**Lee-Harnett County Regional Housing Committee**

**NC Balance of State Continuum of Care**

**Meeting April 15, 2015–11:00 AM**

**Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action, Inc.**

 **225 South Steele Street, Sanford, NC 27330**

**(919) 776-0746**

**In Attendance:**

E. Marie Watson, Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action, Inc.

Larry Lingenfelter, N. C. Commerce

Tina Ray, Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action, Inc.

Camille Neal, Volunteers of America

Vanessa Colvin-McLaughlin, Secretary

Tonya Gray, Safe of Harnett County

Miya Horsey, Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action, Inc.

Jean Kilpatrick, Haven of Lee County

Fredrika Cooke, Family Promise of Lee County

Shannon McLean, Sanford Housing Authority

Natalie Gaddis, Sanford Housing Authority

**Welcome and Call to Order**

E. Marie Watson welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order.

**Introductions**

All in attendance introduced themselves.

**Approval of Minutes**

The January and March minutes approved by T. Ray, seconded by F. Cooke. The motion carried.

**BoS Steering Committee**

Lee County Regional Housing Committee submitted their coordinated assessment but it was withdrawn now that Harnett County is merging with Lee County. It is now Lee-Harnett County Regional Housing Committee.

There were 26 Housing Plans needing approval but only 9 went through with being approved. It is Fredrika Cooke’s recommendation, that LHRHC look at the assessments that have been approved to have an insight on what the Balance of State Steering Committee is seeking when giving approvals.

**CHIN**-Carolina Homeless Information Network is now **MCAH**-Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness. Please make any necessary corrections on documents and when registering online following links starting with NC.

**Point in Time**

Jean Kilpatrick had some information for the Point In Time Count. Fredrika Cooke informed the committee the Point In Time Count for Lee County needs to be filled out correctly. Ms. Kilpatrick said she appointed one of her staff members at Haven to do it but the staff member had difficulty with getting an accurate count of the homeless. Some places like the hospital and police department do not keep record of the homeless or the person asked at the time, does not have access to the most updated information. A suggestion was made by Mrs. Cooke, when the Point In Time count is done next year, to use agencies on the Housing Committee. Mrs. Cooke stated the BoS does not take lightly to things such as the P.I.T and when anyone is appointed to task such as this, we, as the LHRHC, are here to assist with any formalities so it can be done correctly.

**COC Letter of Intent**

A letter of intent was drafted up by Fredrika Cooke and E. Marie Watson approved the letter to be sent out to local agencies to join this committee. The LHRHC are seeking Landlords, Law enforcement and someone from Department of Social Services, to begin to connect the necessary links to assist the homeless more effectively and efficiently. Without the connection, we will continue to have chronic homelessness cases. Johnston-Lee County Community Action and Family Promise of Lee County are the portals for intake screenings of the homeless. Whether a person has already been through either agency previously, the client will still have to do a prescreening and it will be up to JLCA or FPLC to go over the case and refer the potential client to the necessary resources for qualification of services. Along with the Charity Tracker, now in effect in Lee County with several agencies now, this process will decrease chronic cases or habitual resource users.

**Harnett County**

Tonya Gray reported agencies within Harnett County will be difficult to get on board with plans of the Housing committee. They have been complacent with doing things their own way. The agencies in Harnett County do not apply for certain funding due to stringent requirements for funding.

**Web Master**

Mrs. Watson reported the housing committee needs to appoint someone as a Web Master to upload Agendas and Minutes of meetings to the NC Balance of State website. Miya Horsey volunteered to do this task A motion was made by F. Cooke to appoint Miya Horsey as Web Master, seconded T. Ray. The motion carried.

**Announcements**

* May 4, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. JLCA is holding their annual banquet and the Key note speaker this year is a former Head Start participant. Tickets are available.
* The STARS Program is open to enrolling new clients. You must be physically capable to work and mentality able to attend school if that is your plan of action.
* Shannon McLean the Executive Director of Sanford Housing Authority states Section 8 will be re-writing their initiative to assist more homeless families. She has recognized the strong need and eventually Sanford Housing Authority will vitalize a 5 year agency plan to access this need to help the homeless population.

The Wilrik’s facility is at a 95% occupy rate. There are 2 units available with no waiting list and 2 more to open soon. These are 1 and 2 bedrooms apartments

* Family Promise is having their Annual Cardboard Box City on May 1, 2015 at the baseball field at Southern Lee High School if you would like to purchase an apartment for $75, Condo for $100 or House for $150 Please contact Fredrika or Vanessa at Family Promise. You may also become a corporate sponsor for $250 and you will recognition for a year at varies event.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m. The next meeting will be held at Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action, 225 S. Steele Street, Sanford, NC on May 20, 2015.

Submitted by:

Vanessa Colvin-McLaughlin, Secretary