

COMMUNITY ADVISORY NETWORK DEVELOPING ONSLOW

MINUTES

DECEMBER 4, 2015



The Community Advisory Network Developing Onslow (CAN-DO) met at Trillium Health Resources on this date. The meeting was called to order at 8:37 a.m. by CAN-DO Co-Chair Brian Fike. Those in attendance were: Amelia Grissett, Andre White, Barrett Kahl, Bayani Dilag, Brian Fike, Charshae Phillips, Chris Slater, Christa Gunderson, Collis Niro, Dan Bornarth, Deandra Stills, Derek Arnold, James Ross, Janice Graniero, Jason Klein, Jon Johnson, Junie Christian, Karol Davis, Kathy Horne, Katie Covington, Keith Walker, Kelley Hamilton, Kristi Pitchford, Linda Graham, Melissa Balto, Pamela Brown, Patti Katora, Sarah Cavaliere, Shantisha Williams, Susan Pridgen, Tameka Tallie, Trammell Davis and Ursulla Ingram.

Excused absences were received from Carol Long, Christy O’Daniel, Jennifer Colley, Kathleen Holbrook and William Keller.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Introductions were made of members and guests.

**REVIEW & APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of November 6, 2015 were reviewed and approved on a motion made by Jason Klein and seconded by James Ross. The motion carried without opposition.

**RECOGNITION**

Linda Graham, Section 8 Coordinator, was recognized by membership for her years of dedicated service. Linda has been a valuable member of CAN-DO and will be sorely missed upon her retirement from Eastern Carolina Human Services Agency at the end of the month. Linda introduced Ms. Charshae Phillips as her replacement.

**PRESENTATION ON NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF COMBAT CASUALTY HOME VISITATION SERVICES**

Bayani Dilag and Patty Katora, nurses with the NMCRS Visiting Nurse Program, provided an overview of their services. According to Bayani, the Visiting Nurse Program was created in 1922 to help widows and new mothers. In 2006, due to the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Combat Casualty Assistance Program was started. The CCA program provides ongoing, face-to face follow-up by Registered Nurses, to Marine Corps and Navy personnel and their families affected by the service member’s war-time service in Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Arabian Gulf.

The nurses provide services in the patient’s home or outpatient setting where other healthcare providers may not be able to visit. The CCA nurses receive referrals from various military and civilian agencies to include the Wounded Warrior Regiment, Marine Liaison, Navy Safe Harbor, DoD Nurse Case

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Managers, Social Workers from military treatment facilities and the VA, caseworkers within the NMCRS and counselors at Military One Source.

The focus of the CCA nurses is upon reinforcing instruction provided by other healthcare providers, assessment of needs of the entire family, teaching coping skills related to areas of concern, identifying and initiating referrals to appropriate resources as problems or questions arise, and providing feedback to the rest of the healthcare team. The nurses are constant advocates for their patients and families. They provide long term, face-to-face follow up anywhere in the country, regardless of discharge status, until the service member or family no longer feels there is a need for their services. All services provided are voluntary.

One critical gap in services mentioned include those that are on Reserve status. In spite of a record number of Reservists being called upon to fill the ranks during both the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, Reservists are not eligible for veteran's medical services or DoD care unless they are activated. The CCA nurses are doing what they can to help fill this gap by seeing those affected even if they are de-activated.

To make a referral or to obtain more information on services offered through the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, call 910-451-5346.

**UPDATE & DEMONSTRATION OF 2-1-1**

Melissa Balto and Janice Graniero provided a demonstration on how individual agencies and organizations can update their information in 2-1-1. Agencies must create a user account in order to change their information. Melissa encouraged everyone to verify that their information in 2-1-1 is accurate and to make corrections, if necessary, or if information is correct, submit the record to her so she knows it has been reviewed and is accurate. Melissa offered written step-by-step instructions to anyone who wants them.

**POINT IN TIME (PIT) COUNT 2016**

Kristi Pitchford reminded everyone that the PIT Count is scheduled for January 27-28, 2016. Those individuals who represent agencies providing rapid re-housing, emergency shelter or transitional housing are responsible for providing information required for the PIT Count and will automatically be considered "team leaders" for the count. Sign-up sheets for street teams going out on Wednesday night and early Thursday morning; field teams going out on Thursday; and teams needed for the Veterans' Stand Down will be available at next CAN-DO meeting to be held on **Friday, January 15, 2016**. As soon as the State releases the information and training date for the forms, an email will be sent out to the



membership inviting them to the webinar. Everyone was encouraged to take PIT Count posters and begin putting them up after January 1, 2016.

### **SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR VETERANS**

Keith Walker provided information to the group on a new housing development (Compass Point at Meadow's Gate) specifically designed for homeless and disabled veterans. Eight units are currently available with 24 more units expected to be built next year. The units are one-bedroom apartments with access to all the amenities offered in the Meadow's Gate community. Supportive services such as case management, outreach, transportation and personal financial planning are offered to residents. Residents must have no felony convictions but those with poor credit or misdemeanor criminal history will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Most residents will utilize the VASH voucher to cover the cost of the rent. For more information, contact Keith Walker at (910) 219-0091.

### **PROGRAM UPDATES**

***Coordinated Assessment (CA):*** Susan Pridgen reminded everyone that the data from 2-1-1 is used by the State in determining monies for Prevention & Diversion programs. Prevention & Diversion is used when someone is within 72 hours of becoming literally homeless. Once the person is homeless, a VI-SPDAT should be used. If the person is in an emergency shelter, they have 15 days to find alternative housing resources. As it currently stands, Solutions for Stability (SFS) can no longer accept direct referrals. If a person is deemed literally homeless, he/she will need to have a VI-SPDAT completed that will result in a score being given to that person based on the information provided. The higher the score, the higher the priority the person is given regarding housing. SFS must accept the highest scoring people into the program and give them priority in services, even if they are not good candidates for the program.

A new version of the VI-SPDAT will be available in January 2016. Jason Klein requested a list of everyone trained to do the assessments.

***Onslow Community Outreach:*** Deandra Stills reported that preparations for Christmas Cheer are ongoing in their permanent location and the shelter was in the process of collecting holiday decorations. Shelter staff is planning to put together a holiday party for the shelter residents. According to Deandra, the shelter served 38 people last month, including 4 families and 3 veterans.

***Onslow Women's Center:*** Junie Christian reported that deaths resulting from domestic violence are down across the state. No deaths in NC have been reported since July 2015. In Onslow County, Jacksonville Police Dept. responds to over 800 domestic dispute calls every year.

Junie stated that 5 families are currently staying in the shelter. One family has been there for 104 days due to challenges with securing employment and housing.

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In addition to the supportive services already provided at OWC, Katie Covington and Val Burrola-Hekman are providing training to businesses on how to respond to domestic violence when one of your employees is affected. A 5-day training certification from the North Carolina Coalition to End Domestic Violence will be available in 2016.

**Solutions for Stability:** Susan announced that the application for ESG funding has been delivered to Raleigh and she is hopeful the funds will be distributed in January 2016. The SFS program currently has a wait list with several families. Based on the requirements of Coordinated Assessment, a family of 7 currently residing in the OWC will have priority for services once funding is received. As a result of having to take on more challenging clients and with less money available through ESG, it is expected that fewer clients will be served during this next grant cycle.

**Tri-County Crusaders:** Free tax help is available at the Tri-County Crusaders office Monday-Saturday from 10 am to 8 pm. Assistance with meeting deductibles for seniors 60 and over is available through Catholic Charities at the Tri-County Crusaders office. Anyone interested in helping sponsor a child for Christmas should contact staff. They currently have several children from Jones County who need to be sponsored.

**Onslow County Schools:** No representative available to provide update.

**MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Sarah Cavaliere from the Onslow County Partnership for Children announced that books for children of all ages are available. She encouraged everyone to take some books for their agencies.

Christa Gunderson announced that LIAP (Low Income Assistance Program) at the Onslow County Department of Social Services is now available to assist with heating costs. From December 1, 2015 to January 1, 2016, seniors aged 60 years and older as well as disabled individuals can apply with priority. After January 2, 2016, the program will be opened up to all low income families and will continue until the funding runs out.

Kelley Hamilton announced that collections of canned foods with pop-tops as well as new socks continue for the Veterans' Stand Down. Flyers announcing the Sock Drive as well as the Stand Down were available for members to take with them.

There being no further business, Brian Fike adjourned the meeting at 9:42 am. The next CAN-DO meeting will be held at Trillium Health Resources on **Friday, January 15, 2016 at 8:30 am.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Pitchford, Co-Chair

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