

**Region 12, Inner Banks, NC Balance of State Monthly Meeting**

Multipurpose Room-Greenville Housing Authority

1103 Broad Street, Greenville

Wednesday February 12, 2020-9:00 AM-10:30 AM

**Present**

Kim Anderson, Pitt County Schools

Ken Becker, Community Crossroads Center

Eboni Campbell, AmeriHealth Caritas

Jim Cox, United Way, Regional Lead

Cara Cummings, NC Stop Human Trafficking

Kisha Darden, Trillium Health Resources

Jacqueline Dawson, Pitt County Planning

Margaret Dixon, Community Crossroads and Pitt County Planning

Melissa Eastwood, Trillium Health Resources

Deloris Farmer, Pitt County Planning

Ann Floyd Huggins, County Commissioner

Lynne James, Pitt County Planning

Sally Love, Beaufort County United Way

Liz McDowell, Catholic Charities

James Rhodes, Pitt County Planning

Melinda Sampson, NC Stop Human Trafficking

Tujuanda Sanders, Greenville Housing Authority

Kenneth Staton, Greenville Housing Authority

## **Introductions and Approval of January 2020 Minutes**

The February 2020 Pitt Regional Committee (Inner Banks) meeting began with introductions. Jim asked for a motion to approve the minutes. James Rhodes made a motion to approve the minutes with Ken Becker seconding that motion. The minutes were accepted and approved.

## **Updates/Reports:**

### **NC Balance of State Steering Committee & Work Groups Steering Committee/Conference Call 2/4/2020**

The Steering Committee call was February 4, 2020. Jim will email everyone the call summary when he receives it. He encouraged everyone to review the summaries each month.

#### **A. 2020 ESG Grant**

Jim stated that all money was awarded (\$149,911). There were three grantees (Community Crossroads Center, Pitt County Planning, and Center for Family Violence Prevention). Ken noted that the contract for the shelter has been signed and sent in. James stated that the certification agreement has to be signed prior to payment this year. He stated that Deloris is accepting referrals. Jim stated that we should probably go ahead and start planning for next year. Jim encouraged agencies that are interested to start planning and asking questions. The goal is to have an expansion of our ESG agencies. Margaret stated that she has been having conversations with partners in Beaufort County regarding applying for the funds.

#### **B. CoC Grant Update**

Jim stated that the Intent to Apply form has been posted to the NCCEH website. On Thursday 2/27/2020, there will be a webinar for new CoC grantees. Rory is our committee representative for the CoC process. Lynne welcomed Jacqueline (new RRH enrollment case manager). She reported that Jacqueline started last month with Pitt County Planning. Jacqueline has housed two families already. One of the families was transitioned out of Community Crossroads and one family transitioned out of the Open Door Shelter in Beaufort County. Jacqueline stated that she is enjoying her new position and she noted that she appreciated all of Deloris' help. Lynne explained that Pitt County Planning was awarded this grant in late fall (got contract). It was executed for the beginning of the year (runs in 12 month increments). The official start date was January 1. They have applied for second year funding before starting the first year. The second year will roll right into year one. Lynne stated that they have to reapply annually for the grant. Tier one projects were all approved.

#### **C. Project Safe Shelter (PSS); Vidant Foundation Grant**

Lynne provided an update regarding Project Safe Shelter. Lynne submitted a letter of intent for next year for grant. She stated that they are reapplying for Pitt County. The application is due 2/24/2020. Pitt County Planning has applied for matching dollars from United Way (\$1500). Tujuanda reported that Mr. Best submitted a letter of intent to the Vidant Foundation to cover Martin and Bertie County. They are currently working on the application which is due 2/28/2020. Greenville Housing Authority will administer the grant. Margaret stated that the Letter of Intent has been submitted for Beaufort County also. The only county that is not covered in Region 12 is Washington County. Lynne reminded

everyone that this program provides hotel vouchers until shelter beds become available. Margaret noted that the grant will allow people to stay in their own counties.

#### **D. 2020 PIT Count**

The PIT count occurred on Wednesday January 29, 2020 and was done for 7 days after. There were volunteers at the Salvation Army for breakfast and the Joy Soup kitchen for lunch. Jim stated that Tujuanda and Deloris did a great job with the count at the Joy Soup Kitchen. There was a large turnout. At Salvation Army, Margaret was available for follow up. She stressed the importance of a good up front assessment. Margaret stated that the count was great. She made up a form and people were given the opportunity to meet with her immediately to talk through their situations. Margaret reported that she did eight Prevention/Diversion screens. She is working with some of the people that she met. Some of the people that she identified were terminated from the shelter for various reasons. Margaret noted that some people did not want to be in the shelter. She stated that the big message was that you can get help even if you aren't in the shelter. Jim stated that everyone used the app this year. Numbers should be available sooner this year. He stated that it is not too early to start planning for next year's count. Lynne stated that we could possibly look at doing the count more than one time per year. James acknowledged Linda and her hard work during the count. He stated that she coordinated everything. She put the back packs together. There were twenty distributed initially.

#### **E. Coordinated Entry Evaluation/SSO-CE grant**

Lynne reported that we are in the second year of the grant. Under the grant, we have to do an annual evaluation of our coordinated entry system. There is a client and service provider component. There is a survey for the shelter, RRH, PSH, etc. There is a guided script for the surveys. Put your agency name and date on the survey prior to providing to clients. The Rapid Rehousing surveys will be done on a rolling basis (RRH is short term and if you were to complete it once a year you could miss households). They need to be collected and turned in. Everything will wrap up in May. There will be additional info coming. Lynne stated that you can turn them in to her and she will submit to NCCEH. One person from each agency needs to complete the service provider survey. Surveys are already available online for PSH. For the shelter, surveys will be completed March through April as households complete the VI-SPDAT. Surveys are confidential and anonymous. Paper surveys should be placed in a sealed envelope. The survey findings will be reviewed with the Steering Committee in June.

**Beaufort County**-No updates at this time.

**Tri-County Meeting**- No updates at this time.

#### **Housing Updates**

**CCC/Tonette Latham**-TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families/200%)-Tonette was not available today. However, Jim reported they assisted 10 families in January (12 adults, 19 children). The total amount of assistance was \$5,854.00.

**GHA**-They are accepting applications for public housing and PSH.

**Rapid Rehousing/Pitt County Planning**- Deloris reported that they are accepting referrals.

**SOAR Updates**-No updates at this time.

**Trillium Health Resources**-Trillium will be hosting a Fair Housing Training on May 20, 2020. Registration info has been emailed out. Please refer any service providers or landlords that would benefit. It will be held at 201 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street Greenville NC 27858.

**Mid-East Regional Housing Authority**-No updates at this time.

**C4FVP**-No updates at this time.

**Community Crossroads Center**-No updates at this time.

**Veterans Activities**- No updates at this time.

**Pitt County Schools**- No updates at this time.

**Miscellaneous**-Bringing it Home conference will be 5/20/2020 and 5/21/2020 in Raleigh.

-Melinda Sampson from NC Stop Human Trafficking attended our meeting today. She did a brief presentation regarding their agency and their services. She reviewed common definitions for the group. She made the group aware that LGBT youth are 6-7 times more likely to be trafficked. Children are recruited from shelters and group homes. She encouraged managers to get staff trained in regards to what trafficking looks like. Victims need specialized services to address trauma. She reviewed options for services in the area. Trafficking looks different in different areas of the country.

-Commissioner Huggins discussed a case regarding a lady in her church. She stated that a church member took over paying her bills. She noted that the person hoards things. She needs prompting for bathing and dressing. Commissioner Huggins inquired case management on ongoing support for individuals. In regards to Veterans, Tujuanda stated that the VA has social workers that they assign. Services are voluntary. Jim stated that sometimes individuals have to be housed more than once. Deloris stated that sometimes people are housed 2-3 times. She made the group aware that there are payee services in Pitt County. Commissioner Huggins is interested in addressing the needs of unsheltered households in Pitt County. She would like to open a service/facility for individuals that are homeless.

-James stated that the census is coming up on 4/1/2020. The homeless are a population target group. They are undercounted each year. Individuals in the shelter will be counted, however individuals that are unsheltered may not get counted. The process will start in March. James and Lynne made the group aware that they are still hiring census workers. On 2/15/2020, there will be a mobile unit set up where you can apply for jobs at Sheppard Library. It will take place from noon until 7pm. People that are interested can go to NC Works and apply now. The pay is \$16.00 per hour. If you are interested in volunteering for the complete count committee contact Lynne James. Lynne stated that everyone should be getting additional info regarding the census in the mail and you can go online and complete the required questions.

**Next Meeting: March 11, 2020 @ 9:00am  
Greenville Housing Authority  
1103 Broad Street  
Greenville NC 27858**