



North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

bos@ncceh.org

919.755.4393

www.ncceh.org/BoS

NC Balance of State CoC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2022

Regional Leads Present: Derek Lancour, Kristen Martin, Arwen March, Pamela Hinton, Kristen McAlhaney, Jai Baker, Kendra Martin, James Stroud, LaTasha McNair, Kit Claude, Tujuanda Sanders, Brian Fike

At-Large Members Present: Torie Keeton, Ellen Blackman, Angela Harper King, Lisa Phillips, Jeffrey Rawlings, Rachelle Dugan, Isaac Sturgill, Tiffany Askew

SC Members Absent: Natasha Elliot, Marie Watson, Emily Locklear, Cassandra Rowe, Brooks Ann McKinney

Interested Parties Present: Cesar Castro, Teresa Robinson, Catherine Kastleman, Laura Hogshead, Laurenn Singleton, Michele Welsh, Kim Hemphill, Sharmaine Joyner, Kenett Melgar, Tonya Freeman, Bonnie Harper, Victoria Gray, Kerry Bashaw, Lori Watts, Teena Willis, Amy Modlin, Monica Frizzell, Kecia Robinson, Leanne Greer, Jessica Stevens, Tonya Gray, Kisha Darden, Melissa McKeown, Kristine Wiles, Misti Taylor, Susana Rodriguez, K'leigh Mater, Paula Scruggs

NCCEH Staff Present: Brian Alexander, Laurel McNamee, Adriana Diaz, Debra Susie, Ashley VonHatten, Adrianna Coffee, Jenny Simmons, Allie Card

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.

NCORR Rehousing NC Project Overview

Catherine Kastleman, Laura Hogshead, and Cesar Castro from The North Carolina Office of Resiliency and Recovery (NCORR) presented an overview of the NC Rehousing Project for Steering Committee members. NCORR was established in 2018 as the administering agency for CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT funds and is a division of the NC Department of Public Safety. NCORR directly manages several programs that support long term disaster recovery and resiliency. NCORR also partners with other state agencies and local governments to assist communities directly or indirectly impacted by a disaster by providing services or support to restore communities damaged by presidentially

declared disasters and to act to mitigate against future disasters. The vision/model for the NC Rehousing Program, which was developed for the NC BoS CoC Special NOFO Grant Application:



The NC Rehousing Project program design provides the following services:

- Through the Unsheltered Set-Aside:
 - o Supportive Services Only (SSO)
 - o Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
 - o Rapid Rehousing (RRH)
- Through the Rural Set-Aside:
 - o Supportive Services Only (SSO)
 - o Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
 - o Rapid Rehousing (RRH)
- The following projected timeline for those served under the project was shared:



As the Oversight Agency for Rehousing NC, NCORR will be tasked with the following roles:

- Administer grants funded under Special NOFO
 - o Reporting, drawdowns from HUD reimbursement system, project budget line items (e.g., rental assistance) to maximize household's service
 - o Decisions about where to pull funding for contract agencies and participant households
 - o Ensure match requirements are met
- Contract management with Financial Assistance Coordinator (Housing Collaborative) as subrecipient
- Contract management with Regional Service Providers
- Provide oversight to ensure compliance and best practices

The long-term vision for NCORR through the project is that Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funds can help pilot solutions to address gaps in the housing ecosystem and support long housing stability. Housing stability services may include:

- Providing relocation assistance for renters by helping unhoused individuals find and get housing
- Incentivizing landlords to rehouse renters facing housing instability
- Coordinating supportive services to support vulnerable families

The goal is framework & infrastructure for long-term housing stabilization assistance for North Carolinians still impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and through future disasters that threaten housing and shelter of low-income renters in NC.

The next steps for the project were shared:

- HUD Special NOFO Application due October 20, awards by summer 2023
- Build relationships and capacity with NCCEH, CoC partners, Housing Collaborative, and Redesign Collaborative
 - o Support work on Emergency Housing Voucher unit recruitment/placement
- Engage our database of landlords from the HOPE Program
- Develop systems for tracking and integration with HMIS & systems of record
- Develop policies and procedures and implementation plans for the proposed NC Rehousing Program

The floor was opened for questions. Tonya Freeman noted that providers are aware of a lot of local landlord abuse and fraud in the HOPE program. She asked how NCORR will avoid that when going back to that database of those same landlords. Laura answered that NCORR now has a list of landlords who have either committed fraud or abuse or are being investigated for doing so, and they are not working with those landlords unless they have been proven innocent of fraud. Tonya also asked if the project includes financial support for case management. Brian answered that yes, the program has been designed with robust case management supports.

Regional Committee Leadership 2023

The CoC Governance Charter directs Regional Committees to elect most leadership positions in the fourth quarter of each year. Regional Committees should elect the following leadership roles to begin in January 2023:

- Regional Lead
- Regional Alternate
- CE Lead
- Webmaster
- Project Review Committee Representative

The current Regional Lead or designee should submit new leadership at the link below by December 15th, 2022: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/c35787c655224de583030d1ff159dde0>

Nominations Committee for 2023 Steering Committee At-Large Members

In 2017, the Steering Committee approved a restructuring proposal that added its at-large seats, which do not directly represent any single Regional Committee. Having at-large members provides collaboration between the at-large member's agency/sector and the CoC to better serve people experiencing homelessness. The Nominating Committee is charged with developing a slate of 2023 at-large nominees to be approved by the Steering Committee. At-large members are elected annually for one-year terms. New members will begin their tenure in January 2023. Email debra@ncceh.org if you are interested in joining the Nominations Committee.

EHV, Stability Vouchers & PHA Partnerships

Emergency Housing Vouchers

On May 5, 2021, HUD released PIH Notice 2021-15. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) enables HUD to provide 70,000 Housing Choice Vouchers, called Emergency Housing Vouchers, to local PHAs. To be eligible, a person must be:

- Homeless
- At risk of homelessness
- Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- Recently homeless or have a high risk of housing instability.

HUD awarded 12 PHAs a total of 634 vouchers. Each has a signed MOU with the CoC to receive referrals from the CE system.

- North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs (414)
- Foothills Regional Commission (32)
- Western Piedmont Council of Governments (30)
- Housing Authority of the City of Greenville (27)
- Housing Authority of the City of Concord (26)
- Rockingham Housing Authority (15)
- Wadesboro Housing Authority (15)
- Roanoke-Chowan Regional Housing Authority (15)
- City of Albemarle Department of Public Housing (15)
- Housing Authority of the Town of Laurinburg (15)
- Bladenboro Housing Authority (15)
- Chatham County Housing Authority (15)

In July 2022, a CoC workgroup recommended EHV priorities. The workgroup membership included: PHA staff, CE Leads, CoC staff, homeless service providers, people with lived expertise, & state representatives. The Steering Committee approved the following priorities:

1. Households ready to Move On with long term rental assistance but wide less intensive case
 - a. Both PSH move on & RRH step up clients are eligible management.
2. Households with longest length of homelessness and where documentation for PSH (chronic homelessness and/or disability) is not able to be obtained.

- Families and/or individuals on current regional CE byname list who need long term rental assistance.

Staff shared the following EHV Implementation timeline and dashboard:

Timeline:

July 2021	All 12 MOUs with PHAs were signed by the HUD deadline of July 31, 2021, establishing the role of all involved stakeholders.
August 2021	Referrals from coordinated entry to PHAs began
October 2021	CoC staff dedicated more time to the EHV implementation process
February 2022	The NC Commission of Indian Affairs referral process transitioned to Smartsheet
June 2022	HUD TA began with WPCoG
August 2022	HUD TA began with Chatham Housing Authority
August 2022	HUD Notice 2022-22 outlined revocation process in December 2022 if no EHV's are leased Albemarle, Bladenboro, Chatham, Laurinburg, and Roanoke-Chowan all at risk

Dashboard:

PHA Code	PHA Name	Total Awards	Active Issuances	Current Leased Vouchers	Unit Utilization
NC022	Housing Authority of the City of Greenville	27		26	96.30%
NC159	Western Piedmont Council of Governments	30	34	20	66.67%
NC161	Isothermal Planning & Development Commission	32	36	11	34.38%
NC025	Rockingham Housing Authority	15	2	4	26.67%
NC008	Housing Authority of the City of Concord	26	14	6	23.08%
NC050	Wadesboro Housing Authority	15	1	2	13.33%
NC901	North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs	414	618	44	10.63%
NC144	Eastern Carolina Human Services Agency, Inc.		29	2	0.00%
NC152	Mountain Projects, Inc.		2	1	0.00%
NC015	Housing Authority of the City of Goldsboro		1		
NC018	Housing Authority of the Town of Laurinburg	15	6		
NC021	Housing Authority of the County of Wake		20		
NC035	Sanford Housing Authority		1		
NC072	Statesville Housing Authority		6		
NC075	City of Albemarle Department of Public Housing	15			
NC089	Bladenboro Housing Authority	15	1		
NC118	Roanoke-Chowan Regional Housing Authority	15	8		
NC120	Chatham County Housing Authority	15	1		
NC137	Nash-Edgecombe Economic Development, Inc.		32		
NC140	Western Carolina Community Action, Inc.		8		
NC145	Economic Improvement Council, Inc.		19		
NC155	Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunity, Inc.		13		
Total		634	852	116	18.30%

For NCCIA EHV's, vouchers ported to a different PHA by NCCIA show up differently on the dashboard, creating some confusion regarding NCCIA issuances and lease ups. Staff encouraged members to reach out to their PHAs if they notice data that has not been updated.

Stability Vouchers

HUD Notice PIH 2022-24 issued on August 16, 2022, outlines the Stability Voucher (SV) Program.

- Funded by the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021 (Public Law 116-260)

- \$43,439,000 to support approximately 4,000 new incremental vouchers
- SV funding must be awarded to PHAs that partner with eligible Continuums of Care (CoCs) or other entities serving the targeted population

To be eligible, a person must be:

- Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302(a))
- At-risk of homelessness
- Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- Veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meet one of the proceeding criteria

HUD seeks to prioritize PHAs to receive stability vouchers who partner with CoCs on the recently announced Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness. The Special NOFO & Stability Voucher opportunities present a first of its kind package of resources to help communities implement a coordinated approach to ending homelessness.

Prioritization Category	Prioritization Criteria
1	Partnering CoC selected under FR-6300-N-25S, and PHA submits a Letter of Commitment from Partnering CoC in the geographic area with their application for an SV allocation. NOTE: The Partnering CoC MUST have an existing referral partnership with a Victim Service Provider (VSP) and Veteran Service Organization (VSO) in the geographic area.
2	Partnering CoC <i>not</i> selected under FR-6300-N-25S, and PHA submits Letters of Commitment from partnering CoCs, VSPs, or VSOs in the geographic area with their application for an SV allocation.

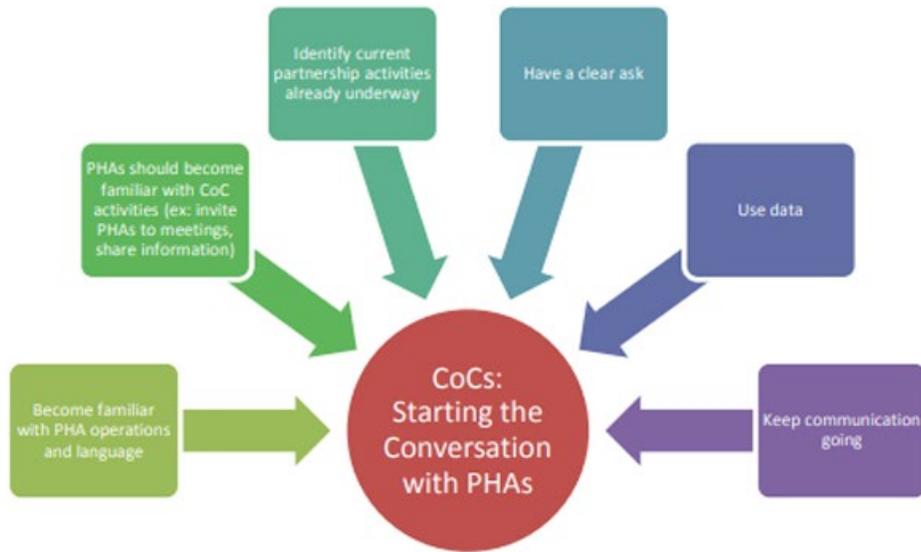
PHAs must register their interest with HUD via email by October 20th and must include a letter of commitment from the CoC to collaborate.

- NC BoS CoC Progress
 - o 4 Commitment letters signed
 - o 1 letter in process

Please reach out to allie.card@ncceh.org if your local PHA would like to partner with the NC BoS CoC to implement Stability Vouchers.

Public Housing Authority Partnerships

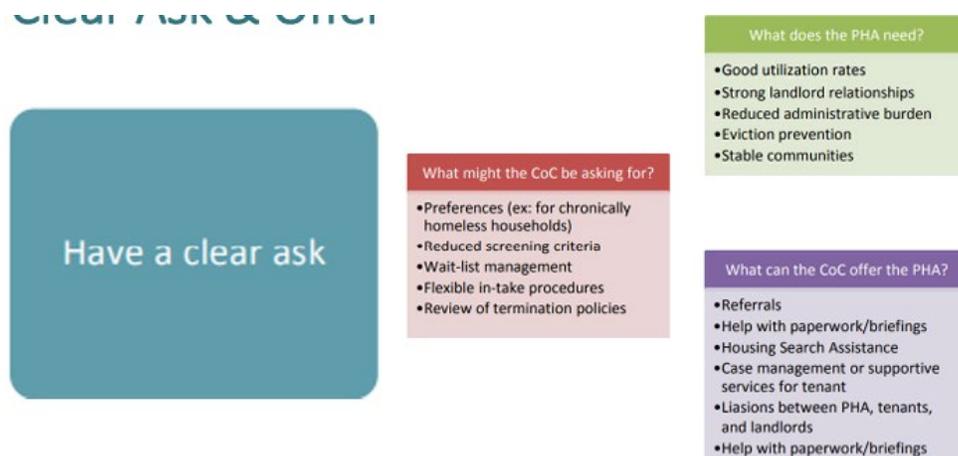
Staff provided guidance and resources on establishing partnerships with PHAs.



To become familiar with PHA operations and language, providers should:

- Review the PHA 101 Webinar
- Know which program(s) they administer:
 - o Public Housing
 - o Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)
 - o May also administer special purpose vouchers
 - o Combined
 - o Both PH and HCV
- Review the PHA Plan Preferences
- Use screening criteria
- Have termination basics

Staff encouraged providers to have a clear ask and offer when approaching PHAs:



Best practices in PHA-COC partnerships include:

- ✓ Defining expectations
- ✓ Setting benchmarks
- ✓ Shared tracking system of referrals
- ✓ Regular meetings to troubleshoot any referral process issues that may arise and to case conference on EHV participants needing additional assistance
- ✓ Training/education/information from the PHA to the CoC regarding the lease-up process
- ✓ Training/education/information from the CoC to the PHA regarding the process for coordinated entry
- ✓ Incorporating PHA directors onto CoC boards of directors
- ✓ Collaborating on local planning processes

Resources for PHA Partnerships

- [CoC and PHA Collaboration: Strategies for CoCs to Start the Partnership Conversation](#)
- [USICH: The Keys to Strong Relationships Between PHAs and CoCs](#)
- [TAC: Section 8 Made Simple](#)
 - o [Appendix A: HCV v CoC Program](#)
- [EHV: A How To Guide for Public Housing Agencies](#) (See Section 3)
- [HCV Dashboard](#) (Includes Special Purpose vouchers)
- [HUD Notice 201315 Guidance on housing individuals and families experiencing homelessness](#)

Racial Equity Subcommittee Update

The first Racial Equity Dialogue session was held on April 12; the topic was How Racism Creates Barriers to Homeownership for People of Color Experiencing Homelessness. The second session was on June 21; the topic was Impacts of Stress and Trauma on People of Color Experiencing Homelessness. Both sessions had about 80 to 90 attendees. The final 2022 session of the RE Dialogue Series will be on October 18 from 11:30 A.M. to 1 P.M. The topic will be Building Towards Better: Racial Equity Innovations in the NC Balance of State CoC. You can register here: <https://www.ncceh.org/events/1573/>.

Staff recognized the 2022 Dialogue Workgroup members: Deniece Cole, Tandra Chamberlain, Teresa Robinson, and Pamela Brown-Thomas.

The NC BoS CoC is participating in a national cohort of CoC's attempting to improve equity in their CE systems. The Equity Initiative Core team includes Racial Equity Subcommittee members Deniece Cole, Angela Harper King, Jeffrey Rawlings, Lori Watts, and Teresa Robinson, as well as NCCEH staff Allie Card, Andrea Carey, and Ashley VonHatten. An action plan, timeline, & accountability metrics are all being developed now.

Project CATCH Overview

Staff from the Salvation Army presented on Project CATCH. Project CATCH, Community Action Target Children who are Homeless, is a program of The Salvation Army that provides youth focused services to children experiencing homelessness. In 2019, they partnered with the Division of Child Development (DCDEE) on a statewide initiative to increase access to quality childcare for children experiencing homelessness. This project is designed to serve all 100 North Carolina counties and focuses on children from birth to twelve years old.

The goal for Project CATCH is to support CoCs and regional committees in their efforts to support homeless children. Two primary recommendations that have resulted in effective collaborations were suggested to the Steering Committee.

- CATCH would like to partner with the NC BoS CoC and Regional Committees to establish regional subcommittees to focus on children and youth experiencing homelessness that addresses eliminating barriers to accessing affordable childcare and education services.
- CATCH would like to provide face-to-face and/or virtual trainings to CoC or regional committee members on early education topics to provide support and resources to homeless service providers.

Attendees are encouraged to email Melissa Pettis to schedule a training and discuss collaboration. She can be reached at melissa.pettis@uss.salvationarmy.org.

Strategies for connecting families with early childhood education (ECE) resources were shared:

- Host outreach events in homeless shelters
- Communicate training opportunities on ECE resources to housing and shelter providers
- Post flyers with federal, state, and county specific ECE resources
- Include EC representative on CoC committees
- Create CoC local youth subcommittees
- Promote county specific resources provided CCR&R and Smart Start/Partnership for Children

Upcoming meetings & reminders

- **HMIS System Updates, Tuesday, October 11, 10:30 – 11:30 A.M.**
 - Register here: <https://www.ncceh.org/events/1572/>
- **Racial Equity Dialogue Series – Building Towards Better: Racial Equity Innovations in the Balance of State, Tuesday, October 18, 11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**
 - Register here: <https://www.ncceh.org/events/1573/>
- **HMIS Training: Your Impact on HUD Reporting, Thursday, October 20, 10:00 – 11:00 A.M.**
 - Register here: <https://www.ncceh.org/events/1571/>
- **Coordinated Entry Council Meeting, Monday, October 17, 10:00 – 11:30 A.M.**
 - Presentation: <https://www.gotomeet.me/NCEndHomelessness>
 - Audio: (646) 749-3112 Access Code: 975-793-733
- **Racial Equity Subcommittee Meeting, Wednesday, October 19, 11:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.**
 - Presentation: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/791696621>
 - Audio: (646) 749-3112 Access Code: 791-696-621
- **Local Leadership Response Sharing Call, Wednesday, October 19, 1:00 – 2:00 P.M.**
 - Presentation:
<https://zoom.us/j/5799039481?pwd=UFkwNCtLdUszeG94Y2prS0ttRkVmdz09>
- **Funding and Performance Subcommittee Meeting, Thursday, November 15, 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.**
 - Presentation: <https://www.uberconference.com/brianncceh>
 - Dial: (401) 283-4752 Pin: 13939

Next Steering Committee meeting:

- Tuesday, November 8 at 10:30 A.M.