**Alamance County Interagency Council for Homelessness**

**January 7, 2013**

Attendees: Jan Bowman, ABSS; Kim Braxton, RTSA; Suellen Dalton, volunteer; Maseta Dorley, Cardinal Innovations; Donna Hodges, Allied Churches; Elizabeth Lockley, CHIN; Heidi Norwick, United Way; Jashella Sessoms, PSI; Jackie Sheffield, Weed & Seed/BPD; Clara Trollinger, volunteer; Calvetta Watlington, Family Abuse Services; Robin Wintringham, Habitat for Humanity.

The minutes of the December 3, 2012, meeting of ACICHA were distributed. A motion to approve as distributed was made by Heidi Norwick with a second by Jan Bowman. The minutes were approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Balance of State CoC: Jackie Sheffield represented our Regional Committee and served on the Ranking Committee for the 2012 NOFA. Jackie did not participate in ranking proposals from our area. There was a discussion of the proposals that were submitted to the Balance of State and it was noted that all were approved and ranked with the exception of RTSA’s Alamance Women’s Permanent Housing Supplement application. There were concerns by the ranking committee that RTSA was only requesting monies for services. There was an explanation that RTSA had been told by the local HUD representative that this would be an appropriate and fundable HUD request as submitted. The Balance of State’s position is that, while fundable, this proposal did not fit within the current Balance of State priorities for funding and would not be moving forward in the process.

There are two funding tiers: Tier 1 for renewals and Tier 2 for new proposals. Because several agencies didn’t submit proposals, there was enough money to fund all proposals that were forwarded by the Ranking Committee for submission, including the new proposals. Of 30 proposals, Graham Housing was number 5, Cardinal Innovations two proposals were numbers 12 & 14; Burlington Development-HOPE project was ranked 24th; and, Burlington Development-STEPS project was ranked 27th. There are new Balance of State CoC performance goals now in place with the intent to reallocate supportive services funding and transitional housing funding to create permanent housing.

There is concern that there are slots that were open most if not all of the year for HOPE and STEPS. The population—chronically homeless—are the HOPE/STEPS population. No vouchers have been given this year. All those who are chronically homeless are funneled through Burlington Development Corp. at the start. While a combination of events occurred, there was money in the HOPE/STEPS projects that wasn’t spent. It is intended now that all slots will be filled. Donna Hodges spoke about how they have chronically homeless folks moving through the shelter frequently.

**Program Updates**

CHIN: Those with ART licenses can run their own DQ reports, APRs, etc. Allied Churches, RTSA and BHA/GHA are only ones with ART licenses at the present time. ART licenses are free for one license per agency. Elizabeth Lockley stated that, at some point in the future, there will be more “free” ART licenses per location. BoS CoC CHIN Grant & Subsidies: The Charlotte-Mecklenburg LME is tremendous in size. HMIS/CHIN is receiving funding priority. They are putting in place data analysis and performance measurement so that we can see when one person has been several places. Our CHIN is one of a very few state-wide systems—now that we have Charlotte-Mecklenberg. We are providing sample data sets from Winston-Salem, San Francisco, Chicago, etc. Winston Salem is especially good at gathering information for their population.

RTSA: There is currently one opening in the Mebane Street group home. Of the current residents, 5 have been in program more than 6 months.

Rapid ReHousing: Several questions were brought forward: What are the results of the HPRP program? How successful has this model been thus far? Are participants remaining permanently housed? During discussion, it was determined that there was no money available to track the success rate in the first 1M in HPRP that we received. From Maseta Dorley’s past experience with HPRP, it appears that, with services, there was success—without services, people fell back into homelessness.

Donna Hodges said we have no guidelines for this year’s Rapid Rehousing money as of just before Christmas. Money has not been distributed thus far as they have no guidelines. Suellyn Dalton requested any data from the shelter regarding those who have been in HPRP before who are cycling back through the program. Under the HPRP funding through the United Way, there was no funding for an analyst to evaluate data available in a useable format. There could perhaps be information in CHIN thru events in Rapid Rehousing. Elizabeth Lockley suggested that this is one of the things we can request through the CHIN Help Desk. Once we get the list of HPRP participants and compare it to the list of the folks coming through the shelter, we can evaluate if HPRP funding had the intended effect on the population it intended to serve. Suellyn Dalton strongly suggested that we gather this data now while we still can. There is a “Blue Ribbon Commission” on this. However, there is no meeting between mental health services and permanent housing. It does seem to be the intent to leave these things separate. Making the connection between the two is potentially a need that members of ACICHA can meet.

501(c)3 Status: Suellyn Dalton strongly suggested that we proceed with completing ACICHA’s 501(c)3 status as this would enable ACICHA to apply for and receive grant funding to assist with local homelessness. Jackie Sheffield and Heidi Norwick are working on this. Suellyn has volunteered to assist in getting this completed and sent.

HOPE/STEPS: No one from the Burlington Development Corporation was in attendance to provide an update on these projects.

Allied Churches: There will be a new Executive Director in the near future. The Resource Center is in need of new computers for visitor use. There is a continuous flow of traffic throughout the Center—staying packed and into overflow. There is a great interest in the energy assistance funding. The Emergency Food and Shelter program is in place but the funding hasn’t come down for the rental assistance as yet.

Cardinal Innovations: Maseta Dorley will coordinate a meeting with providers of matching fund services to get a projection of matching dollars in preparation for year end in March. Cardinal Innovations has a new local HUD representative and are awaiting guidance from this new rep. The Balance of State wants to be sure that anything from discussions with HUD be communicated in writing to prevent confusion later on. Maseta is looking for more matching commitments by the end of this week.

Shelter+Care: The S+C program has 4 new participants ready to move in by the end of this month. They can receive up to $150 for Duke Energy and natural gas deposits. There is no longer funding to assist with water bills and they’re no longer able to fill gas tanks.

Family Abuse: The Family Abuse Services Shelter is completely full and has been since the middle of December. As far as Calvetta Watlington, Shelter Director, is aware, the surrounding counties are full as well. As there are no potential openings soon, they are not paying for temporary hotel housing.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Balance of State Regional Lead/Meeting Attendance: Jackie Sheffield can no longer be our regional lead.

Jackie Sheffield made the motion that Kim Braxton be the ACICHA Regional Lead with a second by Heidi Norwick. This motion passed. Heidi Norwick will serve on the Steering Committee conference calls when Kim is unable to participate. At the beginning of each ACICHA meeting, we will document those who attended the BoS conference call. People who are funded must be on subcommittee conference calls. If an individual is not able to attend a subcommittee conference call, i.e., permanent housing, there can be no “stand-in” for that person. It is, therefore, extremely important that funded individuals are participating in these subcommittee conference calls.

Point in Time: The 2013 Point in Time (PIT) count will be held from 6:00 p.m. on January 30th until 6:00 p.m. on 1/31/13. The forms to complete this year’s count are not yet ready. Jackie Sheffield sent a copy of last year’s training powerpoint as a refresher for those participating in the PIT count. There is still an issue regarding the tracking of unaccompanied youth. Those participating in the Point in Time count will be Heidi Norwick, a representative from Burlington Development Corp., Maseta Dorley for Shelter+Care; Kim Braxton for RTSA; Jan Bowman for ABSS who will count unaccompanied youth, literally homeless, and those at-risk of losing their home (precariously housed). We will have to submit the actual survey forms we complete. There are currently 300 unaccompanied youth in the ABSS; over 700 youth who are McKinney Vento. There is no double count between ABSS and Family Abuse Services. NOTE: We cannot do a statistical analysis on our own, in place of an actual count, but we can pay someone to analyze our data. In addition to those agencies listed above, the following agencies will need forms: CrossRoads, Family Justice Center, Salvation Army, Loaves & Fishes (they serve homeless now). Jackie Sheffield has asked officers for help in knowing where the homeless camps are currently. Jackie, Heidi, and Maseta will count at Allied Churches at lunch on 1/31. Through Heidi’s efforts, we have a free pair of socks for each person who completes a survey. BoS PIT Training is 1/17/13 at 1:00 p.m via conference call. People participating in the PIT count should plan to meet at the Family Justice Center, on January 22, at 12N, to train the people who are actually doing the count, i.e., volunteers. We can count at Caring Kitchen on the weekend following January 30th as long as we ask where they slept on the night of Wednesday, 1/30/13. We need to ask LivingFree Ministries, serving/housing men, to participate in the PIT. Robin Wintringham will go to the Piedmont Rescue Mission on 1/30 at 6P. A count can be done at the Open Door clinic on 1/31 from 5-7P. AlaMap serves some services to homeless. Heidi will do Open Door and AlaMap—their personnel can complete the forms with the homeless. Lori Lafferty will do DSS. We are concerned about reaching the unsheltered homeless. A discussion of the counting/tallying of the PIT forms will be held at the 1/22 training.

**OTHER ISSUES**

Clara Trollinger spoke with Gloria McCauley, God Did It. She was able to get a contact number for Ms. McCauley.

Meeting adjourned to meet again February 4, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Braxton, Secretary