

Northeastern Homeless Coalition - Region 11 Committee Meeting

Ahoskie Housing Authority
200 Pierce Avenue, Ahoskie, NC

April 11, 2017 – 10:00am

Attendance

Agency	Representative(s)
Hertford County DSS	Allison Cotton Avis Murphy Glenda Simmons
NC Works	Derrick Armstead
Trillium Health Resources	Melissa Eastwood Talaika Williams Lakitra Claude
Roanoke-Chowan Community Health Center	Nicole Boone Erin Storie
Hertford County Public Health Authority	Cherri Brunson
Choanoke Area Development Association	Wendy Futrell
NC Coalition to End Homelessness	Ehren Dohler Terry Allebaugh Tyrone Lindsey

Minutes

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Nicole Boone.

Introductions and Agenda Review

- Those present went around the room and introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

- The committee reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. There were no corrections to be made. A motion was made by Cherri Brunson to accept and approve the minutes of the last meeting and it was seconded by Melissa Eastwood.

Balance of State Updates - (Nicole Boone)

- Nicole gave a brief summary of the BoS Steering Committee Meeting.
- Highlights from the meeting:
 - HUD funding for the current fiscal year have not been finalized. Congress will have to finalize 2017 funding by April 28th to keep the government running.
 - The President’s proposal for fiscal year 2018 funding includes \$6 billion in cuts to HUD and would eliminate some programs, including HOME and CDBG.
 - There are budget caps on all non-defense discretionary funding (including HUD). Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8) need an increase in funding in fiscal year

2017 to maintain its current number of vouchers, and if Congress approves flat funding or a decrease, there will be fewer vouchers.

- The anticipated CoC Competition timeline is May thru August
 - Staff will update stakeholders as soon as HUD releases the Grant Inventory Worksheet, which is the first step of the competition process.
 - The BoS is organizing a workgroup to discuss and recommend funding priorities for the 2017 CoC competition. The intent is to create a more competitive application process to ensure that the most effective programs are put forward for the limited funds available. The workgroup will have its first meeting on April 20th. The workgroup's recommendations will be presented to the Steering Committee.
 - All agencies interested in applying for new projects in this year's CoC competition are asked to complete an Intent to Apply Form. This form asks for some preliminary information about the proposed project and gives BoS staff an idea of the types of new projects that may be submitted. BoS staff will hold phone calls with agencies that submit Intent to Apply Forms to discuss the projects and answer questions. The form is posted on the BoS CoC application webpage at www.ncceh.org/bos/currentcocapplication.
- The next Steering Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 10:30 AM

North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCEH) Update (Ehren and Terry)

- **Point in Time (PIT) Count** – this is the first year that the region was able to participate in the PIT count.
 - The committee reviewed the PIT Results (handout)
 - Lessons we (regional committee) learned from participating in the PIT count:
 - We can do this
 - There are challenges – lack of resources
 - Decide where to focus our outreach and resources
 - With targeted resources, we can work together
- **Initiative to End Veteran Homelessness** – the plan is to end Veteran homelessness by the end of the year in the BoS region in North Carolina
 - Region 11 is the only region that is not fully covered by a SSVF Provider
 - A Veteran subcommittee need to be developed for Region 11 (*there will be a brief meeting after this meeting*)
 - Homeless Veterans in this region can be connected to the VA (*closest one is in Virginia*)
 - Outreach should be done to locate homeless Veterans
 - Additional support can come from the committee applying for funding through the Rural Community Development Initiative Grant offered from the USDA. This program provides funding to help non-profit housing and community development organizations support housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas.

- **Regional Structure**

- Our goal should be to help eliminate homelessness among Veterans, people living with HIV/AIDS and anyone else that is homeless
- As of now, Trillium is the only agency that receives CoC/ESG funding in this region (operates the PSH Program).
 - ESG funds can be used to help operate a shelter, for outreach, rapid-rehousing and for prevention
 - Some agencies the Regional Committee can reach out to, to get them involved in Salvation Army, United Way, Community Action agencies, shelters and food banks
 - Target specific agencies (high capacity organizations)
 - Marketing ideas to get people involved include: utilizing social media, newspapers, letters to county officials, etc.

Coordinated Assessment (Melissa)

- The Coordinated Assessment Plan was submitted to the BoS on 3/31/17 and we have received some feedback. There are 2 – 3 corrections that need to be made and re-submitted by Friday.
- It would be ideal if each county within the region was administering the VI-SPDAT and the prevention and diversion screenings. The members of the committee plan to reach out to more counties to get them involved with the committee
- The next step is for the plan to be reviewed by the Coordinated Assessment Council. They will make recommendations and send their feedback to the committee.

Outreach Efforts Update (Nicole)

- The committee has not had much success in getting other counties/agencies to the table. Committee members will continue to reach out to the other counties in the region.
 - Suggestions to get more people involved:
 - Send an introduction letter to the county commissioners in each county
 - Try to get on the agenda for the meetings held by the housing authority directors
 - Get on the agenda for the county commissioner's meetings
 - Invite the Domestic Violence shelters to the meetings

Next Steps (Nicole)

- The committee will continue to reach out to other agencies to get them involved and search for an agency that may be willing to apply for ESG funding
- Hold a meeting/training concerning the Coordinated Assessment process
- Focus on ending Veteran Homelessness

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:40am and the next meeting is scheduled for 10:00am on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at the Ahoskie Housing Authority.

Submitted by:

Lakitra Claude

Secretary for Northeastern Homeless Coalition - Region 11