

**WNC HOMELESS COALITION**  
**Regular Meetings -2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month**  
**January 9th 10:00 am -11:00 am**  
**Referral and Monitoring Meeting/RRH Selection Committee 11:00-12:00 pm**

**MINUTES**

**Meeting Location:** United Community Bank, Community Room  
1640 E Main Street, Sylva

**Dial in Telephone:** (475) 441-4532

**Pin Number:** 795 144 354#

**INTRODUCTIONS**

**Jennifer Abbey - Meridian (Haywood)**  
**Keri Guidry - Haywood Pathways Center**  
**Paige Suttle - Haywood Pathways Center**  
**Becca Swanger - Meridian (Jackson)**  
**Lesley Duggins - Vaya Health**  
**Bill Guy - The Open Door**  
**Mindy Rathbone - EACH Initiative**  
**Monica Frizzell - Vaya Health**  
**Denise Bean - HERE in Jackson County**  
**Destri Leger - HERE in Jackson County**

**Robert Cochran - HERE in Jackson County**  
**Veronica Murphy - REACH of Macon County**  
**Jennifer Holling - Cherokee Hospital**  
**Kay Evans - Jackson Department of Social Services**  
**Tammy Moody - Jackson DSS**  
**Toby Adams - REACH of Cherokee**  
**Kathleen Burns - Giving Spoon**  
**Sarah Martin - REACH of Clay County**  
**Reba West - REACH of Haywood County**

**STANDING AGENDA ITEMS**

- **Introductions/ Attendance**
- **Review & Approval of December Minutes**
- **Balance of State Steering Committee Update**
  - Destri was unable to attend the Steering Committee meeting and Alternate Lead had not been established to attend as backup. Keri will attend in the future as needed in the Regional Alternate Lead role. Monica informed the group that the majority of the meeting was introductions of new members.
- **Coordinated Assessment Update**
  - Coordinated Entry Evaluation will take place in April. Coordinated Entry will be moving from Google Docs to HMIS. Vaya Health, ABBCM, and HERE in Jackson County only HMIS licenses in 8 western counties.
- **Permanent Supportive Housing Update**
  - Remains full at 51 slots.
- **Agency Report Outs**
  - Tabled

**OTHER AGENDA ITEMS**

- **Finalizing Election Results**
  - **Regional Lead** - Destri Leger, HERE in Jackson County
  - **Regional Alternate Lead** - Keri Guidry, Haywood Pathways Center
  - **PIT Lead** - Sarah Martin, REACH of Clay County

- **Coordinated Entry Lead** - unfilled
- **Funding Process Lead** - unfilled
- **Secretary/Webmaster** - unfilled
  
- **Point in Time Count**
  - January 29, 2020. Participating agencies should be coordinating within their own counties.
  - Training and survey materials to follow via email.
  
- **Rental Assistance Referral Training - HERE in Jackson County**
  - Referral Packets can be found at : <http://bit.ly/HERERRH>
  - Rapid Rehousing (RRH) is
    - Funded through Housing & Urban Development (HUD) and is channeled through the North Carolina Emergency Solutions Grant Office (NCESG) at the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS). This program is intended for those living literally homeless (having a nighttime residence in a place not meant for human habitation, living in a shelter, or fleeing domestic violence). This program is available to all eight western counties in Balance of State Region 1 (WNC Homeless Coalition).
    - Initial assistance approval amounts range from deposits to 3 months rental assistance. Funds are available for security deposits, utility deposits, arrears, and rental assistance.
    - It is a government grant so the paperwork is lengthy. Referral Packets should include the entire packet including all ESG documents and a Third Party Verification of Homelessness from the referring agency.
  - HERE's Housing Acquisition & Stabilization Program (HASP) is a pilot homeless prevention program that seeks to help households that do not qualify under HUD's definition of literal homelessness in obtaining permanent housing and avoiding entry into literal homelessness. As a pilot program, HERE welcomes feedback from participants to strengthen the program and resolve any concerns.
    - It is a one time assistance for up to \$750. As a grant funded program, its area of service is limited to Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, and Swain.
    - Referral packets should include the HERE referral form and checklist, W9, invoice, and a copy of the lease.
  - Referring agencies are expected to continue housing case management with clients entered into the program unless otherwise communicated with HERE.
  - ***All clients, referrals, and units should be accepted by HERE before a lease is signed or any funds promised. HERE cannot reimburse any clients. Any agencies seeking reimbursement for client assistance should seek prior approval with HERE before distributing funds.***

**NEXT RAMM MEETING -                    January 23 (via telephone only)**  
**Dial in Telephone:**    224 475 1422  
**Pin Number:**                    PIN 630 712 639#

**NEXT COALITION MEETING - February 13th at 10 AM**