

Tri-County (Bertie, Martin & Washington), NC Balance of State Monthly Meeting

NC TeleCenter

415 East Blvd., Williamston, NC

Tuesday, August 29, 2017 - 10:00 AM-12Noon

Present

Lynn Alligood, Mid-East Regional Housing Authority
Lorina Garrison, Mid-East Regional Housing Authority
Erica McCloud, Mid-East Regional Housing Authority
James Cox, United Way of Pitt County
Wayne Bray, NC Works
Melissa Eastwood, Trillium Health Resources
Amy Modlin, Trillium Health Resources
Lynne James, Pitt County Planning

Introductions and Discussions

After introductions, the August 2017 Tri-County BOS Committee meeting began with approval of the minutes for July 2017. Lynn Alligood asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Melissa Eastwood made a motion to approve the minutes for July 2017 with Jim Cox seconding the motion. The committee approved the minutes for July 2017.

ESG Progress – Jim noted the application has not been released yet. He stated this year's application was lumped into regions and not counties. Last year, the application was only done for Pitt and Beaufort counties. There is \$152,819 available for ESG activities as a region. This money will have to be broken down so each county is represented. Melissa stated the Zion Shelter is only asking for Emergency Shelter (ESG) monies and Amy stated Trillium may be interested in Rapid Rehousing (RR) funds.

Jim asked for representatives to sit on an application review committee. He noted he has asked Tujuanda from Greenville Housing Authority and would like for Lynn (MERHA) and possibly Sally (Beaufort County United Way) to join the committee. Lynn stated she would be glad to sit on the committee.

Amy stated Trillium would be applying for Rapid Rehousing for Region 12 as Bertie, Martin and Washington counties are doable as a grant. She also noted that Trillium had \$200,000 cut from its budget by the state recently and hopes to get this grant to help with RR. Jim noted the grant would consist of 60% for ESG and 40% for RR. Lynn noted Mid-East cannot apply for ESG or RR funds, only permanent supportive housing funding. Jim stated James (Pitt County Planner) is spear-heading the 10-year plan for Region 12 and Rapid Rehousing is the goal to move people out of homelessness.

Lynn stated one of the goals of Mid-East (MERHA) is to have a case worker that only works with people who are homeless and those that are at risk of losing their housing. Lynne stated that HUD is more focused on ending homelessness than providing case management for those already in housing. Jim said

the homeless are a challenging population and that is why as a region, agencies have to work together to support the effort as there is no case management. Wayne stated if they do not come to him or Lynn, they do not know other help is available. Amy noted that is why as a region, we need to bring more agencies to the table; such as the Department of Social Services and schools in the counties within our region. Jim agreed that the bigger our group becomes, the better we can serve. Lynn said that we invited over 75 agencies to participate in this group as these 3 counties are underserved and only a handful came to the 1st meeting but at least all 3 counties were represented. Amy said that if we personalize this effort, it would make a difference. Most agencies, like health departments, will not come to the table if they do not feel they will get any money from it. Jim said we almost need an event to announce that RR funds are available. Lynne stated the Consolidated Assessment may have to be revised to include more agencies if they come on board but the logical source for more involvement would be the Department of Social Services (DSS) within the counties served. Lynne said she has talked with the head of DSS and they have made Billie Council the point person for our group. She also said there are also the homeless shelters that can be involved. Jim noted that consultative teams within our group can build the support network and reach out to agencies. As the group grows, the support network grows and more people will come for services. Lynne also noted the agencies need to make sure they use the assessment tool (Vispdat) to screen eligibility of homelessness for RR and ESG. She also noted the vulnerability index is on the BOS site with tutorials and written guidelines.

**Next Meeting: September 26, 2017 @ 10:00am
NC TeleCenter – room TBA
Williamston, NC**