Chatham Housing Coalition

March 14, 2014

Present: Jennie Kristiansen, DSS

Michelle Bates, Family Endeavors

Nickie Siler

Kathy Hodges

**Welcome and introductions**

We began with introductions.

Michelle talked about Family Endeavers, who has a grant from the VA to provide supportive services for veterans and their families in 42 counties, not dishonorably discharged, discharged prior to 1980 if served one day past basic training or discharged after 1980 serving at least a year or all of their required time (for reservists, primarily. The veteran must be at 50% or less of the area median income. They do rapid rehousing, homelessness prevention, case management, employment services, assistance in connecting with VA services, and assistance with applying for federal benefits. Refer by calling their office.

**Balance of State Update**

Phone call covered point-in-time count and now to deal with the inclement weather that occurred on that time.

We need to elect our regional lead again.

**ESG funds**

We have $23,788 left over from last year that will be coming back to our region. We voted to give the money to FVRC for the Rapid Rehousing Program.

**Regional Lead**

We re-elected Nickie Siler as our regional lead. We decided to table the election of the regional alternate until we could talk to more members.

**Announcements**

Jennie reported that they still have a lot of Low Income Energy Assistance Program at DSS. They should go to DSS and apply for funds. They should bring a pay stub.

Kathy reported that they are proceeding with the plans for a new domestic violence shelter. The

Michelle asked if we were planning a Homeless and Hunger stand down in the community. It’s an opportunity for community to learn about resources and get materials they need. We decided to visit one in another community to see what it is about and what will work for Chatham County.

**Next Meeting:** Nickie will contact our list of participants and see if she can get a possible date to encourage more participation.