

REGION 7 HOUSING

Zoom Meeting

AGENDA

October 1, 2020

Attendance: Marie Watson, JLHCA; Rachel Picard, City of Sanford; Susan Bellew, ?; Kimberly Ledford, Chipper Long, Anson County Homes of Hope; Kendra Martin, United Way of Lee County; Laura Spivey, OMI; Tamara Brogan, Family Promise; Hamer Carter, OMI; Manuel Hyman, Susana Rodriguez, Catrina Martin, Jeff Rawlings, Kelly Hutchinson, Donna McCormick, Nicholas Peak, Kam McDonald, Kim Childers, Angela Jones, JLHCA; Britney Keene, Winona Coveney, Karen Kennedy, Tambra Chamberlain

- **10:00 a.m. Welcome & Introductions**
- **2021 ESG Funding Approval**

Brian Alexander said that Region 7 doesn't decide on amount, just on who is funded. Brian said we need to be aware of high-barrier shelters and organizations that don't serve the entire region. Laura Spivey read the list of renewals and new asks. Kimberly Ledford said we should form a regional advisory committee so there can be a better fair share for funding because our region is so large and so spread out; Kimberly wants to advocate for our region. Kimberly motioned to put every funding application forward. Kendra Martin said we should consider taking Family Promise out since their agency is high barrier. Their program might not be eligible for this funding anyway. Tamara Brogan said that as long as there is a tight relationship with churches it will be hard to get away from the married couple requirement; The majority of churches would enforce the marriage requirement. Marie said BOS is looking to fund low-barrier, housing first organizations; High-barrier can apply but are not as likely to get funded. Family Promise is not high barrier, but it is discrimination to separate a family. Kendra reminded everyone that Family Promise is doing great work, but due to federal grant restrictions this funding might not work for Family Promise. Kay Johnson recommended to not fund high-barrier shelters. Kendra asked if an organization serves all 9 counties if they would be favored, Marie and Jeff said yes, they would be favored. Kimberly asked if Tamara would like us to write a letter to the board explain why they would not be chosen for this funding. OMI is serving all nine counties and are basically just renewing, just expanding services. Susan Bellew motions as region 7 to approve all four applications except Family Promise, due to them being high-barrier. Donna McCormick seconded. All funded agencies abstained for voting (list names?); Unanimous agreement to motion. Chipper Long, Anson County Homes of Hope, asked if he should expand mission to entire region to be eligible for more funding? Jeff reminded everyone that we need to start thinking like a nine-county region instead of thinking as individual agencies/counties. Kendra said that some agencies only fund the county that they are located in; That might be the reason for some of these issues, but organizations could take the steps to serve regions instead of counties. Back @ Home program/ CRF funding needs to be spent by December, award letters have been received but funding has not been granted; Governor has not launched funding. ESG-CB money has to be spent by January or September 2022. Street outreach is important because it's getting cold; People will be on the streets. Jeff put his contact info in the chat for street outreach.

BNL= By name list; Coordinated Entry is meeting every week to discuss people on this list. 172 persons on this list. First steps are to prevent homelessness and divert to somewhere else. Trauma informed care; Help people explore all options.

There is still a moratorium; landlords can't technically evict anyone at this point. Present paper to landlord from governor's website? Ask jeff for this paper. A lot of the times, a landlord's letter has no standing at all, if a person gives up key, they surrender property; Also give tenant number for legal aid so they can get involved.

If anyone wants to keep their position let nominating committee know! Susan motioned to adjourn; Donna seconded

Region 7 will meet November 5th at 10 AM