

BC360 Housing & Homeless Task Force/Beaufort County Housing Committee

Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2019

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The BC360 Housing & Homeless Taskforce/Housing Committee met at the Beaufort County Health Department on this date (1/10/2019). 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: Evan Lewis (BC360), Jim Cox (United Way/Regional Lead), Greg Smith (NC Works), Sheila Carraway (Metropolitan), Amy Howard (Greene Lamp), Margaret Dixon (Community Crossroads Center), Jessica McIntyre (Beaufort County DSS), Wayne Bray (NC Works), Alston Wilson (Trillium Health Resources), Lt. Karl Bush (The Salvation Army), Lynne James (Pitt County Planning), Alex Averell (Greenville VA), and Melissa Eastwood (Trillium Health Resources).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sally asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Evan made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Greg Smith seconded the motion. The group unanimously agreed. The committee approved the minutes for November 2018.

Point in Time Count

The Point in Time Count will be held on Wednesday January 30, 2019 starting at 6:00pm. There will be 7 days post to conduct the service count. The PIT will be a bit different this year. There are no paper forms this year. This year the Balance of State will be utilizing an app for the count. The test site is up and will be available so that everyone can practice through next week. Jasmine with NCCEH offered to do a call with our regional committee next Thursday 1/17/2019 from 3:00pm to 4:00pm. Jim will send out the call in information. The committee expressed concerns about not being able to use paper forms. Vidant will not be participating this year because they can't use personal phones to do the surveys in the hospital. Sally noted that there are webinars posted regarding the count. She informed the group that the app is very easy to use and is easily accessible. If you are in an area with bad reception, the survey can still be completed. You can submit at a later time. The app will calculate all of the information entered for the unsheltered count for the region by county. The BoS would like for everyone to work towards capturing more unsheltered individuals. Open Door ministries will be opening on 1/22/2019. Jim stated that they will need forms since they are a shelter not on HMIS. Ruth's House would be the same. The Zion Shelter will be submitting their own count. NCCEH.org has online materials regarding the count. Sally stated that she would like to collect and fill twenty five backpacks. Sally noted that she has some left over funds from last year that can be utilized this year during the count. Karl stated that he might be able to donate hand warmers. He will email Sally to follow up about this. She has received donations. Sally discussed sites we can visit to identify individuals that are homeless. She stated that she was informed that people are sleeping at the Wash House. She inquired as to whether we should go out one morning to attempt to do the surveys. Lt. Bush stated that he would be willing to go out at night. He stated that he has a food truck/Canteen and he could take it out and provide blankets/snacks etc. Sally stated that she heard that there was a tent city in the River Rd area. She inquired as to

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whether anyone on the committee knew where it was. No one was aware. Please let Sally know if you can help in any way.

Case Conferencing/Coordinated Entry

Lynne James reported that we were asked to increase the frequency of case conferencing to a minimum of two times per month. We are moving to a coordinated housing referral system. Pitt County was already meeting weekly. Nicole Wilson with the VA medical center set up eight lines for weekly case conferencing so that the entire region could meet weekly. Case conferencing will take place every Wednesday at 1:15pm. The lines will open starting at 1:00pm. There will be introductions (phone first). Callers on the line will be given the opportunity to present new cases or provide updates first. Everyone who normally attends in person should continue to do so because there are only 8 lines. Lynne stated that Beaufort County may want to develop a case conferencing subcommittee or a point person for her to coordinate with. She noted that everything is moving to HMIS. You can work with an agency on HMIS if you are not or you can send the referral to Lynne. Please send referrals to Lynne each Tuesday by 3:00pm. Trainings are available at NCCEH.org to assist with the process. Lynne stated that she would be happy to walk you through it.

Lynne stated the survey process is underway to evaluate the coordinated entry system. If you complete a VISPDAT this week or next week please complete the survey. Lynne will collect all the surveys next week. There is an agency survey also (one person per agency should complete this). This will be done annually. They are hoping to start completing these in the fall of each year.

Discussion: Purpose and future mission of Housing Committee

Sally encouraged open dialogue regarding the future of our committee and our goals. The committee discussed the need for safe, affordable housing. Committee members suggested that they would like to see us revamp/renew existing housing, increase income based housing/affordable housing. Are there properties that the city would be willing to sell? The group discussed transitional housing and converting a large space into multiple apartments. Sally discussed the need for a day center in the area. She inquired about what individuals can do during the day when they have to be out of the shelter. Sheila stated that Higher Heights has buildings that are not being used. Lt. Bush stated that if there is an appropriate building/property there are funds that the Salvation Army might be able to tap into.

Updates/Reports

Ruth's House-No updates at this time.

Washington Housing Authority-No updates. There is a new director. Sally will invite the new director to attend our meeting.

Zion Shelter-Zion shelter is open. They have been open about a week now.

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Mid-East Regional Housing Authority- No updates.

Metropolitan Housing-Sheila stated that they were in the process of increasing their portfolio, however they are at a standstill right now. There are no vacancies right now. She reported that Juanita Hines has a boarding house and they have some vacancies currently. She also has rental units. The rates vary by property.

NC Works-Wayne Bray will attend our meeting moving forward. He will be the main contact for homeless veterans. Wayne's contact number is (252) 301-4964. There will be a Veteran Stand Down in Beaufort County on February 15, 2019 from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Rose Haven House will be the 501c3 hosting the event. The stand down will be at the First Christian Church. Great Clips will do haircuts at the event. Veterans will need a photo ID with Veteran designation. Legal Aid from Greenville will be there. They will have backpacks for the Veterans and hygiene items. There will be representatives there that can address employment. The event will be catered by Carryout by Chrislyn. Greg stated that he is not sure what to expect in regards to turnout for the event. NC Works is planning a job fair in March. It will be at the Civic Center and there will be approximately 30 employers. They put together a 2 week boot camp. Individuals go to the community college and do 2 weeks of training. They will get a career readiness certificate, resume building, etc. The next cohort will be mid to late February. They are trying to coincide with the career fair. If you know someone that would benefit from the boot camp, refer them to the Beaufort County NC Works Center. This is done through the WIOA. Greg stated they started a pop up coffee shop downtown on Sundays from 7am to noon at the Contemporary Art Studio. Donations go to nonprofits (Red Cross, Zion Shelter, Eagles Wings, , this Sunday will be Pamlico Rose, Open Door, and then the final will go towards the Stand Down). Greg stated that there is a box on the front porch at Rose Haven. They are collecting cans of soup. All the donations will go to Eagles Wings. They are continuing to work on the landscape at Pamlico Rose. They hope to finish by spring or early summer. May 3rd and May 4th is Healing Vets weekend. They are hosting the Ride for Rose Haven (30/60/100 miles). Greg will bring fliers for the event. There is a community resource guide on the NC Works website.

Open Door Shelter-The shelter will be opening on 1/22/2019. There will be an Open House on 2/9/2019 from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

Salvation Army-Lt. Bush applied for a grant with Southface in Atlanta. They do efficiency upgrades. Funds will pay for an upgrade to lighting in stores, warehouse, etc. It will also cover the cost of an HVAC upgrade. It covers water usage also. He plans to apply to Abrams trust for a match. He stated that they will find out if it was approved in the upcoming months. Golden Leaf-they are 2 dollars shy of \$40,000 invested in the community after the hurricane. They have 2-3 more homes they are working on and that should wrap up the \$60,000.

Trillium Health Resources-No updates at this time.

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Department of Social Services-Jessica reported that they are still doing emergency assistance. If someone has court ordered eviction papers and a small child in the home under the age of 17 they can assist with up to \$600.

Greene Lamp-Amy Howard reported that they are working with 13 families. She stated that is all they are allowed to work with right now. They are hoping to increase the number of families in the future. The program is a CDBG program to help low income families. The identified client has to be at least 18 and be able/willing to work full time.

Police Department-No updates at this time.

Greenville Housing Authority- No updates at this time.

Miscellaneous:

No additional announcements.

ADJOURN

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

**Next Meeting: Thursday February 14, 2019 @ 2:00pm
Beaufort County Health Department**