

COMMUNITY ADVISORY NETWORK DEVELOPING ONSLOW

MINUTES

MARCH 4, 2016



CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The Community Advisory Network Developing Onslow (CAN-DO) met at Trillium Health Resources on this date. The meeting was called to order at 8:32 a.m. by CAN-DO Co-Chair Craig Wagner. Those in attendance were: Amanda Thames, Andre White, Barrett Kahl, Biyani Dilag, Cathy Jackson, Charlie Knox, Charshae Phillips, Cindy Williams, Collis Niro, Craig Wagner, Cynthia Figueroa, Cynthia Watson, Dana Painter, James Stokes, Janice Graniero, Jason Klein, Jim Platingos, J.V. Sloan, Kathleen Holbrook, Kathy Horne, Kelley Hamilton, Kristi Pitchford, Krystal Jefferson, Lillie Gray, Pamela Brown, Patty Kotora, Penni Ford, Reginald Roy, Shantisha Williams, Teoletta West, Trammell Davis, and Valentina Burrola-Hekman.

Excused absences were received from Amelia Grissett, Ayrien Davis, Brian Fike, Chris Slater, Christa Gunderson, Christy O'Daniel, Jennifer Colley, Jon Johnson, Kurmaria Green, Melissa Balto, Susan Pridgen, Ursulla Ingram and William Keller.

Introductions were made of members and guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of February 5, 2016 were reviewed and approved on a motion made by Barrett Kahl, and seconded by Jason Klein. The motion carried without opposition.

POINT IN TIME (PIT) COUNT TENTATIVE RESULTS

Kristi Pitchford shared that final data has yet to be received from a few agencies. Final numbers will be available next month. Craig Wagner stated that 52 unsheltered people were counted this year representing a significant increase in unsheltered numbers from last year's count.

MEMBERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

Craig Wagner stated that CAN-DO plans to do things a little differently at meetings from here forward; to be more intentional and focused in our efforts. Where do members fit in? CAN-DO has made great progress since becoming an advisory board to the United Way, setting priorities, applying for grants and establishing local programs to house the homeless. We wish to continue the momentum in achieving our expressed goals. Craig asked if members had specific questions. Krystal Jefferson inquired about a strategic plan for CAN-DO. She requested a statement of progress in meeting the Strategic Plan's goals and requested role clarity of members. Kelley Hamilton stated that her state agency has no money and requested the United Way pay for expenses associated with the Veterans Stand-down so that they wouldn't have to ask for donations all the time. Specifically, the cost of signage, food, and disseminating information. Reggie Roy expressed his desire for members to actively participate in meetings instead of

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claiming to be a CAN-DO member but just sitting there and doing nothing. Reggie stated that we need volunteers to build our community's resources and to actively work to resolve homeless issues. Craig agreed, stating that we need to look at systems and networks across the community; to strengthen access to services and communication between the agencies. Lillie Gray agreed and stated that CAN-DO has come a very long way since 1996 when the Homeless Coalition was formed. She stated that CAN-DO is the official Community Development agency providing data to the City of Jacksonville for its dissemination of grant funds as it relates to homelessness.

ONSLOW HOMELESS VET TASKFORCE

Reggie Roy introduced himself as Co-Chair of the OHVet taskforce which arose out of a recent two day Boot Camp in Raleigh. The group is tasked with ending veteran homelessness in 100 days. OHVet is currently putting together a plan to prevent vets from having to run all over town to access resources; instead they will be sent to the correct place the first time. Since the group's return from Raleigh, 3 veterans have been housed. Reggie requested that CAN-DO members update their agency information in the resource guide and to share information about the services provided to veterans. Craig added the multi-agency taskforce is meeting every other Friday at the same time and location as CAN-DO. They are action oriented with very specific timeframes and are excited at the progress made thus far. Amanda Thames with the Daily News (present today) has been following the taskforce, interviewing members and writing articles.

RESOURCE GUIDE

A copy of the current guide was sent out electronically to all members in advance of today's meeting. Craig requested everyone to provide/update their information and to note whether it is appropriate or specific to veterans. This information will then be collated with that of 2-1-1. The Point of Contact for each agency should be the director or admin assistant; someone with a stable position within the agency. The group pledged to return their updated information to Susan Pridgen within one week.

PROJECT CONNECT/SUMMER PIT COUNT

Craig talked about the winter HUD-mandated PIT Count which provides a brief glimpse in time. He stated that we need a summer PIT Count (June-July timeframe) to give us a broader picture of homelessness within Onslow County and to benchmark data. He proposed pairing the summer count with a Homeless Connect event similar to a Veterans Stand-down. Craig requested volunteers to plan this event. Barrett Kahl, Brian Fike, Cindy Williams, Cynthia Figueroa, Kathy Horne and Kelley Hamilton all volunteered for the task. While the location is yet to be determined, the parking lot of the United Way office or the Fellowship Hall of First Presbyterian Church across from United Way offices were discussed. Craig advised that planning for this event will be on every CAN-DO agenda until then.

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SUBCOMMITTEES

Craig Wagner referred to the minutes of last month wherein members joined previously established subcommittees formed in May 2014. Subcommittees will be on every monthly agenda with time allotted for intentional work although committees will also need to meet offsite to work on their action steps/solutions. Transportation needs to be incorporated into each subcommittee. One to 3 goals per committee are needed today. Each group should choose a recorder. Additional members joined subcommittees today:

Access to Safe, Affordable Housing

Members: Angelia Jones, Brian Fike, Charshae Phillips, Christa Gunderson, Cindy Williams, Cynthia Watson, Dana Painter, Jason Klein, Jennifer Colley, Kathy Horne, Lillie Gray, Penni Ford, Robert Hudson, Shantisha Williams, Susan Pridgen, Teoletta West

Jason Klein reported that they plan to hold at least one landlord event per year. There is such an event scheduled for March 18, 2016 coordinated by Cindy Williams.

Basic Needs/Emergency & White Flag Shelters

Members: Amelia Grissett, Charlie Knox, Christy O'Daniel, Cynthia Figueroa, Shantisha Williams, Tameka Tallie

Charlie Knox reported that this subcommittee has "two elephants." He acknowledged that White Flag shelters have been pushed off but that he plans to pick up the ball and run with it.

With regard to Basic Needs, that encompasses many things: deposits, food, household belongings, cell phones for communication, mental health, counseling, laundry, transportation, etc. A discussion ensued regarding the need for the faith-based community to come together to assist.

Employment/Education

Members: Andre White, Collis Niro, Karol Davis, Kelley Hamilton, Reggie Roy, Ursulla Ingram, Valentina Burrola-Hekman

Kelley Hamilton reported that they will utilize social media and billboards to get more information out to the community.

Income Supports/Resources

Members: Christa Gunderson, Janice Graniero, Karol Davis, Krystal Jefferson, Melissa Balto, Patty Katora, Trammell Davis, Yani Bilag

Krystal Jefferson reported that they will consolidate and create an up-to-date resource listing that includes data from 2-1-1 and OCPC's Resource Guide.

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Awareness/Prevention

Members: Barrett Kahl, Cathy Jackson, James Stokes, Jim Platingos, Pamela Brown, Susan Pridgen

Jim Platingos reported that they will help guide and navigate people to the correct resource. Their goal is to help the homeless re-enter society and be “normal”; to motivate the homeless to see their way out of situations; to provide sponsorships for those with addictions.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Craig Wagner stated there are big changes coming with regard to Balance of State and it will be necessary to push back CAN-DO meetings by one week due to all of the BoS updates. Meetings will have to be held on the second Friday of each month. Today’s agenda reflects the dates and subject matter to be discussed.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cindy Williams announced that preparations for the landlord meeting at Trillium Health Resources on Friday, March 18, 2016 are going well.

Abundant Life Church located at 1518 Gum Branch Road is hosting a giveaway of toiletries on March 5, 2016 from 10:00-11:00am.

There being no further business, Craig Wagner adjourned the meeting at 9:50 am. The next CAN-DO meeting will be held at Trillium Health Resources on **Friday, APRIL 8, 2016 at 8:30 am.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Holbrook, Recording Secretary