**Transylvania County** **Homeless Coalition**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Location: Brevard Housing Authority**

**133 W. Morgan Street**

**Brevard, NC 28712**

**Date: April 4, 2013**

Attendees:

Jenny Simmons, Western Highlands Erika Gonzalez, BHA

Candy Mance, Pisgah Legal Jennifer Flood, Haven

Ron Shieve, SAFE/WCCA Emily Lowery, Haven

Don Rogers, United Way Megan Hare, TRAIN

Meeting called to order 9:05 am

* Minutes from last meeting:
  + Correction to number of people served: We have served ½ our goal that was set
* Minuets approved after correction
* ESG
  + New applications in, know we need to budget for more administrative costs next year
  + Doubled up families do not count, stay in hotel do not count if stay is more than one night
  + Learning there are changes that will come, need to start a MOU for agencies that participate in TCHC, needs to be in COC and earns extra points
  + Data entry looks good in CHIN
  + Reimbursements are finally coming regularly, 2nd check came yesterday
  + 15K through money and half way through goal of number of people to serve
  + Since deposits are lower than anticipated, thanks to BHA, we can serve more people than expected
  + Next grant, need to budget money for prevention as we see a definite need
  + Housed one client last week that did not go to housing that could afford private landlord
  + New ESG application has rental agreement with landlord directly
* Point in Time
  + Count was 212, they called to verify this
  + Count included people that we housed
  + Less than 20 of these were chronicly homeless
  + PIT does not single out chronic
  + Double what we counted for mock point in time
  + Mock did not count school datat
  + Can send out this data if you need it for reporting purposes to coalition members, if needed please ask Jennifer
* Balsam Grove Event
  + Scheduled for April 13
  + Kimberly Austin, organizer of the event
  + Lyons Clun cannot send bus
  + Free eye exams June 28 at Kmart
  + May be opportunity to bus people from Balsam Grove to Kmart for this, sign-up sheet at event, Megan to work on sign-up sheet for this and flyer
* Regional Supervisor from Social Security Administration
  + Met yesterday with SOAR workers, Jennifer Flood and Emily Lowery
  + Cleared up the air about SSI and SSDI
  + SSI is like a welfare program
  + SSDI is a work history program
  + Jennifer reported that she had over 100 hours in one application for SOAR
  + This supervisor reported that her office sees that TC is under served and wants to change this by developing relations between SOAR workers and her office
  + Need to find a grant to pay for SOAR workers to help those not staying at the Haven
  + Can get SSI quickly, then check into disability
  + SOAR is very intimidating
  + Need 15 years of work history
  + Attorneys are not as successful
  + SSA does not want lawyers to take cases but they actually cannot advise against it
  + Lawyers take money away from the client that is rightfully the client’s money
  + SOAR workers are to file for both SSI and SSDI at the same time (SSDI is online)
  + Have to go through a SOAR worker to get SOAR, cannot put documents in library for that reason
  + SSA estimates 40 hours per application
  + SOAR worker cannot charge for services
  + SAFE reports that there is a need for more SOAR workers, they talk about this with each resident
* United Way
  + Oxford House
    - Missed deadline, be next May to apply
    - Grant is not for the house, for tenants
    - House needs to be 4 BR
    - Need 6-12 people
    - House needs to be central location
    - Noted big gap between Haven and United Way
* 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness
  + Brian sent PDF
  + Megan and Kim to work on the getting it into Word
  + Vance may have an editable version
  + Needs to be done by the end of the year
  + Have to get this done to present to the county
  + What it is
    - Helps with application for ESG
    - Outline for everybody’s involvement
    - Strategic Plan to end homelessness
    - Takes current statistics and calculate goals to end or lower numbers of homeless
  + It took Brian 6 years to come up with their plan
  + We do not want it to take us that long
* Western Highlands
  + Wants us to outreach to Rutherford and Polk counties
  + Hold a general forum
  + Create and agenda and have members interested from this coalition to speak, our coalition agreed we would be interested in this
* Coalition is looking to grow our committee, invite folks you think would be interested in joining to sit in
  + May have to look at a bigger meeting space soon
* Meeting adjourned at 10:01 am
* Next Meeting scheduled for May 2, 2013