**Alamance County Interagency Council for Homeless Assistance**

**October 7, 2013**

**Present**: Jan Bowman, ABSS; Kim Braxton, RTSA; Kim Crawford, Allied Churches; Elizabeth Lockley, CHIN; Nikki Ratliff, BHA/BDC; Lynn Rousseau, Family Abuse Services; Jackie Sheffield, BPD; Clara Trollinger, CFAC/Volunteer; Calvetta Watlington, Family Abuse Services; Robin Wintringham, Habitat for Humanity.

**Regrets**: Spencer Cook, Cardinal Innovations; Heidi Norwick, United Way.

Kim Crawford called the meeting to order. Minutes of the September meeting were distributed and reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Lynn Rousseau, with a second by Nikki Ratliff. The minutes were approved as distributed. Moon Pies and oatmeal cookies were served, compliments of Robin Wintringham. It was Kim Crawford’s first Moon Pie and she thoroughly enjoyed it.

A police officer from the Burlington Police Department has been approached to see if ACAC would be willing to be a “safe place” for teenagers. Kim Crawford has agreed to research how this could be done given the laws in North Carolina. She will begin initial conversations on this and is not sure if they will have room for this at ACAC. There is currently a Genesis home in Durham and they may have a program for the 16-18 year olds. DSS does not deal with teens after they reach the age of 18. Kim Crawford will need help with this. Jamie Hamlett, the DSS attorney, is a resource and there are ABSS attorneys who may be able to provide information regarding state law as it pertains to youth.

**HOPE:** still has 4 participants, 2 slots available; **STEPS**, 3 participants, 1 slot available. The State has contacted Nikki regarding keeping the HOPE and STEPS programs and requested figures regarding how much income would be required. They would like for her to turn the transitional housing into rapid rehousing. The cheapest family rent Nikki has been able to find has been $700/month. The affordable housing market in the area may not support a rapid rehousing project. Nikki will keep us posted on this.

**Balance of State**: Kim Braxton gave an update on the last Balance of State call. It was noted that ACICHA needs to select representatives to two Balance of State subcommittees. Elizabeth Lockley nominated Jackie Sheffield to the Grant Review subcommittee, with a second by Nikki Ratliff. This motion was approved. Nikki Ratliff nominated Kim Braxton for the Scorecard Committee, with a second by Jan Bowman. This motion was approved.

**CHIN:** Members were encouraged to thoroughly read the CHIN newsletter being sent by email and ask any questions of CHIN that we may have. Elizabeth Lockley asked if there were any APRs due right now for those present as there is a new income reporting change that became effective October 1st, 2013. There will be a new release, but with the government shutdown also on 10/1/13, HUD hasn’t released the update in esnaps regarding this. Send a question via email to your HUD representative regarding the need for the new income reporting mechanism.

**NC Homeless Education Program** recently held a regional forum with ½ the of State’s homeless liaisons. HUD presented there which was a first for that agency. HUD and McKinney Vento definitions of homelessness are very different but they came to discuss homelessness. NCHEP reached out to have federal programs work with homeless liaisons to understand each other’s programs. Winston Salem’s wonderful work with the homeless population there was mentioned at this meeting. They have a solid coordinated effort in Winston Salem with Andrea Kirts and Tim West.

**Family Abuse Services**: Calvetta Watlington of Family Abuse Services spoke to the Alpha Kappa Alpha group regarding domestic violence, what it encompasses, etc., last week. This group is truly interested in what they can do to make a difference. Also, lunches have been provided to the ladies at the Family Abuse Services shelter by Habitat for Humanity during the building blitz. The ladies are so thankful for this. Subway, Michele’s Catering, Prego’s and others have provided meals for the blitz and Robin appreciated the opportunity to be able to share extra lunches in this way with those at the Family Abuse Services shelter. Thank you also goes to Jackie Sheffield who helps Karen Ferrand from Lamb’s Chapel with a program called Heart’s Bloom. Jackie delivered flower arrangements the ladies at the Family Abuse Services shelter. Anyone who has old vases, cups, etc. to donate as flower containers is asked to do so. Find Family Abuse services on line at [www.familyabuseservicesofalamancecounty.org](http://www.familyabuseservicesofalamancecounty.org) and also “like” them on Facebook.

**Allied Churches**: The ESG grant has been funded. It begins January 1, 2014 and runs through September 30, 2014. Kim Crawford also gave us an update on meeting the needs of the hungry in Alamance County. The Salvation Army (SA) has expanded their food pantry, and increased the number of days. They are seeing a large increase in volume. Their criteria for receiving food remains the same. They get food from Target and individuals can come in to get one bag of groceries in addition to the one box of food every 3 months. They are experiencing a storage issue, as is Allied Churches. ACAC’s food pantry is open and provides a food supply to each person of 3-4 days, 1 x/month. The criteria they follow for food distribution is an ID and a bill—if you’re hungry, come and eat. There are two different methods of food distributions. Salvation Army needs help packing food boxes. ACAC allows families to shop based on the number of family members and they have a choice of what they get. The United Way is still working with the community to find storage and they are all working on communication issues. Transportation is a large issue for ACAC and SA. The main thing is that hungry people are eating and have access to food. ACAC is serving 160-190 for lunch, 120 or so for supper at the beginning of the month and, by the end of the month, 190-225 at lunch and 160 or so for dinner. ACAC will be a food pantry going forward. The lack of gross numbers at the beginning in planning to meet the needs of the hungry in this country was a real hindrance but, we’re feeding the hungry. Both SA and ACAC need donations of food.

**RTSA:** The Mebane Street home for homeless women is operating at capacity. This three year grant will end January 31, 2014. RTSA is seeking renewal of this grant in the upcoming NOFA.

**Announcements:**

Family Abuse Services has 2 upcoming events: October is Domestic Violence month. On the 17th, Walk a Mile in Our Shoes will be held at Elon University at 6:00 pm in front of Lindor, and Saturday, there will be a wine-tasting fundraiser, $25 for glass of wine tasting, etc. at The Grove at 6:00 pm.

Alamance Burlington School System is doing a food drive at the central office.

RTSA is having their Bid & Boogie on 11/15 at 6:30 p.m. for dinner, dancing, silent and live auctions.

No further business remaining, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Nikki. ACICHA will met again Monday, November 4, 2013.