**Wilson Greene Regional Housing Meeting**

**July 18, 2017**

Present: Shannon Leidy, Salvation Army of Wilson; Candice Rountree, WCDSS; Shana Baum, Hope Station; Linda Walling Hope Station; Tony Conner, NCWORKS; Montrose Young, WCDSS; Kesha Atkinson, WCDSS; Mary Marlin, Upper Coastal Plains Council of Government; Timothy Rogers, Wilson Housing Authority; Latasha McNair, Eastpointe; Brittney Holmes, Carolina Family Health Centers; Lynne White, Wesley Shelter; Lori Walston, WCDSS; Amy High, Wilson County Schools; Joyce Wetherington, Wilson County Health Department; Marvin Sharpe, Wilson County Transportation; Yolanda Taylor, Legal Aid of NC, Inc.

**Welcome/Introductions**

The **Balance of State** update was provided via e-mail. There were no questions about that information.

The **Neuse Regional Coordinated Assessment** plan has been approved. LaTasha and Candice drafted the plan and will do a conference call training in the near future.

**ESG**

Candice provided context for new attendees about the committee. The committee reviews/approves ESG and COC applications. WCDSS is the fiscal sponsor for our current ESG grant, with Hope Station implementing. This grant is approximately $52,000. Our committee is responsible for the Point in Time count and coordinated assessment. LaTasha McNair is our Regional Lead, Mary Mallory is the Wilson Greene Lead, and Candice Rountree is the Webmaster/Coordinated Assessment Lead.

Shana and Linda provided an ESG report. Summary data report is attached.

They don’t anticipate additional ESG funding this year, any additional funds are expected to be directed towards people affected by Hurricane Matthew.

The ESG application will likely be released prior to our next Regional meeting. We will need a group to review applications. So far, no agency has expressed an interest in being fiscal sponsor for all 6 counties. There are currently 5 existing ESG recipients, with Hope Station being one of them. The Regional Funding Committee has the authority to recommend or deny funding for an applicant. The decision is made on their involvement/participation with coordinated assessment and ability to expend funding.

**Committee Partner Updates**

Lynne shared some data from Wesley Shelter. In 2016, 100 women and 66 children were sheltered. 11,000 meals were served. 26 of those in shelter were homeless, the rest were domestic violence or sexual assault victims.

The average length of stay was 23 days. Lynne reported on BB & T’s support for Wesley Shelter through Lighthouse Projects. Through a grant from the William Pope Foundation they will be expanding the shelter.

Eastpointe – They will be renewing COC applications and there is availability in Wilson County for chronically homeless.

Hope Station – The City approved the purchase of property on Tarboro St. There is discussion of converting the space at their current building into larger shelter space to accommodate families and using the property on Tarboro St for the food pantry/offices. Hope Station Board is interested in other partners in community contributing to the need for a family shelter.

We talked about how substance use issues make it difficult for folks to maintain housing when they relapse. Wilson Housing Authority is interested in applying for COC funding and there would be case management support connected to the grant.

Candice shared information about the Wilson County Substance Prevention Coalition’s work on the Recovery Movement in the community. A Recovery Center will be opening and this is meant to be a safe place to gather with like-minded people. Eastpointe sponsored recovery coaching training for a multidisciplinary group at $10,000. These recovery coaches can be a support to those who receive housing.

Montrose shared that WCDSS has funding for cooling related issues through CIP.

Yolanda shared that the NCGA eliminated $1.7 million from Legal Aid. They are having to prioritize services based on grant funding availability. They are continuing to serve as a Navigator site for ACA enrollment.

Shannon shared that the Salvation Army is anticipating having some funding to help with rent/food/clothing. They have moved to appointment only client service.

Mary from Area Agency on Aging shared that they are interested in housing for seniors and have some land in Sharpsburg and are focusing on ages 50 – 62 and plan to do a tiny house community with up to 80 homes. They don’t want to duplicate services, they are interested in filling a gap with respect to housing for seniors. There is a community in Texas, Loaves and Fishes that has been doing this type of community for some time. <http://mlf.org/community-first/>

Wilson County Schools – Amy shared that they served 151 children last year.

Next meeting scheduled for August 15, 2017 @ the Hope Station.