

Homeless/Housing Taskforce
BC360 Task Force on Family/Women's Shelter

Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2017

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The Homeless/Housing Taskforce/BC360 Task Force on Family/Women's Shelter met at the Beaufort County Health Department on this date (10/19/2017). The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Sally Love (Beaufort County Chairperson/Beaufort County United Way). Those in attendance were: Evan Lewis (attorney/BC360 representative), Kemba Hopkins (Washington Housing Authority), Sheila Carraway (Metropolitan Housing and CDC), Stacy Drakeford (City of Washington Police Dept.), Al Norwood (Zion Shelter), Linda Thornton (Zion Shelter), Valerie Kines (Ruth's House), Gabriela Gonzalez (NC Works-Veterans), Brenda Eastman (ECU), Melissa Eastwood (Trillium Health Resources) and Jason Perry.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were sent out via email prior to today's meeting (July). Sally asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Brenda Eastman made a motion to approve the minutes with Evan Lewis seconding the motion. The committee approved the minutes for July 2017.

10 Year Plan for Beaufort County to End Homelessness-Jason Perry

Jason Perry did a presentation on the 10 yr. plan to end homelessness in Beaufort County at the Methodist Church recently. There was a lot of interest/discussion involving a 10-year plan for the county. Jason will send the PowerPoint presentation and documents to Sally. Sally will distribute to the group to ensure that everyone has it. Jason encouraged everyone to review the Shelby/Cleveland County plan. Everything is laid out well and easy to follow. Jason suggested that this plan might be a good plan to model ours after. He engaged the group in discussion about baseline needs. The Point in time count will help us to identify our target population and it will assist us within our community. Jason reviewed the benefits of developing a plan for all of Beaufort County. The group discussed where funding would come from to move forward with this. We need to identify gaps/needs, identify strengths, identify resources, etc. It was suggested that we invite a representative from the county/city to participate in our meeting. The group brainstormed about ways to collect data. Sally reported that Greg Singleton could provide numbers from Beaufort County Schools. She stated that the last numbers reported from the school was approximately 100 children (not families) identified as homeless. She will make contact and obtain additional information.

Sally provided info regarding the coordinated assessment process. She provided info regarding agencies that administer the prevention and diversion screenings and the VI-SPDATs. Sally will send info about this to Jason. Numbers can be obtained from the Quarterly Coordinated Assessment reports. This report has numbers from the shelter, DV agencies, PSH programs, etc.

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Stacy (Washington police dept.) stated they encounter about 3-4 people that are unsheltered during the summer months. Some individuals are dropped off in our county. They have no supports or way to get home. They sometimes provide cab services so that individuals can return to their home counties. They sometimes encounter individuals when they are checking on property. Even inquired about whether they can track data in some way.

Jason will construct a document with the framework. He will email it to the group after gathering data. Jason's email address is joperry2@ncsu.edu. Please email information/data (bed/slot availability, waiting lists, type of services available, crisis/ED information, data from the school about homelessness, etc.).

Point in Time Count

The Point in Time count will be the last Wednesday in January. The count is that night and the service count is seven days following that date. The shelter and DV shelter provide their numbers for the sheltered count. Sally encouraged everyone to start thinking about the count. We need to start planning for the event. The group discussed areas where we might be able to locate individuals for the count (library, alley behind Grub Brothers). The group would like to provide backpacks to individuals that are identified and that participate in the count. We will probably need 20-25 backpacks. The group discussed items that we can add to the backpacks (gloves, hand warmers, socks, nonperishable food items, hand sanitizer, resource guide, scarves, etc.). Sally would like to publicize that we are doing the count. Sally put post cards in the library last year and invited those interested to participate. The group will approach churches/community agencies to see if they are interested in donating some of the items. Sally will generate a letter about the point in time count and things needed for the event (volunteers/backpacks/items to go in backpacks).

Emergency Solutions Grant

Zion Shelter will be applying for ESG funds again this year. Linda will be completing the project application for Zion. Linda stated that she is having some issues with the output data. She would like to meet with Lynne following the meeting. Lynne called the data center in Raleigh and requested that they generate data because they were having issues with output data as well. The application is due on 10/20 to the regional committee and the ESG application for the region is due by 10/30 at 500pm. Zion is requesting \$17,751.00 for shelter operations and some case management. Sixty percent of the funds will be utilized for shelter operations. Forty percent will be used for case management. Zion would like Al to stay on as their caseworker. Trillium will apply for Rapid Rehousing funds for Beaufort County, Washington County, Martin County, and Bertie County. Trillium will request \$39,887. We need to decide how the case conferencing will work in Beaufort County. VI-SPDATs will go to Sally. Sally can coordinate Ad Hoc Groups when needed (about three people) to review referrals and for case

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conferencing. Lynne agreed this would be a good strategy starting out. Lynne reported that Pitt County is offering case consultation at the weekly housing stabilization committee meetings.

Coordinated Assessment Report-Lynne James

Lynne James is currently the five county coordinated assessment lead. The coordinated assessment system assists to connect individuals that are homeless to services/housing. She stated that it is a service delivery system. Lynne reviewed HUD requirements pertaining to coordinated assessment. Lynne reported that there are not shelters in each of the five counties in our region. She stated that there are not Domestic Violence shelters in each county (located in Beaufort, Pitt, and Bertie). How do we get people where they need to be if there is not a service that will meet their immediate need in their county of residence? Lynne reviewed data from the Regional Quarterly Coordinated Assessment report. This is only the second quarter we have done this for the region. 282 people presented for shelter in Region 12. 207 of the 282 had prevention and diversion screens done. 25 households were diverted. 17 of the 25 households that were diverted received financial assistance. 23 went to a Domestic Violence Agency. 119 went to emergency shelter. 82 households went to another destination (ex. Relocated, went to an unidentified location, etc.). 74 individuals in the shelter left before the VI-SPDAT was administered and 61 had the VI-SPDAT done. The VI-SPDAT helps prioritize people for services. If an individual scores a 0-3 they have minimal barriers, they can usually self-resolve, and they receive basic case management information. 4-7 is the middle of the range and is Rapid Rehousing. Eight and higher are typically referred for Permanent supportive Housing. However, the group can refer for RR if they feel it is more appropriate. The largest number fell into the 4-7 range during the last quarter. There is a separate tool for families. There are waitlists in the region. Not everyone is using one or both tools. We need everyone to consistently use the tools and share resources. Gabriela reported that NC Works only administers the prevention and diversion screen. They do not do the VI-SPDAT. Lynne will pull the Beaufort County numbers out and send the data to Sally. Melissa can send out the screening tools and training material if anyone needs it.

Balance of State Leadership Meeting

The Balance of State Leadership meeting will be held on November 8, 2017 from 10:00am to 4:00pm in Highpoint, North Carolina. The registration link can be found on the NCCEH website.

Updates/Reports

Ruth's House-Ruth's House currently has one spot for a family. The family rooms are versatile. They currently have four women and one child in the home. She reported that the child is getting involved in the community. Valerie reported that one woman in the home recently obtained a full time job.

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Washington Housing Authority-Accepting applications for public housing and section 8. Applications can be submitted online or in person (Tuesdays and Thursdays 100pm to 500pm). They have emergency housing for natural disasters. They have a percentage for homeless but they have met that for the year.

Zion Shelter and Rapid Rehousing-Zion shelter is averaging eight per night for the last 28 days. They have room for four more men. Linda reported that the Center for the Blind needed volunteers to supply meals 1 day per week. Zion shelter has met that need. They are currently delivering those meals 1 day per week. Linda made everyone aware that November 11th through the 19th is National Homelessness Prevention week. They are planning a Sleep out. There will be a sleep over in Crab Park. Participants have people donate money for every hour they stay out (6pm to Midnight). Participants cannot bring anything. No entertainment or food. The event increases awareness of homelessness. Linda will send out a flyer for the event. For Rapid Rehousing, Al is meeting with some individuals in the shelter this evening. Jonathan referred four individuals from the shelter. An additional referral was made for a mother and her children that are currently homeless and residing in a vehicle. Al will reach out to her. Al requested additional information regarding the rapid rehousing program. Sally suggested that Al contact Deloris Farmer and Tujuanda Sanders for assistance. Lynne stated the RR funds have to be spent by December 31, 2017.

Open Door Community Center-Sally reported that the group is still looking for a house. They have started fundraising.

Mid-East Regional Housing Authority- Mid-East has a preference/priority for homeless. Waitlist depends on property.

Metropolitan Housing-Metropolitan would like to be on the landlord list for the group because they have rental property. They receive HUD funding. They have housing units for seniors. Hope Village II is participating in the Targeting program. They provide supportive services. Staff assist tenants with adult daily living skills. Units are completely furnished.

Trillium Health Resources-No announcements.

Department of Social Services-No announcements.

The Pamlico Rose is scheduled to open in 2018 on 3rd Street in Washington.

Greenville Housing Authority can serve individuals in Beaufort with their HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids) program. Contact Tujuanda Sanders with questions.

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Sharing/Case Conferencing

Gabriela Gonzalez staffed a case and inquired about resources in the area. She has a veteran that needs 1-2 months of rental assistance. Resources given were Mother of Mercy (Wednesday morning-830am), Salvation Army, Eagles Wings, First Presbyterian (Monday afternoon), and Greene Lamp, Inc.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Sally Love adjourned the meeting.

Next Meeting: November 9, 2017 @ 2:00pm

Beaufort County Health Department