Northeastern Homeless Coalition – Region 11 Committee Meeting

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

10:00am

Attendance

Agency	Representative(s)
Trillium Health Resources	Lakitra Claude Melissa Eastwood Kisha Darden Michele Walsh
River City CDC	Lenora Jarvis Mackey Christina Molloy Carolyn Anderson
Mid-East Regional Housing Authority	Erica McCloud*
Room in the Inn – Dare County	Betse Kelly*
Economic Improvement Council	Teresa Forward*
Dare County DSS	Carol Copeland*

*Those names marked with an * called into the meeting*

Minutes

Introductions

- The meeting was called to order and those in attendance introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

- The committee reviewed the minutes from November's meeting. There was one change. There was a typo under the SSO-CE Grant section. The sentence read, "A person has been fired for the position" and it should have read, "A person has been hired for the position". After the correction was made, Mrs. Teresa Forward made a motion to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Mrs. Carolyn Copeland.

Balance of State Steering Committee Updates

- Reminder – the PIT Count will take place – Wednesday, January 29, 2020
- Things to think about when planning conducting an unsheltered count:
  - Start planning early
  - Engage agencies/organizations/groups in the community that might come into contact with this population
    - Law enforcement
    - Soup kitchens/food programs
    - Outreach programs: i.e. SSVF programs
    - Youth providers
  - Build a list of known or potential locations where people living unsheltered might be
  - Advertise in the community
  - Solicit for and train volunteers

- The unsheltered population is the most vulnerable that we serve because they are not accessing emergency housing of any kind and may not be accessing services at all.
- PIT/HIC data is an important tool and resource for your communities
    - Inclusive count of homeless populations
    - Includes non-HMIS agencies
    - Includes unsheltered homeless populations
- Can use local and regional data to:
    - Understand size and scope of the homeless population
    - Assess system for gaps
- Do your programs match the needs of your population?
    - Track increases or decreases
    - Locate and engage unsheltered homeless populations
    - Raise community and political awareness of homelessness. The PIT count provides a snapshot of the system on any given night.
- What we are counting:
    - Beds and units
        - What capacity do we have to provide emergency shelter and transitional housing?
        - What capacity do we have to provide permanent housing like rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing?
- People
    - How many people are experiencing homelessness?
- Counting Us App
    - The App is different from last year's app. The back end will be more streamlined so staff can collect data and report it back quicker to Regional Committees than last year
    - New/Improved from last year
    - Used nationwide
    - Includes expert technical support
    - Includes all questions required by HUD
    - Can be used on phones, tablets, computers
    - Low-barrier access and use (does require sign-up)
    - Ongoing training dates for everyone starting in November
    - Available for agencies and volunteers to practice with starting in mid-November
    - App will "go live" on the night of the count – around 6pm
    - Data submitted will be immediately able to be viewed, allowing for quicker response and reporting

Rapid Re-housing/Street Outreach Update

- The committee's Coordinated Entry Plan need to be updated as soon as possible
    - Must be done by January 1st
    - The plan will be sent to the entire committee for review and comments
- River City stated that they need assistance with verifying homelessness, possibly a 3rd party to actually verify homelessness; they are also planning to start the implementation of the two programs on January 2nd
- If anyone knows of any landlords or rental properties, please share them with River City

- A discussion was had about the importance of the By-name list and having it as up-to-date as possible. The list is where River City will get all of their referrals for the Rapid Re-housing program

PIT Count

- Tyrrell County DSS is willing to assist with the count
- Reached out to people in Hyde County – have not received a response
- Shelter count – shelters are able to enter in their own data
- Trainings are available on how to use the app
- County breakdown
    - Gates and Hertford – Cherri Brunson
    - Dare – Betse Kelly
    - Pasquotank – River City
    - Camden – Kit
    - Currituck – Kit and Marcus
    - Hyde –
    - Tyrrell – Erica
    - Perquimans -
    - Chowan – Teresa Forward
- River City can reach out to individuals that are identified during the count with their Street Outreach funding and the individuals can also be linked to Trillium's Call Center to have the VI-SPDAT assessment complete. Dare County's Room in the Inn is willing to donate some items.
- The committee will be issuing goody bags to homeless individuals during the count

Elections

- Elections for the upcoming year were held.
    - Regional Lead – Melissa Eastwood
    - Regional Alternate – Christina Molloy
    - ESG Funding Committee Lead – Kisha Darden
    - CoC Project Review Committee Representative - Teresa Forward
    - Secretary/Webmaster – Lakitra Claude
    - SSO-CE and Coordinated Entry Lead – Michele Welch
    - PIT Lead – Erica McCloud

Case Conferencing

- See attachment for case conferencing minutes. Beginning January 2020, case conferencing will be held every 2nd and 4th Wednesday. The 2nd Wednesday will be a call and the 4th Wednesday will be a face-to-face meeting

Questions/Concerns/Announcements

- Economic Improvement Council's Section 8 program will be accepting applications on January 16th for all counties except Pasquotank and Chowan.
    - Individuals may apply from their home computer, smart phone or any public computer
    - Elderly and disabled individuals may request a reasonable accommodation if they are unable to complete an application online. They must send the request for reasonable

accommodation on or before the day applications are open to EIC, c/o T. Forward, PO Box 549, Edenton, NC 27932 or Teresa.Forward@eicca.org
- o If an individual is unable to use a computer, they may visit the Edenton Office at 712 Virginia Road Edenton NC and use one of the computers they have available. If the wait list is open, assistance will be provided.
- o Individuals must provide proof of income for everyone in the home, dates of birth, and social security numbers for all persons who will be on the application.

Vidant Health Community Grants

- The program focuses on early detection, wellness and prevention, community health initiatives and direct health care services. This is accomplished by providing education, health management tools and easier access to local programs for the people who need them most.
  - o Focus Areas
    - Access to care and services (includes transportation)
    - Healthy lifestyles (nutrition, food security, physical activity and chronic disease prevention/management)
    - Behavioral health
    - Substance use/misuse

Adjournment

- Next meeting date – January 8, 2020. This will be a conference call.

Submitted by:

Webmaster/Secretary for Northeastern Homeless Coalition – Region 11