

**Region 12, Inner Banks, NC Balance of State Monthly Meeting**

Conference call/WebEx

Wednesday February 10, 2021 9:00 AM-10:30 AM

**Present**

Ken Becker, Community Crossroads Center  
James Cox, United Way, Regional Lead  
Melissa Eastwood, Trillium Health Resources  
Stephanie Elliott, Greenville Housing Authority  
Deloris Farmer, Pitt County Planning  
Wanda Montano, Community Crossroads Center  
Lynne James, Pitt County Planning  
Dana LeTellier, Rivers East NC Works Career Centers  
James Rhodes, Pitt County Planning  
Tujuanda Sanders, Greenville Housing Authority  
Sally Love, Beaufort County United Way  
Rory Springs, NC Works Career Center  
Peter Peedin, Pitt County United Way  
Devinder Culver, Greenville Police Dept.  
Pheonix Henson, City of Greenville  
Kisha Darden, Trillium Health Services  
Charniece Harris  
Evan Lewis, BC360  
Gloria Leaks, Vocational Rehabilitation

**Introductions and Approval of January 2021 Minutes**

Jim began the meeting by thanking all attendees. Jim thanked Stephanie Elliott for a seamless transition into the webmaster position taken over from Melissa Eastwood.

Jim asked for a motion to approve the January meeting minutes. Lynne James made a motion to approve the minutes with Ken Becker seconding that motion.

## **Updates/Reports : NC Balance of State Steering Committee & Work Groups / Community Resources**

### **A.) 2021 PIT/HIC Count – Discovery Packet/Moving Forward**

Jim provided the group with a reminder that the PIT count was cancelled for the 2021 year. Jim stated that the model moving forward will be with the use of the Coordinated Entry lists. Jim stated that there was a planning group that worked on a packet of information to be used for the PIT count and ongoing for coordinated entry purposes. The packet includes a script for HMIS use, releases of information, an information gathering document, and a referral to coordinated entry for Margaret Dixon. Lynne clarified that the document is to be used for unsheltered individuals who are not on the by name list to be added.

### **B.) ESG-CV2 Funding & COC Funding**

The grant amount was \$930,000 for Region 12. Applicants in the first round with CV1 were submitted by Community Crossroads and Center for Family Violence which was awarded. Both initial applicants applied for CV2 funding as well. Jim solicited updates from each applicant.

Ken Becker stated that he received an email this morning regarding the funds which was a weekly update and it advised that the contract is still being worked on. Ken stated that he spoke with Lisa a week prior who stated that funding over \$200 thousand requires a second step which is causing the delay.

No update from the Center for Family Violence.

Tujuanda Spoke about the COC process. Tujuanda stated that there is a COC competition yearly issued by HUD. The competition was cancelled for 2020 due to COVID which prompt HUD to automatically renew the funding for the previous years recipients. Greenville Housing Authority, Trillium, and Pitt County Planning COC Rapid Rehousing are among the recipients. According to Steering Committee there will be a 2021 competition with a registration deadline of March 4<sup>th</sup>. There is also a release of a grant inventory worksheet which is due normally 6 weeks after the registration deadline. Anyone interested can go to the NCCEH website for further information and to apply.

Tujuanda spoke about the Homeless Management Information System also known as HMIS. Tujuanda stated that there is around 157 agencies not using HMIS and solicited the group for volunteers for a subcommittee to help with recruiting. The goal of the subcommittee is responsible for reaching out to at least 3 agencies a month with quarterly reporting, the first report due in April.

### **C.) Updates - Eviction Diversion Interest Group; Trillium Health (HOPE Project; current & going forward), Greene Lamp, Pitt County DSS and City of Greenville**

Jim put together a small group to work on evictions and to share updates on things like the eviction moratorium. The goal of the group is to maximize coordination efforts. The group meets on Wednesday afternoons at 4:00pm.

Jim announced that Trillium will not be renewing the HOPE project and will be wrapping things up by the end of February. Greene Lamp has funding and are continuing to service the community, Jim states. Jim mentioned that Social Services was the recipient of the CBDG CV funds for eviction (rent) and utility assistance. Also the City of Greenville has funding targeting eviction prevention assistance needs. After the question was posed by Lynne James, Jim clarified that the funding through the City Of Greenville is

not yet available. James Rhodes stated Pitt County Planning is working with Pitt County Department of Social Services to ensure that they are equipped to properly distribute CBDG CV funds.

Eviction moratorium extended by the governor until March 31, 2021.

Jim stated that on the COVID Leadership call Congressman Price's aid was on and advised that there were funds for eviction diversion in the Biden package. Hopefully, we will hear more on those funds. Jim clarified after asked by Dana that Pitt County was the recipient of the CBDG funds but Martin County received the funding as well early on and may be a resource.

#### **D.) Non-Congregate Housing**

Lynne reported that FEMA Non Congregate is now open indefinitely. Lynne confirmed that the funds will be continuing through June 30, 2021. Lynne stated that Non Congregate is continuing to house individuals in various hotels. There are currently around 11 people housed. Lynne clarified after being asked by Sally that individuals are generally being given about 14 day stays depending upon the individual situation of each household.

#### **E.) COVID-19 Vaccine - Peter**

Pete stated that he was on a call and received information about vaccinations. Pete stated that minorities numbers are low for vaccinations due to mistrust which is a work in progress. Pete stated that vaccination overall numbers for those who plan to be vaccinated has increased to 71% which is good. Pete discussed the levels of vaccinations, level 1 are being vaccinated now, 3 frontline essential workers, 4 is adults with risk of exposure or severe illness, and 5 is everyone. To find out your position people can go to [yourspotyourshot.gov](https://yourspotyourshot.gov) or call 877-490-6642. Pete discussed COVID precautions such as masks and social distancing.

Ken stated that the shelter staff have not been notified of their vaccination dates but some have already been vaccinated. Jim stated that there is rapid testing available for homeless shelters.

Jim discussed training through DHHHS which did not happen. Jim referenced PPE through DHHHS in which there is an order form for available items.

#### **F.) Back @ Home**

Currently no update on the Back at Home program. Jim stated that Bryan Fike from Trillium is the point of contact person for Back @ Home and has began attending calls with a co-worker who manages the database attending when available as well. Lynne stated that in the HMIS system she has seen Back @ Home entries made for people applying for the program. Lynne clarified that Back @ Home is a Rapid Rehousing program that may have housing navigators who may assist in searching and locating housing for applicants which will have case management and financial assistance follow. Jim stated that the program has other incentives offered to landlords for participation in the program and that it is funded by CBDG funding.

Lynne updated the group regarding NC Cares 360 program which was in the process of being used for Back @ Home referrals is no longer being used and has been replaced by smartsheets.

## **Housing Updates**

**GHA-** Mainstream Voucher Program launched and has had a lot of applicants and will close on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Project Safe shelter is available for hotel/motel stays with a slow start, one consumer used the service so far from Bertie County.

**Rapid Rehousing/Pitt County Planning-** Delores stated that funding is available and continuing to serve the homeless clients. Lynne stated they have picked up some new clients since January. SSO grant started a new cycle in December with several referrals that have come in.

**SOAR Updates-**one client currently being worked with.

**Trillium Health Resources-**No additional updates at this time.

**Mid-East Regional Housing Authority-**No updates available.

**C4FVP-**No updates at this time.

**Veterans Activities-Volunteers of America-**Offering COVID vaccinations at the Greenville Center.

**Pitt County Schools-** No update available.

**Vocational Rehabilitation-**No updates at this time.

**AmeriHealth Caritas-**No updates at this time.

**Community Crossroads Shelter-** No open beds at this time, family rooms are still not operable with hope for change soon. The TANF program is still continuing to serve clients and accepting referrals.

**NC Works Career Center-** is having a virtual career and resource fair on February 25<sup>th</sup> from 10am-12pm. Flyer to be distributed to the group. High school career fair setup for March 9<sup>th</sup>.