

**Balance of State Region 7 Committee Meeting
Sandhills Community College, Pinehurst, NC
May 3, 2018**

Donna McCormick welcomed members and called the meeting to order at the Sandhills Community College Van Dusen Hall, Room 105. Members present introduced themselves. E. Marie Watson assumed chair functions of the meeting.

Members Present: Donna McCormick- Sandhills Center; E. Marie Watson-Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action(Johnston);Angela Jones –Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action (Johnston); Catrina Martin- Safe of Harnett County; Nina Walker –Sandhills Community Action Program; Kim Childers-Richmond County Schools; John Young- Montgomery County DSS; Kay Johnson – Harbor, Inc.; Kam McDonald – Anson County Schools; Ray P. Owens – R.P. Owens Ministries Hoke County.

Minutes

A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the April 5, 2018 Minutes. The motion carried.

Balance of State

E. Marie Watson gave a report of the BOS Steering Committee meetings on the 1st Tuesday of every month. C.A. Lead grants are available. Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action will apply. Approximately \$40,000.00 available. The Agency that is awarded the grant will be responsible to take over as Coordinated Assessment Lead. Also, those interested in applying for new projects, under the CoC grant, need to submit an "Intent to Apply". It's available now on the NCCEH website (www.ncceh.org)

Coordinated Assessment – Nina Walker reported that the Coordinated Assessment Committee has not met.

Grantee Updates:

Nina Walker – Sandhills Community Action Program - reported that fire destroyed the unit of the one participant in the PSH Program. The participant has been located and will be rehoused.

Angela Jones - Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action – gave an updated on the recent Homeless Conference – Bringing it Home; which was held April 30 – May 1, 2018. . There was a lot of information received and check lists provided regarding dos and donts; what to look for and how to keep HUD away.

RRH – Landlords are asking double rent, as deposits. The program requires a lot of monitoring, payment and relationship management with landlords. Tenants are becoming issues, as new releases from prison (sex offenders, felons, etc.) and no jobs – basically just the clothes on their back. Asked for suggestions to help find housing/landlords. They will

transfer out of county if they are fairly sure of placement. They can put individuals anywhere within the region and accept from anywhere within the region. Hope to get RRH for all 8 counties.

New Business

PIT Update – The 2018 PIT data is not yet compiled.

SSO Coordinated Entry Application – The application is already available, as well as the intent to apply form. The documents are available on the NCCEH website (www.ncceh.org) . SSO stands for Supportive Services Only.

CoC Applications – the grant application is not yet available; but new projects will need to complete the “Intent to Apply” form on the NCCEH website.

Old Business

Membership Applications – Pastor Ray Owens was provided a membership application form.

Regional Alternate – E. Marie Watson stated that Lind McPhatter has not been attending the Steering Committee Meetings and therefore the group would need to select another alternate. Donna McCormick nominated Nina Walker. Nina Accepted the nomination. A motion was properly made and seconded. The motion carried.

Agency Updates

Donna McCormick – Sandhills Center – reported that they are traveling the state interviewing those in nursing homes with no personal care needs & only there for mental health needs. They are attempting to find apartments, for these individuals. Private landlords are really needed. There is a new Housing Specialist, Ms. Quiotti Ratliff, who has taken Mary Pat Buie’s place.

John Young – Montgomery Co. DSS – reported that they need foster families for kids. There is a 4-hour class being held on Tuesday nights for those who are interested in becoming foster parents. There are positions available in CPS and Medicaid.

Kay Johnson – Harbor, Inc. – reported that there is a need for transitional housing, for those who exit their program. Harbor is receiving an increased number of calls for housing. The organization has two properties available that are just sitting. They will approach their board about putting them to use. E. Marie Watson suggested looking into renting them as SRO’s with a dual purpose of generating income and serving the clients.

Kim Childers – Richmond County Schools – reported that there are 160 students considered homeless, in the Richmond County Schools. Kishi Tillman with Headstart has formed a Richmond County Committee that will be holding a Community Fair geared toward the homeless. The Committee is asking service providers and churches to set-up booths to distribute information. There will be food provided and fun things for the kids to do. The committee is also asking for donations of toiletries. If you know of anyone who would be

interested in participating or donating, please let us know. The Fair will be held on June 2, 2018 at the Richmond County Health Department parking lot, from 10AM- 2PM.

Pastor Ray Owens – R.P. Owens Ministries – stated that he in attendance, at the request of his wife Dr. Peggy Owens who is a student Services Director in Hoke County. Dr. Owens just finished her dissertation on homelessness & heard about this group meeting from Jeff Rawlings.

Kam McDonald – Anson County Schools – 41 students in Anson County are identified as homeless. She is working on Relay for Life fundraising for Anson County Schools. Community Care – Kay Ratliff, a retired social worker is holding meetings to talk about resources. She is compiling a list of what is available and qualifications. Homes of Hope Group – the group is working on establishing transitional housing to modeled after their Stanley County housing. The group has established a board, etc. and meeting to review applications. E. Marie Watson stated that this information should be included in the Coordinated Assessment System and that the group should attend these meetings.

Catrina Martin – Safe of Harnett County – reported that she also attended the Conference where she learned a lot about ESG and RRH. She's coming back with new ideas for Safe. She has Power Points and information from the conference; but they're also available on the NCCEH website 2018 Bringing it Home Presentations. Safe is also having issues with finding housing. There is an upcoming fundraiser called Strike Out Domestic Violence. It's a bowling tournament that will be held at Buffalo Lanes.

E. Marie Watson stated that Sanford is really moving forward with their S3 Connect project; which is a collaboration between county and city to develop a shelter.

There was discussion about shelters being very picky about who comes in and how long they can stay without having a job. Those with medical issues are really finding it difficult, because shelters look at them as a liability. One homeless gentleman with medical issues was literally dropped off at JLH Community Action with no place to go.

There was some discussion about RRH. It's the first point of contact for the homeless. It can pay three month's rent, three months utilities and provide case management (Intake and resources). There are no emergency funds.

The next meeting will be held via conference call (712-776-7270) on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at 9:30 AM.

There being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Submitted by

Nina Walker

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