Wilson Greene Regional Committee

December 19, 2017

Present: LaTasha McNair, Eastpointe; Tony Conner, NC Works, Tim Rogers, Wilson Housing Authority; Valinda Belton, Wilson Housing Authority; Brittany Holmes, Wilson Community Health Center; Tamey Knight, Veterans of America; Linda Walling, Hope Station; Judi Thurston, United Way; Mary Mallory, WCDSS; Candice Rountree, WCDSS; Lori Walston, WCDSS; Amy High, Wilson County Schools

**Welcome/Introductions**

**Review/Approval of November minutes.**

Motion to approve made by Time, seconded by Lori. All voted in favor of approval.

**Balance of State** – updated was shared with the group via e-mail. Mary asked if there were questions and there were none.

**ESG** – There are no numbers to report, as Linda was out on a family emergency. All funding has been spent or is committed. Program guidelines must be written for all ESG funded programming.

**Coordinated Assessment** – Tim has a call with Ehren at 11:30 today to plan the CA training on January 10th at our Regional meeting.

**Veterans** – Veterans Residential Services had a Christmas party and was able to provide items to many veterans. This was highlighted in The Wilson Times. Veterans of America is always accepting referrals for Rapid Rehousing

**Point in Time Count** – This will occur on January 31st. Chief Hopkins from Wilson Police Department has expressed his support and will provide officers to assist with the street count.

Tim, Linda, Lori and Stanley have volunteered to assist with the street count. We tentatively plan to meet at WPD at 8:30 p.m. We discussed the best time to do the count and made a decision to do it earlier this year; for the past several years we have done the count at midnight and haven’t had much success locating people.Candice will confirm that time with WPD, Major Scott Biddle.

Lori agreed to contact The Wilson Times for coverage.

Candice, Amy and Judi will do interviews on the morning of February 1 at the soup kitchen, which opens at 10:30. We will also cover local businesses where homeless persons are known to spend time.

Resources and information about the count can be located here:

<http://www.ncceh.org/pointintimehowto/>

Candice will print copies of the service count interview tool for use at the soup kitchen. Candice will contact Wesley Shelter to see if they have care packages that can be donated this year.

**Leadership Positions for Wilson-Greene** – we have no volunteers to serve as Lead, Alternate or Secretary. A suggestion was made that we rotate the responsibility. Amy shared that there is value in meeting; that she has learned about community resources and been better able to serve her families. We will continue to meet at the Hope Station and will rotate leadership. This means that the host agency will facilitate the meeting and take notes. Candice will continue to send the e-mail reminders of the meetings and load minutes to the Balance of Sate website.

Here’s the calendar for 2018:

January Candice Rountree, WCDSS

February Tim Rogers, Wilson Housing Authority

March Amy High, Wilson County Schools

April Judi Thurston, United Way

May Linda Walling, Hope Station

June

July

August

September

October

November Britney Holmes, Carolina Family Health Center

December

Our Neuse Regional Meeting is January 10th at DSS in Building 2 from 11:30 – 1:00. We will have a coordinated assessment training when the meeting is done. We discussed resources for providing lunch. There are some local restaurants that are decreasing their donations. Linda and Judi both stated they might be able to help. Mary will check with Lynne regarding funding for lunch.

We discussed our plans for providing cold weather shelter. Linda stated she hadn’t been receiving many calls. Also, there has been movement into housing through the Wilson Housing Authority, and space has been freed up in the shelter. Nancy Sallenger at the Wilson Crisis Center is our 211 point of contact. She has funding that can provide hotel nights when people are in need. DSS can also help with hotels when needed. Hope Station is also able to help.

Family Promise is a shelter model using several churches. We are not pursuing this at this time.

**Community Partner Updates:**

Candice shared information about an opioid grant that WCDSS is applying for.

Valinda – they housed 8 people last week and keeping people housed is the real challenge. Landlords are charging double security deposits.

Time – they are hopeful they will receive the grant. They will be changing their priority service definition language to reflect that those who have higher VI-SPDAT scores will be given preference for housing.

LaTasha – There are Permanent Supportive Housing units available in Wilson. Must be chronically homeless and have a MH diagnosis.

Lori – DSS received generous donations from the community for our foster children and seniors.

Tony – shared a success of a homeless veteran in Rocky Mount who found a job at QVC. He has been approved for housing

Hope Station – they have provided housing for a family from Puerto Rico that was affected by the hurricane. They have funds to help with seniors, 65 and older who have prescription drug needs. They can help even if it’s an ongoing need. They are moving forward with plans for a family shelter.