

UNI5 REGIONAL COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Date: 5-20-20

ZOOM meeting:

<https://partnersbhm.zoom.us/j/93896689267?pwd=N25kOGxpeVRCZFlnOGt4S09lNUVfdz09>

Meeting ID: 938 9668 9267

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order - Introductions/ Welcome/ Sign In
 - a. Attendance: Alison Azbell, Gail Henson, Teena Willis, Julie Walker, Aaron Khors, Bonnie Harper, Jane Earnest, Jennifer Clark, Jane Duralia, Alice Horton, Melissa Saylor, Tonya Freeman, Beverly Carlton, Rosemary Onesorge, Jim Clay, Chris Forney, Virginia DeMoss, K'leigh Mayor, Kim Hemphill, Arwen March, Renee Urban.
 - Add Jim to email list
- II. Review of Minutes from April
 - Reviewed and accepted
- III. Balance of State
 - a. Steering Committee call updates
 - COVID 19 Response –
 - dealing with those in ES or those that are in the community in unsheltered situation (non-congregate; i.e., hotels, motels. Etc.). Working to get housing, RRH, keep and maintain housing. Replicating Back at Home model that was created during hurricane on the coast.
 - Check NCCEH for any updates in response to COVID
 - The statewide response is being coordinated by the NC Interagency Council for Coordinating Homeless programs
 - ICCHP – Crisis Response Team
 - a. Supporting sheltered and unsheltered populations
 - i. Coordinate state response and guidance for shelters to adjust to “new normal” and connecting effort with non-congregate shelters
 - ii. Identify and distribute best practices for coordination of testing/screening, safe shelter operations, and Identify needed resources for shelters
 - b. Non-congregate sheltering options
 - i. Supporting counties and providers to access FEMA reimbursement for establishing non-congregate shelter options in hotels.
 - ii. Identify and distribute guidance and best practices to communities establishing and maintaining non-congregate sites.
 - ICCHP – Housing Stability Team
 - a. Replicate Back@Home NC Program
 - i. Housing navigation
 - ii. Financial assistance
 - iii. Housing stabilization
 - iv. Adapt to different situation and funding sources
 - b. Add additional activities
 - i. Low barrier, immediate financial assistance
 - ii. Legal assistance
 - iii. Link mainstream resources
 - NCCEH Facebook page or website for updates – given in chat box of meeting and Teena will email out to the group
 - NCCEH COVID19 Response
 - a. Support shelters and service providers and coordinate with state efforts
 - b. Support efforts to establish non-congregate shelter sites in the CoC
 - COC Competition
 - FY2020 Competition still delayed no additional guidance – Still delayed. CoC competition may not even happen this year - HUD has not confirmed if/when releasing NOFA.
 - Feeling is there may not be competition this year – just re-funding of projects
 - ESG Workgroup Update – Have gotten together and workbook said: communication needs to be worked on between NCCEH and state, the disconnect, the process for ESG and how it is complicated. They have other meetings planned but that is extent of it thus far. If you want to be a part of this group, you can be. Jane Earnest agreed to be on this workgroup. Gail will submit her name to NCCEH
 - 2020 PIT Count - pushed back to June 30th – NCCEH staff still working on finalizing data
 - HUD pushed back to June 30. NCCEH staff still working on the data.
 - Meetings and Reminders – UPCOMING meetings still planned for this month
 - BOS HMIS User Meeting
 - a. Thursday, May 21, 1:00 – 2:30pm
 - b. Register here: <https://www.cneeh.org/events/1379>
 - Funding & Performance Subcommittee Meeting

- a. Thursday, May 28, 11:00 – 12:30pm
- b. Presentation: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/791696621>
- c. Audio: 646-749-3112 Access Code: 975-793-733
- COVID19 Local Leadership Response Sharing Call
 - a. Every Wednesday, 1:00pm
 - b. Presentation: <https://global.gotomeeting.me/NCEndHomelessness>
 - c. Audio: 646-749-3112 Access Code: 975-793-733

Gail has agreed to take the lead for Uni5 – but now we need an alternate.

Arwen March volunteered for alternate lead.

Motion made for Gail to officially be transitioned into Lead and Arwen March move into alternate. All agreed, no opposed.

UPDATES:

- CVBH – concerned with restart of day programs.
- Jane & Jennifer FCC – taking openings next week. Anyone with families with children? Still working but not open to the public yet.
- Jane Duralia – SOAR has 6 active patients. Hard to communicate but carrying masks and doing what needs to be done. Phones are a big need if anyone has connections. Catawba County
- Melissa Saylor RHA – still out seeing clients, enrolling clients, face-to-face visits, difficult time with those who are homeless. Shelters in Caldwell are not taking clients in. Having difficult time getting homeless individuals into shelters/housing.
- Renee with VAYA PSH (Caldwell, Alexander and McDowell counties) have been contacting/trying to contact Emergency Management Services for each county – had NO luck. Has been participating in racial equity meeting – The racial equity committee is discussing adding a racial equity component to the scorecard. They will be working with the scorecard committee with this. Just something for everyone to be thinking about
- Kim Hemphill w/ VAYA (Alexander co. said nothing has changed. McDowell County has filed to be able to put in their own rules and regulations in place during COVID to open businesses. They are concerned with loss of business and income for small businesses.
- Arwen March at McDowell Mission ; still taking clients but quarantine is still in effect. Once new clients come in, in quarantine for 10 days. Once established not sick, clients can come out and be in common areas. McDowell has always been a 24/hr shelter. Just a challenge due to limited beds.
- Chris, McDowell Impact – working from home and going to see clients as needed with precautions in regards to PPE. 7 people in line for housing. Challenge is that a lot of landlords aren't doing housing right now – hard to find.
- Alice Horton BUCM – open Monday – Friday from 9-2. Doing drive thru for soup kitchen and pick up for pantry. Offering showers and clothes for homeless. Social workers are doing counseling/financial assistance by phone. A few volunteers were lost but understandable due to virus. Plan to open clothing/thrift store on Thursday 5/21.
- Tonya Freeman FGC – building and offices are still closed, look at reopening in June for staff (Catawba, Burke, Caldwell and Alexander). All operations still working, just remote. Crisis line established for housing and financial crisis. Triage is done on housing and then connected with resources available. Info to share –
 - o House Bill has been filed to restart the mortgage protection program. Preventative measure for homeless. Over a million dollars in mortgage assistance just through FGC agency. House bills being written to help with mortgage and rental assistance.
- Julie (Catawba and Burke areas) – outpatient services are still ongoing. Transportation and peer support still working but most stuff has transitioned to telehealth. Treatment provider for recovery court – judicial systems have been shut down but with the programs, clients still engaged. Burke back in session in June. DSS – licensed staff at Catawba DSS
 - o Early Prison Release program with Partners – these early releases need points of contact to get engaged.
 - o Medication bridge needed.
 - o Housing needs, food and employment are big needs.
 - o Outreach and Prevention has been remote/virtual
- Aaron with Greenway – still providing transportation to appts., van service for individuals for essential trips, doing medical., nutrition and grocery. Reduced hours on regular route, all on website Mygreenway.org
 - o If you know someone who needs transportation, contact Greenway
- Beverly with Olive Hill – Burke, Caldwell, Catawba & McDowell. Working on housing evictions. They are also doing a lot of the same things Family Care Center is doing.
- Virginia ACA in Morganton – variety of services being offered in Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Buncombe, etc. a lot of services are operating as usual but outpatient therapy and some has transitioned into telehealth. Reduction in office access in administrative workers. Challenge to move forward with any housing goals right now as landlords are hesitant to operate. Might start taking on new clients for limited time being.
- Partners – NCHFA is doing fair housing trainings every Wednesday starting May 27th and thru June (flyer sent out). There will be a Housing First training on June 25th. Teena will send out flyer soon. EFSP through UW is out – need ot make sure agencies are applying for these dollars.

IV. Case Conferencing

Bonnie – wants to collaborate regions 3 and 4 to update the CE policy to reflect increase of flow related to COVID

No clients to particularly discuss - Bonnie will have about 7 vacancies coming up soon for Catawba County.

Adjourn

Next meeting: Next UNI5 Meeting – June 17, 2020 at 10am ZOOM Meeting