Wilson-Greene BoS CoC Regional Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: The Wesley Shelter, Wilson, and North Carolina

Date: July 16, 2013

Attending:

Candice Rountree – Wilson County DSS (CoC Regional Committee President)

Howard Anthony – Wilson County DSS (CoC Regional Committee Secretary)

Susan Parker – Wilson County DSS

Amanda Flory – WCDSS

Marty Stebbins – St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church

Lynne White – The Wesley Shelter

Donna Pridgen – The Wesley Shelter

Terri Hooks – Wilson County Schools

Ellen Blackman – Eastpointe

Diane Kriesel - Veterans Residential Services

Sylvia Brewer – Veterans Residential Services

Valinda Peeples – Wilson Housing Authority

Candice started the meeting with introductions of all members present.

Updates from BoS: They have formed a data use research group. There was a discussion at our meeting in Greensboro about the BoS covering the CHIN/license fees for one year for organizations. They work group will also research how we might be able to extend more licenses to more groups. August 14, 2014: Must have a coordinated assessment system in place. A work group is being created develop it. This is a HUD requirement to maintain compliance and funding from HUD. Volunteers are welcome and we can contact BoS if anyone wants to join in on the work group.

Lynn voiced a question about the details of the new assessment and Candice noted that this is still in process of being developed. We do not have all of the details yet. The process of development is being geared to what is best for the customer and not so much what is best for the agency. It is pretty much a no wrong door concept to access services using the #211 call in number as a clearing house for services.

The CoC and ESG intent to apply forms were shared via our agenda. Members can access the hyperlink to access it. Wesley Shelter is not interested but Hope Station is interested in applying for funding. The information on new ESG funding is not yet out but it will be due August 15th so we do not have a long turn around time. The forms and required information is expected to be the same as last year. The amount of funding that will be available is not yet known. We discussed the fact that we will need to have matching money for the grant. Organizations who are interested in applying need to make Wilson-Greene CoC aware as soon as possible.

At our Greensboro meeting it was determined that we need to provide feedback to the governance document. All members were asked to provide feedback to Candice who will pass it on to the BoS.

There is a need to elect an alternate regional lead because of possible conflicts of interest when reviewing grants related to a specific organization. The group discussed the duties involved and the request was put out to the members who might be interested in being an alternate regional lead. Wilson Housing Authority asked some questions and it was decided that we would send out a separate request to members and include a job description of the duties of the alternate regional lead. We can make a decision in August.

White Flag Alerts: Gordon Deno was invited to facilitate this discussion but he was not able to attend today. The discussion relates to the idea of raising the white flag when temperatures are extreme that would identify locations for people to seek shelter. We agreed to postpone the discussion until next meeting.

Extra note that the review of governance document is due by 7/26/13. So, please provide feedback to Candice.

Community Partner Updates:

Susan Parker, WCDSS talked about our ESG grant noting that we are seeing some great examples of success stories. Amanda Flory, WCDSS noted we had our first shelter plus care placement that had been a hope station resident and was referred to the ESG program. This is an example of a good community partnership to place the person. We have had 29 rapid rehousing referrals, 15 from the Wesley shelter and 10 were housed. The other five people were assessed and found not eligible. We have 12 referrals from Hope Station. We had 7 prevention referrals. A total of 20 people were housed overall with 8 of those making it into subsidized housing. Amanda noted that she has about $6000 left so new referrals are not being taken but she can finish up active cases and active applications. The hope is that new funding will be forthcoming so we can start back up in October.

There was a discussion about Eastpointe possibly creating a shelter plus care training for the CoC committee members. Eastpointe noted that people can contact their agency to get a list of service providers but housing providers will be difficult as paid case management services are not longer available.

The Wesley Shelter announced they have their new licensed clinical social worker (Lora Williams) on staff. They have also identified their new attorney (Tonya Williams). They also obtained new funding to pay for added security on their windows and to tint windows or security. They have a new outreach and engagement specialist (Andrea Giddens) who has been visiting the 17 labor camps in the county. It was noted that Wilson Community Health goes out to the camps each Monday night and Andrea is going out with them. They are assessing people and if needed, transport cases back to the medical facility in Wilson. The discussion of the group noted the fact that the living and security conditions at the camps are not good. There are also a number of non-official camps in the county in addition to the 17 official camps. The Wesley Shelter now had five bilingual people on staff.

Candice talked about Project Broadcast and the Trauma-Focused assessments and screenings being done in Child Welfare. Our committee noted that it would be great to gain more information on this subject. Candice said that she would relay more information to everyone. We might be able to invite someone to a future meeting to review the process and program. There is a website available that people can go to obtain a list of providers.

http://ncctp.med.unc.edu/Home/Finding Therapist.rails

The Wesley Shelter and WCDSS will be providing Domestic Violence Training on August 1st or 2nd at WCDSS. It will be a one day training so those interested can choose and sign up for a particular training day. They have approximately 46 people signed up as of today.

Eastpointe noted that all shelter plus care facilities are full at this time. Some are still available in Goldsboro. There are a couple of targeted units available and specific location can be obtained by calling Eastpointe. There are not many subsidized units in Green County. There is a site (nchousingsearch.org) to look for housing.

Veterans Residential Services: 90 Veterans assisted in the last 18 months. They had storage areas donated thus they now have a place to store household items. That had a good response from a resent newspaper article with many donations.

The Wilson Housing Authority noted that Kelly Vick was names as their new Director. There was discussion about the desire to have homeless families as noted as preference group for WHA applications.

Judi Thurston – United Way Director. Make sure she is on group listing.

Susan talked about Wilson 2020 and that they are developing a master youth plan revolving around wellness, k-12 education, safety, out of school time, and workforce development. Groups will be coming together with key agencies to develop a 3-5 year plan. The effort involves the community as a whole along with various agencies/organizations to address issues identified. Efforts will focus on issues related to children/young adults pre-birth through 26.

Next Meeting will be August 20, 2013 @ The Wesley Shelter.