

BC360 Housing & Homeless Task Force/Beaufort County Housing Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2018

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The BC360 Housing & Homeless Taskforce/Housing Committee met at the Beaufort County Health Department on this date (5/10/2018). The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Sally Love (Beaufort County Chairperson/Beaufort County United Way). Those in attendance were: Tujuanda Sanders (Greenville Housing Authority), Gabriela Gonzalez (NC Works), Greg Smith (NC Works), Linda Thornton (Zion Shelter), Evan Lewis (attorney/BC360 representative), Lakitra Claude (Trillium Health Resources), Valerie Kines (Ruth's House), Stacy Drakeford (City of Washington Police Dept.), Jason Perry, Jessica McIntyre (Beaufort County DSS), Larry McAvoy (Zion Shelter), Ken Becker (Endeavors), Jim Cox (Pitt County United Way, Region 12 lead), and Melissa Eastwood (Trillium Health Resources).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sally asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Larry made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Lakitra seconded the motion. The committee approved the minutes for April 2018.

Region 12 Updates-Jim Cox

Jim provided an overview regarding region 12 (Inner Banks Regional Committee). Region 12 is divided into 5 counties. Our goal is to be active in all five counties. There will be a regional committee meeting at Beaufort County DSS on June 13, 2018 from 10:00am to 12:00pm. Jim circulated fliers regarding the event. Jim reviewed the information that will be covered at the meeting. During the afternoon, Ehren Dohler (NCCEH) will facilitate another meeting about Coordinated Entry at the Beaufort County Health Department from 1:30pm-3:30pm. Individuals directly involved in coordinated entry are encouraged to attend. There will be another combined regional committee meeting in December. There will be a webinar tomorrow (5/11) regarding the Family Unification Program (FUP) & Mainstream Vouchers. Registration for the event is online. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Emergency Transfer Plan Webinar will be held on May 17th from 11:00-12:00. This webinar is mandatory for ESG and CoC grant recipients. All webinars are posted online. Jim encouraged Sally to send out the Steering Committee Summaries and he encouraged the group to read these each month. The Steering Committee calls are typically held on the first Tuesday of each month from 10:30am to 12:00pm. Jim stated that Pitt County Planning will apply for the SSO Coordinated Entry grant for the region.

Jim provided an update regarding HMIS. HMIS is a system that is utilized to manage information regarding homelessness and homeless service providers. NCCEH is not happy with the way things are going currently with the existing system. They will be creating their own. Jim stated that they are working on the transformation right now. This should go live in June or July. NCCEH will be holding webinars regarding HMIS and upcoming changes. There will be 2 HMIS providers in North Carolina. Some agencies will operate in more than one system. We have been told this will be a smooth, seamless transition. Existing data will roll over into the new system. Data will be pulled from HMIS to

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compile the quarterly reports. Jim offered to go to the Zion shelter to meet with Jonathan to discuss changes.

Coordinated Assessment Report-Lynne James

Lynne was not present for the meeting today. Jim provided an update regarding Coordinated Assessment/Entry. Jim stated that we need to have one Coordinated Entry list for the region (list needs to be regionalized). Those with higher needs should be served first. We need a comprehensive list of housing services/providers. We need to work to eliminate side doors within our Coordinated Assessment system. Hopefully, at our meeting on 6/13/2018, Ehren can offer feedback regarding our current system and provide suggestions regarding how to streamline our system moving forward. Jim reviewed our current resources (PSH with Greenville Housing Authority and Trillium, RRH with Pitt County Planning and Trillium, Veteran Programs, Greenville Housing Authority, Mid-East Regional Housing Authority, etc.). Ken offered feedback regarding the Coordinated Assessment process. In the future, everything will be housed in HMIS.

Project Fair Housing-Evan Lewis

Evan would like to host a Fair Housing Seminar. He would like the event to draw landlords in. Evan stated that he is working with a committee on a private landlord engagement. Training will be provided to the landlords during the event. He stated that we can offer CEUs. Representatives from the housing committee can talk about what we do. Robby Robertson wants to work with us on the Fair Housing Event. We need to partner with Washington Housing Authority and Mid-East Regional Housing Authority for the event. Evan will try to set up a meeting with everyone to discuss specifics.

Case Conferencing

Melissa provided an update regarding previous referrals. Case conferencing was done by phone on a referral from Ruth's House. A Rapid Rehousing Intake will occur at Ruth's House Tomorrow (5/11/2018). Melissa received a VISPDAT on a gentleman that scored a 7 on the VI-SPDAT in Beaufort County. Melissa needs to make contact to verify homelessness. The assessment states that he is residing in an abandoned house. Melissa will present the case for case conferencing after contact is made and additional info is obtained.

Linda received a letter for an individual that was housed with RRH funds by Zion. The individual they served is being evicted. However, the letter has no identifying information. Linda will attempt to identify who the individual is. The group discussed the need for prevention funds. We will discuss this when we have conversations regarding the upcoming ESG application. The group discussed identifying grants and other funding sources. Jim provided information regarding the Vidant Grant that Pitt County Planning recently applied for. There will be a pilot program in Pitt County (will pay for emergency hotel stays).

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Melissa provided information about an individual that was recently housed that desperately needs a washer and dryer (has to take a ferry every few weeks to Belhaven with her dirty clothes to wash them). Valerie Kines stated they recently had a set donated that they do not need right now. She stated that the individual could have them. Melissa will arrange for them to be picked up and delivered to the individual. Thank you Valerie!

10 year plan to end homelessness-Jason Perry

Jason reported that he has been extremely busy with school. We have not added any additional information to Google Docs. Jason reported that he will work on this project over the summer. He will get together with Jim to go over ideas.

Updates/Reports

Ruth's House-Valerie stated that they have 2 families (5 total children, 1 baby) and one single female.

Washington Housing Authority-No updates.

Zion Shelter-Linda reported that they have beds available. She stated that agencies/individuals can call them if emergency assistance is needed. Zion might have funds for hotels if needed.

Open Door Community Center-Sally reported that the demolition inside is complete. They are working on adding the kitchen. The Blue Hats from Cypress landing have done a great deal of work on the home. The shelter will be on Cowell Farm road. Jim requested that Open Door attend the meeting in June and provide an update regarding the new shelter.

Mid-East Regional Housing Authority- No updates.

Metropolitan Housing-No updates.

NC Works-Gabi reported that there will be a Veteran Stand Down in Beaufort County in February of 2019. Gabi is organizing a planning committee. Please call or email her if you are interesting in volunteering for the planning committee. Gabi is getting staff trained on the Prevention and Diversion Screen. Gabi provided information regarding an upcoming hiring event. Jobseekers will be matched to employers. Interviews will be set up. The event will be June 5, 2018 at the Greenville Convention Center. Greg stated that they have a great team at NC Works. There is no center manager currently. They have selected a potential candidate and they are awaiting approval. The new manager will hopefully be in place by May 29, 2018. Greg provided information regarding Pamlico Rose. The roof is done. A lot of work has been done to the structure of the home. There will be fundraisers at the end of the month. This home will be utilized for female veterans.

Trillium Health Resources-We need referrals for Rapid Rehousing. Melissa reviewed the referral process and eligibility requirements. Melissa will follow up with Zion Shelter regarding referrals.

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Department of Social Services-Jessica thanked everyone for items that were donated to DSS for a family in need. The family moved into housing last Friday. Everything is going really well. Jessica stated that she can assist individuals with children with getting Work first if they homeless or need assistance. Please contact her if you have questions or potential referrals.

Police Department-Stacy reported that there have not been issues with homeless individuals recently. They have made referrals to the shelter and appropriate resources. He stated that sometimes they take up collections to pay for hotel stays if needed.

Endeavors-Ken stated that he is accepting referrals for Veterans with low incomes that are homeless or facing eviction. He cannot assist if an individual had a dishonorable discharge.

Greenville Housing Authority-No Updates.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Sally Love adjourned the meeting.

**Next Meeting: June 13, 2018 @ 10:00am
Beaufort County Department of Social Services**