

BC360 Housing & Homeless Task Force/Beaufort County Housing Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2018

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The Homeless/Housing Taskforce/BC360 Task Force met at the Beaufort County Health Department on this date (3/8/2018). 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: Linda Thornton (Zion Shelter), Larry McAvoy (Zion Shelter), Ken Becker (Family Endeavors), Sheila Carraway (Metropolitan Housing and CDC), Stacy Drakeford (City of Washington Police Dept.), Amanda Hodges (Salvation Army), Lynne James (Pitt County Planning/CA Lead), Melissa Eastwood (Trillium Health Resources), and Lakitra Claude (Trillium Health Resources).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sally asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Ken Becker made a motion to approve the minutes with Sheila Carraway seconding the motion. The committee approved the minutes for February 2018.

Guest Speaker-Amanda Hodges (Salvation Army)

Salvation Army has been providing services in Washington for 70 years. She stated that they serve 6 Counties (Beaufort, Martin, Hyde, Washington, Bertie, and Tyrrell). They provide utility assistance, rental assistance, clothing assistance, and food assistance. For rental assistance, an individual must provide proof of an emergency (ex. Missed work, excess medical bills, etc.). They can assist with one month of rent as long as funding is available. They do not have a financial cap. They do confirm that an individual can sustain moving forward (at least another 30 days). They cannot help with deposits but can assist with first month's rent. Individuals can only receive financial assistance one time per year. Salvation Army can assist with lodging during disasters. They have provided assistance to Ruth's House (provided hotel stay until an individual can be admitted). They can provide hotel vouchers if needed (ex. extremely cold weather). In regards to medical assistance, they can assist with life prescription medication (for heart, cancer, etc.). They do not assist with pain medication. They partner with Tayloe's Pharmacy. They send individuals to Tayloe's and Tayloe's bills the Salvation Army directly. They do not look at income or expenditures. There are no restrictions, they assist anyone with a need as long as they have the resources to do so. In regards to rental and utility assistance, they prefer that individuals make appointments but they will assist walk ins. Salvation Army has a food pantry Monday through Thursday (receive food from the Food Bank of the Albemarle). Amanda stated that they will help with whoever needs it. They can assist with wheelchairs, walkers, etc. Stacey stated that Salvation Army is doing a wonderful job and that he is grateful for all their help. Amanda reported that Captain Raven is gone. They are in between officers. Amanda provided brochures for everyone.

10 year plan for Beaufort County Homelessness-Jason Perry-Alternate forms

Jason was not present today. Sally reviewed the need for a resource list for our community. Jason set up Google Docs for our group. Sheila has put the information in for Metropolitan. Sally informed the

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group that Lisa Reid (ECU student) will complete a new resource list for Beaufort County. She does not feel like Google Docs is user friendly. Lisa has some ideas regarding formatting. Sally stated that New Horizons has 10 slots right now.

Case Conferencing

Melissa reported that we received 3 VISPDATS from Ruth's House. Two of those are eligible for PSH and referrals can be made to Trillium and Greenville Housing Authority. One met criteria for Rapid Rehousing. We staffed a case with a Family that scored a 5 (household of 8). They owe back pay of \$7000.00 to the Housing Authority in New York City. She must pay the balance to move forward with Washington Housing. The church assisted her with moving out and has provided a residence. We staffed an additional family residing in a vehicle. The group determined that the family is eligible for Rapid Rehousing. They made a motion to move forward with an intake for Rapid Rehousing (Sheila made a motion with Ken seconding the motion). The group made the following recommendations: Head of Household (father) go to NC Works to receive assistance with employment, apply with Washington Housing Authority and Mid-East Regional Housing Authority.

Coordinated Assessment Report-Lynne James

Lynne stated that we are approaching the one year anniversary of the implementation of our Coordinated Assessment plan. The quarterly reports for the region are due on 4/15/2018. Lynne will be sending out a reminder email to all participating agencies. She stated that we have not received feedback from the Coordinated Assessment Council regarding our last quarterly report. There have been changes recently to the Coordinated Assessment Council. Coordinated Assessment leads will now serve on the Coordinated Assessment Council. We currently do not have 24 hour coverage for the region but we are continuing to work towards this. She informed everyone that Pitt County has applied for a grant with the Vidant Foundation. The project is called Project Safe Shelter. If awarded we will be able to offer transportation and motel vouchers for individuals that are unsheltered after hours. We will work with law enforcement, hotlines, etc. to assist with this project. We will pilot the program in Pitt County and then attempt to roll it out to the region. If approved funding is available in July. Sally noted the grant cycle for Beaufort County starts in January (Letters of Intent due). Larry reported that Zion received an extension to submit a grant to Vidant Beaufort. They are applying for \$15,000.00 to assist with their kitchen project.

Lynne made everyone aware that the Balance of State received a CoC grant from HUD for Coordinated Entry. They will sub grant to some of the regions for implementation of Coordinated Entry. The RFP will be released in April. There will be a webinar after the RFP comes out. Grant applications will be due in May. There will be a competitive competition and the BoS will award the funding to 3-8 agencies (\$15,000 to \$40,000). They will only fund one agency per region. We can have more than one agency apply. Pitt County Planning may apply for the grant. Zion expressed an interest in the grant as well. Agencies applying must obtain letters of support from the committee (regional leads). Agencies must be

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willing to assume the role of Coordinated Assessment lead for the region and assume all of those responsibilities. The agency must serve the entire region. Funding will be awarded in July.

Woman needing transportation to Cornerstone

Sally reported that there is a single mom who found housing in Belhaven. The woman was previously in Ruth's House. The mom is not working. The mom would benefit from a program at Cornerstone Church. She is currently in a 15 week program. The program is from 6:00pm to 8:30pm on Tuesday nights. It is funded by JCPC. The cost for transportation is \$280. Someone contributed \$50. \$240 is still needed. This is for 15 trips. Suggestions provided by the group were: Vocational Rehabilitation, Salvation Army, Metropolitan (Sheila stated that she will ask them). Linda stated that she will ask her church on Sunday.

Region 12 (Inner Banks) Meeting in Washington

The next regional meeting will be held at Beaufort County DSS on June 13, 2018 from 10:00am to 12:00pm. Sally stated that she will use funding left over from the backpacks for refreshments for the event. Sally announced that the "Bringing it Home: Ending Homelessness in NC" conference will be held April 30 and May 1st 2018 in Raleigh.

Updates/Reports

Ruth's House-No updates. Sally reported that they have some beds that are available.

Washington Housing Authority-No updates.

Zion Shelter-Linda reported that they have provided hotel stays for families. For the first time ever, they have put a line item in the budget for individuals other than men. They have already spent the budget for that for this year (started in January). They are looking for grant money/additional funding. Sally suggested adding that to the application for the United Way grant.

Open Door Community Center-Sally reported that they got permission to utilize the home that was purchased as a shelter. They have hired a temporary executive director.

Mid-East Regional Housing Authority- No updates.

Metropolitan Housing-Sheila reported that there are no updates. She reported that they rarely have vacancies.

NC Works-No updates.

Trillium Health Resources-No updates.

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Department of Social Services-No updates at this time.

Police Department-No updates at this time.

Family Endeavors-Ken Becker (Outreach Intake Specialist) stated that they provide assistance for low income veterans who make under fifty percent of the area median income (must have gone to boot camp). Family Endeavors assist those that are literally homeless or those in danger of becoming homeless. They can request temporary financial assistance on the behalf of Veterans. They are a 90 day program typically (can be extended if needed). The name will change moving forward to Endeavors. Ken's office is in Jacksonville. They cover 42 counties.

Sharing:

Sally provided information regarding a bike ride that will take place in Washington on 4/20/18 through 4/22/2018. There will be approximately 1800 cyclists in the area. There will be several rest stops set up. They need volunteers. Nonprofits can set up tables and sell items to raise money (ex. food, bake sale, etc.). Contact Lynn Davis with Washington Tourism at (252) 948-9415 if you are interested in participating.

ADJOURN

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

**Next Meeting: April 12, 2018 @ 2:00pm
Beaufort County Health Department
1436 Highland Drive Washington, NC 27889**