**Neuse Trent Housing Alliance**

**Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**8 AM**

**May 4, 2016**

**United Way Building**

Present:

Patricia Benefield, Coastal Community Action

Jackie Dees, City of New Bern Utilities

Alison Dunn, Promise Place

Brian Fike, Trillium

Landa Gaskins, City of New Bern Community Development Coordinator

Debbie Hodges, Craven County Schools

Hope Koontz, Compassion Outreach

Susan Pridgen, United Way of Onslow County

Tharesa Lee, The Living Word Worship Center

Susan Lucas, Coastal Women’s Shelter

Sandra Phelps, United Way of Coastal Carolina

Juliet Rogers, RCS

Craig Wagner, United Way of Onslow County

Reeshema Walker, DWS NC Works

* Jackie called the meeting to order.
* April minutes were approved (1st Juliet, 2nd Reeshema)
* Our feedback on the merger with Onslow (CAN) was sent to Raleigh. We suggested that while there are some barriers to overcome, it is to the benefit of each group to work together.
* Juliet, Brian, Susan p., Craig and Tharesa all spoke to the positive outcomes of becoming one group. We need to honor the work that has already been accomplished and remember the reason we are here. We can create systems that are more advantageous to clients.
* CAN has already adopted parts of our standing agenda and N-T can benefit by having subcommittees that meet and report during regular meeting times.
* A motion was made for the two groups to merge and was passed (1st, Reeshema, 2nd, Tharesa).
* The next step is for the executive committees to meet to start to outline the next steps. This planning can take place for the rest of the year. Susan, Patrica, and Brian will work on finding a meeting space and time to meet in Jones County.
* RCS will receive $60,000 from the City of New Bern Community Block Grant for Rapid Rehousing. The 2016 funding cycle will begin soon.
* Susan L. reported that since April, over $12,000 has been disbursed from the ESG Rapid Rehousing grant in the forms of payments for rent and utilities.
* Juliet presented a case for Coordinated Assessment.
* Juliet told about the new transitional housing spaces that will be part of RCS. She also talked about a medical model used by the shelter in Greenville that RCS is adopting: Medical Missions at Home. Dr. Overby will start a “mini-MERCI Clinic.”
* The Health Department has a $20,000 grant for dentistry in Kinston.
* NTHA members need to get signatures from an authorized agency representative on the Memo of Understanding that was distributed at the meeting. If you need an electronic copy, ask Susan L.
* Walk a Mile in Her Shoes in Friday, May 6 from 5-7 at Union Point Park to benefit Coastal Women's Shelter and Promise Place.
* Craven County Veterans' Council presents a Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 30 at 11 am at the New Bern National Cemetery.
* Promise Place is holding a Survivors' Art Show on June 25 from 12 – 4 pm at City Laundry. Any questions, call Alison.

**\*\*\*\*\*NEXT MEETING JUNE 1 – 8 AM at UNITED WAY\*\*\*\*\***