

**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