

WNC HOMELESS COALITION

Regular Meetings -2nd Thursday of the month 2/10/2022, 2021 10:00 am -11:00 am Referral and Monitoring Meeting/RRH Selection Committee 11:00-12:00 pm

MINUTES

INTRODUCTIONS

Name

Agency

Derek Lancour: Vaya Health

Viyanna Langager: Meridian/Blue Ridge Cherokee ACTT

Daniel Ferreria: Four Square Community Action

Ally Shuenke: Center for Domestic Peace

Lori Watts: Vaya Health

Veronica Murphy: REACH of Macon

Robert Cochran: HERE in Jackson Co

Samantha Gibson: REACH of Haywood

Kathleen Burns: Giving Spoon

Jessica Rice: Veterans Services of the Carolinas

Monica Frizzell: DHHS

Jennifer Holling: Cherokee Indian Hospital

Jessica Joyner: Vaya Health

Trish Lawson: REACH of Clay Co

Ruby Lawrence: Center for Domestic Peace

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

- Review & Approval of last month' Minutes
 - Meeting minutes approved after motions
- Balance of State Steering Committee Update
 - Steering Committee updates and documents can be found at https://www.ncceh.org/bosminutes/
 - Derek Lancour provided update
 - Started with Dashboard presentation
 - CoC level data and outcomes
 - Plan to roll out Regional Committees info around mid-2022
 - Insights
 - Provides live data and can be filtered
 - Actively enroll clients, exits, move-ins, enrollments by project type
 - Limitations
 - Only HMIS participants

- SSO projects not included
- CE projects only listed on system tab
- Lacks filter for individual agencies
- Continued to review dashboard by tabs and explained how to navigate dashboard
- Reviewed definitions for various data points/metrics
- Data based on last calendar year
 - Full year Active homeless > 11000
 - Active as of Dec 2021 > 6000
 - Full year HoH> 7000
 - Active HoH as of Dec 2021< 4000
 - HoH with Chronic Homelessness as of Dec 2021= 602
 - 40 chronic HoH added in Dec (inflow)
- Data can be utilized to define strategies
 - Entered 446 new people in Dec, number declining over past few months, back in Sep roughly 1000 entered
 - Currently 602 in chronic with 40 new households in Dec
 - 46 households exited in Dec but only less that 1/3rd exited to permanent housing
 - Move-ins were far lower than exits- may indicate difficulty locating permanent housing units
- Public Policy: Support for Housing First model
 - Housing PLUS bill objective: eliminate housing first requirement
 - Expanding the toolbox pertains to Housing PLUS, can be viewed at "expanding the toolbox report"
 - Questions about potential inaccuracies in report
 - Provided historical context for housing first history (bi-partisan)
 - Open discussion about how housing first works for PSH
 - Regions 3 and 4 relayed support through personal experiences/testimonials
 - Builds relationship and trust with clients and supports long term relationship
 - Working to connect "decision makers" to service providers and clients in Region 3 and 4 to provide supportive examples of successful housing first experiences
 - Abundance of positive outcomes with housing first model
 - General sense by those on the call that removing housing first would be detrimental
 - Hope is that bill will not pass due to adverse impacts
 - Discussion of perception vs reality pertaining to community

and decision makers

- Consensus: support for housing first from those on BoS call
- Bos plans to draft letter of support for housing first with plan to send to members of congress once approved
- PIT/HIC 2022
 - Reviewed process and deadlines and types of counts
 - Important to note that any non-profits or government entities paying for motel/hotel is deemed emergency shelter and should be counted as such
 - Data finalized by 2/16/22
- CE Equity Initiative
 - NC BoS to join other CoCs from around county to minimize racial disparities in access and prioritization related to CE system
 - Goal to improve outcomes for communities with people of color
 - Separated into 3 month blocks and each block has specific milestones
 - Currently in first stage
 - o Months 1-3
 - Building team
 - Create core team
 - Listed who should be part of group and plan to identify those members
- Coordinated Entry Update
 - Robert Cochran provided report out
 - Several households listed on BNL lack VISPDAT scores
 - Still have available EHVs that Region 1 could access
 - EHVs are open to other areas within state at this point
 - Like housing choice vouchers but have more flexibilities (up to 120% above FMR and have upfront costs associated with vouchers)
 - Had 412 vouchers left over from NC Commission of Indian Affairs
 - Encouraged to join RAMM if participants have folks that could be eligible for EHVs
 - Encouraged to have clients entered through CE system
 - Reviewed concise version of process for referring to CE system
- Rapid Rehousing Update
 - Robert Cochran provided report out
 - Macon Co Harm Reduction Client is first RRH client of new year
 - Last year: Utilized much bigger program provided though CARES act, so only used about 80% of RRH grant budget

- Back@Home Update
 - Robert Cochran provided report out
 - 6 months left for Back @ Home project
- Permanent Supportive Housing Update
 - Derek Lancour provided report out
 - 42 households, 5 below grant minimum
 - In terms of persons housed, 34
 - 83 persons
 - 59 adults
 - 24 children
 - 1 new PSH orientation completed, and member housed since last meeting
 - grant spending is at 53.98% or <u>nearly 54%</u> and the 90% goal at 8 months is 60%.
 - Approved 10 new households, only 7 are either eligible and/or are still engaged with referring party (awaiting referrals for these 7 remaining households)
 - Reach of Macon (Veronica Murphy): relayed that CW (approved for PSH during 12/9/21 RAMM) has located her own housing and will not utilize PSH
 - Can accept 2 more households today if meet PSH criteria
- Agency Report Outs
 - Cherokee Co ACTT: housed 1 person through Back @ Home and have 2 other people who are about to be housed through other programs
 - REACH of Macon: Low census currently
 - Prior to PIT they were at full capacity
 - Day before PIT they went down to roughly half of their capacity
 - Currently at low census but anticipate increase in census over the next week or so
 - Kathleen B: asked about pet policy for REACH of Macon
 - Full service kennel on property (for pets that are not emotional support animals)
 - If client has emotional support animal with documentation, then they can accommodate having animal in shelter with client (must be with pet at all times however)
 - Cats, dogs, and any other support animal or family pet they will do best to accommodate
 - o Trish REACH of Clay
 - 6 in shelter currently
 - 1 discharge expected soon

- Accepted a new family into shelter recently
- Jessica Rice: Veterans Services of Carolinas
 - Have available spots for vets currently
 - Intake line listed in chat box
- Ruby Lawrence: Center for Domestic Peace
 - Client came in 2 weeks ago
 - Took them 4 days to locate placement
 - Was placed in hotel for 6 nights at Helpmate
 - Called all the way to McDowell Co and could not locate placement

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

- PIT (no update available thus far)
- Vacant Alternate Lead Role for Region 1 of WNCHC
 - Viyanna Langager: volunteered to fill Alternate Lead Role
 - 1st motion for Viyanna to become Alt Lead by Veronica Murphy
 - 2nd motion for Viyanna to become Alt Lead by Robert Cochran
 - Viyanna approved as Alternate Lead
 - Viyanna will submit conflict of interest form today to BoS
- Potential impending vacant Lead Role for Region 1 of WNCHC
 - Viyanna open to volunteering for Lead Role if position is vacated in near future
 - Would like more info about Lead role/responsibilities
 - Would require permission from employer before officially being considered for Lead role
 - Lived experience, passion for housing and homeless
 - Jessica R (ABCCM) may have colleague (Jill Carter) interested in Lead Role but would like more info before making decision
 - Derek L will follow up with BoS (Laurel M) and Viyanna Langager and Jill Carter to schedule time for BoS to meet virtually to provide education about Lead role/responsibilities and allow for Q & A

NEXT RAMM MEETING – 2/24/2022 at 11 AM

NEXT COALITION MEETING – 3/10/2022 at 10 AM