

## **Wilson Greene Housing Committee**

**February 18, 2020**

Present: Tim Rogers, Wilson Housing Authority; Cameron Cochran, Wilson Forward; Cindy Murphy, Wilson Forward; Lynne White, Wesley Shelter; Cherie Lindsay-Chapman, Wesley Shelter; Tony Conner, NC Works; Diane Hagar, Eastpointe; Sharon Dixon, Eastpointe; Jonathan Rogers, VOA; LaTasha McNair, Eastpointe; Suzanne Coker Craig, Habitat for Humanity; Katrina Mitchell, GreeneLamp; Candice Rountree, Wilson County DSS; John Apol, Hope Station; Shana Baum, Hope Station; Yolanda Taylor, Legal Aid; Rebecca Stapleton, AAA; Lori Walston, Wilson County DSS

**Tim welcomed everyone and proceeded with introductions.**

**Minutes were reviewed and approved.**

Candice shared with the group that she would remain in the role of Secretary for our Neuse Regional meetings, but wouldn't continue taking minutes for local meetings. Some discussion occurred regarding volunteers for each meeting.

**Point in Time Count** – Candice provided an update on the PIT count. In Wilson County we completed a street and service count at the soup kitchen. Lori Walston, Candice Rountree, Tim Rogers, John Apol and an intern from Hope Station completed the street count with Wilson Police Department. Several camp sites were found and one individual was found in his car and offered shelter for the night. The Counting Us App worked great. The issue we had was that the observation forms were too high in order to count towards our numbers throughout the region. We had care packages that were left at the camp sites we located and to those in need at the soup kitchen.

Interviews at the soup kitchen included bilingual staff, Maria from Wesley Shelter. Judi Thurston from United Way also completed interviews at the soup kitchen.

Wesley Shelter and Hope Station's data were reported. Candice contacted St. John's via phone call and e-mail but was not able to confirm if they entered their data.

The Wilson Times completed a story on the PIT count.

LaTasha reported that Duplin County had computer issues that resulted in no count in their county. Sampson also didn't complete a count. It is important to be part of the planning process early so that you can become familiar with what is expected. Candice was the point of contact for the region. When data is shared, it will be shared with the group.

### **Balance of State Information**

There was a Steering Committee meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup>. Tier II funding announcements for CoC haven't been made yet. There is a webinar for first-time applicants of CoC funds and that was shared with the group via e-mail. Eastpointe is the only grantee. LaTasha encouraged folks to listen to the webinar and consider applying. The funding can be used for permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing.

## **Emergency Solutions Grant**

Linda is out due to surgery and is recuperating. No report from Hope Station. Greene Lamp reports that their ESG process is coming along.

## **Coordinated Entry**

Case conferences continue weekly and they discussed approximately 200 requests for housing in 2019. Their 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter data was submitted. Each case conferenced has a completed assessment tool, the VI-SPDAT with a score ranking their need from Low, Moderate to High. They case conference 3 – 7 households/individuals per week.

## **Veterans**

No update.

## **Community Partner Updates**

Legal Aid will hire a staff attorney, they are also looking for 2 year full time fellowship positions that will focus on disaster relief work, community outreach and FEMA appeals.

Area Agency on Aging – They are hosting a Caregiver Conference on March 4<sup>th</sup> at Barton College. Melanie Bunn is the speaker and there will be a caregiver speaker panel. They are in need of host employment sites for Title V Senior Employment for those 55 and over. They also are recruiting seniors to fill these positions. There is a tiny house being built on Jordan Street, about 400 square feet. They expect it will be completed by the end of this year and they have met with a neighborhood association. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church donated the land.

Wilson Forward – The next Wilson Wellness Collaborative meeting is February 27<sup>th</sup> at the Lida Blalock Building at the Health Department at 10:00.

Wesley Shelter – Their annual fundraiser, in it to Win It will be held later this month at Pup's. There will be food, music and prizes. Cherie is now leading the operation of the SAFE house and is in need of a youth services educator 30 hours per week. Trauma informed care training is a priority. April is sexual assault awareness month.

Eastpointe – April 1 there is a Basic Fair Housing training, and April 2 there is an Advanced Fair Housing training at Eastpointe. Contact LaTasha for specifics.

Westview – John reported they are serving their first resident who has a service dog.

Habitat – Suzanne shared that they closed on a home on Privette St and they are in need of a local real estate attorney who would consider offering his/her services. They will break ground on new construction on March 1. On May 28, there will be a fundraiser that will be a roast of Betty McCain.

VOA – They continue to focus on rehousing veterans and have prevention funding. Jonathan reports he is compiling a list of landlords.

DSS – Senior Awareness Expo will be May 8<sup>th</sup> at the fairgrounds. We are having a fundraiser at Pizza Inn for the event. DSS does register people to vote if people are in need of that services. Candice shared information about developing a Post Overdose Response Team and resource cards with mental health

services that have been ordered. Wesley Shelter staff and other asked for cards and Candice will bring to the next meeting.

Wilson Housing Authority – They have received funding from HUD to house a youth transitioning out of foster care and the youth is currently searching for housing. The depopulation of Bruce Rose Plaza has been going well, about 8 residents moved into the same neighborhood and there are 10 that need to be housed.

LaTasha shared a success story of a customer who is chronically homeless and has persistent mental health issues was able to keep her housing after Wilson County DSS helped with Crisis Intervention Program funding. LaTasha shared that she was at DSS with the customer and the staff there were very nice.

Facilitator Schedule for 2020:

January - Candice Rountree

February – Timothy Rogers

March – Judi Thurston

April – John Apol

May – Shana Baum

June - Katrina Mitchell

July –

August – Rebecca Stapleton

September – Lynne White

October – Amy High

November – Cherie Lindsay-Chapman

December – Cameron Cochran

Meeting Adjourned