



North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

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Balance of State Steering Committee Meeting 5.2.17

Regional Leads Present:

Teena Willis (for Autumn Culver and Kevin Hege), Nicole Dewitt, Ellery Blackstock, Emily Locklear, Roberta Sessoms, LaTasha McNair, Nicole Boone, Jim Cox, Susan Pridgen

Regional Leads Absent:

Marilyn Chamberlin, Jennifer Molliere, Donna McCormick

Interested Parties Present:

Reeshema Walker, Roxanne Curry, Janice Sauls, Lynne James, Melissa Eastwood, Bud Ealing, Joel Rice, Lori Watts, Kristin Martin, Ron Howard, Tammy Gray, Ashley Potts, Monica Frizzell, Mary Boyles, Patricia Bryant, Bob Lawler, Brie Griffin, Marlene Harrison, Linda Golden, Sarah Lancaster, Sunshine Richardson, Leila McMichael, Linda Brinson, Faye Pierce, Emily Stevens, Kristi Case

NCCEH Staff Present:

Brian Alexander, Ehren Dohler, Nancy Holochwost

Approval of April Minutes

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

Letter of Consistency

- The Haliwa Saponi Tribe has requested a letter of consistency from the BoS for their application for the NC Housing Finance Agency's Supportive Housing Program. The proposed project would provide 4 units in Halifax and Warren counties to serve homeless and at-risk families. Homeless families would be given priority. The Tribe has committed to involvement in the Regional Committee and to providing information for the local coordinated assessment system.
- Steering Committee members were asked for any questions or discussion about the proposal.
 - Nicole asked if participants would enter the program through coordinated assessment or if information on participation would be provided after the fact. Sunshine noted that it would be provided on the back end.
 - Nicole asked if the units were for disabled participants. Sunshine and Bud noted that 2 of the units are fully accessible and 2 have some modifications for accessibility.
 - Joel asked if the project had been presented to the Tar Heel Regional Committee. Sunshine said it had not, but the Tribe is partnering with local agencies in the area, including the local Section 8 program and the Vocational Rehab program in Roanoke Rapids. Joel invited Sunshine or others from the Tribe to attend a Regional Committee

meeting to present the project. Brian noted he would share the Regional Committee's contact information with Sunshine.

- A motion was made to provide the letter of consistency [Pridgen, Cox]. All in favor; none opposed.

Steering Committee Restructuring Proposal

- Earlier in the year, a workgroup was formed to look into expanding Steering Committee membership.
- The workgroup has drafted a proposal of its recommendations. The proposal is posted at www.ncceh.org/files/8169 for review. The Steering Committee will be asked to vote to approve it at the June 6 meeting.
- Teena Willis, one of the workgroup members, presented highlights of the proposal.
- The proposal recommends four main changes:
 - adding at-large seats to the Steering Committee
 - adding a funding and priorities subcommittee and a policy/advocacy workgroup
 - changing the content of Steering Committee meetings and the methods for information-sharing
 - adding training for Regional Committees
- The proposal aims to accomplish the following CoC goals:
 - improve decision-making and strategy to improve CoC performance and future CoC applications
 - build communication, capacity, and relationships within the CoC
 - expand connections to new partners and funding sources
- The proposal suggests adding 7 to 13 at-large seats to the Steering Committee, allocated to three categories:
 - People with lived experience of homelessness (1 to 2 seats)
 - North Carolina State Government (3 to 6 seats), which must be from the following agencies and work with people experiencing homelessness:
 - Dept. of Health and Human Services, Dept. of Public Safety, Housing Finance Agency, Dept. of Education, Dept. of Military and Veteran Affairs, and Dept. of Commerce
 - Other at-large seats from sectors that could bring additional knowledge and resources:
 - Health care, business sector, public housing agency, domestic violence services/advocacy, legal services, and youth services/advocacy, ideally with a state-wide focus
- The proposal recommends adding a subcommittee and a workgroup.
 - Funding and performance subcommittee:
 - would look at CoC-wide data and performance to increase the CoC's competitiveness for funding
 - not intended to monitor individual grants or agencies
 - Policy and advocacy workgroup:
 - short-term workgroup that would explore how the BoS could engage in local, state, and federal advocacy and create a training framework for advocacy



- The proposal recommends adding at-large Steering Committee members to the Scorecard Committee and the Project Review Committee to add capacity and expertise to these committees and to prevent Steering Committee members from being overloaded with work. The number of at-large members would not be allowed to exceed the number of Regional Committee representatives.
- The proposal addresses changes to Steering Committee content:
 - The proposal's goal is to free up time for more strategic and long-term discussions during Steering Committee meetings
 - Time spent sharing information would be reduced by sending out a "board packet" prior to Steering Committee meetings that would include updates and regular business. Steering Committee members would be responsible for reading the packet so it could be voted on during the meetings.
 - Some information currently discussed on Steering Committee calls would be moved to calls/webinars for specific audiences (like grantees) as well as email updates.
- The proposal recommends developing training for Regional Leads and Steering Committee members, including:
 - a board manual for the Steering Committee
 - training for regional leadership
 - an orientation for new Steering Committee members
- Steering Committee members were asked for feedback or questions about the proposal.
 - Teena noted that one of the workgroup's goals was to increase participation to ensure that neither BoS staff nor Regional Committee leadership are overburdened with responsibilities.
- Steering Committee members were asked to provide feedback on the proposal by Friday, May 12, through the following form: <http://bit.ly/2qa7RNM>. The workgroup will review feedback received and will create a final draft of the proposal for approval at the June 6 Steering Committee meeting.

2017 CoC Competition

- HUD released the CoC registration on April 10 with a due date of May 1. BoS staff submitted the BoS CoC's registration on April 25. CoC registration is the first step of the CoC competition, in which CoCs indicate their intent to apply for CoC funds.
- HUD released the Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW) on April 13 with a due date of May 4. The GIW is a list of all grants eligible to renew in the 2017 competition. Staff are currently working with grantees and the HUD Field Office to verify the information on the GIW. Staff intend to submit the GIW to HUD on May 2.
 - HUD headquarters has said they expect to finalize the GIW by June 9, so BoS staff do not expect to see the CoC NOFA release any earlier than this.
- The Scorecard Committee, which determines the criteria and scoring guidelines for the new and renewal scorecards, will meet via conference call on May 17 at 1:00 and May 30 at 9:00. The committee is expected to finalize proposed scorecards for approval at the June 6 Steering Committee meeting.
 - Each Regional Committee is asked to appoint one representative to the Scorecard Committee. Representatives must be able to attend both meetings in



May. Regional Committees should submit contact information for their representatives at <http://bit.ly/2q7PE6d> by May 12.

- The Project Review Committee is responsible for reviewing and scoring project applications using the scorecard and creating the ranked list of applications for Steering Committee approval.
 - Each Regional Committee is asked to appoint one representative to the Project Review Committee. To avoid conflict of interest, representatives may not be from agencies that are applying for funding. Regional Committees should submit contact information for their representatives at <http://bit.ly/2plwEAX> by May 12.
- All agencies interested in applying for new projects in this year's CoC competition are asked to complete an Intent to Apply Form. This form asks for some preliminary information about the proposed project and gives BoS staff an idea of the types of new projects that may be submitted. The form is open on a rolling basis and is non-binding. BoS staff will hold phone calls with agencies that submit Intent to Apply Forms to discuss the projects and answer questions. The form is posted on the BoS CoC application webpage at www.ncceh.org/bos/currentcocapplication.

Funding Priorities Workgroup

- The Funding Priorities Workgroup met on April 20. Monica Frizzell, a member of the workgroup, provided an update on the meeting.
- The workgroup discussed the BoS' recent performance and scoring on the CoC application and proposed ways to improve performance. The workgroup set the following goals:
 - Set funding priorities that represent the needs of all 79 counties in the BoS rather than individual communities
 - Set priorities to assist the Steering Committee and Project Review Committee to think more broadly
 - Remain open-minded to changes needed to help the BoS end homelessness
 - Gain a better understanding of our needs as a CoC
 - Create tools and support strategies to help the Steering Committee and Project Review Committee make strong decisions for the CoC
 - Lay groundwork to help grantees understand what they need to do
 - Create a framework to implement the priorities
- The workgroup has laid out next steps to continue its work:
 - NCCEH staff are gathering BoS data to help inform the workgroup's decisions
 - The workgroup will meet in late May/early June to develop a list of recommended priorities
 - The proposal will be presented at the July Steering Committee meeting for approval
- Steering Committee members were asked for any discussion or questions; none were raised.

Coordinated Assessment

- Coordinated assessment plans were due April 1. At this time, all Regional Committees except for Region 2 (Southern Mountains) have submitted their plans.
- The Coordinated Assessment Council (CAC) met and approved plans from Regions 1, 4, 5, and 11 with minor changes. They are posted on the NCCEH website for review. The remaining plans are



currently being edited and will be considered at the next CAC meeting on May 16.

- The plans from Region 1, 4, 5, and 11 were presented to the Steering Committee for their approval.
 - Region 1 (Southwest)
 - Has broad participation in coordinated assessment despite covering 8 counties and having limited resources
 - Increased the prioritization scoring system to be able to target higher-needs households
 - Has a strong existing case conferencing committee
 - A motion was made to approve the plan from Region 1 [Dewitt, Pridgen]. All in favor; none opposed.
 - Region 4 (DISSY)
 - The coordinated assessment system is led by Diakonos, which has availability 24/7
 - Mediation is being done at each access point in the system
 - Has an existing coordinated assessment subcommittee that meets monthly and is being expanded to improve case conferencing
 - A motion was made to approve the plan from Region 4 [Cox, Blackstock]. All in favor; none opposed.
 - Region 5 (Piedmont)
 - Coordinated assessment system is led by Community Link
 - There is good shelter coverage, including a low-barrier shelter
 - Increased the prioritization scoring system to be able to target higher-needs households
 - Has a centralized, well-coordinated waitlist and referral system
 - A motion was made to approve the plan from Region 5 [Cox, Blackstock]. All in favor; none opposed.
 - Region 11 (Northeast)
 - Region has low capacity and low resources, so Regional Committee is working on building participation
 - Region currently has one centralized system with the goal of moving to county-based systems once participation is increased
 - Plan is well thought-out for resources that are available
 - A motion was made to approve the plan from Region 11 [Pridgen, Cox]. All in favor; none opposed.
- The approved plans will be posted on each Regional Committee's webpage on the NCCEH website.
- The membership for the Coordinated Assessment Council (CAC) is made up of both regional representatives and state-level representatives. Two changes have occurred recently:
 - Kim Crawford has been serving on the CAC as a regional representative. She recently took a position as the head of the State ESG Office at DHHS. The Steering Committee was asked for its approval for her to continue in her changed role as state-level representative instead of regional representative. A motion was made to approve Kim Crawford to continue to serve on the CAC [Dewitt, Pridgen]. All in favor; none opposed.



- A number of other CAC members have resigned due to work conflicts. BoS staff are now seeking new CAC members for approval in the summer. Steering Committee members are welcome to suggest candidates to BoS staff.
- The regularly scheduled Coordinated Assessment Exchange call for May has been canceled because it conflicts with the statewide homelessness conference. The call has been replaced by a webinar on coordinated assessment outcomes on May 23 at 1:00. The webinar will provide training on how to collect and submit outcomes as well as how to use this data within the Regional Committees. Participants can register at www.ncceh.org/events/1151.

2017 Point-in-Time Count & HIC

- BoS staff submitted the CoC's 2017 Point-in-Time Count and Housing Inventory Count to HUD via the HDX website on May 1. All CoCs are submitting their data to HUD this week. HUD will review the data and then use it in the 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report.
- BoS staff will post the PIT data for the entire CoC, for each Regional Committee, and for each county at www.ncceh.org/pitdata/ in the coming weeks.
- BoS staff reviewed highlights of the PIT data.
 - The sheltered count decreased slightly (-1%), while the unsheltered count increased significantly (14%). The overall count increased by 3%.
 - There were small changes in household types. Households with children and households without children both increased by 3%, while households of only children decreased by 7%.
 - Chronically homeless people increased by 10% and homeless veterans increased by 29%.
- Steering Committee members were asked for any feedback or reactions to the preliminary PIT data; none were raised.

Veteran Plan Update

- Regional Veteran plans were due on April 1. At this time, all Regional Committees except for Region 6 (PRACC) have submitted their plans.
- The Veteran Subcommittee will review the plans at its meeting on Thursday, May 4, and will then recommend plans to the Steering Committee for approval. Any SSVF providers who have made updates to their plans are asked to submit them to BoS staff before the May 4 meeting.

Federal Update

- Congress passed a continuing resolution to avoid a government shut-down. A bi-partisan deal for FY2017 funding has been reached and is expected to be passed this week. The bill includes the following:
 - Homeless Assistance Grants (includes both CoC and ESG funds): \$133 million increase, including \$43 million targeted to serve homeless youth
 - Housing Choice Vouchers/Section 8 (includes HUD-VASH): \$633 million increase, which is probably not enough to renew all vouchers in use



Bringing It Home Homelessness Conference

- The Bringing It Home statewide homelessness conference is being held May 8 and 9. BoS staff will be holding a meeting on the afternoon of May 9 for all Balance of State attendees. The meeting will be a chance to meet staff, network with peers, and learn more about the BoS.
- BoS staff will email more information about the meeting to all BoS attendees who have registered for the conference.

Upcoming Meetings & Reminders

- Register for the Coordinated Assessment Outcomes webinar May 23rd at 1:00 p.m.:
 - www.ncceh.org/events/1151
- Agencies interested in applying for new CoC funds: complete Intent to Apply Form
 - www.ncceh.org/bos/currentcocapplication
- Please provide feedback on the Steering Committee proposal
 - Read the proposal here: www.ncceh.org/files/8169
 - Provide feedback here: <http://bit.ly/2qa7RNM>
- Choose Scorecard and Project Review Committee representatives by May 12th
 - Scorecard Committee Representatives: <http://bit.ly/2q7PE6d>
 - Project Review Committee Representatives: <http://bit.ly/2plwEAX>

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 6, at 10:30.

