

Northeastern Homeless Coalition Committee Meeting
Region 11

Tuesday, July, 9, 2024

Minutes

Those Present:

- *Zinia Holley – Dungarvin*
- *Cherri Brunson – ARHS*
- *Marti Chick-Ebey – Hampton VA*
- *Courtney Cottrell – Albemarle Hopeline*
- *Donata Brown – ARHS*
- *Elizabeth Riddick – EIC*
- *Gretchen Hilburger – Hampton VA*
- *Kisha Brothers – ARHS*
- *Kisha Darden – Trillium*
- *Lakisha Saunders – Chowan DSS*
- *Lakitra Claude – Trillium*
- *Latoya Smith – Trillium*
- *Lillian Dance – EIC*
- *Michele Welsh – Trillium*
- *Michelle Moore – River City*
- *Midge Hudyma – ECPPS*
- *Shelia Perry – FVCC*
- *Stephanie Wyche – Camden DSS*
- *Tammy Kittrell – Trillium*
- *Tawonya Morgan – FVCC*
- *Tonya Rollins – River City*
- *Trenece Vaughan – Chowan DSS*

Introductions

- The meeting was held virtually. Those present introduced themselves and stated what organization they were representing.

Consideration of June’s Meeting Minutes

- The minutes from June’s meeting were not available to be reviewed. They will be sent to the committee at a later date.

Updates/Reports

- BoS Steering Committee
 - The ESG FY2025 competition has begun. River City is the only agency in the region that’s applying for the funding. The region’s fair share is \$97,815 (\$58,689 for emergency service and \$39,126 for housing stabilization)

Community Resources and Agency Updates

- DSS – none from the agencies represented
- Coordinated Entry
 - The HART assessment has been updated to allow names, date of births, social security numbers to be entered
- School System(s)
 - ECPPS had 187 students that met the McKinney Vento definition of homelessness this past school year. Those families will be contacted at the end of the month to follow-up on their current living situations. The school system spent \$24,000 in transportation (contracting with an outside agency) to help transport the students to and from school. Also, the school system’s McKinney Vento

Program was awarded \$30,000 in grant funds to assist with supplies, tutoring, summer activities, salaries, and professional development.

- County – none from the agencies represented
- Faith and Victory
 - There are no new announcements at this time. The church is still working on securing funding for the Showers of Blessings project
- SHIP
 - The Stable Housing Improvement Project or SHIP is a non-profit organization that was created by faith leaders in the community. There will be a meeting on Wednesday, July 17th from 9am – 12pm at Riverside United Methodist Church in Elizabeth City for community stakeholders to have a conversation about the plans for the area. They are looking into building and/or renovating housing in the region to help address the lack of affordable housing issue.
- Albemarle Hopeline
 - The Hopeline has received funding for a transitional housing program. The program will be for individuals who are in need of housing due to an incident or incidents of domestic violence and sexual assault. It is not a HUD program, so participants will not have to fall under any of the HUD's restrictions about homelessness. Individuals will just have to be in need of housing assistance because of an incident of violence and they do not have to be fleeing domestic violence.
 - The program is a rental assistance program and the Hopeline will assist with rent for a period of 6 to 24 months with the hope that the individual can continue to stay in the property after the assistance ends. Transitional housing will cover six counties; Chowan, Perquimans, Gates, Pasquotank, Camden, and Currituck
- Dungarvin – none at this time

Housing Program Updates

- River City CDC
 - Still moving forward with opening the shelter and looking for funding for a sprinkler system.
- Trillium Health Resources
 - Latoya Smith has been hired as the Housing Stabilization Coordinator position for the Back@Home program for this region. She is able to take referrals and has started doing street outreach.
- EIC – no updates at this time
- Hampton VA - none at this time; the staff is willing to attend
- HOP Program
 - The committee was reminded that Pasquotank County is not a county that HOP covers, however, HOP is operating in Hertford, Martin, Bertie, and Chowan counties (region 11 and 12)
 - Individuals may be disqualified from receiving services if they are receiving duplicate services from another agency
 - HOP offers extra benefits for Medicaid recipients. To be eligible for HOP services, one must live in a healthy opportunity county and be eligible for tailored care management.

- HOP can assist with:
 - Housing – 1st month’s rent, security deposit, and inspections; cannot assist with arrears
 - Transportation
 - Food
 - Interpersonal safety

Success Stories

- Trillium – Latoya Smith has been hired as a Housing Stabilization Coordinator for the region and is able to do outreach
- River City – Client C.P. was in the hotel project and received a Section 8 voucher from EIC. She was able to move in on June 30th.

Announcements

- The next meeting will be held virtually on August 13, 2024 at 1:00pm.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:35pm