

“Down East” Housing Committee

NC Balance of State Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, March 8, 2017

Location: Goldsboro Housing Authority

11:30am

In Attendance:

LaTasha McNair, Eastpointe (Regional Lead/CA Lead)

Bertha Byerson, VOA

Janice Sauls, Salvation Army

Kim Stevens, Carolina Residential Services

Anna Jernigan, Neuse Enterprises

Brian M. Davis, NC Works

Zachary Branch, NC Woks

Gloria McDuffie, Community

Kareem McDuffie, Explosive Achievers, Inc.

Sue Proctor, SAFE

Deniece Cole, SDIM

Shelia Jones, SDIM

Michelle Gooding, Eastpointe

Victor Kosinski, NC Works (Phone)

Janice Johnson, Easter Seals (Phone)

Christine Cantrell, Vidant Duplin Hospital (Phone)

Laura Haygood, Family Endeavors (Phone)

Latina James, Family Endeavors (Phone)

Leigh Ann Hardy, UCare (Phone)

Pam Gonzalez, UCare (Phone)

1. **Welcome and Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 11:33am. LaTasha welcomed everyone for attending and thanked new attendees for joining.
2. **Introductions:** Introductions were made. There were 6 attendees by phone.
3. **Review and Approval of Minutes from February 8, 2017:** Minutes were reviewed. A motion to accept and approve the minutes as presented was made by Kimetha Stevens and second by Deniece Cole. The motion carried.
4. **Agency Spotlight** – Bertha Byerson of Volunteers of America presented as the Agency Spotlight. They agency has three offices and covers 27 counties. The SSVF (Supportive Services for Veterans and Families) program are for veterans who are literally homeless or at eminent risk (facing eviction) of becoming homeless. Criteria is that individuals must be a veteran and must have been discharged with anything other than a dishonorable discharge. Reservist can serve if they have been called into active duty by the President. HUD’s definition of homelessness is also a criterion used. The program assist literally homeless veterans with locating housing; looking for units. Once approved they can assist with paying the security deposit, first month rent and can assist with up to 4 additional months on

a month by month basis pending availability of funding. For veterans at risk of homelessness, assistance would be to pay rental arrears, not to exceed 5 months. They would need to have the ability to sustain payments after the 5 months. There are income guidelines and it cannot exceed 50% of AMI of the county in which they reside. There is a target threshold score of 18 that must be met in order for financial assistance to be provided. Otherwise the veteran could only receive case management. This threshold score is determined by a series of questions that are asked to the veteran. The program is able to assist veterans at zero income.

5. Review of Balance of State Steering Committee Meeting (May 2, 2017):

- a. **See Short Meeting Summary:** Committee members reviewed the printed short summary from the May 2nd BoS meeting attached to the meeting's agenda.

6. Monthly Focus: LaTasha wanted to get an idea from the group what topics/discussions would the group like to have that are specific to the former Down East Committee (Wayne, Lenoir, Duplin, Sampson Counties). She reminded the group the region at-large consisting of all 6 counties will meet quarterly, but this monthly group will continue to meet monthly. Laura Haygood suggested that we start and discuss a by-name list monthly. The by-name list is a list of individuals that are experiencing homeless that have entered programs within the region. The purpose will be to determine if any agency can provide any resources or services to the individual.

7. Down East Coordinated Assessment Update

- a. **Call for New Participating Agencies- Follow up:** Sue Proctor stated that she does have staff in place in Duplin County that could serve as the Coordinated Assessment intake site in Duplin Co. Sue and LaTasha will work together to get the process started.

8. ESG Update: All agencies reported that they have received their ESG contracts. (UCare, Friends, Salvation Army, SAFE). There was also discussion about the mandatory ESG training they agencies need to attend. At one time the ESG office said that there will be a training offered in Raleigh, but the date was unknown. LaTasha will follow up with the ESG office about if the training will still take place.

9. CoC Competition: LaTasha reminded the group that if any agency is interested in applying for a new CoC Project, that they need to submit an Intent to Apply to BoS office using the online form. The BoS office expects that the NOFA will be released in May and will close in May. That is the expectation at this time

10. Funding Committee: The BoS will host a Funding Committee meeting this month in Greenville for members of the Funding Committee. LaTasha asked anyone interested in serving on this committee. ESG applicants were encouraged to attend. Deniece Cole and Brian Davis said they are interested in attending the meeting.

11. Veteran Plan (Due April 1st): Committee members are needed to serve on the Veteran Planning Committee to help to develop a Veteran Plan. Which will outline how Veterans will be housed within 30 days. Those interested were to contact LaTasha so a meeting could be scheduled.

12. Point In Time Count

- a. Data Update: Infor should be available on the NCCECH website in coming weeks.

13. Agency Updates:

Neuse Enterprises: Anna Jernigan reported the agencies received accreditation and it was highlight is their local newspaper.

- 14. Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Sue Proctor and second by Deniece Cole.
The meeting adjourned at 12:43pm.

Next Meeting:

Neuse Regional Committee: Wednesday, April 12, 2017
11:30am, Duplin County

County Meeting (Down East): Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 11:30am
11:30 am, Goldsboro Housing Authority