



June 5, 2014

Update on the “Empowerment Center” Project

Presentation Outline

- Status of the Empowerment Center
 - Renovations
- Interlocal Agreement with County
 - Governance
 - Vision and Concepts for Future
- ACCHH Activities
 - Update on Homeless Services

Empowerment Center



History

- Jan. 12, 2014 - The City sponsored a Visioning Session to discuss future services for the Empowerment Center.
 - 79 people attended the Session
 - The findings and suggestions from the first Visioning session for the Empowerment Center presented to the City Commission in April 17, 2014.
 - A second session is tentatively planned for the late summer/early fall.

History

- Feb. 6, 2014 - The City approved a 3 year agreement with ACCHH for management and coordination of Homeless Services at the Empowerment Center.
 - Annual contract for \$308,000 in FY14
 - Future funding is subject to the approval of the City and County's annual Budget Process
 - City and County agreed to provide \$154,000 each for the provision of service FY14

History

- Feb. 20, 2014 - City approved Connect Free funds of up to \$625,000 for plumbing improvements, water meters and wastewater improvements at the Empowerment Center.
- Apr. 17, 2014 - the first payment of \$77,000 issued from the City to ACCHH for start up cost and equipment for Homeless Services at the Empowerment Center.

History

- May 5, 2014 - ACCHH began limited services at the Empowerment Center including:
 - Mail services
 - Restroom access
 - Referral services
 - Bus pass distribution, and
 - Partnership meetings for social service providers

Renovations

- The City has allocated over 1 million dollars in renovation and construction funds to get the campus ready for homeless services.
- City Commission and County Commission have requested funding for the roof repairs, kitchen renovations and equipment in the State Legislative Packet for the Empowerment Center.
- Both Commissions are supporting similar request at the federal level for the Empowerment Center.

Renovations

Facility improvements and repairs have focused on bringing buildings up to code with greatest potential for use and immediate impacts such as the:

- Chapel
- Food Services (Kitchen & Dining Hall)
- Dormitory
- Laundry
- Library
- Welcome Center

Note: Staff will continue working with stakeholders to seek funding for repairs to the remaining buildings to make them available for future use as directed by the Governing Board.

Renovations

On April 17, 2014, the City provided ACCHH five (5) sets of keys to the Empowerment Center campus including:

- Gate padlocks
- Chapel,
- Food Services building,
- Laundry,
- Library,
- Dorm A, and
- Visitor Center buildings

Note: All buildings were not ready for immediate use by ACCHH as they were still undergoing renovations and repairs.

Renovations

As part of the ongoing coordination efforts between the City, County, and ACCHH, staff members of all 3 entities met on April 29th, and will continue to meet monthly to cultivate the growth and success of the project.

It was determined by ACCHH that the Administrative/Gate Building is essential for successful daily operations and to begin Homeless Services at the Center.

On May 5th, the City authorized use of the Administrative/Gate Building "As is" and the ACCHH agreed to be responsible for all improvements and utilities associated with the Building.

Renovations

Before



Sally port, bollards, tall fencing and barbed wire removed at the entrance

After



Renovations

Before



Fencing and barbed wire removed at the entrance

After



Renovations

Repairs completed in the Laundry and Library buildings included:

- Roofing
- HVAC
- Interior and exterior painting
- Installed a new ceiling
- Plumbing
- Gas lines (laundry)
- Electrical
- Lighting, and
- General cleaning and sanitation

These buildings were turned over to ACCHH on 5/12/14

Renovations



Before

Laundry room repairs
and upgrades



After



After

Renovations

Library repairs and upgrades



Renovations

The Food Services Building has also undergone a tremendous amount of repairs and renovations. The dining hall has received:

- New HVAC units,
- New floor tile,
- New wall tile,
- New fly fans,
- New light fixtures,
- New ceiling;
- Interior paint;
- General cleaning and sanitation;
- Exterior rotten wood repairs and painting.

Renovations

Dining Hall repairs and upgrades (new wall tile installed)



Renovations

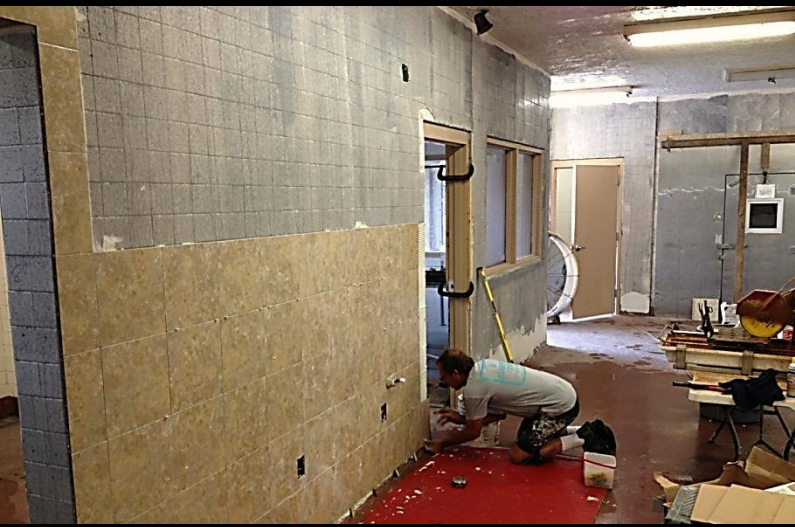
The Food Services Building:

- Has a new architectural shingle roof.
- Kitchen area – projected to be finished June 1st, the freezers and walk in coolers have undergone a great amount of maintenance and repairs and are ready.
- Staff and contractors have installed new HVAC systems in the staff dining area and storage rooms.
- Numerous plumbing repairs have been completed in the facility.
- Wall tile installation has started in the kitchen area and staff will continue working on the kitchen cooking exhaust system.

The dining hall was turned over to ACCHH on 5/27/14

Renovations

Kitchen repairs and upgrades (new wall tile being installed)



Renovations

Repairs completed in Dorms A & D that will be utilized by ACCHH including:

- Interior and exterior painting (D only)
- Door repairs
- HVAC installation (D only)
- Lighting repairs, and
- General cleaning and sanitation

Note: One major step remaining in the dorm buildings will be the total renovation of the restroom facilities to make them more applicable for use in a shelter setting.

Dorm A building turned over to ACCHH on 4/17/14.

Renovations



Dorm repairs and painting



Renovations

Before



Dorm restroom repairs
and fixture replacements

After



Interlocal Agreement

Direction from March 24, 2014 Joint Meeting of the City and County Commissions:

- Develop an Interlocal Agreement to establish a 5 Member Governance Board
 - 2 City Commissioners
 - 2 County Commissioners
 - 1 member chosen by the other 4 members
- City Attorney taking the lead on developing the agreement with input from City and County staff

Note: The City has already been contacted by agencies wishing to provide services at the Center; they have been advised that the Governance Board will be in place soon to make those determinations.

Moving Forward

There are many options and potential services to explore as the campus is developed under the direction of the Governance Board such as:

- Job training and mentoring programs
- Job search assistance
- Behavioral and medical health care
- Life skills training
- Case management
- Medical and dental care
- Educational opportunities
- Housing

ACCHH Update

May 1, 2014 – ACCHH provided Draft Security Plan to City Commission

Schedule below provided by ACCHH on May 13th

May 12 – May 18

- May 10: The Kickstand begins to relocate to GRACE Marketplace
- May 12 – 18: Continue accepting and distributing mail, access to restrooms, intake and referrals, distributing bus passes, day area, distribute blankets and information.
- May 11 – 15: Provide space for Jobs for Life training (Gainesville Community Ministries)

ACCHH Update

May 19 – May 25

- May 19 – May 25: Continue providing above services.
- May 19: Crisis Intervention training for staff
- May 20: Conflict resolution training for staff
- May 21: NCFCHH General Meeting followed by campus tour. Members to bring literature for distribution
- May 22: First Aid and CPR training for staff

May 26 – June 1

- May 27 – June 1: Continue to provide above services.
- May 30: Community Meeting (SOAR Training)
- June 1: Expand hours to 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. and begin providing additional services
 - Meals
 - Storage
 - Lending library
 - If prearranged: religious services in the Chapel

ACCHH Update

June 2 – June 8

- June 2: Community services providers begin providing services on negotiated schedule
- June 2 - June 8: Continue to provide above services.

June 9 – June 29

- Continue to provide above services

June 30 – July 6

- July 1: Begin providing overnight emergency shelter, laundry, showers

In Conclusion

Questions?