation give children and youth a feeling of hope knowing that they are loved and cared for each day.

This Summer Youth grant will allow the Betty Chinn Homeless foundation to continue to focus on serving the neediest among us by covering the logistical costs of the summer camp and purchasing more than half of the food and supplies needed.

We respectfully request your support and funding for Betty Chinn's Outreach.

PROGRAM BUDGET

Completion of this page is required for grant consideration. Please ensure that the budget below reflects the total budget for your summer program and indicates specifically what a grant from the Summer Youth Partnership would help to fund. The total for the column labeled "Amount Requested from SYP" should correlate with the amount you requested in the Basic Program Overview on the application cover page. You may attach additional budget information you feel is necessary for us to understand your program better.

* BKCHF (Betty Kwan Chinn Homeless Foundation)