

**Region 12 (Inner Banks) Minutes
Regional Meeting NC Balance of State,
Continuum of Care
Wednesday, July 13,2022- 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, Greenville Police Department
James Rhodes, Pitt County Planning Alt
Lynne James, Pit County Planning
Angela Bates, Executive Director-Green Lamp
Deloris Farmer, Pitt County Planning
Bridgette Moore, Green Lamp-Pitt County
Angela Ellis, Director- Martin County Department of Social Services
Shantell Cheek, Access East
Laketra Claude, Trillium
Jim Cox, Planning Department
Genean Hill, Executive Director- Volunteers of America
Kim Anderson, Pitt County Schools
Lori Guttman- City of Greenville
Stephanie Elliott, Greenville Housing Authority
Dr. Augustine Frazer, Director- Pitt County Department of Social Services
Kisha Darden, Trillium

Welcome

Tujuanda Sanders opened the meeting and called for introductions.

Consideration of July 2022 Regional Meeting Minutes

Minutes were presented to the group by Tujuanda Sanders for review. Ms. Deloris Farmer offered a motion for approval and seconded by Naomi Anderson.

Updates/Reports

Guest Speaker: Shantell Cheek-Uninsured Programs Director/Health Assist Coordinator. HealthAssist is not insurance; it is a nonprofit program to help meet the medical needs of qualifying uninsured residents of Beaufort, Greene, Edgecombe, Hertford, Martin, and Pitt counties. Healthassist is not part of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and does not collect any premiums or payments. Community providers

generously donate all our care. HealthAssist helps eligible patients receive healthcare from participating specialists at a reduced or discounted fee. HealthAssist provides enrollees with a case manager who will: Help them follow the treatment plan provided by their doctor, keep them aware of free community health screenings, and link them to community resources that may be able to assist with medications, diabetic-testing supplies, and financial concerns. In addition, HealthAssist enrollees referred to a specialist by their primary-care doctor may be eligible to see that specialist for a \$30 co-pay or at a reduced rate. To qualify for the HealthAssist program, you must: Live in Beaufort, Greene, Edgecombe, Hertford, Martin, or Pitt counties, have no health insurance, meet HealthAssist's income guidelines, not be eligible for Medicaid, Medicare, VA benefits, or N.C. Health Choice, complete a Medicaid screening. HealthAssist DOES NOT pay for doctor visits, medical bills, or prescriptions. **HEALTHASSIST DOES NOT COVER EMERGENCY-ROOM VISITS, HOSPITAL IN-PATIENT CARE, OR AMBULANCE SERVICES AND DOES NOT HELP WITH DENTAL CARE.** Healthassist offers three free clinics: Pitt County Health Department (every other Sunday from 12-4p) (Please call 252-717-7395 to inquire about availability), Oakmont Baptist Church (1400 Red Banks Road, Greenville) (second and fourth Tuesdays from 6 pm until 7:30 pm), and Greenville Community Shelter, **dba** Community Crossroad Center (207 Manhattan Ave Greenville) (Mondays from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm and the first and third Thursday of each month from 6:30–9:30 pm.) The Joy Soup Kitchen will be the fourth location, TBA. Some donated services are Vision, Hearing, Dental (not guaranteed) Podiatry, Gastroenterology, Nephrology, Urology, Dermatology, Plastic Surgery, ENT, Orthopedics, Anesthesiology, Radiology, MyEyeDr, and Carolina Digestive Diseases. ECU School of Dental Medicine. The Healthassist team participates in several food give-away events and partners with the farming community to assist farm workers. To learn more about eligibility, call (252) 847-2821 to speak to a program representative or <https://www.accesseast.org/>.

Point In Time- Stephanie reports the unsheltered committee meeting is every other Tues @ 10a; the committee met last Tue, 7/5/22, and will meet again on 7/19/22 @ 10a. The committee has concluded the first round of calls and is now entering the second phase of calls. The Balance of State (BOS) provided the unsheltered committee with a \$100 gift card and the funds were used to purchase expandable wash clothes, hygiene kits, and rain ponchos. The Unsheltered Committee welcomes any outreach opportunities; please don't hesitate to contact Lynne or Stephanie if you're interested in joining the committee.

Emergency Solutions Grant- Tijuana announces the three grant competitions that are going on now. The COC grantee should have received a grant inventory worksheet- outlining the agency, project, and amount HUD is awarding for the upcoming year. Scorecards are available on the HUD website. The intent for agencies to apply for a new project (PSH/RRH) is now open. On June 22, 2022, HUD announced the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness. There is \$322 million in competitive funding available to communities to address unsheltered and rural homelessness. This opportunity is the first of its kind to address unsheltered homelessness and homeless encampments. Funding is set aside to address homelessness in rural communities and support communities in developing their plans to address rural and unsheltered homelessness. The BOS has \$14,843,764 for the unsheltered and \$10,478,984 for the rural community to assist with PSH and rent. These counties include Beaufort, Bertie, Martin, and Washington Counties. The grant term is three years and is due to HUD by 10/20/22. The first submission of documents is due 8/11/22. The Project Review Committee Orientation is on 8/20/2022, 2:30 pm - 4 pm. The Lived Expertise Advisory Council is a group of people who have experienced homelessness. Region 12 needs individuals from this region to join to review policies that govern the BOS and vote on an initiative for special NOFO grants. The group is encouraged to ask clients that fit the criteria to participate. Compensation for the participants is \$15 per hour. Please get in touch with Tijuana with the name of potential participants. The Emergency Solutions Grant Competition for 2023 is as follows: The COC will release the Request for Application (RFA) on 7/19/2022. Region 12 ESG awarded funds are \$152,548. BOS timeline webinars are on July 26 & 28, August 2, 2022. The Project Applications are due on 8/2/2022; the Project Application Review takes place from 8/15 to 8/23. On 8/24/2022, there will be a Project Review Selection meeting. On 9/3/2022, the Steering Committee will recommend the project application. The deadline for all appeals is 9/16/2022; additional appeals are due on 9/20/2022. The Project & Regional Applications are due 10/3/2022.

Community Resources & Agency Updates

Greene Lamp- Bridgette reports to the group that funding is available and is now taking applications for the Cares Program if you or someone in the household has been affected by COVID. Rental and utility assistance is available; remind all applicants to bring required documentation for prompt services. CSBG program is accepting applications to assist with finding full-time employment.

Eviction Diversion- Lori at the City of Greenville announces the finalization of surveys from 20 different agency participants. A summary of the participant in the Home-ARP Stakeholders Survey results in participants includes: Homeless Service Providers, Continuum of Care, Organizations Serving people with Disabilities, Fair Housing Organizations, Veteran's Services, Domestic Violence Service Providers, Civil Rights Organizations, Legal Services, Anti-Human Trafficking Advocacy, Community Organizations serving Underprivileged Youth, Youth Services for at-risk Youth, Self-development for at-risk youth, Federally Qualifies Health Center, Managed Care Organizations, Foster Children Aging out of the System, Employment and Training Services. As a reminder, the qualifying population for the Home-ARP Grant is Homeless and at-risk homelessness, Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, Preventing homeless families or those with the most significant risk of housing instability. Veteran's families that meet the preceding criteria: Rental units (affordable housing) are one of the greatest unmet service needs among the qualifying population. Home-ARP eligible activities are Production or Preservation of the Affordable Rental Housing, Tenant-based Rental Assistance, Supportive Services, including Homeless Prevention Services, Housing Counseling Acquisition, Conversion, Rehabilitation, or Construction of Non-Congregate Shelters. The development of Affordable Rental Housing and Rental Assistance is the top-ranking priority within the community for using the Home-ARP funds. There is a suggestion that the funds can help the applicants learn budgeting skills. However, Lynne says that when using HUD funds, HUD will not allow agencies to require applicants to utilize budgeting skills and cannot require it as a condition to receive assistance. Arlington West Apt. and Pecan Grove owners will not meet or honor the Section-8 vouchers; the residents must vacate the premises. East Bend Trace- a low-income housing unit is expected to open at the beginning of August for occupancy and will accept housing vouchers. Dr. Frazer voices concern for the seniors on fixed incomes and being forced out of their homes without other living quarters and how this will affect them long-term. Jim introduces the idea of starting a **Community Housing Forum** to publicize the housing crises and advocate for the individuals affected by the increased rent market and families displaced by the new ownerships. Dr. Frazer suggests having the Legal Clinic work with the group to help with the housing crisis. Jim is pushing for a dialogue with local officials, legislation, and congress to educate them on the importance of affordable housing and the housing crisis that most communities face.

Trillium Health Resources- No updates

Coordinated Entry- No updates

TANF- There is funding available, but there is a backlog of applications. The program is seeing an increase in evictions and families experiencing homelessness. Families are facing increasing fees and are having trouble paying the fees to receive rental assistance.

Pitt County Schools- No update

Housing Program Updates

Community Crossroads Center- Beds are available, and one or possibly two openings in the Non-Congregate Hotel program.

Greenville Housing Authority- PSH is accepting applications. HUD Vash Vouchers are available for Veterans. HOPWA funds are available to HIV persons or if an individual is living in the household. HOPWA assists with rent arrears, utilities, a security deposit, and the first month's rent, Budgeting, and Housing plans.

Pitt County Rapid Rehousing Programs (ESG & COC)- Funds are available
Center for Family Violence Prevention- No updates

Announcements- none

Adjournment- Motion by Dr. Frazer and seconded by Phoenix Hinson

Next Meeting: Wednesday. August 10, 2022, 9 am (Virtual)