**Transylvania County** **Homeless Coalition**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Location: Brevard Housing Authority**

**133 W. Morgan Street**

**Brevard, NC 28712**

**Date: April 2, 2015**

Attendees:

Jennifer Molliere, Haven (Lead) Erica Edwards, SAFE

Shawn Miller, Brevard Police Dept. Louise Egerton, THAP

Kaitlin Huggins, TC Dept. of Public Health Ron Schieve, CONNECT

Rhodney Norman, BHA, (Co-Lead) Beth Branagan, TC Schools

Emily Lowery, Haven Amy Pointer, Sharing House

Ariana Detoro-Florlenza, VA Angela Leopard, Sharing House

* Meeting called to order 9:00am
* Agency Updates
	+ Brevard PD
		- Seeing an increase in teenagers, 14-16 yo being homeless. Parents are kicking them out because of bad behavior, and/or substance abuse
		- Transporting them to Trinity Place in Asheville
	+ SAFE
		- Started using a new database in January, widely used by DV agencies across the state.
		- August to present have had 22-24 residents consistently
		- Prevention Coordinator is starting Parent Chat on April 20th from 5:30-7:00 at the Community Services Bldg. No childcare provided
		- April is Sexual Assault awareness month
		- Friend Raising Fair May 16th in the office parking lot, bands, food, crafters, face painting, etc. Raising community awareness and recruiting volunteers
	+ Sharing House
		- Getting Ahead program is in its 3rd week, and going well
		- Amount disbursed to help clients with their power bill has exceeded any other period
		- Food expenses are up 180%
		- Food donations are down
	+ CONNECT
		- Expanding their referral network
		- Now taking referrals from the TC School Social Workers and Brevard Housing Authority
	+ BHA
		- Kickoff meeting for energy performance. 2.5 Million Dollars in renovations will be underway in 2015
		- 6 vacancies 1& 2 BR, no larger units are available
	+ United Way
		- Tiny House initiative is underway
		- Houses are approx. 200 SF and rent for $450 to $500 per month
		- Self Build $25K-$30K, turnkey $60K
	+ THAPS
		- Judith West (a well known retired SW) and her church would like to take over the Code Purple Program this winter
* VA
	+ Wants to do more outreach in TC
* WCCA
	+ Has hired a new Director for the Senior Center
	+ Holding a financial class using On Track for Haven residents, present and previous (ESG recipients)
	+ Credit Classes are also being scheduled
* Smokey Mountain
	+ Relocating their offices to Ridgefield, near the new mall
* Haven
	+ Haven Family House if full, 11 children
	+ Beds available in the Haven
	+ Jennifer is speaking at the Lente Service at Bethal A on Friday, lunch will be served afterward. Everyone is invited, the collection will be donated to the Haven.
	+ PIT
		- Results turned in to NCCEH
		- Copies of the report are distributed to TCHC members
	+ NCCEH
		- Jennifer Molliere and Rhodney Norman were unable to attend the in person meeting- meeting in March.
* TRAIN
	+ Program is being restructured
	+ Shelly Webb, Sharing House Director has written a collaborative grant to continue the program
	+ Community input is needed for suggestions on how the position needs to proceed
	+ Meeting on April 14th at 11:00 at WCCA to start working on it
* ESG Funds
	+ Still waiting on reimbursements
	+ Looking for ideas for assisting with deposits
* HOME Funds
	+ Have ask Sheryl Fortune with WCCA about modifying the program to accommodate people moving out of Public Housing and into better situations.
	+ The individuals are paying full rent at BHA, the TBRA would really help them
* TCHC
	+ Transportation Summit is being organized. Please get involved! The TC transportation Dept. is distributing surveys to help them with a 5 year plan. We need to push for a public transit system that with a regular route, regular stops and connects to Buncombe County and Henderson County instead of door to door service by cab. Currently they are only serving the elderly and handicapped. This is not an either or situation, we can have both.
* Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am
* Next Meeting: May 7, 2015