



WNC
HOMELESS
COALITION

Regular Meetings -2nd Thursday of the month

5/12/2022, 2021 10:00 am -11:00 am

Referral and Monitoring Meeting/RRH Selection Committee 11:00-12:00 pm

MINUTES

INTRODUCTIONS

Name	Agency
Derek Lancour:	Vaya Health
Viyanna Langager:	Meridian/Blue Ridge Cherokee ACTT
Lori Watts:	Vaya Health
Robert Cochran:	HERE in Jackson County
Ally Schuenke :	Center for Domestic Peace
Kenett Melgar:	Blue Ridge Health
Kristen Cole:	Pisgah Legal
Veronica Murphy:	REACH of Macon
Daniel Ferrera:	Four Square in Andrews
Michelle Williams:	Graham County DSS

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

- Review & Approval of last month' Minutes
 - *Robert C motioned, Viyanna L seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, no one was opposed, the motion carries*
- Balance of State Steering Committee Update
 - Steering Committee updates and documents can be found at <https://www.ncceh.org/bosminutes/>
 - Derek Lancour provide update
 - FY2022 CoC Competition Update
 - The CoC has begun planning for the FY22 CoC competition. The New CoC Applicant webinar can be watched on YouTube. The Intent to Apply submission is mandatory for all agencies wanting to apply for new CoC funding in FY22. The intent to apply can be submitted via Smartsheet.
 - GIW roughly 6 weeks later for renewing apps
 - NOFO estimated July or August
 - Competition webinar transpired 3/3/22
 - Approved funding priorities
 - Intent to apply required for new apps
 - Collects preliminary info
 - NCCEH will review and then follow up with agencies
 - Deadline: 2 weeks after NOFO
 - Scorecard Committee
 - Orientation completed on 4/26/22 followed by meetings on 5/5/22 and 5/13/22

- 6/7/22 BoS Steering Committee meeting will consider approval
 - Coordinated Entry Evaluation Update
 - Staff provided an update on the NC BoS CoC’s process and timeline to evaluate the coordinated entry system. 2022 CE Evaluation materials are located at: www.ncceh.org/bos/ce/.
 - • The Permanent Supportive Housing evaluation survey timeline is from April 1 to May 31.
 - • The Shelters and/or Street Outreach survey timeline is from May 17 to May 31.
 - • The Rapid Rehousing surveys must be received by clients within 30 days (before or after) they are housed.
 - All CE participating agencies must complete Service Provider Agency Survey
 - Emergency Housing Voucher Update
 - Staff provided an update on Emergency Housing Vouchers. To see specific data, the EHV Dashboard for North Carolina is located at: www.hud.gov/ehv. NCCEH and NCCIA are working out details for more robust housing search assistance. All EHV Permanent Housing Authorities are required to provide housing search assistance.
 - Less than 10% of EHV’s are currently leased up
 - RRH criteria changed: formerly housed for 10+ months but lowered to 8+ months housed
 - 2022 PIT/HIC Update
 - Staff submitted the 2022 PIT/HIC data to HUD for the NC BoS CoC. Staff shared data on total people counted experiencing homelessness on January 26, 2022. PIT data by region and county will be posted at: www.ncceh.org/datacenter/pitdata. Specific requests for data should be sent to hmis@nceh.org.
 - Overall the total counted was less than the pre-pandemic numbers but significantly more than the 2021 count
 - This year= 2491 counted
 - Last year= 1520 counted
 - 2022 Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Allocations
 - Suzy Khachatryan from the NC Budget & Tax Center provided an overview of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) and local recovery funds for the NC BoS CoC. She encouraged stakeholders to engage with local governments to set priorities for spending to support the most vulnerable and disproportionately impacted community members. She offered her support to stakeholders and can be reached at suzy@ncbudget.org.
 - Upcoming meetings and key dates along with more detailed content can be found in the slide deck posted at the NCCEH website at <https://www.ncceh.org/bos/steeringcommittee/>.
- Coordinated Entry Update (Robert Cochran)
 - 299 individuals on Region 1 BNL

- Goal: to see improvement for those listed on BNL with a VISPDAT score (several on BNL lack VISPDAT scores), of total on BNL only 38 include VISPDAT scores
- Significant portion of those without VISPDAT are from Haywood County
- HERE is providing CE leadership for current year but they are welcoming other organizations if interested in taking over role for the coming year
 - Contact NCCEH if interested
- Rapid Rehousing Update (Robert Cochran)
 - HERE addressing CE Survey Evals
 - \$55K allocated in total for current grant year
 - Spent just over \$15K thus far (27% spent)
 - Spending slightly below goal but closer to goal than last year
- Back@Home Update (Robert Cochran)
 - HERE addressing CE Survey Evals
 - Accepting referrals currently
 - Concludes at end of September
 - Covers 8 western NC counties
 - Referrals can be submitted directly to Katie Strong (HERE Case Manager, 828-331-1270)
 - Unable to assist with homelessness prevention funds currently but still accepting for RRH
- Permanent Supportive Housing Update (Derek Lancour)
 - 38 total households (below grant minimum)
 - 33 households currently in housing
 - 5 not housed currently (2 Haywood, 1 Jackson, 1 Graham, and 1 Clay)
 - 68 total served
 - 55 adults
 - 13 children
 - 3 exits (2 of which were children in a housed household)
 - 1 new PSH orientation scheduled for later today and working to schedule a 2nd PSH orientation
 - Spending: reflects span of 11 months in current grant year but does not include April 2022 yet.
 - PSH has spent just over 73% through 11 months, minimal goal of 90% would mean spending should be at just over 82%
 - Roughly 9% behind goal with 1 month remaining in grant year
 - BoS Scoring for grant renewals will take into consideration spending history prior to pandemic
- Agency Report Outs
 - Robert C: HERE has hired successor for their Director position (Gretta Worley will be new Director as of 6/1/22 which is also start of new grant year)
 - Dan F: Four Square in Andrews
 - New Executive Director and Housing Director hired (Dr. Sue Lynn Ledford), very recently joined the Four Square team

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

- Vaccination distribution planning for Region 1
 - o Identify vaccination providers on County by County level (first step)
 - o Open discussion about vaccination distribution efforts in Region 1 and ideas about methods to increase percentage of vaccinated folks served in Region 1
 - Currently Region 1 percentage of vaccinated HMIS folks is lowest in state
 - Just over 18% as of last report
 - Macon County DSS (Rhonda Blanton, info provided via email)
 - Macon County Senior Center is hosting COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Clinic on 5/19/22 (1st and 2nd boosters)
 - Macon County DSS is partnering with Joey Gibson (Paramedic) to visit home bound members to administer additional boosters
 - REACH of Macon: shelter is at capacity currently, but only 1 person is vaccinated
 - Jackson Co Health Dept: free vaccinations/boosters and allowing walk ins
 - Jackson Co: Walgreens and CVS doing walk ins and free of charge
 - Jackson Co: WCU; portion of student population is uninterested in vaccination, and this could be a population that has room for improved with respect to vaccination numbers
 - Four Square: new leadership has health background and Dan plans to discuss with leadership.
 - Kenett M: Blue Ridge has attempted vaccination clinics in both Jackson and Swain Counties but the turn out for the clinics was minimal in those areas
 - Concerns about folks who desire vaccination may have already obtained it and those who are not vaccinated are not open to being vaccinated
 - Incentives could serve as motivating factor
 - Mobile vaccination clinics are possible but require minimum number of attendees
 - Concerns about transportation to and from rural areas
 - Concerns about meeting minimum number of clients to justify mobile vaccination clinic
 - WCU: blood connection provides gift cards for blood donations, could explore logistic/process for mirroring with respect to vaccinations
 - Questions:
 - How would clients obtain incentives and the logistics related around providing said incentives?
 - How is data being collected that reflects the 18% vaccination percentage referenced for Region 1?
 - Is there a local databased that states who have been vaccinated already?
 - How do we broach the subject with clients
 - o HIPAA, sensitive medical record info
 - o Discussed presenting material/opportunity to clients and allow them to choose
 - o Avoid directly asking them for medical health record info
 - Viyanna L: ideas about creating gift bags (essential oils, hand sanitizer, phone card, stationary, stamps, stamped envelopes, note cards, hygiene products, wipes, etc.)
 - Several agencies already offer these items free of charge
 - Brainstormed other incentives such as transportation vouchers

- If goody bags are created, then they will need to be provided in water resistant packaging such as Ziplock bags
 - Several present during meeting feel like incentives would be necessary to get better turn out
 - HERE is open for discussion about exploring incentives
 - Ad Hoc committee to lead vaccination distribution efforts
 - HERE and REACH of Macon interested in supporting efforts
 - Thrift stores may be willing to provide vouchers (clothing, personal item, etc)
 - Fastfood may be willing to provide coupons to be included as incentive
 - Anticipated increase in number of positive cases for fall/winter months
- client presents vaccination card to local entity and entity could provide gift basket
- Important to assist members with making copy of vaccination card to ensure a secondary copy in event that card is lost and/or damaged
- Create script as a reference when discussing with clients
- Create subcommittee and email chain: to explore logistics and steps for moving forward
 - Interested parties who were present during discussion: Ally, Vi, Robert, Veronica, Derek
 - Ask for additional volunteers during next WNCHC
 - Ask co-workers if interested in subcommittee
- Vi has donations that she could include with gift bags
- Action items and next step:
 - 1 clarify if there is a database related to vaccination status to verify clients reports
 - 2 legalities about asking questions about vaccination status as it relates to HIPAA
 - 3 identify representative for each county to identify vaccination providers and any associated costs
 - 4 start exploring specifics for incentives and roll out
- Discuss/identify obtainable vaccination percentage goal for Region 1

NEXT RAMM MEETING – 5/23/2022 at 11 AM

NEXT COALITION MEETING – 6/9/2022 at 10 AM