

# North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

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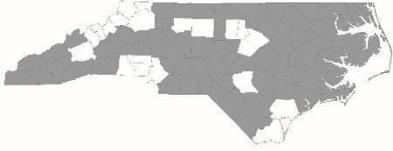
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## NC Balance of State CoC Steering Committee Consent Agenda and Updates

March 7, 2023

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## Section I. NC BoS CoC Steering Committee Consent Agenda

The following will be voted on at the April 4, 2023, NC BoS CoC Steering Committee meeting:

### **March 7, 2023, Steering Committee Minutes**

Available here: <https://www.ncceh.org/files/12844/>

### **North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care (NC-503) Emergency Transfer Plan for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking**

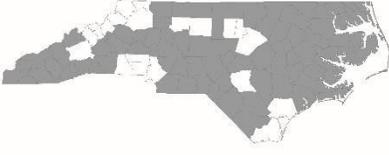
Available here: <https://www.ncceh.org/files/12949/>

### **Significant Change Request: Pitt County Planning for CoC Rapid Rehousing Program**

Pitt County Planning operates a CoC-funded rapid rehousing project. They have requested to decrease the total number of units served from 24 to 6. This change has been discussed with CoC and HUD Field Office staff. Since the award of this project, Pitt County has changed the scope of the project. Originally, this project intended on braiding the CoC-funded project with Pitt County's ESG-funded project. Due to increased funds to the ESG-funded project, Pitt County no longer needs to dually enroll clients in both funded projects. The reduction of units reflects the number of units funded with financial assistance through the CoC-funded project.

*\*Any Steering Committee member may request to move an item off the consent agenda to be more thoroughly considered. Any such items will be discussed as a regular agenda item at the next Steering Committee meeting.*

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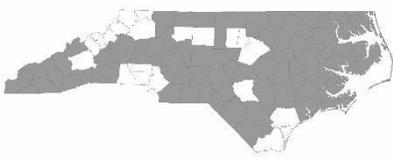
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## Section II. Updates

- **Lived Expertise Advisory Council Meeting**  
**Friday, April 14, 12:00 – 1:00 P.M.**  
Presentation: <https://zoom.us/j/5799039481?pwd>  
Meeting ID: 579 903 9481  
Passcode: qYqVY5
- **HMIS System Updates**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 10:30 – 11:30 A.M.**  
Register at: <https://www.ncceh.org/events/1602/>
- **Coordinated Entry Council Meeting**  
**Monday, April 17, 10:00 – 11:30 A.M.**  
Presentation: <https://www.gotomeet.me/NCendHomelessness>  
United States: +1 (646) 749-3112  
Access Code: 975-793-733
- **Veteran Subcommittee**  
**Wednesday, April 19, 10:00 – 11:00 A.M.**  
Register at: <https://www.ncceh.org/events/1608/>
- **Monthly HMIS Training: Current Living Situation & Date of Engagement**  
**Wednesday, April 19, 10:00 – 11:00 A.M.**  
Register at: <https://www.ncceh.org/events/1589/>
- **Racial Equity Subcommittee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 19, 11:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.**  
Presentation: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/791696621>  
United States: +1 (646) 749-3112  
Access Code: 791-696-621
- **Local Leadership Response Sharing Call**  
**Wednesday, April 19, 1:00 – 2:00 P.M.**  
Presentation: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83792461651>  
Meeting ID: 837 9246 1651  
Dial by your location: +1 646 931 3860 US

- **Funding and Performance Subcommittee**  
**Thursday, April 27, 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#



## Section III. Meeting Minutes and Supporting Materials

### Lived Expertise Advisory Council

#### March 10, 2023, Minutes

**Attendance:** Jeff Rawlings, Eric Edwards, Melissa Hewitt, Rachelle Dugan, Ryan Fehrman, Laurel McNamee, Kenneth Stewart, Jaime Stepp, Tonya Parker

**Comments from NCCEH Executive Director Ryan Fehrman:** Ryan provided an overview of his role and NCCEH strategic planning, board recruitment, and advocacy. Ryan asked for members to participate in an advocacy day. Ryan took questions and encouraged members to provide further feedback by contacting Laurel McNamee.

Kenneth Stewart joined the meeting from the Salvation Army of Greater Hickory. His supervisory mistakenly told him to join the group not knowing where the LEAC is in its recruitment strategy. Kenneth was welcomed to stay for the meeting and learn about the work of the LEAC.

**Client Bill of Rights:** Rachelle and Jeff updated the group on the SC presentation of the Client Bill of Rights, including that the steering committee members feedback and request for more time. The LEAC requested that any feedback sent to NCCEH be forwarded to them and that they have time to prepare before the next Steering Committee meeting. Ad-hoc LEAC meeting was scheduled for March 27, at 1:00pm to discuss any feedback received.

**Bringing It Home Conference:** The LEAC discussed their upcoming presentation at the Bringing It Home Conference on May, 2. All agreed to make the Client Bill of Rights a focal point and include some brief sharing of personal experience.

Jeff urged the group to avoid pointing to “more affordable housing is the answer”. Focus on immediate actions that agencies can take: look at your boards, involve PLE in decision making.

Framing for BIH Conference presentation will take use the following framing:

Past, present, and future:

Past: personal experience for context, formation of the LEAC and its vision

Present: experience of being on the LEAC. Current work.

Future: implementation of the client bill of rights. Actions that audience members can take. Re-emphasize that PLE should be at ALL levels of decision-making. It’s not that hard!

### Next meeting

April 14 at 12 pm

## Racial Equity Subcommittee

### March 15, 2023, Minutes

**Attendees:** Deniece Cole, Tracey Gruver, Bonnie Harper, Kenett Melgar, Lori Watts, Erin Gaskin, Quiotti Ratliff, Teresa Robinson, Kisha Darden, Tambra Chamberlain, Tonya Gray

**Staff:** Andrea Carey, Sarah Murray, Laurel McNamee

#### Celebrations/Announcements

- Kisha's student loans have been officially forgiven after 10 years of public service!
- Tambra: Place boy's home will be opening beginning of May!
  - They were just featured in NC Health News
    - Spiritual Destiny has their website up and mobile ministry is up and running!
    - Medicaid Expansion has come to North Carolina!

#### Bringing It Home Conference

- May 2-3, 2023
- Registration open: <https://nchousing.org/bringing-it-home-2023/>
  - \$50 and ESG eligible
  - Scholarships are available! Do not hesitate to apply
- Many sessions with main focus on RE
  - Several other sessions with RE as an intersecting focus

#### RE Dialogue Series Workgroup

- Have 3 dates set for this year
  - April 18- Language Access
  - June 20- Environmental Racism
  - October 17- Affordable Housing
- Registration will be released closer to the dates as well as finalized topics
- Please let us know if you have speaker ideas!
  - Can send to Sarah at [sarah@ncceh.org](mailto:sarah@ncceh.org)

#### Equity initiative Workgroup

- Will be presenting at Bringing It Home Conference
- Finished the draft phase of the assessment
- Currently revising draft assessment with stakeholders currently
- Next subcommittee meeting, will bring revised assessment to this subcommittee meeting

#### RE Assessment Workgroup

- Working on annual report on equity disparities in the CoC
  - Please join us!
    - First meeting March 30<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM
    - Short term commitment- meetings will end in the summer
    - Reach out to [andrea@ncceh.org](mailto:andrea@ncceh.org) if interested
      - Kisha Darden volunteered

#### BoS CoC Anti-Discrimination Policy

- Current policy is more robust than federal requirements
  - Covers a wide range of identities and experiences
- Document largely provides protections for being denied services
  - We do not usually receive complaints of harassment, microaggressions, etc.
- Timeline
  - Goes to steering committee in May
  - Training for all in May or June
- Edits made each year
  - Laurel will at minimum update grievance part of policy

- Does RE subcommittee have any feedback or additional edits?
  - Tambra noted could be used as blueprint for each agency and that checklist for agencies is very helpful
  - Does national origin cover immigration status?
    - That is the intent
  - Does subcommittee want to take on doing bigger edits?
    - Tambra, Dr. Cole, and Kisha already feel like it's so thorough and does not need changes
  - Any thoughts about implementation and if subcommittee wants to support that?
    - More training for providers?
      - Bonnie agreed with more training
      - Tambra agreed with additional policy webinars

### **Next meeting**

April 19 at 11:30 am

# Coordinated Entry Council

## March 20, 2023, Minutes

### Attendees

Coordinated Entry Regional Leadership: Gretta Worley (Region 1); Rachelle Dugan (Region 2); Michele Knapp (Region 4); Teresa Robinson (Region 5); Maxcine Barnes (Region 6); Jeff Rawlings (Region 7); Trishonda Roberson (Region 9); Michele Welsh (Regions 11 & 13); Lynne James (Region 12)

Statewide Representatives: Fredrika Murrill

NCCEH staff and other participants: Bonnie Harper; Sindy Connell; Allie Card; Laurel McNamee; Ashley Von Hatten

### FY20 SSO-CE Grant Report

Ashley Von Hatten reported on the FY20 SSO-CE grant (12/1/2021 – 11/30/2022).

Accomplishments included NCCEH and subrecipients spending down 100% of the grant, BoS and agency-level goals added to FY20 grant agreements, expanded street outreach coverage, and participation in HUD's CE Equity Initiative. The FY20 Annual Performance Report (APR) showed an increase from 2248 persons served in FY19 to 6806 in FY20, with an overall low error rate. The APR reflected an increase utilization of CE Access Events and CE Referral Events.

### Special NOFO Discussion

Allie Card provided an update of NC BoS CoC's Special NOFO awards, with approximately \$7 million awarded for rural projects and approximately \$14 million for unsheltered projects. NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency (NCORR) applied for the Special NOFO funds and will publish an RFP when the awards are available.

Allie facilitated a discussion around the work of connecting unsheltered households to Emergency Housing Vouchers, to provide feedback to Special NOFO workgroups.

Challenges of connecting person living unsheltered to EHV's included:

- Barriers with Smartsheet and deadlines
- Barriers with transportation
- Lack of case management and housing navigation
- Shortage of affordable housing
- Barriers with background checks
- Housing search falling onto the client and/or Front Door provider
- Struggle to understand lease

Useful process and/or services of connecting persons living unsheltered to EHV's included:

- Consistent and ongoing case management
- Weekly meetings with providers and partners
- Discussion at case conferencing to connect clients with open resources
- Intensive case management
- Dedicated staff person for housing navigation
- Active list of available housing
- Specific resources and funding for unsheltered teams and/or Street Outreach staff

### Core Team Update

Ashley gave an overview of the Core Team and their work to date. NC BoS was selected in 2021 to take part in HUD's Coordinated Entry Equity Initiative. The initiative's goal is to support communities in improving housing outcomes and the human experience for Black, Brown, Indigenous and all people of color. From October 2021 – October 2022 NC BoS met bi-weekly with HUD coaches and completed the following:

- Developed an inclusive Core Team with a diverse range of local stakeholders to ensure the process is rooted in equity-based decision making.

- Developed an overall results statement: All Black/African Americans experiencing homelessness in North Carolina Balance of State are swiftly assessed and connected to safe, stable, and suitable permanent housing and housing resources.
- Developed a targeted goal statement: By December 2023, North Carolina Balance of State aims to proportionally increase the high scores of Black/African Americans assessed through a revised assessment to 43%.

HUD CE Equity Initiative ended October 2022, but the Core Team is still working towards the end goals of creating an equitable assessment tool. The Core Team did not want to re-create or update the current assessment tool, did not want to re-traumatize people who are being assessed, and wanted to only ask questions that held value for HUD-funded permanent housing.

Core Team next steps include (with the CEC and Racial Equity Subcommittee simultaneously voting on the final assessment):

- Revision with Stakeholders (January – March 2023)
- Pilot Phase (April – June 2023)
- Analysis and Revision with Community Phase (July – August 2023)
- Training Phase (September – October 2023)
- Launch Phase (November 2023 – January 2024)

### **2023 CE Evaluation Materials and Process**

Ashley provided an overview of the 2022 CE Evaluation, which showed the CoC could make improvements to low-barrier emergency shelters, the assessment tool, warm hand offs from Front Door providers to Permanent Housing providers, funding to support households at imminent risk of homelessness, and increases in affordable housing.

Noting the work of the Core Team and the required update to the 2024 CE Evaluation materials and process, the CEC determined to use the same evaluation process and materials from 2022 in 2023. NCCEH staff will review the materials and ensure the language is accessible to all clients, as requested by the CEC. The dates proposed for the 2023 CE Evaluation for Permanent Housing surveys are April 3, 2023 through May 26, 2023. The dates proposed for Shelter and/or Street Outreach surveys are May 15, 2023 through May 26, 2023. Maxcine Barnes made a motion to approve the 2023 CE Evaluation distribution, collection, survey content, and timeframe with a second by Lynne James.

### **Unsheltered PIT**

Ashley provided an update on Unsheltered PIT data, as of March 9, 2023. 1329 persons have been identified as living unsheltered on the night of 1/25/2023, with five regions confirming their final numbers. Unsheltered Access Coordinators and CE Leadership are asked to be responsive to emails, confirm data in their region, confirm all available data is entered, and resolve any data conflicts. Unsheltered Access Coordinator terms are May through April and regions should be having active conversations around identifying the most appropriate person for this role. The goal of UACs is to ensure all people living unsheltered are connected to services, build trusting relationships, collect contact information for follow-up, assess and refer to the by-name list, and refer to emergency shelter when possible.

### **Next meeting**

April 17 at 10 am

### **Next Steering Committee meeting:**

May 9, 2023, at 10:30 A.M.

