

Pitt County Continuum of Care Month Meeting

Multi Purpose Room at Greenville Housing Authority
1103 Broad Street, Greenville, NC
February 10, 2010 at 9:00 AM

Attendees: Present: **Paulette White**, 10-Year Plan Project Manager; **Collis Niro**, Pitt County Hospital ; **Gary Phelps**, Greenville Community Shelter; **Talaika Goss-Williams**, ECBH, LME; **Amy S. Modlin**, ECBH, LME; **Corey Woodward**, ECBH, LME; **Jodi Williams**, ECBH, LME; **Bobbie House**, ECBH, LME; **Don Rogers**, Greenville Housing Authority; **Sharon Edwards**, Pitt Co.DSS; **Tim Grigg**, Pitt Co. DSS; **Joyce C. Jones**, STRIVE; **Lynne James**, Greenville Community Shelter; **Linda Mandell**, SOAR Caseworker; **Valentcia Cooper**, Intern; **Mike Tillman**, CHIN; **Tracy Campbell**, PWR; **Judy Henderson**, PCMH.

Minutes of January 13, 2010 meeting read and accepted with minor corrections.

Point in Time Survey Preliminary Results

Paulette distributed the first draft of the Point in Time Survey done Wednesday 1/27-Thursday 1/28 and reviewed some details of the results. In 2008 the survey counted 131 sheltered homeless persons, in 2009 - 116 and for 2010 - 94. These numbers indicate the homeless prevention programs are effective and the count is down which is positive especially considering the economy. The 2nd part of the survey for the at-risk or precariously housed is being calculated.

The unsheltered homeless count has gone down from last year. In 2009, we counted 9 unsheltered individuals and in 2010, we counted only 5 unsheltered individuals. This year, our goal is to continue to connect with the unsheltered homeless to see how we can further assist them. The PIT survey numbers were reported on time to NCCEH. Paulette also pointed out that Pitt County has seen an increase in the number of Permanent Supportive beds and therefore an increase in the number of individuals and families who are housed. The 2010 numbers for the emergency shelter at Greenville Community Shelter were about the same as the 2009. Lynn James felt that was good considering the economy. Other communities are showing much higher numbers of homeless. It was estimated that Rocky Mount shows 500-700 and that Wilson also has higher numbers.

Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-housing Program

Sharon Edwards reported that as of January 31, 2010, Pitt Co DSS has received 179 applications for possible HPRP support. Of those, 48 were referred to HPRP. Eleven (11) did not qualify for various reasons; nine (9) are pending. Twenty-eight (28) applications have been approved and are receiving financial assistance. Fourteen (14) HPRP applications are now housed and the cases closed. \$34,000 has been spent.

Amy Modlin reported that ECBH has filled all staff positions and they are beginning to accept applications for review. Amy reported that most of these initial referrals are not appropriate for HPRP. ECBH's coverage area is 15 counties. They are trying to coordinate their efforts with the departments of Social Services within those counties. At this time, they are overwhelmed by numbers of referrals. Amy plans to meeting with the HPRP team at Pitt Co. DSS to review their referral and application staffing process.

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Greenville Housing Authority – Permanent Supportive Programs updates (Don Rogers)

VASH (VA Supportive Housing Program)

As of January 25th, 35 applications have been received. Of those, 8 applications have been approved and are under lease. Ten (10) applications are in progress.

Shelter Plus Care (Cornerstone) has a total of 13 vouchers. At this time, all vouchers are utilized including 10 vouchers for individuals and 3 vouchers for families.

Vendura Apartments: 12 units. All units are leased. Two units were reserved for homeless individuals with disabilities.

Other housing programs at GHA:

- Life House: Twenty (20) units, all leased
- New project(s)
 - Crystal Spring Apartments. This is a 64-unit complex for senior, 62-years and above. Forty (40) units will be rental assist and the remainder at market rate for elderly. Building in progress. Anticipates availability by the end of 2010.

Greenville Community Shelter:

Lynn James introduced the new housing coordinator at the GCS, Gary Phelps. She also reported that there is one vacancy in supportive housing program for a male. The Shelter is also cooperating with the 2010 Census. On March 31, 2010, Census staff will be at the GCS to survey residents. This will be done in two sessions. Lynne also reported that she will do a presentation for City of Greenville CDBG grant. The GCS submitted a grant to support a “Renter Rights” workshop aimed at providing information to potential renters.

Other Business:

Lynne reported that she had been contacted by the Greenville Area Property Managers Association (GAPMA) about a proposal made to the Greenville City Council in the fall of 2009 about a program called The Crime Free Rental Housing Program (CFRP). GAPMA does not recommend this program for adoption citing multiple problem areas. The information provided by the GAPMA (minutes from the City Council meeting in which this program was presented to the Council for consideration) indicated that the proposed program, CFRP, would require that 1) background criminal records check be done on all prospective tenants; 2) No renting to prospective tenants who have been convicted within the past 5-years of a violent crime, a drug-related offenses, or breaking and entering; 3) Landlords to include a crime-free addendum to ALL leases; 4) Property managers must attend a training course on crime-free rental housing provided by the police department; 5) Each property owner designate a local representative; 6) All rental properties must be registered with the city; 7) City charges a registration fee to cover administrative cost of program; and 8) City provides a process for revoking rental registration.

CoC members in attendance raised concerns about this program. The group discussed the possible negative impact that a city council ordinance or resolution for this type of program would have on our efforts to implement the housing strategies outlined in the 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. Joyce Jones also expressed concern about its impact on the implementation of the Pitt County Re-Entry program. Housing is a key concern for this program. Paulette will attend a joint meeting of the Greenville Neighborhood Advisory Board and the Greenville Police Community Relations Committee scheduled for February 18, 2010. She will also provide information about this program to the executive committee of the 10-Year Plan.