

Steering Committee Meeting

May 4, 2021

10:30 AM

Welcome

Reminders

Your line is muted.

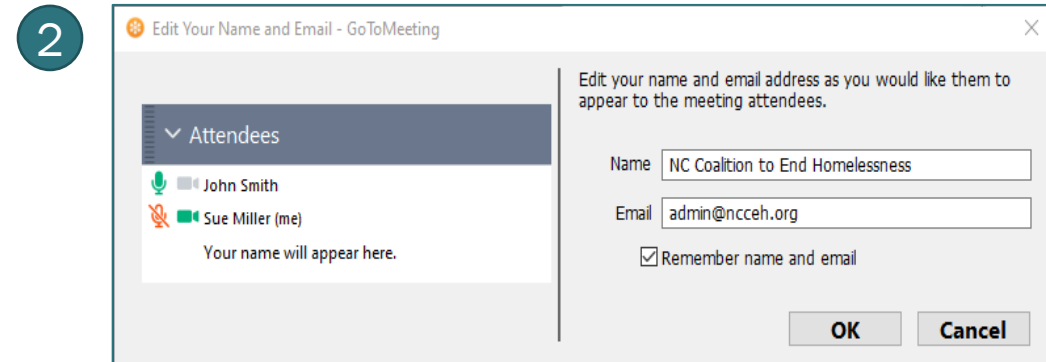
We will unmute the line during Q&A pauses.

The chat box is available to use anytime.

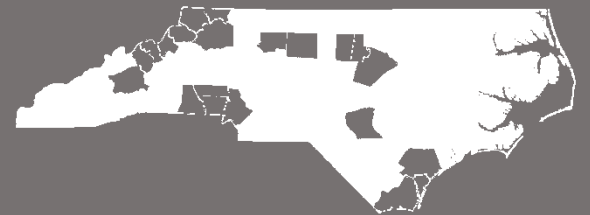


Roll Call

- We will conduct Roll Call for Regional Leads and at-large members to confirm quorum for voting.
- All participants should enter their full names, so we can document their participation in the minutes.



Agenda



Agenda

- Consent Agenda
- Rowan Helping Ministries Letter of Support Request
- FY21 CoC Competition Update: Funding Priorities and Project Review Committee
- Public Policies and Resources
- Increasing Unsheltered Access to Coordinated Entry
- Upcoming Meetings & Reminders



Review & approve consent agenda

Consent agenda:

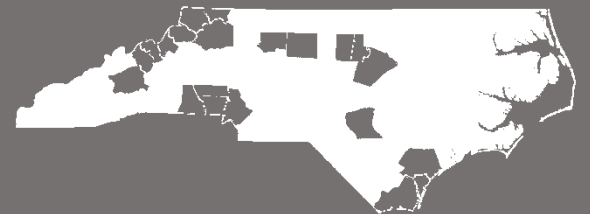
<https://www.ncceh.org/bos/steeringcommittee/>

- The consent agenda was sent to the Steering Committee prior to the meeting as part of a board packet.
- The consent agenda will be voted on as a whole at the beginning of each meeting.
- Steering Committee members may request to remove an item from the consent agenda for additional discussion.

Changes or discussion?



Rowan Helping Ministries Letter of Support Request



Rowan Helping Ministries requests a letter of support for their new VA application.

Applying for \$450,000 VA Grant Per Diem Program Capital Grant

- Build a new TH apartment building, allowing the agency to move the current 9 VA GPD beds from the congregate shelter
- More private and safer environment to serve needs of Vets experiencing homelessness
 - Current congregate setting is difficult for Vets with PTSD and other mental illnesses – more conducive to recovery efforts and moving toward PH



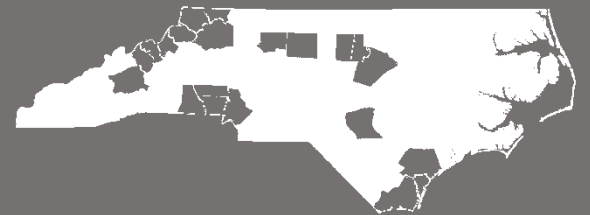
Rowan Helping Ministries requests a letter of support for their new VA application.

- Grant application supported by the agency's VA GPD liaison.
 - Current congregate setting a deterrent for some GPD eligible Vets
- Agency's goal to house each person served within 30 days.

- Questions?
- Motion to approve?



FY21 CoC Competition Update



Intent to Apply form is mandatory for all agencies applying for new CoC funds.

Intent to Apply form has been posted to the NCCEH website at:

<https://www.ncceh.org/bos/currentcocapplication/>

- Any agency wanting to apply for a new CoC project in the FY21 competition is required to submit a form.
- Asks for preliminary information about proposed project(s)
- NCCEH staff will review and follow-up with the agency to discuss
 - Any agency that submitted an Intent to Apply form for the FY20 competition does not need to submit another.
 - Staff will schedule follow-up calls later in the year once we have more details.

Rolling-basis, non-binding

Deadline: 2 weeks after NOFA release



The Funding and Performance Subcommittee has updated CoC Funding Priorities to present to the Steering Committee for approval.

Minor changes made to the FY20 CoC Funding Priorities document:

- Dates
- Minor word updates without substantive changes
- Consideration of pandemic when making decisions regarding re-allocations
- New Projects Grid updated:
 - Used 2020 Point-In-Time count data
 - Used FY20 CoC awards to update funding totals and number of beds per region
 - Added number of projects to chart in the Appendix

Draft FY21 CoC Funding Priorities:

<https://www.ncceh.org/media/files/page/3acfb664/2021-coc-funding-priorities-draft.pdf>



The Funding and Performance Subcommittee has updated CoC Funding Priorities to present to the Steering Committee for approval.

Questions?

Motion?



Project Review Committee members are essential to complete work on both the CoC and ESG applications.

Several Regional Committees have not elected/not notified NCCEH staff of their Project Review Committee representative.

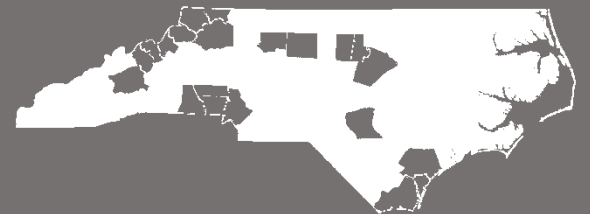
PRC members:

- Score and rank projects in the annual CoC competition.
- Score and make the final recommendation of ESG applicants.
- Should be conflict free, meaning they do not represent CoC/ESG-funded agencies.

Regions should send the name and contact information for their PRC representative to bos@ncceh.org by June 1, 2021.



PUBLIC POLICIES AND RESOURCES **from the American Rescue Plan Act**



Ensuring North Carolinians experiencing or at risk of homelessness get ALL their ARP Act resources

- The surest route: Filing a tax return now to access the EIP, Recovery Rebate Credit, CTC, EITC, or CDCTC
- Provide outreach and assistance with tax form filings to ensure ALL payments reach people with no or low income, who do not typically file tax returns, including households where children have Social Security numbers, but parents do not.



Round 3 of Economic Impact Payments

- \$1,400 for individuals, \$2,800 for couples
- An additional \$1,400 for each dependent (regardless of their age). Previously, children had to be 16 or under, which excluded many college students even though they were being claimed on their parents' tax return.
- The new rule will also allow elderly dependents to be claimed.
- If a client didn't get a first and second EIP or got less than the full amounts, they can claim the 2020 Recovery Rebate Credit and must file a 2020 tax return.



Child Tax Credit

- Available for children in families with no or very low earnings
- A household can receive up to half of its CTC in advance payments in 2021 (after July 1). Those who don't file may be able to claim advance payments through a portal later this year.
- Increased benefit from \$2,000 to \$3,000 per child (\$3,600 for children under 6).
- These one-year expansions are for tax year 2021.



Earned Income Tax Credit

- For tax year 2021, the maximum EITC for workers not raising children in the home will be nearly tripled.
- The income range to qualify will increase to at least \$21,000.
- Workers age 19-24 and 65 and over will be newly eligible.



Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit

In 2021, this credit is **fully refundable**, and its maximum size is increased to . . .

- \$4,000 for one child (from \$1,050)
- \$8,000 for two or more children (from \$2,100)



\$21.6 billion in Emergency Rental Assistance for low-income people

- Up to 18 months of rental assistance (including for arrearages) for low-income renters who have lost income or are experiencing other hardship and risk losing their housing.
- States, localities, and territories may distribute aid directly to landlords on behalf of renters (or directly to renters in some cases) or may designate other entities (such as non-profits) to do so.
- Treasury guidance on how states should assess eligibility for the funds is coming.
- NC is not taking advantage of the flexibility that Treasury has provided to get funds out to households quickly and with a minimum of requirements.



\$5 billion in Emergency Housing Vouchers for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness

- To help transition high-need homeless and at-risk families, youth, and individuals, including survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking, to stable housing.
- Beginning in October 2023, these vouchers will expire when the families that are using them no longer need them.
- Within 60 days of ARP enactment, HUD will tell housing agencies how many vouchers they can receive.
- Includes \$10 million for HUD to provide technical assistance
- Funding available until September 30, 2030, but vouchers cannot be reissued after September 30, 2023.



\$5 billion in homelessness assistance via the HOME program

- May use this flexible funding for . . .
 - affordable and supportive housing development,
 - short-term rental assistance,
 - development of non-congregate shelter, and
 - support services for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, including DV survivors and Veterans.
- Communities may use the funds to acquire commercial properties such as hotels and motels and convert them into non-congregate shelter, affordable housing, or supportive housing for people living in shelters or unsheltered locations.



Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)

- To help childcare providers that are operating or closed for COVID-related reasons and to boost the supply of childcare programs.
- Covers various regular costs (personnel, rent, etc.) as well as COVID-related supplies and services that can help childcare programs either stay in business or reopen.
- Advocates can help shape how the state uses this large infusion of resources.
- Funding should come through this spring.



Food Assistance

- Extends, through September 2021, a 15% increase in SNAP benefits and the Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) program, which provides grocery benefits to replace meals children miss when they do not attend school or childcare in person.
- Includes federal resources for states' SNAP administrative costs to help with increased demand.
- NC will need to revise/extend its P-EBT plan for USDA approval and can contract non-profits to conduct outreach or help families get benefits.
- Advocate to ensure additional SNAP funding is used to improve program access.



Food Assistance

Investment in WIC to . . .

- modernize the program,
- support innovative service delivery models,
- conduct outreach, and
- temporarily raise the amount of fruits and vegetables participants can obtain--increasing the monthly value of WIC foods by 70% to 75%--a state option for 4 months, ending by September 30, 2021.

Advocate for USDA and NC to take innovative approaches to improve access for immigrants, SNAP and Medicaid participants, et al.



Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund

- Enables states, tribes, and territories to provide nonrecurrent short-term benefits for families with children to cover pandemic-driven expenses and avert eviction and other hardships.
- Part of NC's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant that provides cash assistance and services to families with low incomes.
- Advocates could make the case for automatic payments to groups of families without requiring individualized applications as well as targeting funds to assist families who are not receiving other forms of relief, like mixed-status households.



Health

- Provides a 10%-point increase in NC's FMAP for home- and community-based services (HCBS)--for one year, from April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022.
- NC must use the increased federal funds to supplement its current spending on HCBS to enhance, expand, or strengthen these programs.
- Advocates should work with/for people who have disabilities and older adults to ensure that the funds are used to expand services, including services for people with substance use disorders.



Health

- Provides generous subsidies to reduce premiums and cost-sharing for people who receive unemployment insurance payments in 2021
- Increased premium subsidies become available in the federal marketplace in April.
- Subsidies for recipients of unemployment benefits will be available later in the year.
- Both are retroactive to January 2021.



Health

- Creates a state plan amendment option for NC to extend Medicaid coverage to postpartum people for 12 months, up from 60 days under current law.
- The postpartum coverage option becomes effective on April 1, 2022 and lasts for five years.
- Advocates should work with the maternal and child health community to get NC to take up this postpartum coverage option.



Health

- Gives NC a significant incentive to expand Medicaid in the form of a two-year, 5-percentage-point increase in its base Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)
- Advocacy opportunity in NC: Explain that the new funding will more than cover the state's share of expansion costs
- Outreach needed for people to take advantage of ALL these new and expanded subsidies and to encourage NC to take up the option offering coverage to the uninsured. There is no income limit, so it provides a way to cover treatment for people whose incomes are too high for Medicaid but too low for marketplace premium tax



Fiscal aid for states, localities, tribal nations, territories

- To help address revenue shortfalls, provide premium pay to essential workers, and pay for needed broadband, water, and sewer infrastructure projects.
- May not be used directly or indirectly for tax cuts.
- Advocacy will be needed to urge states and localities to use the funds in ways that target those who most need help and address underlying structural inequities.
- A certification is submitted to the Treasury Department, which then has 60 days to get funds out.
- Disbursement of funds to cover costs through Dec. 31, 2024:



Biden Administration's Jobs & Infrastructure plan

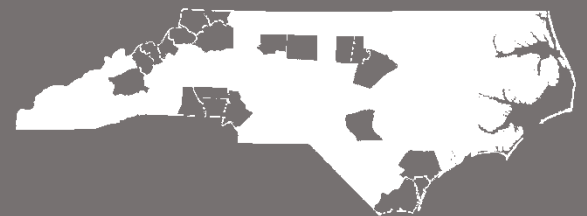
- \$213 billion for affordable housing plus \$400 billion in new spending for home-based caregiving that could be used to pay for services in permanent supportive housing
- Major increases in next year's budget for rental vouchers, homeless assistance, and other priorities
- The Jobs and Infrastructure plan only requires a simple majority in Congress to pass

National Alliance's Capitol Hill Day on Wednesday, June 16

Register and share this registration information with other members of your organization: <https://endhomelessness.org/capitol-hill-day-2021/>



Increasing Unsheltered Access to Coordinated Entry



Reminder: 2021 PIT Planning

PIT Count during a pandemic

Started early to support the PIT Count and provide better services to people living unsheltered

- Lead up time: December - January

Goals:

- Provide a comprehensive and accurate By Name List
- Count all people living unsheltered in the CoC
- Ensure all people experiencing homelessness are connected to CE



Reminder: 2021 PIT Planning

Outreach efforts over the two months leading to the PIT Count date on 01/27/2021

- Plan canvassing days to do street outreach when feasible
- Get service centers involved
- Refer all unsheltered individuals to the By Name List

Advertise to the community

- People experiencing unsheltered homelessness
- Agencies serving people living unsheltered

Verify people living unsheltered on PIT night for the two weeks after

- Use By Name List to confirm status on 01/27/2021



Shift to Year-round Access

Counting people living unsheltered through the CE system provides multiple benefits

- Strengthens required existing infrastructure
- Connects people to the CE system, ensuring they get services and access to permanent housing
- Focuses on connection to resources and services
- Gives opportunity to incorporate safety protocols to keep clients and staff/volunteers safe

It will also support the 2022 Unsheltered PIT Count



Planning & Support

Coordinated Entry Council meetings and supplemental trainings

- Decision making tool for regional roles
- By Name List technical support
- Update CE Access 101 for Data Collection
- Street outreach principles and tips

Timeline

- Fully launch Increasing Unsheltered Access efforts in June 2021



The CoC needs to consider changes to the current PIT Lead role to facilitate unsheltered access.

The new Unsheltered PIT Lead would serve as the regional point person for providers. They would:

- Coordinate with the regional CE Lead to meet two goals:
 - Facilitate the regional plan to connect people experiencing unsheltered homelessness to the CE system and BNL
 - Evaluate monthly progress on connecting people living unsheltered to the BNL
- Ensure data collection happens for all people experiencing unsheltered homelessness
- Engage providers/organizations/stakeholders to understand the process
- Provide technical assistance as needed



To change the PIT Lead role, the CoC needs approve changes to the Governance Charter.

Proposed Governance Charter updates:

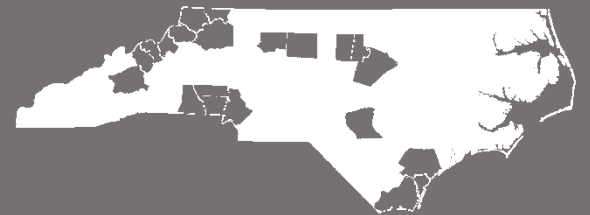
- Changes the name of the role to Unsheltered PIT Lead
- Changes the role to focus exclusively on connecting people experiencing unsheltered homelessness to the CE system and BNL
- Becomes a year-round role, coordinating with the CE Lead and regional stakeholders
- Elected by May 1st annually

Questions?

Motion?



Meetings and Reminders



Meetings & Reminders

- **COVID-19 Local Leadership Response Sharing Call, *Every other Wednesday afternoon at 1:00. May meetings: May 12 and 26***
 - Presentation: <https://www.gotomeet.me/NCEndHomelessness>
 - Audio: (646) 749-3112 Access Code: 975-793-733
- **Healthier Together Summer 2021 Grants Application Deadline, *Friday, May 14***
 - Learn more: nccounts.org/funding-opportunities
- **Coordinated Entry Council Meeting, *Monday, May 17, 10:00 – 11:30 A.M.***
 - Presentation: <https://www.gotomeet.me/NCEndHomelessness>
 - Audio: (646) 749-3112 Access Code: 975-793-733



Meetings & Reminders

- **Racial Equity Subcommittee Meeting**, *Wednesday, May 19, 9:00 – 10:00 A.M.*
 - Presentation: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/791696621>
 - Audio: (646) 749-3112 Access Code: 791-696-621
- **BoS HMIS User Meeting**, *Thursday, May 20, 1:00 - 2:30 P.M.*
 - Register here: <https://www.ncceh.org/events/1464/>
- **Funding and Performance Subcommittee Meeting**, *Thursday, May 27, 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.*
 - Presentation: uberconference.com/brianncceh
 - Audio: (401) 283-4752 Pin: 13939
- **Funding Bringing It Home Conference**, *Tuesday and Wednesday, June 8 and 9*
 - Registration: <https://nchousing.org/bringing-it-home-2021/>



Adjournment

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
Tuesday, June 1, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Keep in touch

bos@ncceh.org

919.755.4393

