

**Region 12 (Inner Banks) Minutes
Regional Meeting NC Balance of State,
Continuum of Care
March 9 ,2022- 9:00 AM**

Virtual Meeting Due to COVID-19

Attendance

Tujuanda Sanders, Greenville Housing Authority (Host)
Naomi Anderson, Community Crossroads Center
Phoenix Hinson, City of Greenville
Melissa Eastwood, Trillium Health Resources
Devinder Culver, City of Greenville
James Rhodes, Pitt County Planning Alt
Lynne James, Pit County Planning
James Cox, Community Partner
Angela Bates, Green Lamp
Deloris Farmer, Pitt County Planning
Bridgette Moore, Green Lamp-Pitt County
Morgan Baker, PiCASO
Dr. Frazer, Pitt County DSS
Shirley Mitchell, Center for Family Violence Prevention
Margaret Dixon, Pitt County Planning
Lori-Ellyn Guttman, City of Greenville
Stephanie Elliott, Greenville Housing Authority
Myra Felton, Trillium Health Resources

Welcome

Tujuanda Sanders opened the meeting and called for introductions.

Consideration of February 2022 Regional Meeting Minutes

Lynne James approved and second by James Rhodes.

Guest Speaker: Morgan Hopley Baker, BS

Pitt County AIDS Service Organization (PiCASO) ITTS Testing Program Coordinator

Morgan Baker explains the Pitt County AIDS Service Organization (**PiCASO**) is to prevent the transmission of HIV through educational outreach and testing to Pitt County and the surrounding counties of Eastern North Carolina and help those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in our community. PiCASO also provides financial assistance up to \$300 a calendar year, including utilities, medical bills, and other aid to keep clients in care. Due to the pandemic, hotel assistance is provided for clients by PiCASO and working with GHA to provide permanent housing. This agency currently serves PITT, Lenoir, Greene, and Wayne Counties; starting June'22, PITT/Craven will be the only counties served. Morgan explains that the agency can typically help 10-12 people; the agency assisted at least 25 people last year due to the pandemic. PiCASO is not grant-funded and solely depends on fundraising;

one is the “**Dry Brunches**,” once a month (Sundays) at the Scullery in Greenville, NC; the money raised assists clients, financially. PiCASO also assists with inmate testing monthly (last week of the month) and helps inmates with various needs when exiting the system. There is no referral needed, and the client can contact the agency for assistance; however, giving the agency an advance notice is appreciated and makes the process easier.

Updates/Reports/NC Balance of State Action Items

Point In Time- Stephanie reports the unsheltered sub-committee meets every two weeks, and the goal is to become more systematic in keeping the flow of information for the unsheltered. Discussions are underway about quarterly calling to keep unsheltered homeless details up to date and to keep clients in the system database. Please contact Lynne James or Stephanie Elliot for any community partners interested in joining the sub-committee. According to figures from 2022, there are 23 unsheltered individuals, very close to the previous year's figure.

Emergency Solutions Grant- Lynne reports the BOS will be hosting ESG workshops in the Spring leading to the next ESG Grant cycle.

BOS Steering Committee- Tujuanda announced the BOS- meeting talked about PIT Housing Inventory Count, but the focus was the CoC Competition 2022. The CoC Program Registration for the 2022 CoC Program Competition opened on March 4, 2022, and will close on April 7, 2022, at 5:00 pm EDT. The 2022 CoC Program Registration Webinar – March 23, 2022 – 2:00 pm.

Community Resources & Agency Updates

Greene Lamp- Bridgette Moore says Greene Lamp- continues to take CSBG & Cares program applications. Assistance includes funding for education, healthcare, housing, emergency assistance, money management, and senior emergency assistance (must be covid related). Contact Bridgette Moore for help at 252.933.0716 (PITT, Beaufort, Greene & Lenoir Counties).

Eviction Diversion- Discussion at last meeting to reach out to Realtors, Investors, Community leaders to assist with finding abandoned buildings and funding to renovate or assist with establishing affordable housing. Lori- no updates. Bridgette- no response from realtors-waiting on return calls. Meetings are on the third- Wednesday of each month (pending committee schedules).

Trillium Health Resources- No-Updates

Coordinated Entry- Lynne states there is more participation from the outlying counties with Coordinated Entry. In the last few case conferencing meetings there have been more referrals and discussions about clients in all 5 Regional Counties. The Beaufort County United Way, Zion's Men's Shelter, and Open-Door Community have established a 24/7 Safe Harbor Helpline that assists individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Lynne will provide more information in the days to come.

TANF- Naomi- still accepting applications for rent arrears and security deposits and the first month's rent.

Housing Program Updates

Trillium Health Resources- No updates

Community Crossroads Center- Bed space is available. The hotel program is in effect and can assist up to 4 families. The TANF program has assisted two families in the hotel program with housing.

Greenville Housing Authority- Stephanie reports that the efforts are to get families leased up with the Mainstream Vouchers. GHA is partnering with PITT DSS (Foster Youth Program), ages 18-24, Veterans Administration (VASH Program) 21 additional vouchers to assist with housing. The 24 of the 27 Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) issued to GHA are in a lease. A BOS representative has asked Tujuanda and Stephanie to participate in a "Peer Sharing session" for leadership guidance to other Housing Authorities. Lynne James Comments that "GHA is a model for housing authorities working with Coordinated Entry and a leader in getting the EHV's distributed." Congratulations GHA!

Pitt County Rapid Rehousing Programs (ESG & COC)- Deloris-ESG- great response with referrals has housed three clients and money for more assistance. Remember- enrollment in all housing programs must come from Coordinated Entry.

Center for Family Violence Prevention- Shirley informs the group that the family room is available to assist a family of 4.

Announcements- Lynne-COC- FEMA, Emergency Food & Shelter Program meeting on March 3, 2022, provided information about money coming to the community. FEMA allocates funds to the community and has money through the American Rescue Plan Act to distribute. Several agencies will receive money to provide rent, utilities, shelter, food boxes, and prepared meals to the community. The PITT County Council on Aging (COA) will give prepared meals for seniors in PITT County through the Meals-on-Wheels Program. GHA is receiving funds through the (Greenville Housing Development Corporation) to assist with rent, mortgages, and hotel stays. The Center for Family Violence Prevention, Community Crossroads Center are recipients of funds. The Salvation Army received funds for (rent, utilities), Anointed One's Church (Ayden), Grifton Mission Missionary (Food Boxes), Catholic Charities, Love in Action (Food Boxes).

Dr. Frazer will be presenting on "Youth Homelessness" at the Bring it Home Homeless Conference May 10-11, 2022, hosted by NC Coalition to End Homelessness and NC Housing Coalition. The Bringing it Home Conference registration is open- the cost is \$50 for the 2-day event.

Adjournment- Motion to Adjourn by Deloris Farmer- Tujuanda adjourned.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 13, 2022, @ 9 am (Virtual)