

Sandra Silvels

March 15, 2007

Social Policy

Community Group

Diversity Experience

The meeting I attended today was the monthly Homeless Coalition meeting. It was located on Holtzclaw Avenue at 9:00 am. The Homeless Coalition holds their monthly meetings every 3rd Thursday of the month. Today's topic was My Community Rents. This is a new project created by the Homeless Coalition that puts tenants in contact with landlords or shelter administrators. It is a direct link to available housing in our community rather it is rental property, property to buy or homeless shelters. It currently holds around 8,000 different locations and agencies on it and the Instructor told us that the web site is adding new agencies and landlords every day. It is free advertising for anyone who wants to join the site. You may access the site by going to mycommunityrents.com. I found it to be an excellent resource for not only my future clients but for me as well. Like I said it contains lists of current properties available for renting or buying. It also contained available sites or shelters space for people who are seeking temporary housing. Instead of social agencies having to pick up the phone to call around town to see what shelters had space available, all they have to do is look up my communityrents.com and it immediately gives a list of the available units. I was very impressed with the leader of the group who was very knowledgeable about the topic and who is the one who actually took us thru the web site. I was impressed with the group's participation and

respect for each other. I truly enjoyed the meeting and learned a lot. I believe that this type of meeting can be very informative and it is a good way to meet other professionals and contacts in the field. I met a lot of interesting people in the field today from several agencies some which include partnership, room in the inn, Silverdale, community Kitchen and the aim center. This will be a meeting I would like to continue to join every month if it is at all possible.