**Wilson Greene Regional Housing Committee**

**November 15, 2016**

Present: Mary Mallory, WCDSS; Lynne White, Wesley Shelter; Tamey Knight, VOA; Lori Walston, WCDSS; Candice Rountree, WCDSS; Tony Conner, NCWorks; Valinda Belton, WHA; Kelly Vick, WHA; Lisa Council, WCHD; Jill Tarleton, WCHD; Shana Baum, Hope Station; Daniesha Smith, Hope Station; Sherita Simmons, CFHC; Britney Holmes, CFHC; Jamal Troublefied, Family Endeavors; April Steele, Family Endeavors; Marty Stebbins, St. Timothy’s; LaTasha McNair, Eastpointe; Yolanda Taylor, Legal Aid

**Welcome and Introductions**

Mary reviewed information from **BOS**. She gave Kelly recognition for participating in the BOS phone call with housing partners across the state.

**Regional Committee**

The name of our new committee is the Neuse Regional Committee. Latasha McNair is our new Regional Lead effective in January. Mary Mallory is Latasha's alternate, as well as an additional representative. Candice Rountree will be the Coordinated Assessment Lead and Webmaster. Sue Proctor from Kinston will be the Point in Time Count lead. Yolanda agreed to help with Coordinated Assessment.

The Wilson Greene Committee will continue to meet monthly, and the Neuse Committee will meet quarterly on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Our next meeting will be in Wilson on January 11th. WHA and St. Timothy's agreed to host.

**ESG**

ESG- there are some funds left, please refer to Shana at Hope Station. Emergency Solutions Grant funding is available to assist families and individuals who are homeless. There are also prevention funds.

**Community Partner Updates**

Valinda - working to rehouse tenants displaced from Hurricane Matthew. The homeless waiting list is at 200. Community partners need to be careful in their verification of homeless, referrals should meet HUD’s definition of homeless. 40 housing units flooded.

Daniesha shared information about our Hunger and Homelessness Awareness week. There is an article on the front page of the Wilson Times about Operation Wrap Up. We are also collecting spare change at selected locations throughout Wilson to benefit Wesley Shelter and Hope Station.

LIEAP- Low Income Energy Assistance program is open December 1 for families age 60 and older or adults with disabilities. Candice will send a LIEAP application to the group.

NACo has asked that we write an article about our best practices through our committee work.

November 19 - an adoption/foster care event will be held at DSS. There will be fun activities for kids.

Carolina Family Health Centers- they have funding earmarked for people with AIDS, they also provide short term utility assistance. Britney Holmes is our new housing coordinator.

Legal Aid - lawyers are providing assistance to victims of Hurricane Matthew. They have staff who can do community outreach.

Secretary of HUD was here last month. Kelly said they were pleased with our work. Internet access will be available for WHA residents at $10 per month

Family Endeavors- serving veterans, April Steele is in Twala's old position. She says she is available and wants to help. April plans on doing community outreach.

Marty shared that the Episcopal Church has been helping farm workers in Lenoir County. They will have a registry to assist families. Faith, Poverty and Social Justice will be December 6 at 2:00. The goal of the program is to end intergenerational poverty.

Flu shots are available at Wilson County Health Department and Wilson Community Health Center.

Wesley shelter - there are 14 in shelter. There were a lot of awareness activities in October. There has been an increase in requests for services. There will be Christmas donation opportunities. The Clothes Line is their thrift store and that is doing well. Grant writing season is beginning, and they are very busy.

Eastpointe will be doing a fair housing training in Goldsboro on November 29. Registration is on Eastpointe’s website.

VOA is accepting rapid rehousing referrals, and is not accepting prevention referrals.

Family Endeavors - they do provide prevention services. They also have targeted housing assistance for all, not just veterans.

WCDSS - over 1,300 applicants were assisted with disaster food assistance. 45 counties operated DSNAp. A question was asked about fraud and eligibility. Lori explained we have veteran fraud staff who complete front-end investigations to try to keep people from committing fraud.

The next Wilson Greene meeting is December 20th.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!