



# North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

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## Balance of State Steering Committee Meeting

4.1.14

### Regional Leads Present:

Jenny Simmons (for Brian Alexander), Chris Battle, Ellen Blackman, Kim Braxton, Debbie Cole, Nicole Dewitt, Rhoda Emanuel, Jennifer Flood, Alvin Foster, Tonya Gray, Joe Marks, Casey McCall, Amy Modlin, Jane Motsinger, Bart O'Sullivan, Sharon Poarch (for Sharon Osborne), Faye Pierce, Susan Pridgen, Joel Rice, Glenda Riggs, Howard Anthony (for Candice Rountree), Nickie Siler, Michele Steele, Rasheeda Sturdivant, Marie Watson, Bob Williams

### Regional Leads Absent:

Spencer Cook, Stacy Kendall, Kelly Lacy, Melissa Payne

### Interested Parties Present:

Natalie Allen, Judith Alvarado, Kristi Case, Debra Clarke, Kim Crawford, Paula Dickson, Delores Farmer, Candy Hall, Marlene Harrison, Barbie Hunt, Sarah Lancaster, Lisa Lawson, Trudy Murray, Mark Owen, Amy Pipas, Shanna Poole, Melissa Pressly, Mark Recko, Judith Robins, Andrew Romines, Janice Sauls, Gus Smith, Becky Surlis, Lori Watts, Patti West, Teena Willis, Talaika Williams, Laressa Witt

### NCCEH Staff Present:

Nancy Holochwost, Denise Neunaber, Corey Root, Tia Sanders-Rice

### Approval of March Minutes

Joe Marks noted that he joined the March meeting late and needs to be added to the attendance list. Pending this change, the minutes were approved by common consent.

### Presentation from More in My Basket

- More in My Basket is a program run by the NC Cooperative Extension that connects low-income families to food benefits. Outreach Facilitator Amy Pipas presented on the program.
- Cooperative Extension programs are located at NC State University and NC A&T University, and extension agents are located in each county across the state. Agents provide expertise to their local communities.
- More in My Basket is a USDA-funded grant for outreach and education about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Its purpose is to reduce barriers and increase participation in SNAP. The central office provides education about SNAP benefits, program eligibility, and how to apply, as well as providing individualized outreach for eligibility screening and application assistance.
- Each year, the central office asks cooperative extension agents in all 100 NC counties if they want help through More in My Basket. Currently, 22 counties are working with the program. Agents can provide group presentations or take displays to local events.
- Amy Pipas will share Regional Committee information with the 22 agents who are participating with More in My Basket so that agents can contact Regional Leads. Regional Leads are also encouraged to contact local agents and invite them to meetings. Morefood.org has list of the agents that are currently working with More in My Basket.

### **ESG Update**

- Ten BoS Regional Committees have unspent ESG funds totaling \$308,536. The state ESG office has notified these Regional Committees and asked them to decide how to spend the funds. They must go to agencies that have an existing ESG contract and be spent by June 30, 2014.
  - Two Regional Leads noted that committees should double-check their expenditures to make sure the ESG office has the correct amount of unspent funds.
- The state ESG office is offering ongoing webinar trainings, which will continue through the spring. The dates for these trainings are posted on the ESG website as well as the NCCEH website calendar. The webinars are archived on the ESG website for anyone who is unable to attend. The ESG office has also gotten approval to hold in-person trainings, which are expected to be held by the end of June.

### **HMIS RFP**

- The CHIN Governance Committee, which is made up of representatives from all 12 CoCs, released an RFP on February 21 for a new administrative agency to manage North Carolina's HMIS. Letters of intent to apply were due to the Governance Committee on March 31.
  - The North Carolina Housing Coalition, which is the current administrative agency, sent in a letter of intent to apply. NCCEH also submitted a letter of intent to apply.
- Applications are due May 16. The Governance Committee will hold interviews in June and hope to have a decision by July. If a new administrative agency is chosen, it would take over between January and July 2015.

### **Point-in-Time Count Update**

- NCCEH is finishing the process of collecting and verifying Point-in-Time Count data from BoS agencies. Once this is done, the CoC-wide count and the county-level count will be posted on the NCCEH website at <http://www.ncceh.org/PITdata/>. NCCEH will also submit the PIT Count and Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) to HUD through the Homeless Data Exchange (HDX). The PIT and HIC is due to HUD by April 30.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, May 6 at 10:30.

