**Neuse Trent Housing Alliance**

**May 7, 2014**

**Carolina East Auditorium**

**Present: Tharesa Lee, Neuse River CDC**

 **Juliet Rogers, RCS**

 **JeanineEthridge, RHA**

 **Belinda Barnhill, CCC**

 **Barrett Kahl, Family Endeavors**

 **Daphne Drew, ECBH**

 **Frenchena Ganus, RCS**

 **Laurie Collier, Reviving Lives Ministries**

 **Mark Beard, Habitat for Humanity**

 **Richard Hansen, NC Commerce**

 **Sandi Ruger, Coastal Comm. Action**

 **Linda Greene, Community Advocate**

 **Zelda Bryant, Craven County School**

 **Georgia Ensley, Shelter Plus Care, Port**

 **Beverly Heine, Craven County DSS**

 **Mary Anna Newman, Community Advocate**

**Tharesa Lee opened meeting and minutes from last month. They were approved with exception.**

1. **Tharesa Lee, from the Neuse River CDC, informed us that the City of New**

**Bern signed on the Modicum of Agreement. Tharesa educated the city about the Continuum of Care and the Balance of State. In the next couple of months there will be a web site and brochures available. Tharesa could not express enough how important it is to get the Modicum agreement in. Tharesa has suggested collaborating bus transportation to Durham to look at the possibilities of what can happen. Tharesa thanked Sue for getting the agenda done for the partnership.**

1. **Santana DeBerry, Executive Director and Carley Ruff, Policy Director,**

**from North Carolina Housing Coalition came and spoke on the purpose, and Mission of North Carolina Housing Coalition. Santana DeBerry educated the group on the housing continuum. Santana DeBerry educated the group on High Rent with Limited Earnings, Limited Rental Options and Owner Cost, Equity and Foreclosure, for four of our immediate counties. She informed the group that two million North Carolina residents can NOT afford housing. She indicated that high utility bills make rental less affordable. She educated the group on the importance of tax credits to entice builders and contractors to build economic housing for our area. She also indicated that the city would need to use creative funding ideas to get builders and contractors into our community. The information break down of each county and Santana DeBerry’s presentation can be assessed through the Carolina Homeless Information Network (CHIN) web site.**

1. **Veteran’s Stand down will take place June 10th at Stanley White**

**Recreation Center. Lovay Singleton and Rick Hansen will be leading the event with the focus on Homeless Veterans. Volunteers will be needed and appreciated.**

1. **Mike McMillian, Executive Director, RCS, addressed a concern of when individuals go to more than one agency to apply for services. It would be helpful to be able to collaborate with other agencies to help individuals with their issues and concerns.**
2. **No committee reports, committees to be in compliance for funding to**

**local homeless and domestic violence shelters. If you are not on a**

**committee we will be sending out information via email to sign up**

**for a committee.**

**Next meeting is June 4th.**

**Meeting Respectfully Submitted,**

**Jeanine Ethridge**

**Secretary**