

**NC Balance of State CoC Steering Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**August 8, 2023

**Regional Leads Present:** Derek Lancour, Emily Lowery, Amber Story, Pamela Hinton, Kristen McAlhaney, Natasha Elliott, Marie Watson, Dr. Dia Thomas, James Stroud, LaTasha McNair, Kisha Darden, Tujuanda Sanders, Brian Fike

**At-Large Members Present:** Melissa Hewitt, Rachelle Dugan, Ellen Blackman, Cassandra Rowe, Catherine Kastleman

**SC Members Absent:** Tiffany Askew, Brooks Ann McKinney, Angela Harper King, Lisa Phillips

**Interested Parties Present:** Bonnie Harper, Laurenn Singleton, Alyce Knaflich, Teena Willis, Jai Baker, Kim Hemphill, Lori Watts, Amy Modlin, Kerry Bashaw, Kecia Robinson, Shelly Chandler, Leah Dyson, Erin Gaskin, Monica Frizzell, Tonya Gray, Divya Mehta, Lynne James, Michele Welsh

**NCCEH Staff Present:** Brian Alexander,Allie Card, Adriana Diaz, Debra Susie, Jenny Simmons, Ashley VonHatten

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

* The consent agenda was sent out for review prior to the meeting and is posted at: <https://www.ncceh.org/bos/steeringcommittee/>
* The consent agenda was voted on at the beginning of the meeting. Without changes or objection, the consent agenda was approved by common consent.

**Significant Change Request by Housing Authority of the City of Greenville**

The Housing Authority of the City of Greenville is requesting to amend the budgets for two of its CoC Program PSH grants. The following requests have been made that require Steering Committee approval per the CoC’s Significant Change Policy due to the amounts exceeding 10% of the budget line items. These requests are to move some of the Rental Assistance funding to a new Supportive Services budget category.

Several participants in both projects have moved on to permanent housing using other mainstream vouchers. This is a onetime request to move some of the rental assistance funding to supportive services to cover allowable costs for things like food, transportation, legal services, and case management (have hired an additional staff person).

* Project HOPE – Move $223,828.05 from Rental Assistance to Supportive Services.
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* Seeds of Change - Move $181,524.40 from Rental Assistance to Supportive Services.
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James Stroud motioned to approve the Housing Authority of the City of Greenville’s significant change request. Kisha Darden seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**FY2023 CoC Program Competition**

FY2023 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity

* Released July 5, 2023
* 1st Submission Documents were due July 25 by 5 PM
* 2nd Submission Documents were due August 4 by 12 NOON – This deadline was extended from its original date due to a delay in project applications being available in e-snaps.
* Project Review Committee Orientation held on August 2

FY2023 Coc Program Competition Next Steps

* Applications Scored August 5 – 11
* Project Review Committee Selection Meeting is August 16th at 1 PM
* **Special Steering Committee Approval Meeting on August 22 at 10:30 AM**
* Applicant notifications will go out August 22 after Steering Committee decision
* Appeals are due by August 24 at 12 NOON
* Project Review Committee Appeals Meeting (tentative) on August 25 at 11 AM
* **Special Steering Committee Appeals Meeting (tentative) on August 29 at 10:30 AM**
* Post FY2023 CoC Application (tentative) by September 22
* Submit FY2023 CoC Application (tentative) by September 26
* Final Project Applications due to HUD by September 28 by 8 PM

**CY2024 Emergency Solutions Grant Competition Applicant Approval**

Staff reminded attendees that persons attending the Steering Committee meeting representing an agency applying for CY2024 ESG Annual Allocation Funding may not:

* Participate in conversation about the proposed slate
* Ask questions about the funding proposal for your agency
* Make a motion related to approving the proposed slate
* Vote on the proposed slate (asked members to submit ‘Abstain’ in the chat to have an official acknowledgement)

The Project Review Committee and CoC staff have completed the ESG application review process. CoC staff held an orientation meeting for Project Review Committee members on June 29th .

* 9 out of 13 regions represented on PRC
* Orient members to ESG Program funding
* Explain this year’s process and member responsibilities

Project Applicants submitted materials to NCCEH for review by staff and PRC members. The Project Application deadline was July 12th. By the due date, NCCEH received:

* 33 returning applications (one application was submitted late)
* 9 new applications

All applications were reviewed using standardized review tools

* Staff reviewed Returning Applications
  + 2 returning applications were flagged for further review by the PRC.
* Each New Application was reviewed at least 2 times
  + One to two NCCEH staff person(s)
  + One PRC member

PRC members and NCCEH staff reviewed project applications and met on August 3rd to develop the recommended slate of applications. Staff organized the review information and regional Fair Share and min/max calculations. Staff identified the following to organize the information:

* Project Applications with red flags
  + Policies and Procedures review raised red flags on a few returning applications.
  + Some applications did not provide enough information to score their applications.
* Determined whether New Project Applications met CoC and ESG priorities to be considered for funding
* Regional Fair Share and Emergency Response Maximums

Staff organized the review information and regional Fair Share and min/max calculations.

* Agencies that did not meet the median score for that project type were not eligible to receive an increase in funding.
* Utilizing total scores and median scores allowed for a clear precedent in decision making when reducing funding amounts to meet Fair Share.

The PRC reviewed each region separately to maximize Fair Share amount. Staff and PRC reviewed the Fair Share amount for each Regional Committee and determined if they exceeded the 60% cap for Emergency Response activities (SO and ES). Staff through the full slate proposed by the PRC, by region.

Only 10 out of 13 Regional Prioritization Forms returned, so staff and PRC were not able to include information from these forms in scoring to not disadvantage applicants in regions that did not complete the form. All returned prioritization forms were reviewed and discussed during the application selection meeting. Red flags identified by regions will be highlighted in regional review.

The PRC used precedent in decision making.

* Median scores by project type
* Separate median scores were calculated for new and returning agencies, across groups of scores including thresholds, agency scores, and activity scores
* Returning agencies with scores below the median for the selected project type were not eligible for increased funding over the prior years approved amount.
* New applicants were reviewed for ability to meet thresholds and median scores.

ESG funding priorities:

* Allocate funding to agencies who submitted applications after the 7/12/23 deadline only if funding (Fair Share) was "left on the table" in the region
  + One application received after the deadline this year.
* Allocate any extra available funding to RRH financial assistance
* Review funding requests for CY2024 versus awarded funding allocations in CY2023
* Default to funding renewal applicants and place conditions on those with difficulty meeting written standards requirements
  + Agencies that have barriers or problems in policies and procedures may be required to participate in technical assistance and update policies or risk losing funding next year.
* [NEW]: When reductions needed to be made to meet regional Fair Share, HMIS allocations will be no higher than $2,500 for general population providers and $5,000 for VSPs

The PRC recommends most returning applicants for continued funding in CY2024.

* The majority of regional requests were above Fair Share. Some reductions were made to returning budget requests to meet Fair Share and a 60% cap on Emergency Services.
* Agencies not fully adhering to written standards or with scores below the median for the project type defaulted to last year’s approved funding level and were not granted additional funds.
* Agencies with significant barriers in policies and procedures or performance issues are recommended for funding conditional upon participating in technical assistance with NCCEH, to take place before the CY2025 ESG Program competition begins.
  + Agencies recommended for conditional funding marked with an asterisk

The PRC recommends 3 new projects for funding. PRC members selected 3 new projects because of adherence to best practices and their ability to meet the CoC’s written standards by 01/01/24.

* Greater Mt. Airy Ministries: SO in Region 04
* Rowan Helping Ministries: SO in Region 05
* Family Abuse Services of Alamance County: ES in Region 06

**Region 01 - $126,766 Fair Share**

Overview:

* Over Fair Share amount by $66,986.00
* > 60% Emergency Response Cap $49,193.00
* 3 Returning Applicants
  + HERE in Jackson County: ES, RRH, SO, HMIS
  + REACH of Macon County: ES
  + Blue Ridge Community Health Services: SO
* Proposed decision:
  + Blue Ridge Community Health Services: Cannot fund at requested level but proposed funding at $30,000, an increase over last year. Fund at $30,000.
  + REACH of Macon Co: Requested $21K. Scores were above median but reduction made to meet Fair Share. Proposed funding at $15,766, a slight increase over last year.
  + HERE in Jackson Co: Requested $101K total for ES, SO, RRH, HMIS. Scores were all near median. Propose not funding SO, since BCCHS will cover SO in Jackson County, fund RRH at $63,500, fund ES at $15,000 and HMIS at $2,500

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**Region 2 - $118,532 Fair Share**

Overview:

* Over Fair Share by $95,428.00
* > 60% Emergency Response Cap by $95,428.00
* 3 Returning Applicants
  + Thrive: RRH
  + HAVEN of Transylvania County: ES
  + Blue Ridge Community Health Services: SO
* All applications were good and above median scores. Cuts had to be made to meet Fair Share.
* Proposed decision:
  + Thrive requested $47,413. Meets 60/40 split. Fund at $47,413.
  + The Haven requested $115,795. Below median scores. Fund at $43,119 (slight reduction from last year) to meet Fair Share.
  + Blue Ridge Community Health Services requested $50,752, a large request over last year’s award. Fund at last year’s level, $28,000 to meet Fair Share.

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**Region 3 - $192,152 Fair Share**

Overview:

* Over Fair Share amount by $52,000
* > 60% Emergency Response Cap by $52,000
* 3 Returning Applicants
  + Dulatown Outreach Center: ES
  + Family Guidance Center: ES
  + Mission Ministries Alliance: SO, ES, RRH
* Proposed decision:
  + Dulatown Outreach Center requested $20K. Scored above median. Fund at $20K.
  + Mission Ministries Alliance requested $192,152. Scores were all below median and documentation was missing in the application. Reductions made to meet Fair Share. ES - $33,291, SO - $30,000, RRH - $76,861.
  + Family Guidance Center requested $32,000. Scores were above median. Fund at $32,000.

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**Region 4 - $169,683 Fair Share**

Overview:

* Over for Fair Share by $7,306
* > 60% Emergency Response Cap by $7,306
* 3 Returning Applicants
  + Diakonos: ES, RRH
  + ECHO Ministries: ES
  + Greater Mt. Airy Ministry of Hospitality: ES, SO (new)
* Proposed decision:
  + Diakonos: ES request is $55K. Scores were at median. Fund at $51,866 to meet Fair Share. RRH scores were at median. Fund at requested $67,873.
  + ECHO Ministries requested $27,646. Scores were at median. Fund at requested $27,646 (same as last year).
  + Greater Mt. Airy Ministries: ES - requested $21,470. Scores were below median. Adjusted services/ops split and fund at $17,298 to meet Fair Share. SO: new application, represents expansion of SO in the region. Fund at requested $5,000.

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**Region 5 - $304,427 Fair Share**

Overview:

* Over Fair Share amount by $204,133
* > 60% Emergency Response Cap by $142,304
* < Housing Stability Minimum by $269
* 2 New Applicants
  + Crisis Ministry of Davidson Co – ES
  + Rowan Helping Ministries - SO
* 4 Returning Applicants
  + Family Crisis Council of Rowan: ES
  + Union County Community Shelter: SO, ES, RRH, HP, HMIS
  + Family Services of Davidson County: ES, HMIS
  + Homes of Hope: ES, HP, HMIS
* Proposed decision
  + Crisis Ministry of Davidson: applied for $65K. Application did not meet threshold. Submitted incomplete application. Proposed not funding.
  + Rowan Helping Ministry: requested $30K for new SO program in R05. Scored above median. Fund at $20,000.
  + Family Crisis Council of Rowan: applied for $33,960. Scored well for agency score but below median for shelter. Fund at $23,067, an increase over last year.
  + Homes of Hope ES: requested $100,000 (significant increase) scored at median. Fund at last year’s amount $48,000. HP: denied HP request to prioritize housing funding to RRH. HMIS: requested $5,000. By precedent, reduced to $2,500.
  + Union Co Community Shelter. Scored at or above median for all activities. ES request $55,000. Reduced services budget to meet internal 60/40 split. Fund SO at requested $10K. RRH requested $122,040. Fund at $122,040. HMIS requested $2,560. By precedent reduced to $2,500.
  + Family Services of Davidson Co. ES: Requested $45K, a significant increase. Scored above median. Fund at $21,320 to meet Fair Share with increased from last year. HMIS: requested $14,000. By precedent, reduced to $5,000.

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**Region 6 - $199,659 Fair Share**

Overview:

* Over Fair Share amount by $155,427
* > 60% Emergency Response Cap by $149,791
* 2 New Applicants
  + Family Abuse Services of Alamance County: ES
  + Christian Help Center: RRH
* 3 Returning Applicants
  + Central Piedmont Community Action: RRH, HMIS
  + Central Pines Regional Council (Triangle J Council of Governments): SO, HMIS
  + Allied Churches of Alamance County: ES
* Proposed decision:
  + Christian Help Center: High barriers, require services, do not take a progressive engagement approach. Cannot recommend for funding.
  + Family Abuse Services: former grantee. Applied for $138,400 for ES. Regional Committee cited a concern over lack of participation in regional meetings, FAS did not meet attendance benchmark. Scores were below median. Fund at $25,000.
  + Allied Churches of Alamance Co: requested $85,195 for ES. Scores were below median. Fund at last year’s amount: $40,000.
  + Central Pines Reg. Council: New grantee last year that has had trouble getting started. Regional Committee cited concerns based on lack of participation in regional meetings. Continue funding at a reduced amount. SO: requested $30,500. Fund at $20,000. HMIS: requested $5,000. Fund at $2,500.
  + Central Piedmont Community Action: RRH: requested $50,000. Scored at median but request to only serve one county. Conditionally fund at $109,659 on the requirement they cover the entire region. HMIS: requested $5,000. By precedent, reduce to $2,500.

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**Region 7 - $366,671 Fair Share**

Overview:

* Over Fair Share amount by $11,729
* < 60% Emergency Response Cap by $95,002
* 4 Returning Applicants
  + Friend to Friend: ES, HMIS
  + Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action: RRH
  + Sexual Assault Family Emergency of Harnett Co.: ES
  + HAVEN in Lee Co: ES
* Proposed decision:
  + HAVEN in Lee Co: ES - scored above median. Requested $35,000. Fund at $28,479 to increase their funding but still meet Fair Share.
  + Friend to Friend: Scored above median. Fund at requested amount of ES - $43,000 and HMIS - $1,500
  + JLHCA: RRH – requested $253,000, an increase from last year and over the 40% min for housing stability. Scored at median. Adjusted internal balance of services/financial assistance. Fund at $250,692.
  + SAFE of Harnett: ES requested $45,900. Scored above median. Fund at $43,000 to meet Fair Share. Slight increase from last year.

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**Region 8 - $169,481 Fair Share**

Overview:

* Over Fair Share by $90,000
* < 60% Emergency Response Cap
* 1 New Applicant
  + Lumberton Christian Care: ES, HP, HMIS
* 1 Returning Applicant
  + Southeastern Family Violence Center: ES, RRH, HMIS
* Proposed decision:
  + Lumberton Christian Care: Requested: ES - $60,000; HP - $26,000; HMIS - $6,000. High barrier program, multiple thresholds missed, and program design concerns. Recommend not funding.
  + Southeastern Family Violence Center: Applied for the full Fair Share. Fund as requested: ES - $37,066; RRH - $130,415; HMIS - $2,000.

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**Region 9 - $231,348 Fair Share**

Overview:

* Under Fair Share by $56,348.00
* < 60% Emergency Response Cap by $63,809.00
* 2 Returning Applicants
  + The REACH Center: RRH, HP
  + Hand Up Ministries: ES
* 1 New Applicant
  + Center for Homeownership & Economic Development Corporation: HP
* Proposed decision:
  + The REACH Center: Submitted application late but were able to be considered for funding due to unallocated funds in Fair Share. HP requested $29,800. Scored below median. Concerns about program eligibility and missing documentation. Recommended no funding. RRH requested $68,670. Scored just below median. Conditionally fund at $156,348 based on participation in technical assistance before the CY2025 ESG competition. Maintains a priority for RRH over HP and utilizes precedent to put any unallocated funds into RRH – Financial Assistance.
  + Hand Up Ministries: ES - Requested $75,000 (increase). Scored above median. Fund at $75,000.
  + Centre for Homeownership & Economic Development Corporation: New HP requested $100,000. Did not complete an application to properly score. Fund at $0.

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**Region 10 - $236,136 Fair Share**

Overview:

* Under Fair Share by $4,788.00
* < 60% Emergency Response Cap
* 2 Returning Applicants
  + Greene Lamp: RRH, HP
  + Wilson County Interfaith Services, Inc. (Hope Station): RRH, HP, HMIS
* Proposed decision:
  + Wilson County Interfaith Services, Inc (dba Hope Station): RRH requested $53,000. Scored above median. Fund at $70,400. HP requested $35,000. Scored above median. Fund at $17,600. The adjustments were made to prioritize RRH projects over HP at 80% to 20%. HMIS: Scored above median. Fund at requested $5,000.
  + Greene Lamp: RRH requested $64,768. Scored at median. Fund at $115,470 to meet Fair Share. HP requested $73,580. Scored above median. Fund at $27,666. The adjustments were made to prioritize RRH projects over HP at 80% to 20%. Leftover regional funds were added to Greene Lamp RRH financial assistance due to larger geographic coverage.

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**Region 11 - $109,380 Fair Share**

Overview:

* At Fair Share
* < 60% Emergency Response Cap
* 1 Returning Applicant
  + River City Community Development: RRH, ES
* Proposed decision:
  + River City CDC: ES – Recommend funding at requested $57,000. RRH – Recommend funding at $52,380

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**Region 12 - $152,211 Fair Share**

Overview:

* Over Fair Share by $27,384
* < 60% Emergency Response Cap
* 1 New Applicant
  + Martin County Department of Social Services: SO
* 2 Returning Applicants
  + Center for Family Violence Prevention: ES, HMIS
  + Pitt County Planning: RRH
* Proposed decision:
  + Martin County Department of Social Services: SO – Requested $20,000. Not recommended for funding due to program design concerns, no policies & procedures submitted, and concerns with eligibility.
  + Center for Family Violence Prevention: ES - requested $70,390. Reduced ES operations amount to meet Fair Share and to prioritize RRH in the region. Recommended to fund at $65,595. HMIS - requested $7,589. Recommended to fund at $5,000 to meet HMIS funding precedence for DV agencies.
  + Pitt Co Planning Dept: RRH – Requested $81,616 (lower amount than last year). Recommended to fund at $81,616.

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**Region 13 - $149,288 Fair Share**

Overview:

* Over Fair Share amount by $115,000
* > 60% Emergency Response Cap by $105,000
* 2 New Applicants
  + Religious Community Services: ES
  + Hope Mission of Carteret County: SO, ES, HP
* 2 Returning Applicants
  + Onslow Community Outreach: SO, ES, RRH, HMIS
  + Carteret County Domestic Violence Program: ES
* Proposed decision:
  + Religious Community Services: ES – requested $56K. Not recommended for funding due to high-barrier program design and financial feasibility concerns.
  + Hope Mission of Carteret County Inc. - requested $30K ($10K for SO; $10K for ES; $10K for HP). Not recommended for funding due to not submitting a complete application and not enough information provided to score.
  + Carteret Co DV Program: ES - requested $29,000. Presented a good application and recommend funding at the requested amount.
  + Onslow Community Outreach: ES - requested $89,573. Scored below median. Recommended for funding at last year's amount of $59,847. RRH- requested $59,715 - Scored below median. Recommended conditionally funding at $60,441 based on participation in TA before the CY2025 ESG competition. Added the remaining Fair Share to RRH FA.

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**Total amount available to NC BoS CoC: $ 2,525,734**

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The PRC recommends this ESG Application slate for approval by the Steering Committee. LaTasha McNair asked about the communication plan to denied applicants. Notifications to all agencies will be sent out after today’s meeting and will include the agency’s scorecard for their review. Staff encourage agencies to reach out after the competition to discuss how to make possible improvements and answer any questions or concerns.

Natasha Elliott asked if applicants that were approved for funding would have the opportunity to ask questions about their score as well. Staff responded that all questions would be answered.

Amber Story asked about Regional Committees’ ability to review parts of the ESG application, especially for agencies the committee is not familiar with, and that way can show them what the CoC is looking for. Brian noted in some regions the committees do invite applicants to come and talk about the project(s) they’re applying for. Brian invited feedback from regions on how to improve the ESG competition process for regional committees.

With no other questions, LaTasha McNair motioned to approve the CY2024 ESG Application slate recommended by the NC BoS CoC Project Review Committee. Kisha Darden seconded the motion. Excluding those who abstained from the vote, the vote was passed unanimously.

Next steps and timeline:

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**Upcoming meetings & reminders**

* **Lived Expertise Advisory Council Meeting**, Friday, August 11, 12:00 – 1:00 P.M.
  + Presentation: <https://zoom.us/j/5799039481?pwd=UFkwNCtLdUszeG94Y2prS0ttRkVmdz09>
  + Meeting ID: 579 903 9481 | Passcode: qYqVY5
* **Racial Equity Subcommittee Meeting**, Wednesday, August 16, 11:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.
  + Presentation: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83264838597?pwd=TzVCWTM4WXdvSVJqbDVlR1I0NnMrUT09>
  + Meeting ID: 832 6483 8597 | Passcode: 023622
* **Coordinated Entry Council**, Monday, August 21, 10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.
  + Presentation: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84840397905>
  + Meeting ID: 848 4039 7905
* **Funding and Performance Subcommittee**, Thursday, August 24, 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
  + Presentation: <https://meet.google.com/dep-rjxz-kze>
  + Or dial: (US) +1 442-272-1109 PIN: 883 218 555#
* **Racial Equity Dialogue: The Impact of Environmental Racism on People Experiencing Homelessness**, Tuesday, August 29, 11:30 A.M. – 1 P.M.
  + Register at: <https://www.ncceh.org/events/1631/>

**Next Steering Committee meeting**ESG Appeals Meeting: Tuesday, August 15, 10:30 – 11:30 A.M.

CoC Ranking List Approval Meeting: Tuesday, August 22, 10:30 – 11:30 A.M.

CoC Appeals Meeting: Tuesday, August 29, 10:30 – 11:30 A.M.

**NEXT REGULAR STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING:**

Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 10:30 A.M.