**Balance of State Region 7 Committee Meeting**

**Sandhills Community College, Pinehurst, NC**

**March 1, 2018**

**Mrs. E. Marie Watson welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. at the**

**Sandhills Community College Logan Hall, Room 122. Mrs. Watson thanked Donna McCormick for Scheduling the meeting at Sandhills Community College. Members present introduced themselves.**

**Members Present: Donna McCormick- Sandhills Center; E.Marie Watson-Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action(Johnston);Angela Jones –Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action (Johnston);Nikki Locklear-Friend to Friend; Tawanna Bennett; Catrina Martin- Safe of Harnett County; Nina Walker –Sandhills Community Action Program; Kendra Martin-United Way; Kim Childers-Richmond County Schools; Carla Cargenter ; Robert Jackson**

**Minutes**

**A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the February 1, 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. There was discussion about the Prevention/ Diversion Form which should be emailed to Towanda Bennett for all those who don’t use HMIS, PIT Count and housing inventory forms.**

**Coordinated Assessment – Towanda Bennett had nothing to report.**

**Grantee Updates:**

**Nikki Locklear, Friend to Friend reported currently they house 8 women. They have a scheduled site visit coming up within the next week. The agency has began a new program called Project No Rest that deals with human trafficking and trying to build relationships with other agencies. Friend to Friend is considering a separate location to house the human trafficking clients. There was discussion about someone coming to talk to Region 7 in reference to Human Trafficking because it is becoming a big problem in some counties. There is a new Child Advocacy Center in Carthage.**

**Moore County in the process of starting a Transitional Housing Program for 5 ladies ages 17- 22. The program will be model like Methodist Children’s Home.**

**Re-entry programs were discussed in reference to so many inmates recently being released from prison with nowhere to go.**

**Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community is beginning the new Rapid Re-housing Program and has been approved for additional funding for Rapid Re-housing.**

**Nina Walker-Sandhills Community Action Program- reported she has 1 permanent supportive housing slot available for chronic homeless or 4 episodes of homelessness in last three years.**

**There was discussion concerning the SSO Coordinated Entry Program funding. Donna McCormick made the motion to agree to whatever agency receive the funding Region 7 would accept them as the Coordinated Entry Lead, seconded by Nina Walker. The motion carried.**

**Catrina Martin, Safe of Harnett County- reported they are training for sexual assaults and human trafficking.**

**Kelly Hutchinson reported that Tawanna Bennett, Why Not Me Service is available for mental health services for clients.**

**E.Marie Watson asked about making some changes in reference to the scheduling of the meeting because of the commute. It was agreed to meet every other month and have a conference call between meetings. Next meeting will be a conference call to be held on April 5, 2018. The call number will be sent with the meeting notice.**

**Kendra Martin-United Way reported the United Way has Self-Sufficiency Cost of Living app. The app will calculate money needed to be self-sufficient. The website is UnitedWayNC.Org**

**There being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 11:42 a.m.**

**Submitted by**

**Angela Jones**

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