Wilson-Greene BoS CoC Regional Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: The Wesley Shelter

Date: January 15, 2013

Attending:

Marty Stebbins – St. Timothy’s Church (CoC Regional Committee President)

Howard Anthony – WCDSS (CoC Regional Committee Secretary)

Susan Parker – WCDSS

Amanda Flory - WCDSS

Riley Hottovy – WCDSS

Lynne White – The Wesley Shelter

Donna Pridgen – The Wesley Shelter

Diane Kriesel - Veterans Residential Services

Claudia Baker – Veterans Residential Services

Sylvia Brewer – Veterans Residential Services

Agenda Items:

1. New Members to the committee.
2. Changes in rules about CIP funds.
3. Results of the CoC grant application scoring (Eastpointe)
4. Election of new Chair-Person for CoC to start February 1, 2013.
5. CHIN subsidies changes from the Balance of State.
6. Point In Time Count.

Susan started by announcing that VITA is set up and that WCDSS will be doing tax prep at Career Plus. She also talked about saveyourrefund.com and the benefits of allocating their refund to savings.

Marty handed out from last month’s training on Point in Time Count.

Susan Parker introduced Riley Hottovy, the new intern at WCDSS who will be working in the homeless program and also working at Hope Station beginning in February. Claudia Baker, Intern from Barton College was introduced by the Veterans group. The group went around the table introducing themselves.

Susan talked about the recent changes in the Crisis Intervention Program policy noting that CIP funds can’t be used for housing/rental/temporary housing by itself. CIP payments can only be applied to energy crisis situations only and not housing crisis situations. Susan discussed the progression of her conversation with Raleigh in regards to CIP usage. This will affect all future use of CIP. Marty added the question of the effect that might be possible if all of the faith organizations sent letters to Human Services to request that CIP funds be allowed to be used for emergency housing. Maybe the Faith Community could be a type of lobbying arm for DSS. Marty asked Susan to get her more information on the policy. Susan is going to have more conversation with Raleigh and will keep the group updated.

Marty noted that the Eastpointe person is not here today. They had two grant requests in the system. One grant was in Tier One and one that was not in the top tier. The top tier will be funded. Eastpointe will be funded with something. The Eastpointe grant did not list Wilson or Greene Counties thus this committee did not see the grant. Amanda noted that when the Eastpointe person when on leave in October, she spoke with Karen Holloway noting that they would be starting up their referrals for the shelter plus care grant. Amanda has been calling attempting to make referrals but she has not seen success from them getting back to her about how to access them. Susan voiced her thought that it might be a good idea to contact the main administrative person at Eastpointe to invite them to the meeting next month. Marty stated she would make phone calls to follow up on this discussion. But, Eastpointe will get at least one continuum of care grant. They may get a second grant.

Nominations for Chair: Susan Parker nominated Candice Rountree for Chair of the committee. Howard Anthony was nominated for the position of Secretary for the committee and will assist Candice if she accepts her position. Candice will be contacted to see if she is interested.

CHIN Subsidies: Total amount of funding has gone down but they are doing reallocation of money from underutilized locations to locations that are utilizing the funding. Marty briefed the committee again regarding CHIN. Things will stay the same this year but it is unsure what the funding will be next year. More discussion is needed in this committee to see who will be attending and interested in CHIN.

Point in Time Count: Candice, Susan and Riley (intern) will be riding with the Wilson Police to conduct the PIT count. Susan noted she is talking with Becky at Faith Connections to obtain information on known locations of homeless people. Susan believes she will also get information from Wilson Police to get that information also. Susan created and printed off copies of the survey for our use. The copy was passed out to committee members. The forms were printed on pink paper to better identify this specific form. Marty will be conducting surveys at the soup kitchen through her church. Marty talked about areas outside of Wilson City in areas such as Kenly and Lucama. Marty will follow up with the Sheriffs department to gain information on other areas of homeless people. Amanda talked about an area near the Cracker Barrel by I-95 that has some possible homeless people. There was discussion about the wooded area behind Piggly Wiggly Grocery and that there may be numbers of homeless people. We talked about the previous idea of providing goody bags and it was determined this idea was shelved. Further discussion noted that The Wesley Shelter has donated underwear/undershirts (Donated by Wal-Mart) that could be given to people in exchange for accomplishing the survey. Marty noted that she will talk to people regarding the count for Flynn Home. Marty noted that she has spoken to various clergy to count those people that are being temp-housed in hotels by various churches. The discussion continued with the details of inputting the PIT Count into CHIN. HOPE Station and the Wesley Shelter will do their own CHIN inputs. WCDSS will help to accomplish CHIN entries for those organizations that do not have access to CHIN. Further details will be sent out to committee members.

February 19, 2013 will be our next meeting at The Wesley Shelter 10:00am.