



North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

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www.ncceh.org/BoS

NC Balance of State CoC Steering Committee Minutes

March 3, 2021

Regional Leads Present: Destri Leger, Kristen Martin, Arwen March, Teena Willis, Andrea Merriman, LaTonya Penny, Marie Watson, James Mercer, LaTasha McNair, Lakitra Claude, Jim Cox

At-Large Members Present: Ellen Blackman, Angela Harper King, Brooks Ann McKinney, Cassandra Rowe, Kelly Benton, Jefferey Rawlings, Pamela Atwood, Jason Gray

SC Members Absent: Emily Locklear, Isaac Sturgill, Eric Edwards, Lisa Phillips

Interested Parties Present: Alyce Knaflich, Amy Modlin, Kimberly Hemphill, Chipper Long, Monica Frizzell, Derek Lancour, Lori Watts, Emily Lowery, Michele Welsh, Peter Peedin, Leonard Tillery, Leila McMichael, Natasha Elliott, Tonya Freeman, Melissa McKeown, Dr. Leone Lettsome, Erin Prouty, Heather Muller, Jennah King, Karen Kennedy, Samantha Hall, Melissa Galloway, Lenize Patton, Patrice Boone, Talaika Williams, Manuel Hyman, Peggy Owens, Teresa Robinson, Mary Erwin, Kielana Ham, Martha Romero-Flora, Katie Wiseman, Tonya Harris, P. Jones, Tamba Chamberlain, Tujuanda Sanders

NCCEH Staff Present: Brian Alexander, Debra A. Susie, Kevin McNamee, Andrea Carey, Ashley VonHatten, Adrianna Coffee

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.

FY21 CoC Competition and ESG-CV2 Awards Update

HUD announced the initial steps of the FY21 CoC competition:

- Registration – staff have registered on behalf of the CoC – due March 4, 2021
- Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW) – usually follows 6 weeks after the registration deadline
- NOFA – early summer?

NCCEH staff have begun to slowly prepare for this year's competition:

- FPS has begun preparing FY21 CoC Funding Priorities
- Renewal Applicant slide deck with helpful hints:
<https://www.ncceh.org/files/10628/>
- New CoC Applicant webinar: bit.ly/2T5vd7R
- Intent to Apply form still open

The Intent to Apply form is mandatory for all agencies applying for new CoC funds and posted to the NCCEH website at: <https://www.ncceh.org/bos/currentcocapplication/>

- Any agency wanting to apply for a new CoC project in the FY21 competition is required to submit a form.
- Asks for preliminary information about proposed project(s)
- NCCEH staff will review and follow-up with the agency to discuss
 - Any agency that submitted an Intent to Apply form for the FY20 competition does not need to submit another.
 - Staff will schedule follow-up calls later in the year once we have more details.
 - Rolling-basis, non-binding
 - Deadline: 2 weeks after NOFA release

Regional Committee leadership and at-large members can help recruit agencies to apply and direct them to the Intent to Apply form or to bos@ncceh.org with any questions.

The CoC needs agencies with:

- Capacity to operate CoC programs
- Best practice knowledge
- Willingness to serve the most vulnerable people experiencing homelessness

NC ESG has provided a preliminary list comprising the total NC BoS CoC ESG-CV-2 award of \$15,906,858. All applications were fully funded. Some Back@Home agencies are still working on updating budgets to include Homelessness Prevention. The NC ESG Office is currently working on new and amended contracts, which may take some time because many are over \$200,000.

Agency	Region	ES	SO	RRH	HP	HMIS	Admin
HERE in Jackson County	1	\$69,848	\$3,060	0	0	\$4,500	0
REACH of Haywood	1	\$69,847	0	0	0	0	0
REACH of Macon	1	\$69,848	0	0	0	0	0
Vaya Health	1	0	0	\$216,503	\$204,930	0	\$38,312
Blue Ridge Community Health	2	0	\$184,087	0	0	0	\$9,204
Thrive	2	0	0	\$195,501	\$197,985	0	\$19,214
Family Care Center	3	\$118,265	0	\$203,821	\$12,755	0	\$13,747
Family Guidance Center	3	\$163,520	\$140,048	0	0	0	0
McDowell Mission	3	\$133,905	\$31,000	\$147,496	\$130,000	0	\$21,245
Diakonos	4	\$144,727	\$60,000	\$185,000	\$155,348	0	\$24,000
ECHO Ministries	4	\$225,000	0	0	0	0	0
Greater Mt. Airy Ministry	4	\$295,000	0	0	0	0	0
Crisis Ministry of Davidson	5	\$116,500	0	0	0	0	0
Community Link	4	0	0	\$189,484	0	0	\$7,500

Agency	Region	ES	SO	RRH	HP	HMIS	Admin
Family Crisis Council	5	\$14,677	0	0	0	0	0
Homes of Hope	5	\$48,501	0	0	0	\$5,000	\$2,175
Rowan Helping Ministries	5	0	0	\$170,984	\$136,000	0	\$13,000
Turning Point	5	\$25,837	0	0	0	0	0
Union County Community Shelter	5	\$791,059	\$10,000	\$357,478	\$271,040	0	\$71,293
Central Piedmont CA	6	0	0	\$137,571	\$20,685	0	\$7,913
Family Abuse Services	6	\$119,062	0	\$510,740	\$462,054	0	\$54,074
Johnston-Lee-Harnett CA	7	0	0	\$2,062,901	0	0	\$21,813
Friend to Friend	7	\$45,000	0	0	0	\$2,000	\$2,000
Outreach Mission	7	\$146,200	\$56,500	0	0	0	0
Southeastern Family Violence	8	0	0	\$873,855	0	0	\$45,992
The REACH Center	9	0	0	\$1,124,389	\$128,335	0	\$17,933
Hand Up Ministries	9	\$50,000	0	0	0	0	\$2,500

Agency	Region	ES	SO	RRH	HP	HMIS	Admin
Greene Lamp	10	0	0	\$302,750	\$495,255	0	\$37,393
Hope Station	10	\$81,500	0	\$558,389	\$184,200	\$16,500	\$20,600
River City Community Development	11	\$193,310	0	\$377,340	0	0	\$25,000
Center for Family Violence Prevention	12	\$99,360	0	0	0	0	\$4,320
Greenville Community Shelter	12	\$200,000	0	0	0	0	0
Trillium Health Resources	12/13	0	0	\$1,184,630	0	0	0
Onslow Community Outreach	13	\$363,681	0	0	0	\$2,587	\$18,313
NCCEH	All	0	0	0	0	\$151,423	0

Coordinated Entry Evaluation Launch

HUD requires CoCs to conduct an annual evaluation of the coordinated entry system. The dates for the NC BoS CoC coordinated entry evaluation are:

- March 1, 2021 – April 30, 2021 for PSH surveys
- April 17, 2021 – April 30, 2021 for ES/Unsheltered surveys
- RRH projects conduct surveys on an on-going basis

CE evaluation materials, including written standards and surveys, are located on the NCCEH webpage, under [BoS Coordinated Entry](#). The process for survey collection and data processing follow:

- Survey collection
 - Agencies will give client option of completing the survey
 - Client completes survey (anonymously) and places in envelope
 - CE Lead and/or identified person collects surveys and scans to ashley@nceh.org
- Data processing
 - Analyze results
 - Report to NC ESG office
 - Propose changes to CE system

Housing Connections Initiative Phase II

Following the first phase of a landlord engagement initiative (January 2019 - March 2020) and rapid impact grants during COVID (April - July 2020), Phase II of the Housing Connections Initiative will award grants designed to create a system moving beyond recruiting rental units one household at a time and instead securing a larger number of units to quickly connect more households to housing. Grantees with the greatest capacity to build strategic collaborations with landlords, property owners, and property management companies inside and outside their respective communities will comprise a collaborative team representative of a broad swath of the state's urban and rural communities.

Continuing under contract with Phase II, CLUTCH Consulting will provide support to the work of the team, applying knowledge of emerging best practices for securing multiple units through one landlord, and landlord retention along with the broader application of these proven strategies for landlord engagement developed with prior grantees:

- **Move-In Fees** to incentivize landlords to rent to households experiencing homelessness and to allow for more leniency in criminal background checks and reduced screening.
- **Unit Upfit Fees** to pay for smaller repairs or upfits for the unit to meet HQS or habitability standards, so that a tenant can move into the unit.
- **Barrier Buster Fees** to support quick placement of households by eliminating housing barriers such as pet deposits, utility/rental arrears, or other needs to make the unit accessible to the household.

- **Unit Repair Fees** to be used in circumstances where a quick response to minor damage by a tenant will keep the landlord relationship intact. Should supplement the use of rental deposit to cover damages, not replace it. Funds can be used while the tenant is still occupying the unit or after the tenant has left the unit.
- **Housing Stability Bonuses** to incentivize landlords to sign an annual lease renewal with a tenant.

Racial Equity Subcommittee Update

The Racial Equity Subcommittee has established three strategic priorities for 2021:

- Funding racial equity initiatives
- Creating a more equitable access/prioritization system
- Embedding equity into the framework of all committees

Dr. Latonya Penny and Kevin McNamee (NCCEH staff) will present the work of the Racial Equity Subcommittee at the upcoming national conference hosted by the National Alliance to End Homelessness. The presentation will focus on the Racial Equity Dialogue Series hosted by the NC BoS CoC in 2020.

State COVID Vaccine Prioritization of NC Homeless Population

The State of North Carolina initially included people in homeless shelters in the first phase of its October 2020 COVID vaccine distribution plan. In an updated plan released in February 2021, homeless shelter staff were classified as frontline essential workers, putting them in the state's third group. It also shifted people living in homeless shelters into group 4. NCCEH helped to coordinate nearly 400 signatures from organizations and individuals across the state on a letter to the NC Department of Health and Human Services Secretary, asking for the reprioritization of people experiencing homelessness and their shelter and service providers. That letter and the two media stories (statewide and national) it generated are listed here:

- Letter to Secretary Mandy Cohen and signers: <https://www.ncceh.org/files/11345/>
- Carolina Public Press article: <https://carolinapublicpress.org/42630/why-were-homeless-sheltersdeprioritized-for-vaccines/>
- Stateline (Pew Charitable Trusts): <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/03/01/states-fail-to-prioritize-homeless-people-for-vaccines>

Data Center + ICA Partnership

Two ICA staff will be embedded at the NCCEH Data Center to support Helpdesk and System Administration. These are Katie Wiseman (katie.wiseman@ncceh.org) and Tonya Harris (tonya.harris@ncceh.org). They will manage the Helpdesk for HMIS users and provide support for the HMIS PIT/HIC process.

Upcoming Meetings and Reminders

The Steering Committee was directed to review the following meetings and reminders for March 2021.

- **COVID-19 Local Leadership Response Sharing Call**, *Every other Wednesday, March 3, 17, and 31, 1:00 – 2:00 P.M.*
Presentation: <https://www.gotomeet.me/NCEndHomelessness>
Audio: (646) 749-3112 Access Code: 975-793-733
- **Coordinated Entry Council Meeting**, *Monday, March 15, 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, March 17, 9:00 – 10:00 A.M.*
Presentation: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/791696621>
Audio: (646) 749-3112 Access Code: 791-696-621
- **BoS HMIS User Meeting**, *Thursday, March 18, 1:00 - 2:30 P.M.*
Register here: <https://www.ncceh.org/events/1464/>
- **Funding and Performance Subcommittee Meeting**, *Thursday, March 25, 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.*
Presentation: uberconference.com/brianncceh
Audio: (401) 283-4752 Pin: 13939

Next Steering Committee Meeting is Tuesday, April 6, 10:30 AM – 12:00 P.M.