**Wilson Greene Regional Homelessness Committee**

**November 17, 2015**

Present: Candice Rountree, Wilson County DSS; Shana Baum, Hope Station; Tony Conner, NCWORKS; Lynne White, Wesley Shelter; Melodie Horne, Wilson Housing Authority; LaTasha McNair, Eastpointe; Lori Walston, WCDSS; Twala Coleman, Family Endeavors; Mary Mallory, WCDSS; Linda Walling, Hope Station; Marty Stebbins, St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church; Jill Tarleton, WCHD; Katrina Hudson, Wesley Shelter; Claudia Baker, Veterans Residential Services; Amy High, Wilson County Schools

**Welcome/introductions**

**Review of Information from Balance of State:**

We discussed proposed changes in Governance Charter. Links were shared with members from the Balance of State website. A link was also shared to the BOS presentation.

**Coordinated Assessment:**

We discussed coordinated assessment. Data is unclear. We need to begin using version 2 of VI-SPDAT by January 16th. Any staff member who are screening and haven’t viewed the on-line training module are encouraged to do so.

Staffing capacity is an issue.

Discussion about using charity tracker in order to avoid duplication. Partners are interested, but there is a $15 per user charge.

**Point in Time Count:**

Reverend Marty has coordinated the reporting of the data for the past several years and we are appreciative. She is not able to do it this year, but is willing to share her experience with our new volunteer. Candice asked members to consider volunteering to coordinate our data for 2016.

The Point in Time count occurs in January each year and we have an excellent collaborative relationship with local law enforcement. Last year, several Regional Committee members and 4 officers completed the street count. We will need volunteers again this year. In years past, we have prepared care packages to share with anyone we found on the street.

**Community Partner Updates:**

Mary reported that LIEAP begins in December and the first target group is seniors and disabled adults. It opens to the general public in January. Mary brought applications for partners to share with their customers. The application period starts December 1. The threshold is 130% of the poverty level. It will open to the general public in January.

Amy talked about large numbers of homeless in the schools. She is able to refer to community partners for food/clothing. A couple of families have experienced fires and the community has been helpful.

Marty suggested that partners contact the faith community partners directly. Amy asked for the group’s patience/assistance as she hasn’t done this work for very long.

Melanie said Wilson Housing Authority is accepting applications for 3, 4, 5 bedrooms. A family that is applying and is homeless needs a letter referring them for housing.

Claudia shared that Veterans Residential Services is hosting a party for veterans and their families. She asked for any assistance in providing toys for the families.

Jill reported the Health Department is taking appointments for flu shots.

Linda reported there have been an unduplicated count of 121 men receiving services through Hope Station this year. Linda has hired three former shelter residents. They are getting their reimbursements more efficiently after involvement from Jean Farmer Butterfield's and Angela Bryant's office

This is Hunger and Homelessness prevention week. Lori will contact the Wilson Times for media coverage. The group agreed that we would like to plan something for next year.

Wesley Shelter served 153 women and children in shelter. They touched 1,400 clients total. They are almost completely serving DV. The numbers are currently low in shelter. Lynne attributes this to an improving economy. Average length of stay is 28 days, which is down from last year.

Lori reported that we are soliciting donations for seniors and older foster youth.

Veronica from Greene County said they are busy preparing for LIEAP.

Soup kitchen is in new quarters and doing very well. The church is using the former facility for serving breakfast on Sunday mornings. Marty reports the numbers at soup kitchenware holding steady.

Marty reported that community partner's work is working. Some of her parishioners have been helped with permanent housing.

Next meeting: December 15th at 10:00