



# North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

bos@ncceh.org

919.755.4393

www.ncceh.org/BoS

## NC Balance of State CoC Steering Committee Minutes

November 3, 2020

**Regional Leads Present:** Lakitra Claude, Jim Cox, Natasha Elliott, Bonnie Harper, Gail Henson, Destri Leger, Emily Locklear, Kristen Martin, Melissa McKeown, LaTasha McNair, Lenize Patton, LaTonya Penny

**At-Large Members Present:** Angela Harper King, Lisa Phillips, Parker Smith

**SC Members Absent:** Ellen Blackman, Michael Dineen, Eric Edwards, Theresa Lee, Brooks Ann McKinney, James Mercer, Deena Fulton, Todd Rosendahl, Marie Watson, Teena Willis

**Interested Parties Present:** Nicole Dewitt, Brian Fike, Tonya Freeman, Monica Frizzell, Stephanie Gilliam, Richard Gorton, Cassandra Rowe, Kimberly Hemphill, Manuel Hyman, Peyton Jones, Alyce Knaflich, Derek Lancour, Leone Lettsome, Emily Lowery, Arwen March, Leila McMichael, Amy Modlin, Tamatha Moore, Mark Owen, Haley Pfeiffer-Haynes, Teresa Robinson, Renee Urban, Linda Walling, Lori Watts, Talaika Williams

**NCEH Staff Present:** Brian Alexander, Adrianna Coffee, Kevin McNamee, Ashley VonHatten

### Approval of Consent Agenda

- The consent agenda was sent out for review prior to the meeting and is posted at: <https://www.ncceh.org/bos/steeringcommittee/>
- The consent agenda was voted on at the beginning of the meeting. Without changes or objection, the consent agenda was approved by common consent.

### The HOPE Program

Haley Pfeiffer-Haynes presented. The HOPE program opened on October 19<sup>th</sup>, serving all areas of the state. The goal is to help prevent evictions and utility disconnections to promote housing stability during the pandemic. NCORR wants to connect with communities to prevent duplication of services. Haley asked for those involved to email her: [haley.pfeifferhaynes@ncdps.gov](mailto:haley.pfeifferhaynes@ncdps.gov). NCORR is planning communication out to people who have applied and are eligible for the program so that they know they are protected from eviction, until they can get money out to them.

Linda Walling spoke on how the prevention funds have allowed HOPE Station to keep people in

housing and has helped to improve landlord relations. They have found that this is a high-tech process and clients are having trouble uploading electronic documents. They have worked around this challenge by allowing clients to bring in the physical copies if needed.

Natasha Elliot from Central Piedmont Community Action seconded how the money has allowed them to help families. They have been able to use the funding with another block grant. The hardest challenge has been onboarding two new staff members quickly to help serve the families. They have allowed clients to take pictures of documents and send them in and have staff upload them.

Amy Modlin from Trillium echoed how the money has been helpful in allowing them to serve families. They have hired quite a few temporary staff to help process applications. Talaika Williams echoes that the money has been very helpful to prevent homelessness in a way they have not been able to before. She thanked NCORR for allowing them to be creative in solutions and to work gathering documents during the pandemic.

Melissa McKeown shared that Union County Community Shelter has found a lot of challenges and does not agree that everyone should get 6 months of assistance because it will prevent them from serving more households. She also noted that trainings being scheduled and rescheduled has made it difficult for staff to participate.

Renee Urban asked if when people apply, are they asked if they receive any other housing assistance or if they get SSI? Some folks that are on SSI are behind on utilities even though their finances have not been impacted. Haley Pfeiffer-Haynes responded that they could be eligible, but they must be able to connect their financial situation to the pandemic.

Linda Walling has found that many people cannot certify that their arrears are related to the pandemic. Haley Pfeiffer-Haynes answered that they need to prove in some way that they have been financially impacted by the pandemic.

Manuel Hyman asked what to do if they have a client claiming to have been denied assistance via NC 2-1-1, but they are likely eligible for the program. Haley Pfeiffer-Haynes instructed that if someone is found ineligible but believes they are eligible they should call NC 2-1-1 again.

Renee Urban asked if there is a list of community partners in case follow up is needed to help facilitate/ask questions? Haley Pfeiffer-Haynes shared that while they are not going to provide the list publicly, they will send the list to the NC BoS CoC to distribute to the Steering Committee.

Brian Alexander asked how the most disproportionately affected populations are hearing about the funding and what is being done to make sure they reach that population. Haley Pfeiffer-Haynes shared several strategies including: Facebook live with Legal Aid of NC and having materials in English and Spanish so that there is no language barrier. NCORR knows the importance of making it as accessible as possible as it is running on a first come first serve basis.

Brian Alexander stated appreciation for the agency's effort, and said that with expanding the assistance in 2021, NCCEH could play a role in bringing together the community partners with NCORR to further the conversation. Debra Susie can reach out to Haley Pfeiffer-Haynes to set

something up.

### **Governance Charter Update**

The Steering Committee was sent a draft of the Governance Charter with changes prior to the meeting. Changes include updates to the ESG funding process, changed process for clarity around how minutes are uploaded, cleaned language for clarity and updated dates and updated attachments. If anyone needs clarification on instruction for uploading minutes to smartsheet they can reach Brian Alexander via email, and he will send those instructions.

Motion to approve updates to the Governance Charter passed by unanimous consent (Gail Henson, LaTonya Penny). The copy will be cleaned and posted to the NCCEH website.

### **Racial Equity Subcommittee Update**

Dr. Penny shared that the Racial Equity Dialogue Series has been completed with the 4<sup>th</sup> session on voting rights. The Racial Equity Subcommittee is developing a survey and will distribute to Dialogue Series attendees to elicit feedback and measure impact. The Racial Equity Subcommittee is transitioning to planning for the November 10 and 17 trainings with C4 Innovations and looks forward to engaging the NC BoS CoC Steering Committee in continuing to learn and prioritize the work of racial equity across the CoC. Kevin McNamee clarifies that you need to register for both dates, and that there are two separate links to register. He also asked members to complete the survey so that the trainers can create the best training. The training is for RE Subcommittee and Steering Committee members only. If there will be a change in regional representation on the Steering Committee in 2021 reach out to Kevin so that they can be included in the training.

### **Funding and Performance Subcommittee Recommendation**

Melissa McKeown provided updates on Funding and Performance Subcommittee activities. HMIS data is the most comprehensive data set the CoC has but it has gaps because all NC BoS CoC agencies are not using the system. The subcommittee provided two recommendations for the Steering Committee to consider to help the CoC increase its HMIS bed coverage:

- The NC BoS CoC will increase HMIS emergency shelter bed coverage to 75% by December 31, 2021.
- The NC BoS CoC will increase HMIS transitional housing bed coverage to 45% by December 31, 2021.

Several committee members asked about the motivating factor for agencies to want to be a part of this, as it is not a requirement for them. Brian Alexander answered that it is going to take different tactics to get them to join HMIS, and the plan of action hasn't been formed yet. Once the Steering Committee approves the recommendations the FPS will work at its November 19th meeting to consider options for how the CoC will meet these two ambitious goals. The FPS will communicate this plan to the CoC and begin implementation and evaluation efforts. If anyone has interest in attending the next FPS meeting or joining the committee info, please reach out to NCCEH staff at [bos@ncceh.org](mailto:bos@ncceh.org).

Motion to approve FPS recommendations passed by unanimous consent (Destri Leger, Kristin Martin)

### **Governors Executive Order regarding Eviction Moratorium**

Brian Alexander reviewed the executive order by Governor Roy Cooper issued to assist North Carolinians At Risk of Eviction:

- The order ensures residential renters are able to utilize the CDC Declaration form to prevent being evicted statewide.
- Requires landlords to provide tenants with a blank copy of the form
- Does NOT prevent the landlord from beginning the eviction process
- Landlord pursuing eviction process must submit a signed affidavit confirming that the form was provided to the tenant.
- The Executive Order shall remain in effect until December 31, 2020.

### **Upcoming Meetings and Reminders**

- 2020 Virtual Steering Committee Retreat
  - Tuesdays, November 10 and 17, 12:30 – 2:00 P.M.
  - See email invitation from C4 Innovations for registration and survey links. Contact NCEH with any questions or concerns. All Steering Committee members are expected to attend.
- COVID-19 Local Leadership Response Sharing Call
  - Every other Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 P.M.
  - November meetings: November 11, 2020
  - Audio: (646) 749-3112 Access Code: 975-793-733
- Coordinated Entry Council Meeting
  - Monday, November 16, 10:00 – 11:30 A.M.
  - Presentation: <https://www.gotomeet.me/NCEndHomelessness>
  - Audio: (646) 749-3112 Access Code: 975-793-733
- NC BoS CoC Nominating Subcommittee
  - Monday, November 16, 11:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.
  - Presentation: <https://bit.ly/31DTiq3> Audio: (571) 317-3112 Access Code: 335-435-933
- Racial Equity Subcommittee Meeting
  - Meeting canceled in lieu of racial equity training
- Funding and Performance Subcommittee Meeting
  - Thursday, November 19, 10:30 - 11:30 A.M.
  - Presentation: [www.uberconference.com/briannnceh](http://www.uberconference.com/briannnceh) Audio: (401) 283-4752
  - Access Code: 13939
- CoC Competition Update
  - Awaiting information from HUD regarding plans for the FY20 CoC competition.
  - New agencies interested in applying for new FY20 CoC Program funds should complete an Intent to Apply form.
    - CoC Funding Priorities: <https://www.ncceh.org/files/10673/>
    - CoC Intent to Apply form: <http://bit.ly/2TrvcKu>

**The meeting adjourned.**

Next Steering Committee Meeting:

- Tuesday, December 1, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM