



# Bemidji Homeless Advisory Team

**Thursday, March 26, 2015**

**Members Present:** Jolene Enerson, Stephanie Hubbard, Angie Lauderbaugh, Greg Liedl, Kathy Palm

## **Minutes:**

1. From 1:00-2:00: Angie and Jolene compared their student lists to be sure they have accounted for all homeless students. We have 248 homeless students so far this year. This time was productive for Angie and Jolene, so they would like to plan this for the first half hour of every Homeless Team meeting.
2. We reviewed the minutes from the February 26 meeting. The middle school raised \$413 for air mattresses, which Sanford Health will match. Air beds without a pump cost \$20, but those with a built-in air pump cost \$40. All of the blankets that groups have made have been given to students, and Angie needs more, plus supplies for making more blankets. The students really appreciate having something for themselves like a blanket.
3. Angie provided a recap of the Evergreen Conference where she and Greg presented. Their presentation on McKinney Vento was well received. Angie said there are a lot of resources from the conference, which she would like to share. She will post information on First Class with a link to access the conference handouts.
4. Angie provided information from Roberto Reyes regarding homeless and higher education. Angie said we have done what is required regarding the National Hotline. She writes a letter for any students who have been homeless, which can help them receive financial aid for attending college. Any student who has been homeless at some time can apply to receive \$2,000. Fifteen such scholarships are available.
5. Angie met with Evergreen regarding education options. MDE told Angie that we should not be serving students who have been suspended from school. Those are the responsibility of their home district. Evergreen understands this. Red Lake still needs to provide transportation to their students who are at Evergreen. Other districts are complying with the transportation requirement. Angie said that two students have been attending AEC for a while and need to go into a full day school program. Tami should work with the other principals to make this happen, especially with the start of the new term. The direction we have been given from MDE is for students to attend AEC no more than three days, and after that they will go to one of our schools for full-day instruction. If Evergreen feels this is inappropriate for any student, they will complete a form stating that the student cannot attend a full day of school and the reason. Several students who attend Evergreen do not qualify for McKinney Vento.
6. We adjourned at 3:10. Our next meeting date is April 30, 2015 at the district office. Angie, Jolene, and Greg will meet at 1:00, and the rest of the committee will meet at 1:30.