**Johnston County Regional Housing Committee**

**NC Balance of State Continuum of Care**

**Meeting Minutes from November 15, 2012**

**In Attendance:**

Ellen Blackman, Johnston County Mental Health

Keri Christensen, Harbor

Warren Grimes, Smithfield Housing Authority

Margaret Hinnant, Johnston County Mental Health

T. Nicole Jones, Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action

Tonia McCormick, Johnston County Health Department

Sandra Norris, Johnston County Housing Assistance Payments Program

Ben Olsen, Smithfield Rescue Mission

Charity Pate, Johnston County Department of Social Services

Tina Ray, Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action

Cherri Swails, Johnston Recovery Services

**Introductions:**

Attendee introductions were made.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Motion was made by Cherri Swails and seconded by Sandra Norris to accept the minutes from the Thursday October 18, 2012 meeting with no corrections being noted.

**Emergency Solutions Grant:**

Ellen Blackman gave an update on the ESG application. Harbor has received their contract but Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action has not received their contract but should receive it any day. Community Action will be doing the intakes for eligibility and the group asked questions about the referral process. Everyone was invited to attend the State’s first webinar on November 26, 2012 at 9:30. We will be meeting at Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action for this webinar that is focusing on documenting homelessness for the Emergency Solutions Grants.

**BoS Steering Committee Meeting Updates form 11-6-12**

Ellen gave information on the upcoming NCCEH meetings –

November 19 -Scorecard Committee

November 20 - Permanent Supportive Housing Committee

November 27 - Data Quality (CHIN)

November 27 – Point In Time Count 101 Webinar

Ellen asked for any volunteers that would like to serve on a Point In Time Committee. The Point in Time Count will be held on the night of January 30, 2013.

NCCEH is now under contract with NC DHHS to coordinate the Balance of State CoC.

The NCCEH has created web pages on their website for each Regional BoS Committee to post their meeting information such as agendas, minutes and contacts. The new CoC NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) will be out soon. As a reminder, the Johnston Regional Committee is not eligible to apply for this funding due to the fact that this Committee was not formed within the time limits.

**Program:**

Ben Olsen from the Smithfield Rescue Mission presented information about the Mission. The mission was started in 1977 by Rev. and Mrs. Marjorie Olsen. Ben states they have grown about 85% in the last two years. The women’s shelter, The Good Neighbor House, has 6 beds. The men’s program, The New Life Program lasts about 4-8 months. It is a Christ centered program. The emergency shelter is a shorter term program. It is usually 1, 3 or 7 nights.

**Program:**

Margaret Hinnant, Community Relations Coordinator, discussed the changes at the Johnston County Mental Health Center. Effective January 1, 2013, the Center will become a MCO (Managed Care Organization). Wake and Durham counties merged on July 1, 2012 and they formed Alliance Behavioral Health. Johnston is NOT merging with Alliance. Johnston and Cumberland are signing an inter local agreement with Alliance. Alliance will be the corporate office and will manage the funding. This formation will be the largest MCO in the State. The Johnston County Health Department will be overseeing the safety net services for mental health, substance abuse and intellectual developmental disabilities consumers.

**Announcements:**

Keri Christensen, Harbor Executive Director, announced that Harbor would be building a new 10,000 sq ft shelter. Keri asked if we could think about how to coordinate all the county services and resources to help families at Christmas for 2013.

Ellen announced that the JC Mental Health Association would not be able to offer their angel tree project this year. Charity Pate stated that a local bank had volunteered to help some of the Department of Social Service clients that she works with.

**Adjournment:**

 The next meeting will be held on December 20, 2012 at 10:30 am at the Johnston County Mental Health Center Conference Room.

\*Beginning in January 2013, the two Housing Committee Meetings will be combined into one meeting. The proposal will be to meet monthly on the third Thursday at 10:30 am at the Johnston County Mental Health Center. Please contact Ellen Blackman if you have any suggestions or comments regarding this proposed meeting schedule.