

Region 12, NC Balance of State Monthly Meeting
Multipurpose Room-Greenville Housing Authority
1103 Broad Street, Greenville
Wednesday May 10, 2017-9:00 AM-10:30 AM

Present

Lynn Alligood, Mid-East Regional Housing Authority
Ken Becker, Family Endeavors
Wayne Bray, Martin County Job Link Center
Mayreni Santos Castro, Greenville Housing Authority
Tommy Cloyd, Disability Advocates
James Cox, United Way of Pitt County
Melissa Eastwood, Trillium Health Resources
Deloris Farmer, Pitt County Planning
Lynne James, Pitt County Planning
Tonette Latham, Community Crossroads Center
Sally Love, Beaufort County United Way
Linda Mandell, Pitt County Planning
Elizabeth McDowell, Catholic Charities
Catonna Pitt, Center for Family Violence Prevention
Tujuanda Sanders, Greenville Housing Authority
Selma Whitaker, Strive
Bob Williams, Community Crossroads Center
Elvis Townsend, Pathways to Life

Introductions/Approval of April 2017 Minutes

After introductions, the May 2017 BOS/Pitt Regional Committee meeting began with approval of the minutes for April 2017. Jim Cox asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Tommy Cloyd made a motion to approve the minutes for April 2017 with Elizabeth McDowell seconding the motion. The committee approved the minutes for April 2017.

Hurricane Matthew (updates)

Jim inquired about updates in reference to Hurricane Matthew. Margaret was not present today because she was attending a meeting with the Pitt County long term recovery group. They are working with Lutheran Family Services and they are hiring caseworkers. Elizabeth reported that Catholic Charities is working to assist with disaster recovery. They have about \$1000.00 for each person that may need assistance. They are looking at helping with things like security deposits, first month's rent, etc. Please contact Catholic Charities to make referrals (call or email). We can provide Elizabeth's contact information to those that might benefit as well.

There was a meeting a few weeks ago regarding Charity Tracker. The information was well received. Jim reminded the group that there would be a follow up meeting at the Salvation Army on Thursday 5/11/2017 at 10:00am.

NC Balance of State Steering Committee & Work Groups Steering Committee/Conference Call 5/2/2017

Jim emailed everyone the summary from the Steering Committee call on 5/2/2017. Jim reviewed the information discussed on the call. Jim continues to participate on the Steering Committee workgroup to look at revamping the composition of the steering committee. We are down to 13 regional committees (previously 26). The draft proposal for restructuring the steering committee is complete and has been posted on the Balance of State website. He encouraged the group to go online and look at the proposal. They are looking at bringing outsiders from mainstream resources. They would like to include representatives from DHHS, education, businesses, etc. They would like to look at running the committee more like a board. They are also looking at the way the calls are done and how to make the calls more effective/efficient.

COC funding process

Lynne updated the group regarding the CoC application process. Pitt County submitted an application that did not get funded last year. We will apply again this year. Lynne reported they submitted the letter of intent and had a conference call with the Balance of State last week regarding their intent to apply. They looked back at the previous application. Lynne reported that they discussed how to strengthen our application. She stated that HUD confirmed that the program design is okay, however we need to adjust our policies to ensure that we are in compliance with Rapid Rehousing best practice standards. Our application will need to comply with best practice guidelines. The NOFA is not out yet, so we don't know if we will have an eligible project. They are assuming that we will. The Balance of State is hopeful we will get funding. The COC competition is becoming more competitive. There is more interest in new projects this year.

The Balance of State is looking for representation from each Regional Committee for the score card committee and for the project review committee. Anyone can be on the score card committee. However, those applying cannot serve on the project review committee. They would like volunteers by 5/12/2017. Ken volunteered to serve on the project review committee. Tonette volunteered to serve on the score card committee. Lynne noted that it is not too late to submit an intent to apply form. The NOFA will most likely come out in June. She encouraged anyone interested in applying to submit an intent to apply form.

Point in Time Count-The information from the count is available and posted online. Jim encouraged everyone to go on the website to look at the numbers. There was a higher number of unsheltered identified. The sheltered count went down. The overall number decreased.

Our Regional Committee does not have a name yet. Jim asked for proposals for a name for Region 12. Please submit ideas/suggestions to Jim.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Local Process: Update

There were no new announcements from Deloris or Sally. Deloris has referrals that she is currently working on. As we move into the ESG season, we need to be aware that the processes will be more complex because we are looking at 5 counties.

Regional Restructuring (Update)

We are now a regional committee of 5 counties. We agreed to come together 1-2 times a year for a regional meeting. Next month, we will have our meeting in Williamston. It will be our semiannual regional committee meeting. Lynn will send something out with address and contact information. The meeting will be on 6/14/2017 at 9:00am (NC TeleCenter, 415 East Blvd., Williamston, NC). Lynn plans to do outreach to counties that are not represented. She is going to try to reach out to county commissioners and city planners. Lynn expressed that she is excited about the event. Lynn and Jim will meet and finalize details. They plan to have a representative from the Balance of State. We will have the regular business meeting and then possibly have some breakout sessions for sharing. The region 11 lead (Nicole Boone) will connect with representatives from Tyrrell and Hyde counties at the meeting. We may coordinate transportation (van) so that individuals can carpool. Lynn reported that there is plenty of space. The goal is to have representation from all counties.

Coordinated Assessment (Update)

Lynne reported that our Coordinated Assessment plan has been submitted. There was an initial review and corrections were requested. The corrections were made and the plan was resubmitted. The Coordinated Assessment council met but did not review all plans. Region 12 has not been reviewed yet. They are meeting again on 5/16/2017. Lynne reported that she is working on a draft memorandum of agreement which she hopes to send out next week to the CA subcommittee. Hopefully, if our plan gets approved and the MOU is approved, we can distribute to agencies who will be participating in the CA system/process.

Veterans' plan-Ken reported that the Veteran plan was approved. Ken reported that they are striving to reach Functional Zero with Veterans, meaning that if a veteran does go into homelessness they are working to ensure that it is resolved in less than 30 days. They are depending upon community partners to provide referrals. They would like to compile information and track Veterans by name. It will take everyone working together to ensure that Veteran Homelessness is rare, brief, and non-reoccurring.

Housing Updates

CCC/Tonette Latham-TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families/200%)-As of last month, Tonette reported that they helped 2 families with a total of \$1427.96.

GHA-Accepting applications, but currently no slots are available.

Rapid Rehousing/Pitt County Planning-Deloris reported that she is still accepting referrals.

SOAR Updates-Linda reported that she currently has 1 referral, 1 submitted, 0 approved, 0 denied, 3 pending-Total: 123 (52 submitted, 23 approved, 9 denied, 21 closed for other reasons)

Trillium Health Resources-Trillium is hosting a Fair Housing training on 6/20/17 for landlords and service providers. Melissa will send the registration information to Jim so that he can distribute it to the committee so that anyone interested can register.

Miscellaneous

- The group discussed the conference. Jim encouraged the group to share information that was helpful or interesting.
- Melissa provided information regarding Charlotte's CA plan. Coordinated Access/Entry will go through 211 effective 7/1/2017. Melissa inquired about whether our area could do that as well (utilize 211 as an entry point). Jim will follow up regarding this.
- Lynn reported that there were good sessions regarding landlords. She stated many providers were utilizing damage mitigation agreements. Private landlords seem to be easier to work with when various barriers exist (ex. Criminal background, poor credit).
- Tujuanda attended a session on community resources. The group discussed using TANF and rapid rehousing together. She shared info regarding the TANF program in Pitt County with the group.
- Jim attended a session on Diversion. The presenter explained that it is easier to divert people up front. Once someone is in shelter it is harder to get them out. The community that presented utilized a caseworker and then \$5000.00 in diversion funds. They diverted a significant number of people in the first 10-12 weeks with diversion funds.
- All of the power points will be on the Balance of State website.

Next Meeting: June 14, 2017 @ 9:00am

Regional Committee Meeting

NC Tele Center, 415 East Blvd., Williamston, NC