

S O U T H  
S U B U R B A N  
P A D S

10-078



PUBLIC ACTION  
TO DELIVER  
SHELTER

P.O. BOX 1176  
HOMEWOOD  
ILLINOIS  
60430-0176

OFFICE  
708.754.4357

FAX  
708.481.0952

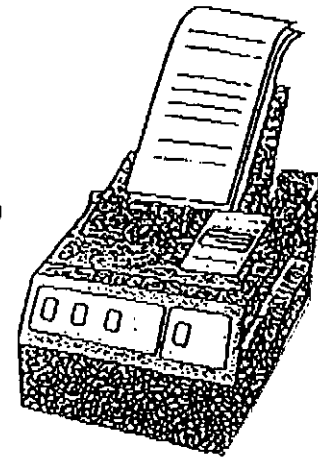
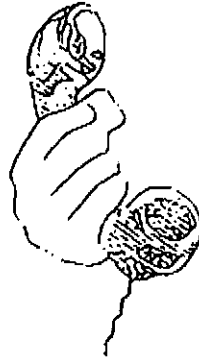
E-MAIL  
SSPADS@MRSH.NET

AN INTERFAITH  
COALITION OF  
FAITH  
COMMUNITIES  
& CONCERNED  
CITIZENS  
SERVING  
HOMELESS  
PERSONS

RECEIVED

APR 21 2011

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD



FAX TRANSMISSION

TO: Courtney Avery FROM: Jan Korchak  
AT: SSPADS

COMPANY: All Health Facility & Services Review

ADDRESS: Coors

DATE: 4-21-11

TO FAX # 217-785-4111

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET) \_\_\_\_\_  
QUESTIONS????? CALL: (708) 754-4357  
OR FAX: (708) 481-0952

MESSAGE:  
If you need further info -  
my e-mail is jank@sspads.org



United Way  
Agency

Written Testimony to the Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board 4/18/2011

Jan Korenchan@ PADS  
Jan Korenchan, RN  
Coordinator Homeless Healthcare Network  
Of South Suburban PADS  
(708) 754-4357  
[jank@sspads.org](mailto:jank@sspads.org)

**RECEIVED**

APR 21 2011

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

I care for approximately 400 patients in any given year. That is not a small amount to go without medical care.

### **Problems that need Solutions**

#### **1. Oak Forest Hospital Closing:**

Where are my homeless people to go for surgery and post-op specialty care? (To Stroger, on a bus, from Chicago Heights OR Oak Lawn; post operatively?????) Post operative care (inpatient) has been provided by Oak Forest Hospital, if they had the surgery at OFH. Even at Oak Forest I have a pt. who has been waiting since last May for surgery and he had an appointment with a different Dr. about an indirectly related diagnosis (required before surgery) in JANUARY!!!

We currently have a guest who had fractured her ankle. Needing surgery, she was told to go to Stroger (from Chicago Heights). She had to go by Pace bus and CTA bus. She will be needing follow up appointments :who will transport her? The taxi fare is \$65 one way. (we are non-profit). I tried to have Stroger provide respite care, but could not get any clear answers. As for inpatient care post surgery/hospitalization, provided at Stroger: I jumped thru hoops to get a pt. connected to a Shelter located near Stroger for a few weeks following surgery for an ankle fracture. I think I spoke to every Social service and out patient surgery person at Stroger. Now the pt has returned to us and has a problem with transport for what should be her final follow up visit from Chicago Heights to Stroger. How' bout someone arranges a transportation voucher for them. It should be available at local hospitals and agencies like Respond Now and us (PADS).

2. When discharged from ANY ER or hospitalization, how are homeless non-working people supposed to pay for the long list of medications they may receive prescriptions for??? I beg private physicians of every kind to provide care these people need. Sorry but county is NO HELP in honoring those prescriptions from other ERs! At least they can go thru Oak Forest , even if they have to start over again thru the ER getting re-examined and having their prescriptions re-written.

Medications after hospitalization: Can there be a program thru the county with local pharmacies, where pts. receiving prescriptions can use a voucher to get medication for no charge. Again, hospitals and agencies should have access to these vouchers.

3. There is now NO specialty care at Oak Forest, or if there is, we are unable to make appointments for our guests....they all have to travel by bus from either Chicago Heights or Oak Lawn to Stroger and how do we transport seriously ill patients, patients needing frequent follow up, or patients for whom the extent of treatment has not been determined?
4. Also if they can't be inpatients, programs could be developed for local shelters, and agencies, and hospitals can contact directly and arrange. Also after discharge from private hospital, shelters that can provide for healthcare needs need to be created. (In our (PADS) shelters, pt needs to transport self from shelter to shelter daily, sleeps on a pad on the floor, has no medical care and often in non-handicapped accessible buildings.)
4. Christ Hospital is a trauma center, but as far as I know, the only one.
5. I would like to know FOR CERTAIN that these "local hospitals" (which ones?) actually do have a contract with Stroger for follow up and inpatient care.
6. I have been to several "community" meetings and often people aren't allowed to speak, and when they do, there is no response to the questions.
7. An answer to why uninsured persons don't use Cottage Grove Clinic: nearly IMPOSSIBLE to reach by phone: my experience is that appointments (when they are reached) are one year in the future for new patients. MINIMAL dental care available. Actually, when trying to make an appointment for primary care at Cottage Grove clinic, I have been told the wait is ONE YEAR. There is dental, but appointments can only be made when the clinic calls the patient back...many don't have phones, and those who do, do not get responses.
8. Aunt Martha's Clinic: isn't free. If they aren't working they have no way to pay even a sliding scale.

*Jan Koreschou, RD*