# **Beaufort County Regional Committee**

**July 31, 2013**

## Washington Housing Authority/ Central Office

**The mission of the Beaufort County Regional Committee is:** *The Beaufort County Regional Committee will work as a subcommittee of the Balance of State Continuum of Care to assure quality housing for all, from homelessness through self-sufficiency.*

**The vision of the Beaufort County Regional Committee is:** *Promoting self-sufficiency and eliminating homelessness.*

Present: Erica McCloud, Washington Housing Authority/Mid-East Regional Housing Authority, Amy Modlin, ECBH, Harlan MacKendrick, Zion Shelter, Mark Hamblin, United Way, Agatha Moore, Mid-East Regional Housing Authority, Marc Recko, Washington Housing Authority/Mid-East Regional Housing Authority, Daphne Drew, ECBH, Carol Rados, Vocational Rehab, Sheila Carraway, Metropolitan Housing CDC

1. Introductions

Amy opened the meeting by having everyone introduce him or herself.

1. Approval of June 2013 minutes

No minutes for approval.

3. SOAR Presentation- Daphne Drew (ECBH)

Ms. Drew stated the SOAR program is to try and get SSI/SSDI benefits through for homeless people. Ms. Drew stated it is hard to contact people because of their circumstances, she stated they normally meet them at providers if they show up. Ms. Drew stated it normally takes about 90 days to get application to Social Security and that they have a 78% approval rates. Ms. Drew stated that the provider, health care professionals and housing has to work as a team. Ms. Drew stated they work with the Substance Abuse/Mental Illness population. Ms. Drew stated that families contact her through Mental Health provider (hospital, VR do referrals). Amy stated that they have trouble getting good applicants. Ms. Drew stated that she is accepting referrals.

Amy stressed the importance of putting housing on PCPs in response to Sheila talking about the guidelines providers have to meet. In turn, some of the participant needs are not being addressed. Amy added the list of providers is on their website.

Ms. Rados stated an individual came to her office with 2 children. She stated the lady was a house wife and her husband abandoned her. She said she went to DSS and they had no resources for her so she referred her to Washington Housing Authority.

4. BOS Governance Charter

Amy stated she is the Regional Lead on the Balance of State. Amy inquired about anyone having any questions or comments in relation to the BOS.

Mr. Recko inquired about her thoughts and Amy stated we may need a back-up person in case she is out. She stated that the meeting is held the 1st Tuesday of each month from 10:30a.m. - 11:30a.m.

5. Agency Updates

Harlan inquired about acronyms being written out because he doesn’t know what they stand for. Harlan informed Amy that he received an email with an application but it won’t print and that he has to submit it in August. Amy informed Harlan that she was going to check into it and get back with him.

Mr. Recko passed out a flyer regarding how to promote healthy food options in the community. Mr. Recko stated we need to get back on the center of Washington (which is where our developments are located) need to do something about addressing the needs of the area. Mr. Recko stated he attended a City strategy meeting yesterday. He stated that there is going to be a community meeting held on 8/13/13. He added that they are doing a new master plan on their recreation facilities. He stated that Greg Lambert out of Greenville is doing it. Mr. Recko stated that this is a good time to be heard. Mr. Recko stated that WHI is starting an advertising campaign. He stated they have 3 lots out Northgate. Amy inquired about homeowners being able to keep lawn etc. and Mr. Recko stated we had not. He talked about the classes we offer before and the follow-up we do afterwards. Ms. Rados inquired about the potentials having to be residents and Mr. Recko stated they didn’t. Mr. Recko talked about HUD saying Housing Authority’s need to help homeless. He stated the next step is group play lead and get a letter. He added that we need a letter from someone in the counseling arena when making referrals. He stated we need to agree on the number of families we will accept. It was determined we will accept 5 families that are referred my qualified professionals. He stated that the referring agencies need to be included in the letter. He added he needs this information to present to the board. He mentioned agencies such as DSS, Metropolitan, ECBH, Salvation Army etc.

Mark stated men are more open to admit homelessness than women. Ms. Rados inquired about normal process and Mr. Recko informed her of the process. Amy inquired about them being homeless initially and Mr. Recko stated it don’t matter (if they went to stay with a relative). Amy stated they have a template they use which the referring agencies and Mr. Recko stated that was good.

Mr. Recko is going to draft the letter.

Mark added that they are trying to get 211 in Beaufort County. He stated this number is to call is for resources. He stated that they have been trying to stretch dollars so that they can have it for 2 years. He stated he hopes that they get it going soon.

Amy stated the next meeting will be held on 8/28/13 at 10:00a.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,

Erica McCloud