



City and County of San Francisco

Shelter Monitoring Committee

December 7, 2011

DRAFT LETTER

Barbara Garcia, Director
Department of Public Health
101 Grove Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Director Garcia:

The Shelter Monitoring Committee has been inspecting Oshun Drop-In Center for the past four years to determine compliance to the Standards of Care. The Committee has interviewed multiple clients during that time, a large portion of who were families. The current service model at Oshun allows families, including single fathers with children, to utilize the services at Oshun and when possible, provides a location for families to rest during the day and night.

During the week of November 7, 2011, the Connecting Point Family Shelter Waiting list reached 253, the highest number of families waiting for shelter at any time. On December 5, 2011, the Committee conducted a site visit at Bethel Family Shelter. The two families waiting for the site to open were single father families.

The Committee is urging the Department of Public Health to maintain the family service model currently employed at Oshun during any future provider or contract change. It is essential that families, of all types, have a safe location to receive services in the safety net of the 24-hour drop in setting that Oshun has provided.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Ancker
Chair