

## **REGION 7 Zoom Meeting Minutes**

**November 5, 2020**

**Attendance:** Marie Watson, JLHCA; Rachel Picard, City of Sanford; Karen Kennedy, City of Sanford; Kendra Martin, United Way; Kam McDonald, Anson County Schools; Gary Richardson, Place of Grace Campus; Nick Peak; Teraefean Goodwin, Rockingham Housing Authority; Caty Martin, JLHCA; Susana Rodriguez, Safe of Harnett County; Jefferey Rawlings, JLHCA; Donna McCormick, Sandhills Center; Hamer Carter, OMI; Winona Coveney, Friend to Friend; Tawanna Williams; Chipper Long, Anson County Homes of Hope; Joy Smith, Harnett County; Manuel Hyman, Alliance Health; Bishop Taylor, Church of God; Tina Ray, JLHCA; Kerry Bashaw, BCCDC; Quiotti Ratliff, Sandhills Center; Britney Gibson, Johnston County Schools; Chrishonda Ham, Safe of Harnett County; Nina Walker, Sandhills Center; Rasheeda Sturdivant, Trinity; Kim Childers, Richmond County Schools; Laura Spivey, OMI; Peggy Owens; Kelly Hutchinson, JLHCA

### **1. 10:00 a.m. Welcome & Introductions**

### **2. Approval of Minutes**

Hamer Carter motioned to approve the minutes. Nina Walker seconded. Unanimous approval.

### **3. BOS Report**

Balance of State committee discussed the eviction moratorium, NCOR housing opportunity guidance, governance charter updates, and racial equity subcommittee updates. HOPE and Corona Relief funds have to be spent by the end of December. Some cities and counties are applying for COVID CDBG money.

### **4. Nominating Committee Report**

Nominating committee reached out to North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness who said there is training and support available for those in officer positions. The proposed slate of officers for the upcoming year is:

Lead- Marie Watson

Alternate Lead- Quiotti Ratliff

Coordinated Entry- Jeff Rawlings

PIT/ Housing Inventory- Peggy Owens

Funding Process Lead- Susan Bellew

Project Review Committee Representative- Nicholas Peak

Webmaster- Rachel Picard

Nina Walker accepted the slate and motioned to approve the slate as proposed; Donna McCormick seconded. There was unanimous approval for the proposed slate. Peggy Owens added that it'd be helpful if there were more detailed descriptions for each job position.

## **ESG FUNDED AGENCY REPORTS**

Friend to Friend, Winona Coveney- There is currently one family room available. Two clients are about to be housed, and a couple others are looking for housing. Friend to Friend is still using hotels for the

initial two day stay. Once the two-day period is over, clients can come and stay on site. They are still only allowing one client per room. The recovery cottage will potentially be complete in one or two years.

Outreach Mission, Hamer Carter- Occupancy is fluctuating, but they are serving between 12 and 17 people. There are more women and children than men and a definite uptick in numbers. It's easier to enforce COVID policies during the day since people are out working. OMI recently hired a housing case manager and housing specialist to help with their new housing program.

Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action, Jeff Rawlings- Jeff read Caty's data for Lee County. Kelly gave a report for the multiple counties she works with; She has housed five so far this month. Caty added that she is struggling with finding housing for large families (4+ kids)

Safe of Harnett County, Chrishonda Ham- They are currently at capacity and sticking to COVID policies. Clients and staff are wearing masks. In October, they were part of three major community outreach projects including a domestic violence virtual tea, a memorial event at Pizza Inn, and a domestic violence forum on October 31.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Discuss SSO – Coordinated Entry – Jeffrey Rawlings**

Three focus areas are outreach, assessment of needs, and case management. The focus is exclusively on surge populations until November 16<sup>th</sup>; Funding is specifically for the surge population until that date, and after it can be used for everyone. There are 230 persons in the coordinated entry queue right now. CE committee is meeting every week to approve people.

### **AGENCY REPORTS**

Sandhills Center, Nina Walker- Mainstream vouchers are still available. The household must include non-elderly disabled members to apply. Preference is given to those from Rapid Rehousing programs.

United Way, Kendra Martin- HOPE program; Encourage people to apply online if possible.

Alliance, Manuel Hyman- Behavioral health provider training in Johnston County from 1-3:30 PM via conference call.

Anson County Schools, Kam McDonald- Currently 45 homeless students (McKinney Vento). Received 300+ pediatric masks from local hospital.

BCCDC, Kerry Bashaw- Continuing to build houses and working with JLHCA anytime a rental unit is available.

Anson County Homes of Hope, Chipper Long- Continuing work on duplex. Forming search committee for other staff.

**ADJOURNMENT- Zoom meeting information will be sent for next meeting on December 3, 2020**