**Transylvania County** **Homeless Coalition**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Location: Brevard Housing Authority**

**133 W. Morgan Street**

**Brevard, NC 28712**

**Date: April 4, 2013**

Attendees:

Jenny Simmons, Western Highlands Erika Gonzalez, BHA

Candy Mance, Pisgah Legal Jennifer Flood, Haven

Ron Shieve, SAFE/WCCA Emily Lowery, Haven

Don Rogers, United Way Megan Hare, TRAIN

Meeting called to order 9:05 am

* Minutes from last meeting:
	+ Correction to number of people served: We have served ½ our goal that was set
* Minuets approved after correction
* ESG
	+ New applications in, know we need to budget for more administrative costs next year
	+ Doubled up families do not count, stay in hotel do not count if stay is more than one night
	+ Learning there are changes that will come, need to start a MOU for agencies that participate in TCHC, needs to be in COC and earns extra points
	+ Data entry looks good in CHIN
	+ Reimbursements are finally coming regularly, 2nd check came yesterday
	+ 15K through money and half way through goal of number of people to serve
	+ Since deposits are lower than anticipated, thanks to BHA, we can serve more people than expected
	+ Next grant, need to budget money for prevention as we see a definite need
	+ Housed one client last week that did not go to housing that could afford private landlord
	+ New ESG application has rental agreement with landlord directly
* Point in Time
	+ Count was 212, they called to verify this
	+ Count included people that we housed
	+ Less than 20 of these were chronicly homeless
	+ PIT does not single out chronic
	+ Double what we counted for mock point in time
	+ Mock did not count school datat
	+ Can send out this data if you need it for reporting purposes to coalition members, if needed please ask Jennifer
* Balsam Grove Event
	+ Scheduled for April 13
	+ Kimberly Austin, organizer of the event
	+ Lyons Clun cannot send bus
	+ Free eye exams June 28 at Kmart
	+ May be opportunity to bus people from Balsam Grove to Kmart for this, sign-up sheet at event, Megan to work on sign-up sheet for this and flyer
* Regional Supervisor from Social Security Administration
	+ Met yesterday with SOAR workers, Jennifer Flood and Emily Lowery
	+ Cleared up the air about SSI and SSDI
	+ SSI is like a welfare program
	+ SSDI is a work history program
	+ Jennifer reported that she had over 100 hours in one application for SOAR
	+ This supervisor reported that her office sees that TC is under served and wants to change this by developing relations between SOAR workers and her office
	+ Need to find a grant to pay for SOAR workers to help those not staying at the Haven
	+ Can get SSI quickly, then check into disability
	+ SOAR is very intimidating
	+ Need 15 years of work history
	+ Attorneys are not as successful
	+ SSA does not want lawyers to take cases but they actually cannot advise against it
	+ Lawyers take money away from the client that is rightfully the client’s money
	+ SOAR workers are to file for both SSI and SSDI at the same time (SSDI is online)
	+ Have to go through a SOAR worker to get SOAR, cannot put documents in library for that reason
	+ SSA estimates 40 hours per application
	+ SOAR worker cannot charge for services
	+ SAFE reports that there is a need for more SOAR workers, they talk about this with each resident
* United Way
	+ Oxford House
		- Missed deadline, be next May to apply
		- Grant is not for the house, for tenants
		- House needs to be 4 BR
		- Need 6-12 people
		- House needs to be central location
		- Noted big gap between Haven and United Way
* 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness
	+ Brian sent PDF
	+ Megan and Kim to work on the getting it into Word
	+ Vance may have an editable version
	+ Needs to be done by the end of the year
	+ Have to get this done to present to the county
	+ What it is
		- Helps with application for ESG
		- Outline for everybody’s involvement
		- Strategic Plan to end homelessness
		- Takes current statistics and calculate goals to end or lower numbers of homeless
	+ It took Brian 6 years to come up with their plan
	+ We do not want it to take us that long
* Western Highlands
	+ Wants us to outreach to Rutherford and Polk counties
	+ Hold a general forum
	+ Create and agenda and have members interested from this coalition to speak, our coalition agreed we would be interested in this
* Coalition is looking to grow our committee, invite folks you think would be interested in joining to sit in
	+ May have to look at a bigger meeting space soon
* Meeting adjourned at 10:01 am
* Next Meeting scheduled for May 2, 2013