

REGION 7 Zoom Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2021

Attendance (34): Marie Watson, JLHCA; Rachel Mann, City of Sanford; Karen Kennedy, City of Sanford; Kendra Martin, United Way; Manuel Hyman, Alliance; Tandra Chamberlain, Moore County; Britney Gibson, Johnston County Schools; Shelley Hudson, CHN; Hamer Carter, OMI; Winona Coveney, Friend to Friend; Paul Tate, OMI; Beth Lingerfeldt, Family Promise; Kam McDonald, Anson County Schools; Caty Martin, JLHCA; Kelly Hutchinson, JLHCA; Angela Jones, JLHCA; Katrusia Johnson; Joey Mosley, HAVEN; Brenda Goss, Sandhills Center; Kim Childers, Richmond County Schools; Jeff Rawlings, JLHCA; Cindy Hall, H3; Savannah Dick; Kerry Bashaw, BCCDC; Alexis Coleman, Lydia's Place; Elle Evans Peterson, North Carolina Community Action Association; Terafean Goodwin, Rockingham Housing Authority; Stephanie Alford, Hoke County Schools; Tina Ray, JLHCA; Tracy Staley, Salvation Army; Tamatha Moore, Sandhills Community Action; Lesly Delgado, Safe of Harnett County

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

2. Approval of Minutes - E. Marie Watson

Kam McDonald motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Manuel Hyman seconded. Unanimous approval.

3. Discuss Regional Nominations- 2022 – E. Marie Watson

- 1. Regional Lead- Marie Watson, JLHCA**
- 2. Regional Lead Alternate- Kendra Martin, United Way of Lee**
- 3. Coordinated Entry Lead- Jeff Rawlings, JLHCA**
- 4. Webmaster- Rachel Mann, City of Sanford**
- 5. Project Review Committee Rep- Kay Johnson, Harbor**
- 6. Youth Committee Lead- Britney Gibson, Johnston Co Schools**

Karen Kennedy presented the slate. Hamer Carter motioned to approve the slate as presented. Tandra Chamberlain seconded the motion. Unanimous approval. Marie said she will call a meeting for officers so they can be trained on their new position. Marie and Karen informed the group that NCEH is willing to assist with training for these roles. At the next Region 7 meeting, Marie will have each new officer introduce themselves. Kendra said next year, she will create the Zoom link and host the meetings.

4. Discuss PIT/HIC Training – Jeffrey Rawlings

Cindy Hall and Jeff Rawlings have been reaching out to county representatives to schedule big outreach events in each county. These events will assist with capturing data; Data will come from coordinated entry and outreach. Winona Coveney asked for clarification; Jeff said he will be present for outreach events so people will be entered into coordinated entry on site. Outreach *can* occur on the normal PIT night, but it should primarily happen at other times. Cindy and Jeff will be sharing training and best practices with county leads. Marie reminded everyone that our funding is based off of PIT numbers, so it is extremely important for our data to be correct.

ESG FUNDED AGENCY REPORTS

Friend to Friend, Winona Coveney- Shelter is at capacity. The new Butterfly Cottage is also full. Focusing on supporting families and clients through the holidays. Still following Covid policies; Masks are being worn in communal spaces. Friend to Friend has their contract, according to Kim.

Outreach Mission, Hamer Carter- OMI kicked off street outreach a few months ago. This initiative is a collaboration with H3 (street medicine ministry). OMI is entering data into HMIS. Initiated extreme weather shelter on November 15, and have had between 6-8 people on nights the shelter has been open. Staff is aware that there will be many more clients as it gets colder outside. OMI served 47 people in November and returned 8 households to stable housing. OMI is continuing to work on spending ESG and Covid money. Hamer was on a call recently and heard there may be additional Covid money coming.

Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action, Inc.- Angela: 651 households in Back@Home program. Affordable housing and landlords are almost impossible to find. Running into barriers with clients, especially owing backpay to landlords, evictions, and mental health and substance abuse. Kelly: 8 families in November, 23 ESG RRH clients, 21 Back@Home clients looking for housing. Katy: 7 clients in homeless prevention, 20 in RRH, 41 in CV. 7 move-ins. Marie reported JLHCA has received contracts for next year. A lot of clients are in hotels because there is such a lack of landlords and affordable housing, but they are getting evicted from rentals due to “disorderly conduct.”

Safe of Harnett County, Lesly Delgado- Three families and six singles. At capacity. Struggling to find affordable housing. Recently moved two families into safe housing.

Committee Reports

Discuss SSO – Coordinated Entry – Jeffrey Rawlings

389 in CE (182 households); 651 in Back@Home.

AGENCY REPORTS

Family Promise Moore County, Beth Lingerfeldt- Openings for two families. There is one family moving out this week to their own home.

Alliance, Manuel Hyman- Alliance added Mecklenburg and Orange counties.

Sandhills, Brenda Goss- Sandhills added Davidson and Rockingham counties.

Moore County Schools, Tambra Chamberlain- 118 McKinney Vento students; 17 of those are homeless unaccompanied youth. These numbers are growing. At Tambra Place, there are four beds total, with two beds available. Tambra Place is only accepting clients from Moore County right now, women ages 18-24 only. Since Tambra Place is privately funded they do not have to strictly follow the HUD homeless definition.

Salvation Army of Lee, Tracy Staley- The Navigation Center had 720 visits in November. Christmas Joy Program is next week!

Anson County Schools, Kam McDonald- 30 McKinney Vento students. A lot of students are moving between several counties right now.

Hoke County Schools, Stephanie Alford- 32 McKinney Vento students. Hoke County hosted their annual walk for homelessness and hunger on November 18.

Johnston County Schools, Britney Gibson– 223 McKinney Vento students. 27 unaccompanied homeless youth. Social workers have submitted Christmas referrals for at risk and homeless students. Homeless numbers have spiked in the past two weeks.

JLHCA, Tina Ray- Looking for clients for Stars (self-sufficiency) Program. Enrolled clients have a counselor who helps with education, employment, financial literacy and more. Clients will need proof of income, picture ID and social security number.

Harbor, Kay Johnson- Moving back into facility at the first of the year. Have found a contractor to mitigate Harbor's property from future flooding.

Richmond County Schools, Kim Childers- 91 McKinney Vento students currently.

ADJOURNMENT

Kerry Bashaw with BCCDC is working to build affordable housing, but he shared that it's difficult to find available licensed contractors right now.

Marie wished everyone happy holidays and reminded everyone to be safe.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting – January 6, 2022