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

**Meeting Minutes**

**Location: Brevard Housing Authority**

**133 W. Morgan Street**

**Brevard, NC 28712**

**Date: August 7, 2014**

Attendees:

Jennifer Flood, Haven Rhodney Norman, BHA

Ron Schieve, CONNECT, WCCA Caroline Carter, Meridian BHS

Erica Edwards, SAFE Don Rogers, United Way

Emily Lowery, Haven Martin Jarrard PLS

Megan Hare, TRAIN Phyllis Chandler, Sharing House Ron Schieve, CONNECT Kaitlin Huggins, TCHD

Sarah Lancaster, Smoky Mountain Heather Bradley, TCHD

Chad Farmer, BPD

* Meeting called to order 9:05 am
* Minutes Approved
* Introductions and Agency Updates
  + Haven has 8 residents, female beds are available
    - Haven Family House is full
    - The Hoedown our annual fundraiser is August 23, 2014 at Brevard Music Center in the Straus Auditorium, food will be a low country boil, live music, a silent auction and there will be a barn for donations
  + Pisgah Legal
    - Lots of staff turn-over
    - New attorney in the Hendersonville office to help with Domestic Violence
    - SOAR, helps homeless file for SSI an SSDI, 60-90 day approval serving Polk and Rutherford
  + Meridian
    - Child Clinician now taking appointments, call Tiffany Mead 883-2708 for an appointment
    - Employment Services, Steven, for people with dual diagnosis, functionally impaired (have to be both) to get back into employment, there is a waiting list, also aids in helping set up businesses
    - Researching the possibility of starting an ACTT Team in Brevard, client must be stable mentally in order to qualify
    - Voices in Recovery on 9/19/2014, come hear stories of success in our community that are recovering
  + United Way
    - Get Connected database will help with volunteer organization, let volunteers know what is going on, 1500 hits a month linked with 211
    - Fill the bus happening now until Saturday
  + Bread of Life
    - Ice Cream Social 9/14/2014
  + Oxford House
    - Has an 80% success rate. Turnover of 15-20 thus far, occupancy of 6 people, only have 2 currently. They need referrals. Residents are being brought in from other counties without jobs, or transportation, and only given two weeks to start paying rent. One local has been there for 3-4 months
  + TRAIN
    - Sapphire Community Center trying to start a food pantry
    - SHIP is pulling data from Charity Tracker
    - Affordable Health Care Act is still available
    - Health Event on October 2 at Walmart by the Farm Bureau, event will have a physical and dental screenings for free, sign up to be a vendor
  + Smoky Mountain Center
    - Have motel vouchers, for individuals who are homeless and waiting for housing, must be short term, 7-10 days
    - Substance abuse funds, start-up funding for entry into treatment, such as Oxford House
  + Brevard Police Department
    - Discussion on homeless and intoxicated issues, questions asked: what are the emergency homeless options, what about homeless with families,
    - Asheville Homeless Network may be able to help in an emergency situation in collaboration with agencies in Transylvania
      * Need a contact for Transylvania to transport homeless to Buncombe for emergency situations
      * A.H.N. has a rabbi, peer support and has camping gear
  + Health Department
    - Program to serve pregnant women in TC, receiving Medicaid. Working with the Hospital to identify homeless families
  + Sharing House
    - New Directions program for motivated persons, it is a self-reliant program, call 884-2866
    - Have a lot of homeless supplies right now
    - Have school supplies
    - Wheels to work, a points program, referral to Blue Ridge, reluctant to do SSI
  + CONNECT
    - Keeping kids out of DSS custody, they work with parent to preserve families
    - So far have served 298 children, statistics prove 1 in 12 go to DSS
  + SAFE
    - New addition, supportive housing, have 2 residents
    - Has been full last two months
    - New rape prevention program
    - Safe date program and healthy relations
  + BHA
    - 5 vacancies coming up
    - 1 BR 2-3 year wait
* ESG
  + - New application in here, Megan to help Regional Lead to complete, due date September 3
    - Need MOU from collaborative agencies
    - Coordinated Assessment Tool
    - Reimbursements are going very slow, still have not got any
    - May be able to apply for shelter funds, separate from ESG and HOME funds
* HOME Funds available through WCCA, tenant based rentals assistance for 6 months
  + - * When guidelines come, they will be distributed, have to be homeless
* Next meeting scheduled for September 4, 2014
* Meeting adjourned at 10:02