

COMMUNITY ADVISORY NETWORK DEVELOPING ONSLOW  
MINUTES  
OCTOBER 3, 2014



The Community Advisory Network Developing Onslow (CAN-DO) met at Northwoods United Methodist Church on this date. The meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m. by CAN-DO Co-Chair Kristi Pitchford. Those in attendance were: Amelia Grissett, Barrett Kahl, Bill Laughinghouse, Brian Fike, Chris Slater, Christa Gunderson, Dan Joy, Deandra Stills, Gail Taylor, Jason Klein, Jennifer Colley, Jon Johnson, Kathleen Holbrook, Kelley Hamilton, Kristi Pitchford, Lenize Patton, Linda Graham, Melissa Balto, Pam Brown, Patricia Kelly, Phyllis Isenhardt, Rick Moser, Susan Pridgen, Theo McClammy, Thomas Hill, Ursulla Ingram and William Keller.

Excused absences were received from: Christy O'Daniel, Craig Wagner, James Ross, Janice Graniero, Mike Fresia and Richard Smothers.

#### INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made of members and guests.

#### REVIEW & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bill Keller made the motion to approve the August 1, 2014 minutes. Jason Klein seconded the motion. The motion carried unopposed.

Bill Keller motioned to approve the minutes from the August 22, 2014 special meeting. Ursulla Ingram seconded the motion which was carried unopposed.

#### COORDINATED ASSESSMENT

Susan Pridgen and Brian Fike attended a two day workshop held in Raleigh on September 23-24, 2014 where local plans for Coordinated Assessment (CA) were developed, revised, and re-developed. Onslow County plans to adopt a de-centralized plan so that homeless individuals will have many points of entry within the county and its agencies. Coordinated Assessment is an unfunded mandate; if we fail to comply, we will lose funding. The goal of CA is to prevent and divert homelessness from occurring. Susan announced that our local plan is due to the State by November 10, 2014 so we will vote upon it at the November 7<sup>th</sup> CAN-DO meeting. The plan must be implemented no later than February 2015. Once implemented, the plan can be tweaked as necessary.

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EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT

Kristi Pitchford announced that Onslow County's *Solutions for Stability Program* was awarded \$89,507.00 in ESG funds earlier this week. The monies will be used for Rapid Re-Housing of families with children, individuals and domestic violence victims. The monies can be utilized immediately.

PROGRAM UPDATES

*Solutions for Stability:* Susan Pridgen announced that 39 households consisting of 130 people to include 82 children have been served to date. One additional household is in process.

*Onslow County Schools:* Jennifer Colley advised that 87 school-aged children have been identified as homeless in the month since school began. Reasons for homelessness: 17 due to eviction/foreclosure; 33 due to economic hardship; 2 awaiting foster care; 1 runaway; 5 kicked out/abandoned; and 29 due to domestic violence /child abuse.

*Shelter PLUS Care:* Brian Fike announced that of the 16 vouchers, 3 will soon be vacant as those residents are transitioning out of the program.

*Onslow Community Outreach:* Deandra announced that OCO served 35 homeless clients last month which represents 505 bed nights. They currently have 16 clients in the shelter. One family room is being renovated.

*Onslow Women's Center:* No representative

*Salvation Army:* No representative

*Family Endeavors:* Barrett Kahl announced that their program has relocated to a larger space at 2970 Henderson Drive Extension in Jacksonville (formerly Sylvan Learning Center). They recently received another \$2 million in funding and expanded their staff from 2 to 7 people. Last federal fiscal year, 1040 veterans were served; most received preventive services. The focus this year will be on the literally homeless.

*ECHSA:* No representative

*Family Promise Program:* The program is undergoing re-restructuring and will not host Cardboard Box City this year.

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*Philippians Place:* They are accepting 2 clients from the Onslow Women's Shelter and 2 clients from Onslow County Outreach.

*Swansboro First Baptist:* Bill Laughinghouse announced that their church parsonage, located at 614 West Corbett Street in Swansboro, has been open 5 Saturdays in a row from 10 am to 2 pm to serve homeless people in need of showers, shaves, laundry, and counseling. To date, they have received no customers. They also plan to provide a winter crisis shelter should it be needed.

#### HOMELESS SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

A housing meeting for landlords will be held at CoastalCare on October 24, 2014 at 11:00 am. Several provider agencies will be on hand to make presentations in the hopes of attracting additional landlords to house the homeless. A flyer was previously distributed electronically and to CAN-DO participants on this date.

#### POINT IN TIME (PIT) COUNT

Kathleen Holbrook shared that HUD conducts its annual PIT Count on the last Wednesday-Thursday in January of each year. If dates hold true, it will be held from 6pm on January 28 and will end at 6 pm on January 29, 2015. Planning for the PIT Count will commence at the November CAN-DO meeting.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gail Taylor announced that she is moving to New Bern in November so will no longer be participating in CAN-DO. She asked for assistance in sleeping mat preparation. The mats already made will be stored at the Family Endeavors Program.

Linda Graham announced the ground breaking of a new low income complex designated for veterans. The complex will be called Compass Pointe.

Jason Klein shared that the Wilmington VA has designated 14 HUD VASH vouchers for chronically homeless veterans in Jacksonville.

Pam Brown announced that flu vaccines are now available and are being administered on a walk-in only basis at the Health Department each day from 8 am to 4 pm. She further shared

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that the Food Bank pamphlets are available in pads for distribution or on the Onslow County Health Department website under the Health Alerts link.

Kelley Hamilton announced a VA sponsored event to be held at the DAV building on October 29<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 2 pm. Cold weather gear will be issued to homeless veterans at this event. On November 13<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Veterans Job Fair held at the Montford Point Association building on Brynn Marr Road. Kelley promised to email out flyers.

There being no further business, Kristi Pitchford adjourned the meeting at 9:02 am. The next meeting of CAN-DO will be **Friday, November 7, 2014 at 8:00 am.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Holbrook, Co-Chair