

Northeastern Homeless Coalition - Region 11 Committee Meeting

Hertford County Public Health Authority
828 S. Academy Street, Ahoskie, NC

Tuesday, February 13, 2018
10:00 am

Attendance

Agency	Representative(s)
Hertford County DSS	Avis Murphy Glenda Simmons
Trillium Health Resources	Lakitra Claude Melissa Eastwood
Hertford County Public Health Authority	Cherri Brunson
*River City Community Development Corporation	Angie Wills Lenora Jarvis Mackey
*Room in the Inn – Dare County	Renate Macchirole Fred Lamb

**Called into the meeting*

Minutes

Call to Order

- Cherri Brunson, Co-Lead, called the meeting to order.

Roll Call and Review of Agenda

- Those in attendance introduced themselves. The committee then reviewed the items on the agenda and were given a chance to add any items they felt needed to be discussed. No new items were added to the agenda.

Review and Approve Minutes of December's Meeting

- The committee reviewed the minutes from the last meeting (January 16th). There was one correction to the minutes. Under ***Introductions of 2018 Regional Leadership***, it should read, "Melissa Eastwood – Coordinated Assessment Lead". After the corrections were noted, a motion was made by Melissa Eastwood to accept and approve the minutes of the last meeting.

Introductions of 2018 Regional Leadership

- Those in attendance were informed that the Regional Committee will have new leadership for 2018. The leadership is as follows:
 - Nicole Boone – Regional Lead
 - Cherri Brunson – Co-Lead
 - Melissa Eastwood – Coordinated Assessment Lead
 - Lakitra Claude – Webmaster/Secretary
 - Erica McCloud – PIT Lead

February Steering Committee Update

Upcoming Meetings and Reminders

- All Steering Committee Members must sign the Conflict of Interest Form and return it to NCCEH staff as soon as possible.
- Report 4th Quarter 2017 Coordinated Assessment Outcomes via <https://goo.gl/forms/8g511d1pLuqCsfPy1>
- Point-in-Time and Housing Inventory Count Forms are due February 21, 2018
- February CA Exchange call will be held on February 9th at 11:00am
- February Vets Subcommittee meeting will be held on February 16th from 12pm to 2pm

At-Large Steering Committee Member Change

- Thea Craft, a Community Living Specialist at HFA will be replacing Paul Kimball as an at-large member

Anti-Discrimination Policy

- The 2017 CoC program NOFA requires CoCs to have an Anti-Discrimination Policy. NCCEH staff have drafted a policy and it is posted on their website.

VAWA Emergency Transfer Policy

- The Violence Against Women Act of 2013 established “emergency transfers.” Emergency transfers guarantee people receiving housing assistance (CoC, ESG, and any other housing subsidized through HUD funding) can quickly move to flee domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault and retain their housing assistance.
- CoCs and HUD-funded housing providers must have a plan for emergency transfers.
- Each housing provider must include the model emergency transfer plan in their agency policies. The model emergency transfer plan for providers is Appendix V in the NC BoS CoC’s Emergency Transfer Plan.
- CoCs must also edit TH, RRH, and PSH written standards. VAWA regulations require that people who need emergency transfers to other programs or organizations will have priority over other applicants for open appropriate housing slots (as long as they are eligible for those programs).

Annual Homeless Assessment Report

- The statistics from the Homeless Assessment Report were shared with the committee

ESG Appeal

- Diakonos DBA Fifth Street Ministries Shelter asks the CoC to approve and submit ESG appeal
 - The state ESG office conditionally awarded \$128,400
 - The state ESG office reduced award by \$9,500. This is for their DV program, “My Sister’s House”

- The ESG office stated that the reduction in funding was due to 2016 – 2017 ESG contract and 2017 – 2018 RFA noncompliance issues
- The Steering Committee voted to unanimously approve the appeal on behalf of Diaknos

Coordinated Assessment Update – Melissa Eastwood

- The quarterly report was due January 15, 2018; it has been submitted to the BoS.
- Hertford County DSS reported two Prevention and Diversion screenings
- Trillium’s Call Center staff have been trained to do the VI-SPDAT screenings. The number to the call center is 866-998-2597.
- The VI-SPDAT will be completed in the following situations:
 - Caller is “literally” homeless according to HUD’s homeless definition:
 - Living in an emergency shelter for 14 days
 - Living on the street and/or living in a place not meant for human habitation (i.e., barn, car, abandoned building, laundromat, tent in the woods, etc.)
 - Fleeing a domestic violence situation.
- The VI-SPDAT will not be completed and the caller will be referred to other resources (i.e., housing coordinator, provider, 211, etc.) in the following situations:
 - Living in a unit but wants to move
 - “Couch surfing” with family/friends
 - About to be evicted from current unit and needs funds to move
- When the VI-SPDAT is complete the assessor will inform the caller that they will receive a follow-up call from the housing department in 5 – 10 business days
- When the Housing Department receives the completed VI-SPDAT they will:
 - Contact the caller within 5-10 days and explain the process and what will happen next
 - Disseminate the assessments to the appropriate Housing Coordinators based on geographic location.
 - The Housing Coordinators will then take the assessments to regional housing groups in order to case conference each individual/family which will result in housing assistance or being placed on a waiting list depending on program criteria and resource availability.
- The committee was also informed that those agencies that are currently administering the VI-SPDAT, should continue to do so

Point in Time Count Recap

- No recap was given. Erica was absent. The information will be presented at the next meeting.
- The committee members that participated in the PIT Count went around the table and shared their experiences from that night

- It was mentioned that it is hard to get exact numbers because there are some homeless people hiding out in the woods
- Cherri mentioned that Gates County has a homeless board and she and Nicole plan to attend the next meeting
- Fred mentioned Dare County had about 22 people for the PIT Count. He also mentioned that he received the information for the PIT Count, two days before the count. It was suggested that next year the committee sends the information out a lot sooner and offer more training. That way, the count will be more effective.

Miscellaneous

- Angie presented to the committee that she would like for the committee to have a meeting to discuss the email that was sent to her concerning potential funding for HUD's FY 2017 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). If River City is awarded the grant, it will cover the entire region
 - It was suggested that other agencies be invited to the meeting such as local DSS offices and a representative from the local school systems so they can have input concerning the grant which is due in April
- Renate gave a brief overview of the Room in the Inn (Dare County) which operates from November to April

Adjournment

- After discussing all of the items on the agenda, a motion was made that the meeting be adjourned and it was seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10am. The next meeting is scheduled for 10:00am on Tuesday, March 13, 2018. The location is to be determined.

Submitted by:



Webmaster/Secretary for Northeastern Homeless Coalition - Region 11