

COMMUNITY ADVISORY NETWORK DEVELOPING ONSLOW

MINUTES

JANUARY 15, 2016



The Community Advisory Network Developing Onslow (CAN-DO) met at Trillium Health Resources on this date. The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m. by CAN-DO Co-Chair Kristi Pitchford. Those in attendance were: Andre White, Angelia Jones, Brian Fike, Charlie Knox, Charshae Phillips, Chris Slater, Christa Gunderson, Christy O’Daniel, Cindy Williams, Collis Niro, Cynthia Figueroa, Dana Painter, Deandra Stills, Derek Arnold, James Ross, James Stokes, Janice Graniero, Jason Klein, Jennifer Colley, John Kerr, Jon Johnson, Junie Christian, J.V. Sloan, Kathleen Holbrook, Kathy Horne, Kristi Pitchford, Kurmaria Green, Melissa Balto, Pamela Brown, Patricia McClarin, Penni Ford, Reggie Roy, Susan Pridgen, Trammell Davis, Ursulla Ingram and Valentina Burrola-Hekman.

Excused absences were received from Amelia Grissett, Craig Wagner, Phyllis Isenhardt, Samantha West, and William Keller.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Introductions were made of members and guests.

**REVIEW & APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of December 4, 2015 were reviewed and approved on a motion made by Chris Slater and seconded by Jason Klein. The motion carried without opposition.

**ELECTIONS**

Susan Pridgen has been serving as the Regional Lead and Ursulla Ingram as the Regional Lead Alternate. Brian Fike nominated Susan Pridgen to continue serving as Regional Lead. Ursulla Ingram self-nominated to continue in her role as Alternate Lead. Brian Fike nominated himself to assist Ursulla as Alternate Lead which provides CAN-DO with two alternate leads in the event of conflict of interest situations. Junie Christian seconded the motions which carried unanimously.

Brian Fike has been serving as Coordinated Assessment Lead. Susan Pridgen and Christa Gunderson both nominated themselves for the role of Coordinated Assessment Lead and upon discussion, agreed to co-lead. Junie Christian seconded the motion which carried without opposition.

**POINT IN TIME (PIT) COUNT 2016**

Kristi Pitchford reminded everyone that the PIT Count is scheduled for January 27-28, 2016. Chris Slater is the PIT Count Lead this year. There was a good turn-out for the PIT Count Webinar on January 7<sup>th</sup> hosted by Kathleen Holbrook at the Onslow County Partnership for Children building. The agencies providing rapid re-housing, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing and emergency shelter were well represented at the webinar. Kristi Pitchford distributed PIT Count forms to each of the

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designated agencies to be completed the night of January 27, 2016. Kristi further requested that members sign up for street teams going out on Wednesday night and early Thursday morning; field teams going out on Thursday; and teams needed for the Food Bank Distribution on February 1 and Veterans' Stand Down on February 2, 2016. Everyone was encouraged to take PIT Count posters and begin putting them up in anticipation of the event.

**PROGRAM UPDATES**

**Veterans' Stand-down:** Reggie Roy announced that they were hosting a vendor meeting on Thursday, January 21 at 9:00 am in preparation for the Veterans' Stand Down. Vendors can begin setting up at 8:00 am on the day of the event. They are still in need of new socks donations.

**Coordinated Assessment (CA):** Susan Pridgen announced that 8 applicants are currently on wait list. Their VI-SPDAT scores recommend permanent supportive housing which represents a gap in our community. Some of the applicants have been on the wait list since September and October 2015. Shelter PLUS Care cannot assist those who are not receiving wraparound services. The local needs are greater than finances will allow. While no information had been released about the ESG grant in time for the meeting, later that day, United Way received notification of \$62, 403.00 received for the Solutions for Stability Program. Susan stated that they are still looking for agencies to complete the VI-SPDAT. If necessary, Susan will meet up with a potential applicant to complete the instrument. Although we have experienced tremendous success with housing homeless individuals in Onslow County, tremendous needs still exist!

**Balance of State (BoS) Restructuring:** Susan Pridgen referenced the map/handout she had distributed showing the current BoS counties and the planned consolidation. In the plan, Onslow would consolidate with Jones, Craven, Carteret, and Pamlico counties (Neuse Trent Coalition). Brian Fike, Craig Wagner and Susan Pridgen will attend the Neuse Trent Coalition meeting in New Bern on February 3, 2016. Corey Root with NCCEH will be presenting at that meeting. A decision will be made by 7-5-16. It is unknown what impact this will have upon local funding. Possible benefits are that Craven has a White Flag shelter and Carteret has a Family Promise Program. Both have free medical clinics. Susan will share more information next month.

**Onslow Community Outreach:** Deandra Stills reported that the shelter served 38 people last month, including 6 children. John Kerr stated that the legal issues with the newly purchased Piggly Wiggly building have been resolved and the shelter will move to that building in a couple years. Onslow Community Outreach will hold its annual meeting on February 18, 2016 at 6:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

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**Onslow Women's Center:** Junie Christian reported that 7 families with 9 children among them are currently staying in the shelter. They assisted 41 people in the shelter last quarter. The OWC provides a hotline, 28 bed facility and crisis counseling via a contract with two local counselors. Val Burrola-Hekman is providing training to Jacksonville City Hall next week on how to respond to domestic violence/workplace violence when one of your employees is affected. Junie share that they have received an abundance of donations which they can share with other agencies.

**Onslow County Schools:** Jennifer Colley shared that that since school started on 8-24-15, 151 students have been identified as homeless under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act. The reasons for their homeless status are as follows: 38 evictions/foreclosures; 22 economic hardship; 12 house fires; 12 condemned/unfit housing; 20 kicked out or abandoned; 5 runaways; 2 awaiting foster care; 37 Domestic Violence or Child Abuse; and 3 Natural Disasters.

**MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cynthia Figueroa announced that she has assisted several homeless people in the last few weeks. She needs some help with community resources.

Krystal Jefferson from the Onslow County Partnership for Children announced that books for children of all ages are available for distribution today. She requested that everyone take boxes of books for their agencies.

Janice Graniero referenced the recent homicide of Carl Eisert, a man who donated two bags of groceries each week to the Infant of Prague food pantry. Janice requested that members make a food pantry donation in Carl's memory.

Susan announced the Rapid Results Acceleration Boot Camp being held in Raleigh on February 9 & 10, 2016 with the goal of ending veteran homelessness. Ten of our members are attending the two day training.

Junie Christian praised Kristi Pitchford, Kathleen Holbrook, Craig Wagner and Brian Fike for their leadership with regard to CAN-DO.

There being no further business, Kristi Pitchford adjourned the meeting at 9:53 am. The next CAN-DO meeting will be held at Trillium Health Resources on **Friday, February 5, 2016 at 8:30 am.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Holbrook, Recording Secretary