

## **NC BoS CoC Racial Equity Subcommittee**

August 16, 2023

**Attendees:** Christina Rary, Kim Grady, Kenett Melgar, Kisha Darden, Quiotti Ratliff, Mary Erwin, Tujuanda Sanders, Tonya Gray, Melissa Elliot, Deniece Cole,

**Staff:** Andrea Carey, Teresa Robinson

### **2023 Racial Equity Analysis:**

Andrea Carey reviewed findings from the 2023 RE Analysis report sent to subcommittee members before the meeting and the Key Areas of Action section for CoC commitments. Discussion centered around three areas:

#### *Staff and stakeholder engagement*

- Affordable Housing (definition of affordable), affordability for fixed income 30% AMI or below - or 0 income! Fair Market Value for rent -- making more realistic once clients get access to services. Rights of habitable, clean, safe housing. Accountability for landlords (plumbing, exposed electricity) Expenses beyond rent - utilities, food, pets, transportation.
- Treat people like humans. Being a landlord is a privilege not a right - getting bad landlords out of the business.

#### *CoC and agency policies and activities*

- Client Bill of Rights
- Access to phones, when you need an address for services or tools to have a fighting chance.
- How do we help folks in the first 6 months - get income/employment, tools to fight for their rights, literacy.
- Policies in RRH/PSH - eligible expenses and providing truly supportive wrap-around services beyond accessing housing. Need funding/support for 'After-care' or follow-up services.
- Can we have a standardized landlord contract? Landlord mitigation funds to back that up?

#### *CoC governance and accountability*

- Accountability for funding and competitions. How do agencies demonstrate they are following policies that sound good?
- Follow-up for agencies and landlords. Involving state/federal/local regulatory bodies on audits, coordinating with Legal Aid. Can landlords pass the Would you live here test?
- Annual meeting with property providers for education?

After discussion concluded and activities finalized, the 2023 RE Analysis was officially and unanimously recommended for approval by the Steering Committee.

### **Next Meeting:**

- September 20, 2023 at 11:30 am