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Date: 9-4-12	
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WISH TO SPEAK FORM

CITY OF MADISON

Registrat	ion Statement	Common (Council	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
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Speaking Limits:	Public Hearing (Comm Information Hearing Other Items	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	3 minutes		

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	elected official or employee who is appearing solely on behalf of your office or for your municipality or mmental body? Yes No
(If you ans this form. I	wered "yes" to the question, STOP. You need not complete the rest of this form, except that you must sign fyou answered "no" to the question, go on to the next question.)
If you are that:	being paid for your representation, or if your appearance is part of other paid duties, please be advised
1.	Before you engage in lobbying as a lobbyist, you or your principal must file an authorization with the City Clerk.
2.	Your principal is not permitted to authorize you to lobby unless you are registered with the City Clerk.
3.	If your principal spends or will owe more than \$1,000 for lobbying services in any reporting period (half year), the principal must file expense statements with the City Clerk for the remainder of the calendar year?
(Please go Room 103	to the City Clerk's website <u>www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/index.html</u> or go to the Clerk's Office at of the City-County Building, Madison, for more information.)
Date	Signature
	Print Name

New centers, ideas can help the homeless



Holly Doan Spraul is a lawyer who lives in Green Township.

his morning, I somehow ended up in conversation with a very young woman living on the streets and panhandling at city intersections.

I was determined not to encourage her panhandling (and maybe encourage a drug habit) with a fleeting dollar, so I started preaching to her about the various social agencies that would be of better help to her.

Our conversation made clear to me how difficult it was for her to get the help that's there and how difficult it was for the help that's there to reach her.

She had no bus card or cellphone. She had no way to obtain services or

schedule an appointment.

She didn't have a watch or calendar, so she had no idea what date, day or time

She had no way of keeping an appoint-

She was a living example of the critical need for the kind of multi-agency

centers that will soon be open at the City Link Center in Brighton and the YWCA City Gospel Mission center in Walnut

The agencies will have a far better chance of reaching, coordinating and helping if the needy only have one stop,

one hurdle to jump.

I so wished those centers were already up and running so I could have confidently directed her to help and maybe keep one more young, probable runaway off the streets.

Fortunately, that piece of the puzzle is

on its way.

The other pieces, communication and transportation, could be so easy to solve.

Cellphones, programmed to call only 911 and the applicable agencies can't be that hard to deliver. (And, with proper consent, the phone could be used to locate the person if they didn't show up for appointments.)

Likewise, bus cards good for fare only to the services consolidated in the soon-to-come centers can't be that costly.

These wouldn't be freebies, but rather a small cost to prevent the much greater costs to all of us (emotionally and financially) to have fellow human beings on the street, assaulted, raped, sick, addicted and hopeless.

The new centers will make these simple kind of ideas practical.

Cincinnati Enquirer (8/17/12)

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