**Henderson County Homeless Coalition/Balance of State Meeting**

**November 13, 2012**

**Blue Ridge Community Health Center**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Next Meeting:** December 11th, 2012 @10am

**Present:** Brian Alexander, Nitiki Kilgore, Candy Mance, Sandra McNeill, Marian Lowry, Chris Berg

Rachel Stein, David Jacklin, Ruth Birge, Ruth Ramirez, Sherry Glatzer, Jamie Martina, Jairo Mercado, Nancy Maravilla, Troy Bradley, Christine Craft, Marisol Tomas, Anita Oldham, Jenny Simmons, Butchie Phillips, Kathleen Carr, Monica Teutsch, Adreinne Brady, Michael Akers, Jane Zecher, Emily Ball, William Kinschner, Sandy Cavanaugh

**Welcome & Introductions —Christine Craft**

Christine Craft welcomed everyone to the meeting. She noted recent WLOS coverage of Homeward Bound expanding into Henderson County and the mayor of Hendersonville speaking about children who are homeless and in school. She then invited each person/agency to introduce themselves briefly to the larger group.

**Approval of September 11th Meeting Minutes—Christine Craft**

Christine asked for a motion of approval of the July 10, 2012 meeting minutes. Anita Oldham motioned for the approval of the minutes as written. Meeting minutes were approved by common consent.

**Quick Agency Updates**

Michael Asher with Only Hope conducted a campout on Friday, November 9th. Advocates, some individuals and family attended.

The Henderson County School Board may recognize the month of November as Homeless Awareness Month in Hendersonville.

Project CHALENG with the VA - surveys have been distributed via email. The surveys are for anyone to complete regarding homelessness. Deadline for completion is the end of December 2012.

Homeward Bound is awaiting ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant) contract for Rapid Re-Housing. These contracts were supposed to be out on September 28th. Kate Franklin has ben hired by Homeward Bound to work in this program. Her office will be located at Mainstay.

**Homeless Youth Forum/Survey Priority – Christine Craft**

Henderson County Homeless Survey – Brian and Christine will plan to meet to assess the data collected in this survey. One issue noted is a lack of education about services.

Homeless Youth Forum was held at the library. Christine and a panel had small group discussions.

**Balance of State Steering Committee – Brian Alexander**

The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Continuum of Care competition was released on Friday, November 9th. NCCEH (North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness) has contracted with DHHS for funding since ICCEHP was not included in the state budget. Emila Sutton with NCCEH is now with the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency (NCHFA). For the NOFA, the pre-application process is over. There were 12 new projects identified across the state. The pro-rata amount for Henderson County is $124,000. Homeward Bound has applied for a $150,000 Permanent Supportive Housing program. The final application has to be in to HUD by January 18, 2013. There will be a scorecard for applications. Jenny Simmons will be serving on the scorecard sub-committee. If anyone else is interested, let Brian know. There are no new renewal projects for Henderson County; however, in the future when Henderson County does have renewal projects, these will be scored differently from how they are now. For 2012 CoC, there is a little over $8 million - $4.6 million of which is for renewal projects. Shelter Plus Care will be renewing within the pro-rata and pro-rata was increased to accommodate this change. Probably within the next 3 to 5 years, there will be no additional funding for new projects.

The Balance of State has 3 sub-committees that meet quarterly. Each Regional Committee is scored for attendance. Rapid Re-housing sub-committee meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month – during our Henderson County Homeless Coalition. For this month, a Homeward Bound staff person is participating in that meeting. The Permanent Supportive Housing Sub-Committee meets November 20th at 10:30am. Jenny Simmons is covering that sub-committee. The HMIS Sub-Committee meets November 27th at 10:30am. Brian Alexander is covering that sub-committee. For anyone else who is interested, go to [www.ncceh.org](http://www.ncceh.org) to sign up for these sub-committee calls. NCCEH also offers Tuesdays at 2pm – educational information. The November 27th Tuesday at 2pm will be a webinar on the Point In Time count with the National Alliance to End Homelessness.

**Point In Time Count – Angela Denio, Homeward Bound**

Angela presented a power point on conducting the annual Point In Time count. The Point In Time count is a count of those experiencing homelessness on a given night in January. It is required for Continuum of Care funding, gives helpful data, compiled for local, state, and national use. The next Point In Time count is January 30, 2013. There is a 10 day window to conduct the count. It is a count of those who are literally homeless: sheltered count and unsheltered count. For the sheltered count, the coalition can utilize shelter staff and volunteers. Also can include hospital emergency rooms, DSS, school system, jail, and detox. For the street count, the coalition is encouraged to use individuals who already have relationships with those who are unsheltered or have a good comfort level in interacting with those who are unsheltered. The unsheltered counters go out in teams to known campsites. It is important to let the community know the count is occurring. Do not need to pressure anyone into participating in the count. Count data is due February 3, 2013.

The previous Point In Time count conducted in Henderson County was a shelter count. Agencies/organizations identified as important to include in the count: Monday Feeding at the Church of the Nazarene, Store House, Interfaith Ministries, Emergency Room, Health Department Case Managers, Sunday afternoon 4pm feeding at Life Center Church, Salvation Army, Food Pantries, Mainstay, Rescue Mission, Loaves and Fishes in Etowah, Calvary Episcopal in Fletcher, Welcome Table at East Flat Rock at the Methodist Church, Joseph’s House at First United Methodist Church, Boys & Girls Club, WCCA, My Place, Fran’s Cottage, DSS, The Free Clinics, and 3rd Street Church (around the corner from Church of the Nazarene). A member suggested utilizing leaders within the homeless community to do outreach count. Several members volunteered to contact these agencies/organizations to identify a point person. Christine will coordinate this effort by sending out a list of places for members to sign up to contact and identify a contact person. Members need to ask agencies/organizations if they need volunteer assistance to father information for the count. Angela will create a flyer about the Point In Time County to distribute into the community. We will have training on the Point In Time count survey and tally sheet on December 11th – staff from Homeward Bound to present.

**Next Meeting**

Tuesday, December 11th 10am Blue Ridge Community Health Center

Respectfully Submitted By: Jenny Simmons