

**Meeting Minutes**

**Location:** Brevard Housing Authority

133 W. Morgan Street

Brevard, NC 28712

**Date:** September 4, 2014

**Attendees:**

Jennifer Flood, Haven Rhodney Norman, BHA

Ron Schieve, Project Connect, WCCA Beth Branagan, Transylvania Cty. Schools

Heather Bradley, TCHD Steve Pulliam, UW

Sarah Lancaster, SMCME/MCO Louise Egerton, ESG Case Manager

Don Rogers, UW/BOL Kaitlin Huggins, TC Health Dept.

Erica Edwards, SAFE Shelly Miller, TC Schools

Sheila Galloway, WCCA Ariana DeToro-Forlenza, VA Center

Susan Lefler, Community Liaison

* Meeting called to order 9:00 am
* Minutes Approved
* Introductions and Agency Updates/New News
  + Haven- Beds available for individuals, Haven Family House is full
  + BHA- Renovations to Pinecrest will update and modernize units
  + TC Schools- New social worker in Rosman schools
    - 141 Homeless children, 15% increase from prior year, 22 pre-school
  + Bread of Life- ice cream social coming up next Saturday 1-4 pm
  + Oxford House- 6 tenants, referrals are appreciated
  + Smoky Mountain Center- available start-up funds for new residents of the Oxford House
    - Have placed one client in Permanent Supportive Housing, through Homeward Bound program
  + United Way- “Stuff the Bus” was success in collecting school supplies. The Brevard High School class of 1964 contributed $1400, toward supplies.
  + WCCA- Section 8 waiting list is moving, wait is now 1 ½ years – 2 years
    - Financial classes will be offered in October, anyone who attends all 3 classes receives a free credit report
  + Project CONNECT- Agency referrals have increased
  + Susan Leffler/Community- She has written some poems about The Haven and they will be featured in “Gutters and Alleyways” a book coming out in October. The book features 10,000 poets for change, more information can be found on Facebook
  + VA- Day of outreach, lunch provided haircuts or homeless veterans October 2nd in Asheville. No transportation will be provided from TC
* ESG Update- No reimbursements have been received
  + Extension was given for ESG application, due on September 9, 2014, will be contacting various agencies for collaboration and MOU’s
* Coordinated Assessment Tool Training- September 17-18, Salvation Army Capital Blvd. in Raleigh, coalition members are encouraged to attend, register by 15th at NCCEH.org
  + Coordinated Assessment Tool will be used to make referrals. The VI SPDAT is a simple tool that assigns client a number, removes the emotion from housing decisions, shows agencies the level of urgency, can be done over the phone
  + The training is on implementation of the coordinated assessment tool in our community
  + Anybody can attend
  + Counties will be grouped based on similarities (i.e. rural vs. urban; shelter vs. no shelter) counties together for training
  + We are fortunate to have the housing authority as a cooperating agency
* HOME Funds- have been awarded, providing Tenant Based Rental Assistance for up to 6 months, combined with ESG funds paying deposits
  + Awarded $52K
  + Must be a client of Meridian, enrolled in Self-Sufficiency at Sharing House, and must attend financial classes with WCCA
* Great report (very large file) available through U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Development and Research “Costs Associated with First-Time Homelessness for Families and Individuals”. Contains data that can be used when writing grants, or making presentations. www.HUDuser.org
* Discussion on developing a procedure for emergency housing crisis’ on nights and weekend for local law enforcement, and DSS
  + The Haven is not able to do emergency intakes
  + Overnight volunteers cannot be expected to make those decisions.
* Next meeting scheduled for October 2, 2014
* Meeting adjourned at 9:49