

North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

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Balance of State Steering Committee Meeting

8.6.13

Regional Leads Present:

Brian Alexander, Chris Battle, Donna McCormick (for Susan Bellew), Ellen Blackman, Kim Braxton, Debbie Cole, Spencer Cook, Nicole Dewitt, Rhoda Emanuel, Jennifer Flood, Kelly Lacy, Joe Marks, Sarah McWhirter, Amy Modlin, Jane Motsinger, Whitney Morton, Bart O'Sullivan, Melissa Payne, Faye Pierce, Shanna Poole, Candice Rountree, Nickie Siler, Michele Steele, Kanika Turrentine (interim lead for Kerr-Tar), Paulette White, Teena Willis

Regional Leads Absent:

Shari Wright

Interested Parties Present:

Martha Beatty, Mary Pat Buie, Lynn Deluca, Ben Foti, Ann Friesen, Karen Holliday, Sarah McBrayer, Mark Owen, Nikki Ratliff, Janice Sauls, April Sneed, Mike Tillman, Lori Watts

NCCHEH Staff Present:

Nancy Holochwost, Denise Neunaber, Corey Root, Tia Sanders-Rice

Approval of July Minutes

There being no changes needed, the minutes were approved by common consent.

Balance of State CoC Governance

- At the July Steering Committee meeting, NCCHEH staff shared a revised draft of the governance charter for the BoS CoC. Regional Leads were asked to distribute the draft to their Regional Committees and to provide feedback to NCCHEH by July 26.
- NCCHEH received feedback from one Regional Committee (Burke County) about changing the vision statement's goal of moving people to permanent housing within 30 days. The Burke Regional Committee felt that because of barriers to mental illness and substance abuse services that many consumers face, this goal may be unrealistic.
 - Steering Committee members were asked for any other feedback about the governance charter.
 - Candice Rountree noted that Wilson-Greene RC agreed with Burke RC's opinion on the vision statement. Denise noted that this point was discussed at the June

25 in-person RC meeting as well, and the group agreed that because the vision statement should be aspirational, the HEARTH goal of 30 days was appropriate. Steering Committee members discussed barriers to achieving this goal and how the CoC would be held accountable if the goal is not met. It was noted that the vision statement is meant to reflect the change we are working towards, and that it includes the goal from HEARTH because that is the change HUD is asking us to move towards. that the Steering Committee agreed that the the CoC can use the vision statement as a tool to identify barriers and work to address them.

- Steering Committee members were asked for any motions to change the vision statement; none were offered.
- A motion was made and approved to adopt the current draft of the governance charter (White, Dewitt).

ESG Funding Application Update

- DHHS released the ESG application on July 16. Applications are due to the State by August 21. Agencies that are applying for funding must submit project applications to their Regional Committees according to the established local processes. Regional Committees are responsible for submitting regional applications to DHHS.
- DHHS is holding an informational webinar on August 8 from 2-4 p.m.
- The regional application includes several questions that ask about the Balance of State CoC as a whole. NCCEH staff have compiled answers to these questions and have posted them on the NCCEH website at www.ncceh.org/BoS/ESG.
- Project applicants that are members of NCCEH have the option of scheduling a one-on-one consultation with Denise about their applications.
- Last year, the Steering Committee created a document called “ESG Funding Principles” and provided it to the State ESG office to educate them about BoS’ funding priorities. This document is available for review at <http://www.ncceh.org/files/3415/>.
- The NC BoS CoC has the authority to approve Regional Committee applications. The Steering Committee was asked to provide NCCEH staff with direction on how to conduct the approval process.
 - Because there is such a short turnaround on the application, it seems unreasonable to ask for applications to be submitted to the Steering Committee prior to the final due date to the State.
 - Last year, the Steering Committee decided that renewals should automatically be approved if they were asking for the same amount of funding as the previous year. New rapid re-housing and prevention projects were approved if they met the State’s scoring threshold. If there were other types of projects that didn’t meet one of the two above criteria, the CoC reviewed them more closely and provided feedback to the State.
 - Steering Committee members agreed that these guidelines could be used again this year.

CoC Funding Application Update

- The HUD SNAPS office began a 10-week communication series, SNAPS Weekly Focus, on July 2nd. These emails provide information for CoCs on HUD's funding priorities and strategies such as coordinated intake and permanent supportive housing. Corey has been forwarding the emails to Regional Leads. The Steering Committee reviewed the questions that have been posed in the emails sent so far. The questions will be discussed more thoroughly during upcoming subcommittee calls. Regional Leads were also encouraged to discuss them at Regional Committee meetings.
- HUD has said the CoC NOFA will not be released until the end of this communication series, so we expect the NOFA to be released no earlier than mid-September.
- Applicants that intend to apply for CoC funding for a new project are required to fill out an Intent to Apply form: www.ncceh.org/BoS/CurrentCoCApplication
- HUD announced the awards for new project applications from the 2012 CoC competition. The Balance of State received funding for two new projects (both from Homeward Bound), which were placed in Tier 1. It does not appear that any new projects placed in Tier 2 were awarded funding.

Balance of State Funding Update

- For the past several years, NCCEH has been contracted by the State through DHHS to coordinate the BoS. NCCEH's current contract ended on June 30, so staff are now working without a contract. There was no funding included in the 2013-14 state budget for BoS coordination (although there is an option in the 2014-15 budget for the state to create an RFP for homeless coordination). For 2013-14, DHHS has to find funding within its own budget to pay for BoS work. NCCEH's board has said there must be a contract in place by the time the CoC competition opens in order for NCCEH to continue to do the work. One option that has been discussed at DHHS is for DHHS to bring the BoS coordination back in-house. Steering Committee members can contact NCCEH or Martha Are at DHHS with any feedback.

National Alliance to End Homelessness Conference

- The annual NAEH conference was held July 22-24 in Washington, DC. Sixty-five people from North Carolina attended. NCCEH staff led North Carolina attendants on Congressional visits.
- NAEH is posting all conference materials and presentations on their website at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/library/entry/2013-national-conference-presentations>.
- Denise noted that a major theme of the conference was the difficulties sequestration is causing for getting people into housing, but that this sparked discussions on how we can work around these barriers, and there were also many communities presenting on their successes. Another theme was the use of data to understand and evaluate our systems.

Subcommittee and Workgroup Update

- Two new BoS workgroups were created last month, one for Coordinated Assessment and one for Data Usage. Both workgroups will meet in August. NCCEH staff will send information to workgroup members.
 - NCCEH recently learned that CHIN made an error in its calculation of how many licenses are available for the Balance of State, meaning that there are actually 39 extra licenses available instead of 118. The Data Usage workgroup will discuss this issue to decide how to distribute the extra licenses.
- The Permanent Supportive Housing subcommittee will meet August 20 at 10:30 am. All PSH grantees should participate, as well as any other BoS members who are interested. Participants should register on the NCCEH website calendar: <http://www.ncceh.org/events/month/>

Regional Committee Updates

- Piedmont: Martha Are and Amy Cole from DHHS are holding a technical assistance meeting about the ESG program for the Piedmont region's ESG grantees. Nicole will share her notes from the TA session.
- Northeast: The RC held a meeting this morning to review ESG applications.

Reminders

- ESG applications due to the State by August 21
- Regional Committees: discuss Weekly Focus emails from HUD SNAPS office
- Agencies interested in applying for new projects in this year's CoC application: fill out an Intent to Apply form at www.ncceh.org/BoS/CurrentCoCApplication
- Coordinated Assessment workgroup and Data Usage workgroup meet in August
- Permanent Supportive Housing subcommittee meets on August 20

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 3 at 10:30.