

NC BoS CoC Lived Expertise Advisory Council (LEAC) meeting November 3, 2023

Attendance: Laurel Benfield (staff), Elliot Rhodes (staff), Joel Rice, Alyce Knaflich, Rachele Dugan, Melissa Hewitt

Client Bill of Rights Presentations, Regions 12, and 09:

The group discussed preparing for region 9 and 12 CBoR training. Members decided to keep to the presentation format that Alyce and Rachele utilized in region 2 and will utilize the same slides and focus on the policy and the impact on providers. Rachele will send slide notes to Laurel and she will create a finalized slide deck and send to the whole group.

The group will only attend one Regional Committee meeting in December. After looking at the meeting times, the Region 07 was selected for a LEAC presentation on 12/7. Laurel will request agenda time from Regional Lead Marie Watson. The LEAC will plan future presentations at the DEC LEAC meeting.

The group discussed recruitment needs. Members agreed that the LEAC needs more people that are currently or recently homeless, younger, and racially more diverse. Melissa framed the ask as “We’re looking for people who want to change the system so others don’t have to experience things the way they are now.” Ideas of tactics were shared including: Recruitment through local PSA, showing up at local events such as veterans Stand Down events.

The group discussed needing to get the Client Bill of Rights translated into Spanish.

Focus Groups with other CoC’s: Laurel presented information from a recent NCCEH strategic planning meeting that included putting together a focus group with other states’ Balance of State CoC’s on the topic of engaging PLE in governance and decision-making. The goal would be to convene a virtual focus group in 2024. Joel is interested in participating.

Technology program description: Laurel presented draft language for program to support technology access for LEAC members. This description would be given to the NCCEH Development Director to use when a grant opportunity came up. LEAC feedback was positive. Melissa came up with a new name for the program: “Set. Tech. Go!”. Laurel will finalize the draft language and submit it to Alicia Harvey to use when an opportunity arises.

Virtual Panel: Laurel noted that NCCEH Development Director Alicia Harvey is hoping to convene a virtual panel discussion on the work of NCCEH and was hoping for participation from a LEAC member. Melissa Hewitt noted that she is available and interested as long as the presentation does not conflict with her medical appointments. Laurel will pass along her contact info to Alicia Harvey to schedule the event.