Wilson Greene CoC

March 19, 2013

Present: Candice Rountree, Wilson County DSS; Donna Pridgen, Wesley Shelter; Linda Walling, Hope Station; Terri Hooks, Wilson County Schools; Diane Kriesel, Sylvia Brewer, Claudia Baker, Veterans Residential Services; Valinda Belton, Wilson Housing Authority; Cynthia Smith, St. John CDC; Angela Ellis, Greene County DSS

Welcome and Introductions, as we had some new faces at the table today.

Cynthia shared that she does all the intakes for their transitional housing, she is the transitional housing coordinator. They have 9 current residents with a capacity for 13. They serve homeless males and can help them secure employment and assist with rent/utilities. Cynthia shared information about their vocational training program for at risk youth aged 14 – 17. They have 4 training tracks: culinary arts, brick masonry, computer rebuilding, and hardwood flooring. The youth choose 2 tracks and if they choose computers, they build their own computer they are able to keep. St. John’s provides meals and transportation for the youth.

Cynthia also shared that they are in the process of renovating the old Terminal Drug store and this will be a shelter for families. The ice cream shop/deli should open in April/May and those profits will help support the shelter.

Linda from Hope Station shared that they are completely full with 20 beds. They could add a cot if a domestic violence victim needed assistance. Hope Station also services homeless men. Linda talked about the number of clients they serve with mental health conditions. She also shared that she has learned that McDonald’s will hire sex offenders depending on the offense.

Valinda from Wilson Housing Authority will be the ongoing representative. Valinda agreed to make a presentation to the group at our next meeting, as there seemed to be a lot of questions regarding accessing services and who fit into a priority population. Veterans and homeless are no longer a priority with WHA.

Candice shared information from the Balance of State CoC.

The BoS Project Review Committee used a scorecard to score and rank projects for the 2012 CoC application. NC Coalition to End Homelessness staff sent individual scorecards to applicants. Wilson Green CoC did not apply.

Regional Lead Elections are still underway. NCCEH will provide training to all new and renewing Regional Leads. Candice Rountree is the Regional Lead for Wilson Greene CoC. Regions who fail to elect a Lead in a timely manner will have the consequence of not being able to apply for future grant funding.

NCCEH staff submitted HMIS data to the AHAR (Annual Homeless Assessment Report) from the BoS. HUD only accepts data that is of high quality. The BoS was able to submit useable data for 10 of 12 categories. Data for Permanent Supportive Housing for Families was not accepted in the Veterans and All Persons categories.

If agencies haven’t submitted Point in Time (PIT) forms, send those in immediately.

Wilson-Greene’s PIT included the following: Unsheltered were 10, rapid rehoused were 14, 24 in transitional housing (St John and Flynn), 35 in emergency shelters (Hope Station and Wesley Shelter).

We didn’t have data to report from Greene County.

The BoS will need to review governance policies to comply with new HEARTH regulations. Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing: On May 20, 2009, President Obama signed the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009. The [HEARTH Act](http://www.hudhre.info/index.cfm?do=viewResource&ResourceID=4027) amends and reauthorizes the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act with substantial changes, including:

* A consolidation of HUD's competitive grant programs;
* The creation of a Rural Housing Stability Assistance Program;
* A change in HUD's definition of homelessness and chronic homelessness;
* A simplified match requirement;
* An increase in prevention resources; and,
* An increase in emphasis on performance.

The CoC will operated under this interim rule for at least the next 2 competitions. The 2013 competition is expected to be held earlier this year, with HUD holding CoC registration in early spring or summer.

BoS provided the following links and asked each Regional Lead to review:

At a minimum, each Regional Lead and grantee should review this guide, “Establishing and Operating a CoC”, which is a clear overview of the governance regulations. That guide is attached with the minutes.

The regulations that the guide references can be found here: <https://www.onecpd.info/resource/2035/coc-program-interim-rule-formatted-version/>

BoS posted the Project Specialist Position.

News from Community Partners:

Donna from Wesley Shelter shared that they are 30 years old and will be hosting a 5K run and a 30 Yard Dash for men, “Pump it up”. This event will occur May 4th at First Presbyterian Church. They will auction off wooden chairs painted by local artists and are asking for donations of chairs.

Candice shared information from Susan Parker. Susan requests that Hope Station submit their request for reimbursement monthly. Wesley Shelter is submitting on a monthly basis.

Our Crisis Intervention Program(CIP) completed an audit at DSS in February. She took our concern regarding using CIP funds to assist homeless to the state. We haven’t heard anything yet regarding our ability to use CIP funds for temporary shelter.

Diane mentioned that when she attended a CoC meeting in Rocky Mount, they seemed to have a much greater count of their homeless population.

We discussed the importance of getting an accurate count in Wilson/Greene. Angela said she had been in communication with law enforcement in Greene County who stated they were only aware of 1 homeless person utilizing an abandoned house in Greene County. Discussion among the group regarding folks from Greene County seeking shelter in Wilson County, so we know there are homeless folks in Greene County.

All attendees agreed to bring brochures from their agency/program to our next meeting so that we could all be informed regarding services in the community.

Howard Anthony has updated our directory, so that we will have current contact information for all members.

Our next meeting is April 16th at Wesley Shelter. We did discuss moving the meeting location and we will begin rotating meeting places with our May meeting.