

Region 7 Meeting Minutes

08/05/21- Zoom Call

Attendance (40 total): Jefferey Rawlings, JLHCA; Marie Watson, JLHCA; Rachel Mann, City of Sanford; Hamer Carter, OMI; Laura Spivey, OMI; Joey Mosley, Haven; Kendra Martin, United Way; Tonia Lytle; Quiotti Ratliffe, Sandhills; Chipper Long, Anson County Homes of Hope; Alexis Coleman, Lydia's Place; Beth Lingerfeldt, FP Moore County; Catrina Martin, JLHCA; Shelley Hudson, Salvation Army; Chrishonda Ham, SAFE of Harnett; Angela Jones, JLHCA; Barbara Vinson; Susana Rodriguez, SAFE of Harnett; Manuel Hyman, Alliance Health; Tracy Staley, Salvation Army; Peggy Hendrix; Ebone; Tina Ray, JLHCA; Kimberly Ledford, Friend to Friend; Rae Goodwin, Rockingham Housing; Britney Gibson, Johnston County Public Schools; Donna McCormick, Sandhills; Shakeema Jones; Nina Walker, Sandhills; Paul Tate, OMI; Kerry Bashaw, BCCDC; Kelly Hutchinson, JLHCA; Joy Smith, Harnett County; Joy Maynor, Morning Glory Ministries; Jo-Jo Jones-Jordan, JLHCA

10:00 a.m. Welcome & Introductions: New members introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes: Rachel Mann (secretary) was not present at last meeting; Unsure who took minutes for June. No meeting in July.

Discuss BOS Meeting/Discuss ESG Application Instructions

ESG applications will go through NCCEH for review. Agencies can submit their applications to NCCEH directly through a link online. Applications have to be in by August 13 at 6 PM. The group had a discussion about how to find links online for the application. Kendra Martin walked everyone through the process of finding the links online. Kerry Bashaw asked if there are any updates on the NOFA for CoC funding; Chipper Long said that intent to apply meetings are happening currently, but they are still waiting on the NOFA to come out. Jeff Rawlings said it will probably come out six weeks from now. Laura Spivey asked if anyone could apply for CoC money; Jeff said it's specifically for housing, not services.

ESG FUNDED AGENCY REPORTS

- **Friend to Friend, Kimberly Ledford-** There is room for one family, but otherwise are at capacity. They have reinstated masking and limited capacity restrictions as a result of case counts in Moore County. Friend to Friend is applying for ESG funding again.
- **Outreach Mission, Hamer Carter-** Funds have been leveraged to help other agencies in Sanford and Lee County.
- **Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action, Inc.-** Angela reported that she has 7 clients enrolled, but she knows "the bottom will fall out" when the moratorium ends. Caty reported that there are 24 people enrolled for ESG-CV and 14 enrolled for regular RRH, with nine still seeking housing from that group. A lot of substance abuse happening in Lee County; Many clients are using due to feeling hopeless around housing. JLHCA has a peer support specialist they work with to go out to clients' homes and meet with them. Joy reported that in Harnett County, 10 clients for RRH; six are housed. For Back@Home CV, 80 clients; 40 are active. For CV, 16 clients

with 16 still need to be sheltered. JLHCA has a new staff member for Randolph County, Jo-Jo Jones-Jordan. Kelly reported 43 enrolled in Back@Home CV and 38 actively enrolled ESG clients. 29 on CV waitlist. 21 on ESG RRH. Able to house 8 families during July. Marie shared that JLHCA has not been reimbursed for some of their programs; They are still missing money from April.

- **Safe of Harnett County, Chrishonda Ham-** Full at this time. Looking for safe affordable housing, but it is extremely hard to find. Encountered a scam with housing; Be mindful that scams exist! Clients will have to lean on family especially when federal COVID funding begins to run out.

Committee Reports

Discuss SSO – Coordinated Entry – Jeffrey Rawlings- Reporting has been combined for CE and Back@Home waitlists; 413 households represented total. 7 in Anson, 55 in Harnett, 10 in Hoke, 86 in Johnston, 112 in Lee, 10 in Montgomery, 25 in Moore, 28 in Randolph, 52 in Richmond, and 20 with no county indicated, the other 8 are people who were in our region and moved to counties outside of our region.

The PIT Count is going to be done differently this year! It will be done in conjunction with Coordinated Entry. Planning beginning now. Region 7's PIT Count lead is Dr. Peggy Owens. We will begin meeting as a Region for the PIT soon. The app will still be used this year. We need to focus on eliminating duplication. Last year HUD waived the unsheltered count due to Covid; Unsure if it will be waived again this year. This year, the biggest goal is to immediately connect those we come across to services and shelters. This is a once-a-year opportunity to connect people with housing/shelter. Time to start doing outreach to churches and communities now so they can volunteer to assist with the count. Jeff said Lee County (S3 Housing Connect) has done a wonderful job with planning and training; Contact Rachel Mann if you are interested in S3's training plans.

PIT Count County Lead Suggestions:

Johnston - Angela

Lee- Cindy Hall again?

Harnett- Chrishonda Ham will try to help find a lead

Montgomery- Joy Maynor said she would work with John Young to be co-leads

Hoke-

Richmond- Kelly Hutchinson will ask someone at SHA to lead but Kelly is willing to help

Randolph- Alexis Coleman will help find a lead

Anson- Donna will help find a lead; Chipper Long is willing to help but does not want to be lead.

Rasheeda Studivant is happy to help but does not want to be sole lead

Moore- Kimberly Ledford did unsheltered count in 2019; She is happy to help but cannot lead. Kimberly suggested Caroline Reid, a social worker who was a PIT volunteer in 2019.

AGENCY REPORTS

JLHCA, Tina Ray- Rent is automatically being increased as soon as leases end. Criteria is being increased as well, which is making it extremely difficult for clients to get into units.

Anson County Schools, Kam McDonald- A family lost their home after the student graduated; Trying to find a home for the family. Working together with local providers to find a home.

BCCDC, Kerry Bashaw- Just received a loan from Lee County for affordable housing. Looking for more funding to build housing. BCCDC needs land; If anyone knows of cheap or donated land let Kerry know! BCCDC builds single family homes, duplexes, triplexes, etc. Joey asked what size lot Kerry would need; Kerry said there are a lot of factors from Zoning that play into building housing so it depends. Kerry's phone number is 919-708-7864.

Morning Glory Ministries, Joy Maynor- Talked with Family Promise to ensure there is support structure for partnership. Going from church to church to identify individuals within churches in Montgomery County so it can be a widespread effort. Met with Jefferey Rawlings at Montgomery County DSS. Looking into ESG funds.

Johnston County Public Schools, Britney Gibson- Staff comes back to school for the 2021-2022 school year next week. Students start back on August 25. Britney is hearing about students experiencing homelessness already, so it seems like it will be an active school year.

City of Sanford, Rachel Mann- S3 Housing Connect is Sanford and Lee County's homelessness task force; Please email rachel.mann@sanfordnc.net if interested in learning more!

Winona Coveney, Friend to Friend- Moore County PIT lead suggestion: Caroline Reid

ADJOURNMENT

Donna motioned to adjourn; Nina Walker seconded. Unanimous approval. Region 7 will meet later this month to discuss ESG applications.