

North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

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www.ncceh.org/BoS

Balance of State Steering Committee Meeting

10.1.13

Regional Leads Present:

Brian Alexander, Chris Battle, Donna Mc Cormick (for Susan Bellew), Ellen Blackman, Kim Braxton, Debbie Cole, Nicole Dewitt, Rhoda Emanuel, Kelly Lacy, Joe Marks (for Burke and for Teena Willis), Amy Modlin, Jane Motsinger, Whitney Morton, Debra Clark (for Bart O'Sullivan), Amanda Willet (for Melissa Payne), Faye Pierce, Nickie Siler, Michele Steele, Kannika Turrentine, Bob Williams, Shari Wright

Regional Leads Absent:

Howard Anthony (currently serving for Candice Rountree), Spencer Cook, Jennifer Flood, Sarah McWhirter, Shanna Poole

Interested Parties Present:

Kristi Case, Sonia Ensenat, Gloria Kesler, Michele Knapp, Mark Owen, Sharon Poarch, Joel Rice, Andrew Romines, Janice Sauls, Lori Watts, Paulette White, Talaika Williams

NCCEH Staff Present:

Nancy Holochwost, Denise Neunaber, Corey Root, Tia Sanders-Rice

Approval of September Minutes

There being no changes needed, the minutes were approved by common consent.

Working with Homeless Education Liaisons

- Lisa Phillips, State Coordinator from the NC Homeless Education Program, presented about homelessness in the school systems and the role of Homeless Liaisons in supporting homeless students.
 - Nationally, over 1 million homeless children (according to the education definition of homelessness) have been identified in schools. Homeless Liaisons are responsible for identifying these children, ensuring their immediate enrollment in school, informing families of their rights, linking homeless students with services, and collaborating with other school district programs and community agencies, including BoS Regional Committees.

- A handout describing details about the educational provisions of the McKinney-Vento Act, Homeless Liaisons, and homelessness amongst students is posted at www.ncceh.org/bosminutes.
- Contact information for local Homeless Education Liaisons is posted on the NC Homeless Education Program website at www.serve.org/hepnc. Regional Committees are asked to contact their local liaisons and invite them to participate in Regional Committee meetings. Regional Leads can contact Lisa Phillips directly with any questions or concerns about participation.
- Steering Committee members were given time to ask questions of Lisa. Members asked about eligibility for services, the education's homeless definition, and the Point-in-Time Count.
- Over the last two weeks, NCCEH has presented to the Homeless Education Program regarding the Balance of State and how Homeless Liaisons can regularly participate in and work with Regional Committees.

ESG Funding Update

- DHHS began announcing funding awards for the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program on September 24. All of the BoS applications were funded. Applicants can contact Amy Cole at DHHS for individual consultations on their applications.
- During the application process, a question was asked about whether HMIS and coordinated intake projects would be funded. DHHS has said that if there is a way applicants can use that money within the HUD regulations, they may do so; if not, they can shift that funding to other budget line items.

CoC Application Update

CoC Registration

- NCCEH submitted the CoC Registration through esnaps on September 23. The registration informs HUD that the CoC intends to apply for funding and calculates the amount of the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand, which is the total dollar amount to renew all eligible renewal projects.
 - The BoS' Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) is \$5,131,987.
 - The BoS' Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN) is \$8,723,251. This amount is determined by geographic region and a HUD formula; it is the BoS' "fair share" of the total amount of national funding.
 - HUD is experiencing funding cuts due to sequestration. Because of this, we anticipate the BoS will not be awarded funding for more than the ARD. HUD does not have enough funding nationally to fund CoCs at their PPRN amounts because many CoCs have a higher ARD than PPRN.
 - CoCs are expecting a 5-10% cut that will need to be taken from the projects that are renewing. The exact amount of the cut will be published in the NOFA. BoS Scorecard, Project Review and Steering Committees will be responsible for determining how to implement these cuts.

2013 Application Eligibility

- Under HEARTH, there are 5 eligible program components for CoC funding: permanent housing (including both permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing), transitional housing, supportive services only, HMIS, and prevention (which is only allowed for High Performing Communities, and none exist yet).
 - All renewals projects are eligible to apply for renewal funding. HUD has said that the only eligible new projects will be new CoC planning grants or those created through reallocation. These reallocated projects must be for permanent supportive housing or may be for rapid re-housing if the needs of chronically homeless people are being met another way through the CoC. Reallocated projects are created by taking funds from an existing project and reallocated those funds to a new project.
 - The BoS will receive bonus points if all projects keep their admin requests at 7% or lower. Projects are allowed to request up to 10%, but HUD is encouraging all CoCs to stay at 7%.
- Nicole asked if agencies that reallocate from transitional housing to rapid re-housing will experience a funding gap before the new project takes effect.
 - Denise noted that agencies will need to look at their grant dates and anticipate filling a funding gap. Despite this issue, there are two advantages to rapid re-housing over transitional housing: clients are not considered homeless while in RRH programs and non-profits can administer the RRH program as rental assistance, so leases in RRH programs are in the client's name, not the agency's name.
 - NCCEH has spoken with two existing transitional housing programs about reallocation. Other TH programs that are interested can contact bos@ncceh.org.

Scorecard Committee and Project Review Committee

- The Scorecard Committee creates the scorecard for new and renewal projects for the CoC application. The Project Review Committee rates each project application according to the scorecard and recommends a ranked list of projects to the Steering Committee for approval.
- Each Regional Committee is responsible for supplying one representative for each of these committees. Project applicants may not serve on the Project Review Committee due to the conflict of interest. Representatives who serve on these committees should be knowledgeable about the CoC application, grants, and program requirements.
- Names and contact information for individuals that will represent Regional Committees on these application committees should be sent to bos@ncceh.org by October 18th.

BoS Workgroups

- Last month, the Steering Committee approved the No Fee CHIN License Policy, which requires agencies receiving free CHIN licenses to maintain certain usage and data quality standards. NCCEH has begun to contact agencies that are not in compliance with the policy to either reclaim the license if it is not being used or to create an improvement plan with the agency.
- NCCEH is also contacting agencies who are using or may be interested in using CHIN to try to ascertain demand for licenses for the coming year. There will be a [form posted](#) on the NCCEH

website that these agencies will be asked to fill out by October 31. Once that information is collected, the Data Usage Workgroup will reconvene to develop recommendations for the Steering Committee to approve.

- Yesterday NCCEH staff and BoS representatives attended an all-day meeting of the CHIN Advisory/Governance Committee. The group approved an MOU between CoCs and CHIN, which will be made available to Regional Leads. The BoS CoC was represented at the meeting by Brian Alexander, Nicole DeWitt, Corey Root, and Paulette White.
- The Coordinated Assessment Workgroup will meet on October 22 to create draft written standards for the Steering Committee to consider at its November meeting.

Regional Committee Alternates

- As stated in the BoS Governance Charter, all Regional Committees must have an elected alternate Regional Lead. Both Regional Leads and alternates must submit a Conflict of Interest form to NCCEH.
 - So far, only two Regional Committees (Burke and Rockingham) have both elected an alternate and submitted Conflict of Interest forms.
 - Regional Committees whose leads are project applicants and who do not have an elected alternate will not be able to vote on the final list of projects for the CoC application.

Upcoming Meetings & Trainings

- There are no BoS subcommittee meetings in October. The next subcommittee meetings will be the Permanent Supportive Housing subcommittee on November 12 and the Data Quality subcommittee on November 19. Participants can register on the NCCEH website calendar at <http://www.ncceh.org/events/month/>.
- NCCEH is holding a series of Tuesdays at 2 webinars about North Carolina communities that have successfully reduced chronic homelessness. The last webinar in the series, focusing on Winston-Salem/Forsyth County, will be on October 15 at 2:00. Participants can register for the webinar at <http://www.ncceh.org/events/677/>.
 - Presentations from previous Tuesdays at 2 webinars are posted on the NCCEH website at <http://www.ncceh.org/trainings/previous/>.
- In the wake of the NC Summit of Homeless Veterans that was held in Raleigh on September 17th, NCCEH is talking to the VA about how to partner more closely in BoS communities. Staff will share more information when it is available.

Regional Committee Updates

- Foothills: The Regional Committee is planning for Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week in November, which will include a play, a homeless sleep-out, and a one-stop services day.
- Burke: The Regional Committee also has been planning for Hunger and Homeless Awareness week, including a play and a dinner at the soup kitchen.

- Piedmont: Rowan Crisis Council is holding a candlelight vigil for domestic violence victims on October 14. The Lexington Police Department is hosting a domestic violence peace vigil on October 4. The Union County shelter is holding a financial/job search assistance event on October 9. Community Link is launching their new SSVF program over a 10-county area; Nicole will release a one-pager with more information to Regional Leads in the area.
- Five County: The Regional Committee has been working on a plan to address homelessness among women and children. A group of 15 churches has agreed to take on a homeless family for a week at a time, and the city of Roanoke Rapids will vote tonight on whether the group can use an abandoned firehouse as a permanent location.
- CHIN: Sonia reminded Steering Committee members to read the CHIN email newsletter that was released yesterday, which includes a lot of changes HMIS users need to be aware of.

Reminders

- Regional Leads: Invite local Homeless Education Liaison(s) to participate in Regional Committee meetings.
- Regional Leads: Submit names and contact information for representatives for the Scorecard and Project Review Committees. (1 rep for each committee) by October 18th.
- Regional Leads: If you have not already done so, elect a Regional Lead alternate. Alternates and Regional Leads must submit Conflict of Interest forms to bos@ncceh.org.
- ESG Regional Lead Agencies: Schedule a consultation with Amy Cole for feedback on ESG applications.
- Agencies currently using or interested in using CHIN: Complete the Call for Information regarding CHIN licenses.
- All: Continue to read and reflect on SNAPS Weekly Focus emails.
- All: Remember to register for Tuesdays at 2: Reductions in Chronic Homelessness, Winston-Salem, on October 15: <http://www.ncceh.org/events/677/>

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 5 at 10:30.