

## **QUESTION AND ANSWERS TO PUBLIC INQUIRY RE: HOMELESS RESOURCE CENTER**

**1. Question:** Do they have funding for staffing, food, housing of families, supplies phones etc.? If so where does it come from now and in the future? How much?

**Answer:** At this time funding for Homeless Resource Center operations has not been established. Staff is currently reviewing grant funding opportunities, current funding allocations as well as other potential revenue streams.

**2. Question:** Security: If only taking referrals (i.e. from the police), how are they going to prevent dumping?

**Answer:** All admissions to the Homeless Resource Center will be voluntary. Those admitted will have expressed a desire to end their homelessness and be ready to begin taking steps in that direction. An ongoing educational campaign targeted towards law enforcement personnel and directed to the purpose, intent, services, and operating limitations of the Homeless Resource Center will be necessary to prevent instances of "dumping" homeless candidates at the facility.

**3. Question:** Will they be taking referrals 24/7?

**Answer:** Referrals will be accepted on a 24 hour basis, 7 days per week, 365 days per year. It is not necessary to have a referral from dawn to dusk; homeless individuals may self-refer during those hours. Referral capabilities will be limited from dusk to dawn. Uninterrupted daily operations are of critical importance to the mission of the Homeless Resource Center; fundamental to the successful delivery of services to curb homelessness; and a strategic response to community concern with lack of admissions during non-operational hours.

**4. Question:** Will the entire property be fenced and gated?

**Answer:** The site supports an existing chain link fence along the south, west and east property lines. These fences are intended to remain, as is an existing gate at the driveway entrance to Windsor Avenue. No fencing is proposed along the frontage of 45th Street for aesthetic reasons and as strategy to clearly identify the property line from which access to the site shall be gained by homeless clientele.

**5. Question:** Who will they call when people walk or drive up without a referral and where will the people be directed to?

**Answer:** A referral will only be necessary from dusk to dawn. When a homeless individual walks-up during that time period, a referral source will be contacted to evaluate that person and refer based on the results of an individualized assessment of service need.

**6. Question:** Will they have private security or sheriff's officers there 24/7? If so what will their duties be?

**Answer:** Yes, there will be private security on site on a 24 hour basis, 7 days per week, 365 days per year. Their duties will include, but are not limited to, surveillance of the grounds and interior space, access and departure management, and daily program support assignments.

**7. Question:** Will this be the only center for all of Palm Beach County?

**Answer:** The "Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in Palm Beach County" envisions four Homeless Resource Centers located geographically across the County. The West Palm Beach HRC will be the first to operate as other sites are sought.