**ROCKINGHAM COUNTY REGIONAL COMMITTEE TO END HOMELESSNESS BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE (Helping The Homeless)**

Meeting Minutes from July 17, 2014

MCj03972380000[1]

**PRESENT:** Ellery Blackstock (DSS); Curtis Pierce (RCVC), Tamisha Keith (FCRC); Melissa Galloway (HORO); Faye Pierce (RHA); Dick Frohock (RHRC); Marlene Harrison (Help, Inc); Paulette Marbry, FUMC, Reidsville, Amy Steele, RCHH; Bobby Martin; Patricia Gilley (CNP); April Parker, (NAACP)

**Ellery:** Welcomed the group and introductions were made; then opened the meeting with prayer.

**MINUTE REVIEW/APPROVAL:** Marlene motioned that the minutes be approved from the June 19th meeting. The motion was seconded by Dick and approved by the group.

**TREASURY REPORT:** Dick reports no expenditures with a recent $10.00 donation bringing the treasury balance to $2,318.25

**Housing Report Updates: Help Inc.:** Marlene reported that Help, Inc.’s RRHP currently has 8 households for a total of 18 individuals, with 8 adults and 10 children and 2 households in the application process.

**RHA:** Faye reported that RHA’s SPC program currently has 58 households and 4 graduated to section 8. She also reported that their Summer Program for children is going very well with activities, as well as a nutritious lunch provided for the participants. Faye also reported that the new Medical Program is going fantastic with much needed onsite medical treatment available, both adult and pediatrics.

**RCHH**, Amy Steele reported the following:

**Permanent Grant**

19 Units are full, 1 available

11 Family units

8 Individual units

23 Adults and 22 Children

\*\*Interviewing potential candidate (single male)

**Transitional Grant**

13 Units are full, 1 available

5 Family units

8 Individual units

13 Adults and 11 Children

\*\* Paperwork in process for family (mom & small child) – target date of Mid August to house this family.

Both grants have been approved and are ready to be processed for grant execution. Awaiting documentation from HUD so contracts can be printed and signed.

**Support Circles and Shelter Discussion:** Ellery discussed the benefit of renewing Support Circles, hopefully with the help of the faith-based community such as Ministerial Alliances. Discussion was made by the group recounting the success of the last effort with a family, leading to permanent housing and employment. Dick and the group also discussed the connection that could be made with shelter and support circles, as well as the HUD funded programs, with the ultimate goal of decreasing homelessness within our area. The group also discussed the benefit that a Coordinated Intake System will provide. (A committee is already in place for this project). Ellery reported that he and Dick have been working with a possible support network for a future 24-hour shelter. In the interim, Melissa Galloway will need support for the seasonal shelter and will need assistance with funding avenues. Ella Brown agreed to Chair a Support Circles Committee.

**Grant Writing Discussion:** Ellery and the group discussed the upcoming BoS grants that will need to be written by Regional CoC with project applications. Marlene reported that the ESG RFA should be available soon. A grant writing committee to assist with all grants and proposals will be delegated at the next RCRCEH meeting.

**Fundraising:** Bobby Martin, who is Chair of this committee, asked for the group to be thinking of ways to raise funds and welcomed all suggestions.

**Success Stories:** Faye gave a report regarding a SPC program couple: Prior to placement, they had been living in a substandard environment including mold and leaks. The husband was dependent on dialysis and also cared for his wife who is confined to a wheelchair. The husband has since passed away, but his wife has been able to receive Medicaid and SSD. In addition, her sister is now living with her to assist with her care in a nice environment.

Curtis Pierce reported that he was able to help a veteran who has multiple health issues and several small children. Curtis was able via the RCVC, to provide food and avoid an electricity disconnect.

**Agency Updates:** Curtis reported that due to space, the RCVC will need to find another area to provide room for their food pantry, hopefully at the Agricultural Center or another space within the Wentworth area.

Ella Brown noted that she has been in touch with Rev. Duke with the FBC in Reidsville about coming together as a community to share resources and that the date for such event has not been set. Ella also announced that a job fair will be held at Noah’s Ark on August 14. In addition, Ella stated that she is a former volunteer for Urban Ministries in Greensboro and plans to contact someone there regarding the process involved to apply for utility fund assistance in order to help indigent Rockingham County residents with electricity bills.

April Parker with the NAACP explained that she will be working in the Rockingham County area to help homeless individuals with the voting process and will be available to assist this group and any agency that may need this service. Agencies shared information on existing protocol for registration/voting assistance and Faye invited April to speak at the next SPC Participant meeting, next month.

**Adjournment:** The group adjourned and the next meeting will be held on August 21, 2014 at the same location.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marlene Harrison Alternate Lead