Henderson County Homeless Coalition Meeting

October 13, 2015

Present:

Michael Absher, Brian Alexander, Emily Balcken, Shelby Ball, Chris Berg, Bart Brown, Marla Browne, Dale Burka, David Carr, Lois Decky, Frank Edney, David Jacklin, Nikiki Kilgore, Sarah Kowalak, Kathleen Lambert, Marian Lowry, Kristen Marten, Susan Maybin, Susan Mackenzie, Kathaleen McWlliams, Trina Rushing, Christine Singleton, Amy Upham.

Brian Alexander facilitated the meeting, called to order at 10:04 am

Introductions and agency updates

Susan Maybin – concerned citizen from Cummings Cove which raised $11444 for Only Hope

Nikiki Kilgore – Pisgah Legal Services, she helps with the Affordable Health Care Act

Michael Absher – Only Hope WNC – Cummings Cove donation pays for a year of rent for the new facility. Things are coming along good with the home. Will be hosting an Open House soon, date to follow. Kathaleen McWilliams joined the board. Sleepout is Nov. 6.

Bart Brown – NCworks.gov – career, job search, works with vets with barriers to employment. Serves as navigator in the process of helping vets find employment.

Kathaleen McWilliams – Housing Assistance Corporation – Community premier of “Starting Point”, our new documentary on self-help housing, which this year had its 50th anniversary. Have built 50,000 houses in the last 50 years.

Other showings of the movie will be announced at a later date.

Kathleen Lambert – Homes for Youth – event on Friday night with students from FlatRock Playhouse, no charge, information about foster parenting will be available.

Marian Lowry – volunteer – working with Homes for Youth and the Presbyterian Church for foster parent training classes

Sarah Kowalak – United Way of Henderson County – We have been approached by several organizations about creating a volunteer clearing house, having a spot on our website where organizations could list their volunteer opportunities, then the public could check the website for volunteer positions. Feasibility study is underway. Your feedback is appreciated.

Amy Upham – Housing Specialist with Smoky Mountain LME/MCO- Flyer for upcoming Mental Health First Aid class, Tuesday, November 3, 2015 8:30AM – 5:00PM at Blue Ridge Community Health Services, 2579 Chimney Rock Road Hendersonville, NC. Register online <http://tinyurl.com/mhfa-henderson2015> or contact Michelle Tyler at 1-800-893-6246 x 5125

Emily Balckin – Adolescent Parenting Program with the Children and Family Resource Center – We are hiring a Director of Finance Administration. For more information go to childrenandfamily.org or our Facebook page.

Lois Decky – Storehouse – Our collection for “Blessings in Boxes” a Christmas gifts collection for kids. Already have over 2000 applicants for children that need Christmas Presents. Can adopt a child or family.

David Carr – Veterans Services of Carolinas – supportive services for veterans mainly for housing. Use our money for Homeless Vets and those about to be evicted.

No changes to September meeting minutes, Common consent to approve minutes

**Brian Alexander - BOS Steering Committee update** – Continuum of Care Application was released at end of Sept.

Project Review Committee will have a kick off orientation on October 15. Austin Watson is our rep.

Scoring and Ranking is Nov. 3. Applications must be in before next meeting.

Coordinated Assessment update – Outcome report is due this Thursday. Coordinated Assessment dialog group with the balance of state meet today 3-4 pm, must register for the call. See Brian for web address to register.

Steering Committee has been using the vulnerability index (VI-SPDAT) as assessment tool for literal homeless. Update has been made to that through orgcode. Steering Committee voted to implement version 2 in January 2016. Version 2 is shorter, removing all subjective measures.

NCHMIS – Still collecting agency agreements –

AHAR (Annual Homelessness Assessment Report) Data is coming up. Most important report that we participate in. Goes directly to Congress for funding of services. Point in time count is part of that. Put into HMIS by Balance of State. Determines federal funding. Ends September 30, goes to Congress in January. No BOS Subcommittee meeting this month. Next BOS Meeting is November 5.

Continuum of Care Applications from Homeward Bound.

Renewal Project Grant Application – Had this grant since 2012, has been renewed each year since. Originally it was split into two grants but now it is consolidated into one grant application. Total funding is almost $190,000, $143,000 of that is for rental assistance, the balance is for case management. Serves 23 individuals and 15 households. Target is chronically homeless as defined by HUD.

New Project – new bonus projects are available this year. COC has tiered their projects. Tier 1 is bulk of money. Renewals are tier 1. New projects are tier 2. Very competitive for new projects. Highest scoring projects will receive funding. This grant is an expansion of permanent supportive housing specifically for veterans. Push by Government to end veteran homelessness by 2015. New Project funding is almost $65000, will serve 7 households of chronically homeless veterans and non-veterans.

Motion to approve projects – Motion to approve by Michael Absher, seconded by Kristen Marten. Homeward Bound abstains, all others approve.

**Kristen Marten reports for ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant) subcommittee**. This year’s funding is $43,647, up from last year. Committee agreed to prioritize housing stabilization which includes rapid rehousing and HMIS activities. Links have been emailed to all coalition members. Scorecard needs to be approved. Same scorecard as last year. Motion to approve scorecard by Michael Absher, seconded by Chris Berg. Homeward Bound abstains, all others approve. Motion approved. Application is due to the state by November 6. Due to Committee by October 26. Will resend corrected ESG packet to all members. Email will send a survey link that all members which will require a yes or no vote.

**David Jacklin reports on Coordinated Assessment** – first quarter report is due this week. Slow rollout, still working on policies and procedures which will need to be approved by the coalition.

**Brian Alexander – Point in Time Count –** last Wednesday in January. We are in need of a volunteer to chair that committee. Contact Trina Hill to volunteer. 5 teams last year about 15 people. Broken up by map of Henderson County.

**Marla Browne from 211 of Western NC to report on their agency –** 211 is a HHS line, available 24/7, multi-lingual, free to user, confidential, unless the child or adult needs protective services called in. We are under mandatory reporting. Available by cell phone and land line except for ATT U-Verse which does not support 211. 211 is a United Way initiative nationwide. 100% of NC has access except for u-verse customers. Asheville Call Center covers several counties in WNC. All others are covered by Durham Center.

3 time accredited call center. ATT U-verse customers can call our toll free number at 888-892-1162

Bulk of calls are for housing/shelter, health care, and food.

Call 211 to update your organizations information.

Reminder to present your organization before the group. Please sign up. Next month IAM is presenting. December is open for anyone who would like to present.

Brian asked two small focus groups to report regarding their discussions during the September meeting. Internal Coordination/education/advocacy group, reported by Michael Absher. This group has been focused on establishing a website, which the state has provided. Information sheet passed out so that a Google form can be sent out to collect agency’s basic information for the website. Information on the website will be categorized by who you serve, i.e., youth, adults, elderly, families, veterans, mentally ill, etc. Info requested is organization name, web address, contact person, phone number, email address, and who you serve. If we have enough space we will put mission and services offered. No logo will be on there. Get info to Michael Absher ASAP. Agendas and minutes will be on the site. Should be fully operational by January. External Group is for Public Awareness – Chris Berg reports they are in process of compiling an email list for outreach to the faith community. Send email addresses for faith community to cshapenote@hotmail.com. We will send a trial email to see which faith communities will respond. David Jacklin has been facilitating the internal group and John Avery has been facilitating the external group. These groups will continue to meet at the end of the coalition meetings. Small groups will meet again at the next coalition meeting.

Next meeting date is November 10. Adjourned at 11:15AM