The Homeless: A Report

By Rodolfo H. Castro

The plight of the homeless was further exacerbated by a fragmented service delivery system and inadequate shelter facilities. The geographical size (20,167 sq. mi.) and diversity—desert, mountain, urban, rural—of San Bernardino County added unique logistical constraints.

However, the fundamental weakness in serving the homeless was a lack of coordination and communication among public, private, and non-County service providers. A better way was needed.

Homeless Task Force

In the Spring of 1989, a task force was organized comprised of County Departments that directly or indirectly served the homeless. The departments included the Children's Network, Community Services Department, Sheriff's Department, Veterans' Affairs, Department of Public Social Services, Office on Aging, Mental Health, Economic and Community Development, Environmental Health Services and the County Administrative Office.

The Task Force Work Plan:

- Identify homeless programs administered by County Departments.
- Develop a cold weather strategy for the Winter of 1989/90.
- Maximize cost-effectiveness as clients were served at an average expense of $7.52 per shelter night.
- Provide 16,866 shelter nights for the homeless.

The Winter of 1989/90

A plan was developed to provide emergency shelter for the homeless during the winter months.

The cold weather strategy would function between October 1, 1989 and March 1, 1990. Emergency shelter would be provided on cold weather nights -40 degrees below or 50 degrees with a 30% probability of rain.

The Economic and Community Development Department and the Community Services Department, the local War on Poverty Agency, combined Stewart B. McKinney funds ($127,225) for the effort.

The winter strategy programmed 16,000 shelter nights for the homeless - an increase of 15,000 shelter nights over 1988/89. A shelter night is defined as one bed space per person at night.

Strategically located homeless shelters were selected to provide "direct services" - San Bernardino Salvation Army (170 bed capacity), Desert Manna Ministries, Barstow, (40 bed capacity), and St. Marks Shelter, Upland, (35 bed capacity). The shelters provided warm beds, hot meals, counseling and information and referral services.

The homeless shelters were supplemented by $50,000 in motel vouchers that were distributed throughout the County by five Salvation Army centers as a "gap fill" strategy. The media participated publicizing the service delivery network.

Results

The Cold Weather Plan:

- Identified homeless programs operated by non-County providers.
- Review existing literature/studies regarding the homeless issues.
- Review Federal and State legislation targeted for the homeless.
- Liaison with local task forces, study groups, and committees focused on the homeless problem.
- Develop a cold weather strategy for the Winter of 1989/90.

The Task Force worked to improve the interface between County Departments and community-based organizations serving the homeless. However, the primary responsibility was preparing for the Winter of 1989/90.

Hernandez named Sheriff's Lieutenant

The San Bernardino County's Sheriff's Department announced the promotion of Sergeant John Hernandez to the position of lieutenant. The announcement was appropriately made by Sheriff Tidwell at graduation ceremonies in the Sheriff's sponsored Cultural Program at Ramona-Alessandro Elementary School on July 13, 1990.

Lt. John Hernandez' entire professional career has been with law enforcement. In 1975, he started with the San Bernardino County Marshal's Office. He transferred to the Ontario Police Department in 1977. During that period of time, he worked in the patrol division and was later transferred to the gang unit. The work in this unit involved investigation of gangs in the Ontario area. "Working in this unit was a challenge to me. I was able to do good investigative work because of my background and could relate to many of the situations and problems of the Hispanic gangs. We developed positive programs to relieve the gang situation in Ontario," he said.
County Mental Health funds lost in failed veto override

Unfortunately, trying to stretch too few dollars for too many clients is not unique to San Bernardino. Counties across the state are caught in the same wringer. Only an estimated 10% of the Californians who need mental health services actually receive assistance.

One reason for the care crisis is that there is no legal requirement to serve the mentally ill. In 1989 the Governor threatened to slash mental health funding by 40% if the Legislature did not accept his cuts for welfare programs.

If that threat had been carried out, 250,000 adults, one-quarter of a million children, and their families would have been left unprotected.

Some relief is on the horizon. President Bush is expected to sign the Americans with Disabilities Act. The measure prohibits discrimination based on disability, including mental illness, in employment, public accommodations, transportation, telecommunications, and the activities of state and local government.

The California Legislature also is anticipating a mental health master plan later this year. The blueprint will identify priority populations, ways to allocate resources, and methods to evaluate current services.

Many local families were bitterly disappointed by the Governor's denial of program money for our county and the persons who require services.

Twenty years ago Governor Ronald Reagan released thousands of state hospital patients into neighborhoods and communities unprepared to serve them. Since that time, clinics were closed. Services were reduced. Budgets were slashed. Need has increased.

The work of overhauling a failing mental health care system - and ensuring assistance for a badly-served community - is long overdue.

Forestry Employees Endorse Ayala

ONTARIO-Senator Ruben Ayala today announced that the California Department of Forestry Employees Association (CDFEA) has endorsed his re-election to the 34th Senate District.

The CDFEA represents more than 4,000 men and women working in firefighting in the state and is the largest firefighting department in the United States.

"I am very pleased to have received the endorsement of the CDFEA which provides such a vital service in protecting our valuable forests and watershed," Ayala said.

"The CDFEA also contracts to provide fire protection to many outlying communities in San Bernardino County and played a vital role in containing the recent fire in the Sleepy Hollow area of Chino Hills," Ayala said.

Senator Ayala has also recently been endorsed by the California Professional Firefighters which represents some 17,000 firefighters: the San Bernardino and Rialto Fire Fighters; and the State Employed Fire Fighters Association.

"Help on Call" Serves West End

United Way invites residents of San Bernardino’s West End to call "Help on Call" for free, confidential referrals to local health and human service providers.

Help on Call has the latest information on where to get assistance with counseling, child care, youth programs, food, clothing, shelter, legal problems and dozens of other concerns.

If you or someone you know need help, please call Help on Call at (714) 986-3484 or (714) 986-6805. Hours are 8:30 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Assistance for Spanish-speaking callers is available.

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SBVC promotes Zamorano to full professorship

G. Irma Zamorano, Director, Psychiatric Technician Program, was recently promoted to full professorship at San Bernardino Valley College. Ms. Zamorano began as an instructor in the Psych-Tech Program at Valley College in 1975 and was promoted to Director in 1982. Prior professional employment was as staff nurse for 11 years and psychiatric technician for seven years at Patton State Hospital. She teaches part-time and counsels students in the Health Science Division. The program has an agreement with Patton State Hospital to train candidates as psychiatric technicians.

Her educational credentials include a Masters Degree in Counseling Education, a Marriage, Family and Children's Counseling license, a BA in Sociology and AS in Nursing. She also holds an AAS in Nursing.

Ms. Zamorano was born and raised in the United States and was educated, they valued the importance of an education and continually pressured the children to attend college and pursue a professional career. As a result, two sisters graduated from the San Bernardino Valley College School of Nursing. One sister graduated from Berkeley with a BS in Public Health. Another sister also graduated from Berkeley with a BA and MA, taught school in the Colton School District, received her Ph.D. from UCR, and is currently a professor and Director of Chicano Studies at UC Davis. Two brothers are engineers and one brother is an Endodontist. There are a number of nephews and nieces who are in various professional careers.

One of Ms. Zamorano's sons is a Licensed Social Worker for the County of Sacramento and another is Acting Director for Multi-Cultural Center for Recruitment and Advisement of Minority students at the University of Oregon.

Ms. Zamorano is planning to retire in approximately two years and spend time with her five grandchildren. Her hobbies are history, art, literature, music and travel.

G. Irma Zamorano named full professor at SBVC

Art and Lucia Gradias receive California 1990 Distinguished Volunteer Awards

Art and Lucia Gradias of San Bernardino were selected as recipients of the Distinguished Volunteer Service Award by the California State Special Olympics, Incorporated.

Mr. and Mrs. Gradias were selected from volunteers throughout the State of California. They were recognized by Mr. Rafer Johnson, President of Special Olympics and Decathlon Winner of the 1968 Olympic Games in a special reception held in June, 1990.

Art and Lucia Gradias will, in addition, be recognized at the Parade of Athletes during the XXII Annual Summer Games this year at UCLA from July 22 through July 24.

Special Olympics is a non-profit organization that organizes sporting competitions for mentally retarded children. The Special Olympics is a year-round program of training and competition, and is not funded by a national organization.

Mrs. Gradias was born and raised in San Bernardino and has been working for the San Bernardino Unified School District for 18 years, having spent 8 years at Mount Vernon Elementary School and 10 years at Anderson School. Prior to her current tenure, working at Parks and Recreation, she began volunteering for the Special Olympics and continuing at Anderson School. She coaches volleyball, mends uniforms, goes on overnight trips with the Special Olympics and numerous volunteering chores to help the special children. Her hobbies are sewing and knitting.

Mr. Gradias has worked for the Sun Newspaper for 36 years. He has played Santa Claus for the Parks and Recreation Department, schools, and convalescent homes for many years. He helps coach the volleyball team, takes out of town trips, takes pictures for special events and Special Olympics and does chauffeur duties. Mr. and Mrs. Gradias were given a School District Award for Exemplary Services for students and staff at Anderson School in June 1990. His hobbies are fishing and photography.

The Gradias have a son, Manuel who also helps in the Special Olympics at San Bernardino Valley College.

"Sometimes the parents of those special kids do not get involved, and these kids are human. We enjoy working with them, and it gives us a feeling that we are able to make their lives a little more enjoyable. We will continue to volunteer as long as we can," they said.

Art and Lucia Gradias receive Distinguished Volunteer Award for California Special Olympics from Rafer Johnson

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Dunworth named as Interim Replacement for Dr. Garcia

Dr. John Dunworth of Pensacola, FL has been appointed as the new interim dean of the School of Education at California State University, San Bernardino. Effective August 15, he replaces Dean Ernest Garcia who is retiring from the university after 21 years of service. Dunworth will serve in the position for approximately one year while a national search for a permanent replacement is conducted.

Dunworth brings extensive experience in the field of education to Cal State having served in several academic and administrative positions. He is a former classroom teacher, principal, district superintendent of schools, dean and college president.

His most recent appointment was as a Jones Distinguished University Professor at Emporia State University in Kansas. Prior to that, Dunworth served as president of George Peabody College for Teachers for five years and was dean of the Teachers College at Ball State University where he served for over seven years. Additionally, Dunworth was the first dean of the College of Education at the University of West Florida and served as superintendent of the Santa Ana Unified School District, one of the 10 largest educational systems in California.

"It's a real honor to be asked to serve at such an outstanding institution," says Dunworth. "The CSU is known throughout the world for its quality and accessibility to students. It's well known as a model for delivering higher education. I'm looking forward to the position very much."

He notes that his initial goals and priorities will be to build upon the present strengths of the School of Education. "The school has a fine reputation, and my role as interim dean will be to continue this reputation and to address the challenge of growth, particularly in attracting new faculty and in broadening the program to serve both students and the community."

A graduate of Redlands High School, Dunworth holds a bachelor of arts degree in speech and a master of arts degree in education from the University of California, Berkeley. He received his Ed.D. in educational administration and supervision from the University of Southern California.

History of S.B.V.C. Psychiatric Technology Program

The Psychiatric Technology Program was first started at San Bernardino Valley College in 1972 in response to a State Department of Mental Hygiene Mandate based on the need for Psychiatric Technicians at Patton State Hospital. Prior to this the Psych-Techs had been trained at the Hospital.

Psychiatric Technology has undergone many changes during the past ninety years. Psychiatric Technicians were untrained individuals living on the grounds of most state hospitals, caring for the thousands of the mentally ill who received very little in the way of treatment.

During the mid 50's the tranquilizers changed the lives of the mentally ill by actually diminishing, and in some cases, eradicating the mental symptoms. The mentally ill were now more accessible to other therapies.

Psychiatric Technicians were then trained at the state hospitals, receiving 300 hours of classroom instruction and on-the-job training.

In the early 70's the Psychiatric Technician became a licensed professional with most of their training done in the college setting. SBVC's program, started in 1972, with the instructors being loaned to the College by Patton State Hospital.

In 1977 the College took over the entire process of training Psych-Techs and hired their own instructors. Presently 4 of the 7 instructors were at one time Psych-Techs who went on and became Registered Nurses.

The 60's brought more changes for the Psychiatric Technician and the mentally ill. The Psych-Techs were certified after taking an examination. They were also trained to take an active part on the health team. In 1968, another major event occurred: the Lanterman Petris Short Doyle Act went into effect which would forever change the treatment of the mentally ill.

The mentally ill now could only be hospitalized for a specified period of time based on their mental condition. They were also guaranteed basic rights such as the right to receive visitors, wear their own clothing, refuse electro convulsive treatments and to refuse psycho surgical procedures such as lobotomies.

During 1968 the population at all the hospitals for the mentally ill dramatically declined. Patton's population went from over 5000 to approximately 1500. The Psychiatric Technician became more of a professional, actively participating on the health team.

The future looks very bright for the Psych-Techs in the 90's. They are very much in demand and are recognized as very valuable to the mental health team. They are presently taking their licensing examination by computerized testing. The California Board of Vocational/Nurse and Psych-Tech Examiners is the first in the nation to take the major step to administer licensing examinations by computers.

Hase & Associates, Inc. announced its extension of the Hispanic Outreach Program (HOP) to serve the City of Fontana for the fiscal year 1990-91. The HOP, for the past three years, has conducted studies on alcohol-related problems affecting the Hispanic community and has developed services to meet those problems.

HOP is sponsored by the San Bernardino County's Alcohol and Drug Program. The HOP plans to involve Fontana residents and actively involved community persons into the Fontana Hispanic Alcohol Task Force whose primary function will be to identify needs relating to alcohol problems and develop recommendations to meet those needs. The advisory board, in addition, will disseminate the information regarding the alcohol services that are available and aid in the implementation of the services in the community.

HOP, through its Coordinator, Lydia A. Farkas, is committed to becoming involved in the City of Fontana, working with the City and its citizens, and its Hispanic population, that every individual become aware of alcoholic abuses and related problems and development of alternatives.

Hase & Associates Systems Inc., has served the Inland Empire for over 10 years on alcohol-related issues and bilingual-bicultural D.U.I. educational programs.
Roman Catholic Diocese of San Bernardino ordains three priests at Our Lady of the Rosary rites

First time in Diocese history, All new ordinands are Hispanic

BERNARDINO - During a June 29 rite at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, the Most Rev. Phillip F. Straling, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of San Bernardino, ordained three men as priests of that diocese. For the first time in the diocese’s history all three ordinands are of Hispanic background and all speak Spanish fluently.

The new priests are the Rev. Miguel Céja, who will serve as associate pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Rialto; the Rev. Anthony Garduño, who will serve as associate pastor of Holy Family Parish in Hesperia; and the Rev. Jaime Hamamé, who will serve as associate pastor of St. Edward Parish in Corona.

The ordination rite itself was marked by a mix of ethnic expressions - a Native American blessing of the sanctuary prior to beginning the liturgy, hymns of the black Gospel style at the procession and recession, a number of hymns in Spanish, and a Communion meditation performed by the Cahuilla Bird Singers, a Native American group.

Céja, 33, is a native of Guadalajara, Mexico. He grew up in the Ontario area. He received his theological training at St. John Seminary in Camarillo.

Garduño, who will turn 32 on Aug. 15, is a native of Chicago and began his studies for the priesthood of the Archdiocese of Chicago. After ordination to the diaconate, he took some time away from his studies to re-evaluate his vocation, after which he applied for incardination (official canonical acceptance) into the Diocese of San Bernardino, which was granted this past spring.

His ethnic background is Italian, Spanish and Native American. He holds a degree in Romance Languages and, besides English and Spanish, is fluent in Italian and French.

Hamamé, 33, is a native of Chile where he did his theological studies. He, like Father Garduño, was incardinated into the diocese this past spring.

The diocese, composed of San Bernardino and Riverside counties, anticipates the ordination of 16 priests over the next four years, with seven of those bearing Hispanic surnames - five are scheduled to be ordained in 1991, two, possibly three, in 1992, four in 1993 (all Hispanics), and five in 1994.

June 29, 1990
Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral

WELCOME - Bishop Phillip F. Straling greets the family of Deacon Miguel Céja (in white) prior to the June 29 rite at which Deacon Céja was ordained a priest. On July 1, he began a two-year term as associate pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Rialto.

(Photograph by Kathleen Marsh for Inland Catholic)

ORDAINED - Bishop Phillip F. Straling lays hands on Deacon Jaime Hamamé accomplishing the moment of ordination to the priesthood. Father Hamamé will serve for the next two years as associate pastor of St. Edward Parish in Corona.

(Photograph by Kathleen Marsh for Inland Catholic)
Hernandez from Page 1

In late 1982, Chico Resales, a Sheriff's Deputy, convinced Hernandez to apply for a position in the Sheriff's Department. Passing the examinations, he began his tenure with the Sheriff's Department in January, 1983. He was initially assigned to Glen Helen Rehabilitation Center for seven months, then West End Station on patrol for a year and to the career criminal division (SWAT team) in 1984. In 1985, Hernandez was promoted to senior deputy working in homicide division.

The Sheriff's Department was planning the Foothill Detention Center in Rancho Cucamonga in January, 1988, and a Transition Team was organized to coordinate every facet of the total operation. Hernandez was promoted to sergeant and was assigned second in command of the Team under Captain Bill Dana. "The Transition Team is responsible for the planning, design and monitoring the construction of the Center. In addition, the Team will develop and test the administrative and operational procedures when the Center is opened. Our Team has a tremendous responsibility to insure that the Center operates effectively when it becomes operational," he stated.

Lt. Hernandez was born and raised on Flores Street in San Bernardino where his father and mother, Miguel and Carmen Hernandez, have lived in the same house for over fifty years! He went to Guadalupe School and Aquinas High School. Receiving his AA from San Bernardino Valley College, he served in Germany and Vietnam from 1966 to 1969, as sergeant in the tank corps. After his Army discharge, he attended Valley College and Chaffey College. Currently, Lt. Hernandez is completing his BA in Public Administration from Cal-State, San Bernardino. In the fall, he will be enrolled at La Verne University in its graduate program for a MA in Public Administration.

"I became interested in law enforcement because of a small incident many years ago. One day, a group of us small kids were playing on Flores Street and a CHP officer drove over to our group (at that time, the CHP Headquarters was on the intersection of 4th and 5th) and offered candy from his motorcycle bag and began a conversation with us. Our impression of cops at that time was not very positive. Eventually, we asked him questions about policemen and how we could become one. His humanitarian way and professional approach had a tremendous impact on me, especially when he locked straight at me and said that we could become police officers if we wanted to. His total demeanor left such an impression on me that I instantly decided that my career was in law enforcement," he stated very straightforwardly.

"I enjoy working in law enforcement. My goal is to continually educate myself in order to project the identical, positive and professional, but humanistic image that the CHP officer conveyed to me many years ago. Again, because of my Hispanic background and knowledge, I can be of value to the Sheriff's Department and myself, by positive input and develop greater relationships between our Department and the public, especially the Hispanic public."

"We want to instill the seed in our younger generation that a good education and commitment to our community will project a positive attitude of the ability to be successful, and if our Hispanic youth choose a law enforcement career, that in addition to enforcing the law, they can also be persons of peace."

Lt. Hernandez and his wife Judy, reside in Bloomington with their daughter Candice 15 and son Jacob 8. He is a member of the Footprinters Association, Law Enforcement Association, California Peace Officers Association, American Jail Association and American Correctional Association.

Poncho Sanchez, one of the world's five best percussionists

Poncho Sanchez to perform Latin Jazz at August 11 concert

GENTS present Poncho Sanchez in Latin Jazz

The Gents Organization, a well-known social and active group in the Inland Empire, is sponsoring Poncho Sanchez and his Latin Jazz Band at the Orange Pavilion on August 11, 1990, with a dance and two shows, and also featuring "City To City". The proceeds from this fund-raising function will be distributed to the building fund, scholarships and other community activities.

The Poncho Sanchez Latin Jazz Band is well-known nationally and internationally. His band is in demand at all jazz festivals and nightclubs in the United States, especially New York, where he has performed at the Village Gate, Los Angeles and other large cities. His most recent European tour in 1989 included performances in Nice, Milan, Rome, London and other major cities on the Continent, including Finland.

The Latin Jazz Band has made numerous television appearances, including HBO, Cinemax, Latin Session, ABC Television Network on behalf of Project Literacy, NBC Today Show and other top-rated musical shows. Poncho Sanchez was born in Laredo, Texas, and raised in Norwalk, California. At a very early age, he started playing in a variety of places, nightclubs, dances, etc., and in different musical settings - rhythm & blues, polkas and oldies, until he started playing with Cal Tjader, where he spent eight years, recording numerous albums including the Grammy award winning LA ONDA BA BIEN. He also worked with Tito Puente, Woody Herman, Dizzy Gillespie, Arturo Sandoval and others.

In 1979, he organized his own ensemble. He recorded his first album, PONCHO, followed by STRAIGHT AHEAD-PALANTE, SONNANDO, BIEN SABROSO, which was nominated for a Grammy in 1985, EL CONGUERO & PAPA GATO. His latest album release is CHILE CON SOUL, which is a blend of Latin jazz, straight ahead jazz and rhythm & blues.

The Latin Jazz Band's 1990 schedule includes a return to the Village Gate in New York, appearances at the Playboy, Concord, Montreal and Monterey Jazz Festivals, a nation-wide tour and a Japanese tour.

His ensemble includes Tony and Ramon Bandia, Sal Cracchiolo, Arturo Velasco, Jose Rodriguez, Gene Burkett and David Torrez.

In a 1989 reader's poll, Poncho Sanchez was considered among the world's five top percussionists. The dance starts at 8:00 PM. Tickets are $15.00 in advance and $18.00 at the door. Tickets can be obtained by calling Leonard Minjares at 889-6982, Frank Rodriguez at 793-1206, Ron Ybarra at 883-5844 or Pete Ramos at 825-2188.

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Personal Profile: Rodolfo H. Castro

Rodolfo H. Castro grew up in Banning, California and graduated from Banning Union High School in 1961. He received an A.A. Degree in Business "With Distinction" from Riverside Community College in 1967 and in 1970, he graduated "With Honors" from California State Polytechnic University with a B.S. Degree in Business Administration. In 1973, Mr. Castro received a Masters in Business Administration from the Harvard Business School.

Mr. Castro has served as the Executive Director of the San Bernardino County Community Services Department for over thirteen years. He is the first Mexican-American to serve as the Director of the local War on Poverty agency and his tenure has exceeded the combined service of the previous ten Executive Directors.

In addition he serves as Chairman of the San Bernardino County Homeless Task Force, a member of the Children's Policy Council for San Bernardino County and Congressman George E. Brown, Jr.'s U.S. Constitution Bicentennial Committee.

In 1980, Governor George Deukmejian appointed Mr. Castro to the California State Social Services Advisory Board.

Honors include the Cal Poly Business School "Alumnus of the Year" 1981, the National Association of Counties Achievement Award in 1984, Who's Who in California 1988, San Bernardino Salvation Army Leadership Award in 1990.

Riverside City College Alumnus Rodolfo H. Castro wants to share with others the same opportunities he was given as a college student and has founded the Rodolfo H. Castro Scholarship Fund. He has endowed $10,000 into the Fund which will be directed toward Mexican-American students attending RCC.

"Twenty-five years has blurred the problems and difficulties I faced as a Mexican-American trying to achieve an education," Castro said. "RCC was where I received the support and encouragement I needed to pursue my dreams."

A recipient of scholarships, Castro hopes that by funding this scholarship, other Mexican-American students will have some of the same opportunities that he received.

"Education is important because it provides you with the opportunity to establish financial security, to grow as a person, reach your potential, and then give something back to your community," Mr. Castro is a firm believer in this philosophy, having worked at an educational service center for Hispanics after completing his education.

An $800 scholarship will be awarded annually commencing in the 1991-92 school year. The scholarship will be awarded to a second-year Mexican-American student with a minimum 3.0 grade point average, active in student affairs and with demonstrated financial need. The Fund is the first endowed scholarship specifically for Mexican-American students. Priority consideration will be given to students who qualify for Alpha Gamma Sigma, which is the state-wide honor society for junior college.

Mr. Castro was the first Mexican-American to serve as the Director of the local War on Poverty agency and his tenure has exceeded the combined service of the previous ten Executive Directors.

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The National Guard Armory Option was held in reserve for the "worst case scenario."

Observations
The Cold Weather Plan was implemented effectively and efficiently. The Task Force improved coordination and communication through information sharing and networking.