



REGION 11-COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION: VIRTUAL

DATE: 1/14/2025

ATTENDEES: Kisha Darden - Trillium, Kit Claude - Trillium, Michele Welsh - Trillium, Tawonya Morgan - FVCC, Asha Joell - Trillium, Sheila Perry - FVCC, Latoya Smith - Trillium, Kimberly Gailor - Trillium, Bernard Byrum - Matthew 25 Ministries, Gretchen Hilburger - Hampton VA, Midge Hudyma - Elizabeth City Pasquotank Public Schools, Megan Slagle - Elizabeth City Pasquotank Public Schools Student Intern, Michelle Moore - River City CDC, Latoya Smith - Trillium, Talaika Williams - Trillium, Ray Virgo - VOA, Cheryl Banks - Trillium, Debra A. Susie - NCCEH, Nicole Walker - Albemarle Hopeline, Marti Chick-Ebey - Hampton VA, Tony Rice - Spring Life, Trenece Vaughan - Chowan DSS

TIME: 1:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Kit Claude called to order the regular meeting of Region 11's Northeastern Homeless Coalition Committee Meeting on 1/14/25 at 1pm.


II. ROLL CALL

Kit Claude conducted introductions - everyone introduced themselves

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

December minutes were approved.

IV. BOS STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATES

- A. On the last Steering Committee call, they introduced new leadership for the different regions for the upcoming year. NCCEH staff introduced themselves and gave updates. The updates included upcoming meetings and reminders. They did not have time to do a summary orientation about how everything works, but the hope is to do it in the February meeting. It is a public meeting, and all are welcome. Kit will send out the invite for the meeting right before the next Steering Committee meeting.
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V. COORDINATED ENTRY

Nothing new to update.

VI. NC LOCAL LEADERSHIP RESPONSE CALL – PER MS. DEBRA A. SUSIE FROM NCCEH

- A. The call will be on Jan. 15th (tomorrow at 1 pm).
- B. This is a monthly gathering, which will transition to every other month starting this year. This session features one of Trillium's own (Cecilia Peers) as part of the roundtable discussion on street medicine. While these models come from Los Angeles, CA, and Phoenix, AZ, they may initially seem less applicable to rural communities. Cecilia will be joined by County Health Representatives from Burke and Gaston counties
- C. The goal is to explore how these best practices can be adapted for rural settings. The model from Los Angeles involves the University of Southern California, where medical students learning healthcare professions are actively involved in street outreach.
- D. Below is the link and additional details for the meeting:

NC Local Leadership Response call tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. on

Behavioral Health Care and Homelessness with
USC (LA) Street Medicine Program and Circle the City in Phoenix Login:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83792461651>

There will be a Q & A Round Table representing 2 LME/MCO networks and 2 NC CoCs.

VII. PIT COUNT – HELD JAN. 29TH

- A. We need to develop a plan for assigning counties and organizing the PIT Count. To coordinate this, we will meet on Friday at 1:30 pm this week to finalize the plan. Kit will send out an email invite for the meeting. If you're unable to attend, we will provide an update and encourage you to volunteer to assist. After the meeting, we will send an email detailing who will cover each area. We already have someone available to help with Camden and Currituck counties. If you were not present at today's committee meeting, kit will be reaching out to you directly.

VIII. PLANS FOR THE NEW YEAR

- A. We are looking to boost participation, as we currently see a lot of turnover with people who attend briefly but don't stay engaged. Please brainstorm ideas to help increase ongoing involvement.

We plan to hold 2 to 3 face-to-face meetings each year, with our next one scheduled for March. We are in need of an agency to host this meeting. If you're interested in hosting, please reach out to Kit. The host will also need the ability to accommodate virtual participation for those unable to attend in person.

Additionally, we want to reconnect with counties that were previously represented, such as Hertford County. Kit will be contacting agencies in Hertford County to explore ways to bring them back into the fold.

IX. IDEAS FOR THIS YEAR TO BECOME A BETTER REGIONAL COMMITTEE

1. For the school system (per Midge Hudyma) – In the school systems there is someone who handles McKinney Vento which is our definition of homeless students and families, and they should be included. Each school has a designated person that identifies and handles that. The counties are Camden, Currituck, Elizabeth City, Perquimans, Chowan, and Gates. Everyone should have a McKinney Vento liaison in their district.
2. Intro Email (Per Midge Hudyma) – An intro email/welcome that talks about how we'd like to build the team as well as the purpose of the meeting, when the committee meets, etc. so agencies know where they would fit into this committee. Directors of agencies are all public information so the email can be sent out to them.
3. For Election Time Next Year (Per Kit Claude) - Another goal if we get more participation, is to have others step into leadership roles at election time.
4. Presentations (Per Kit Claude) - Last year we (Trillium) did have different agencies present the different programs they offer. Kit may reach out to you to ask you to put something together.
5. Every Agency Contacts Another Agency (Per Talaika Williams) – Each agency that has presented on today's call could reach out to another agency within their community or county they serve to invite them to present their services to the committee, helping to connect them with our group.

X. "BRINGING IT HOME" CONFERENCE

- A. There will be a "Bringing it Home" conference May 15th-16th. Registrations will start in March and will be held in Raleigh. The conference will cover a broad range of topics related to homelessness. If you'd like to attend, Kit will be sending out an invite.

XI. AGENCY UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. DSS – No Updates
- B. School Systems – They have 131 students identified as McKinney Vento that would be students in school or younger siblings that aren't in school or are in daycare. Last year there were 187 students. Their definition is different from HUDs. Theirs is if you lost housing and doubled up due to financial reasons. The whole thing is if you lost housing. You could be in a hotel, or in a camper because you lost housing. The issue continues to be housing and what's available versus what's not available. They no longer have funding to assist with housing other than identifying students and keeping stable in school.
- C. County Agencies – No Updates
- D. October Road – No Updates
- E. Spring Life – No Updates
- F. Albemarle Hopeline – No Updates
- G. SHIP – They been making good traction. Still working on what it will fully look like. There is a proposal on the table that they're trying to secure a building in order to secure some apartments. It would be for mixed income. They've had good leeway so far. The specific propose is for stable housing. SHIPs propose is to also have people look at homelessness through housing first.
- H. Volunteers of America – No Updates

I. Albemarle Regional Health Services - No Updates

XII. HOUSING PROGRAM

- A. River City Community Development Corporation – There is a common misperception about how people experiencing homelessness are serviced. While there are many calls and referrals, the waitlist remains steady at 20 or more, particularly in winter. The goal is to help individuals transition into stable housing, with longer-term support. They are working on a flowchart of who to call when. They're working with clients on the emergency shelter part and moving them into stable housing. There is a "Warming Center Policy", which will provide a safe warm environment for residents in Elizabeth City during extreme weather cold events ensuring the health and safety of individuals who may be at risk of exposure to dangerously low temperatures. The activation criteria for this when temperatures are forecasted below 10 degrees including windshield factor. Whether there is a cold weather advisory, freeze warning, or extreme weather alert that is issued by the national weather service or request for widespread heating system failures or power outages. This "Warming Center", will be on city property and will be from 8am to 8pm.
- B. EIC – No Updates
- C. Trillium Health Resources – No Updates
- D. Hampton VA – Our PIT Count is next week – any veterans being presented they would be happy to see what they can do.

SUCCESS STORIES:

Latoya Smith (Trillium Health Resources) has five people/families housed... woohoo!

ANNOUNCEMENTS: N/A

NEXT MEETING: February 11th – 1pm – Meeting will be held virtually