**Meeting - September 15, 2015  (Held in Polk County)**

* **Attendees:**
	+ Janice Baynard-Director of Federal Programs for Rutherford County Schools
	+ Victoria Green - Outreach Specialist for Rutherford County Schools
	+ George Alley-Thermal Belt Outreach (dropped in, can rejoin 2016)
	+ Debbie Briscoe Smith - Sisters in Christ Homeless
	+ Kathy Pressly Dills - Sisters in Christ Homeless
	+ Amy Upham—Smoky Mountain Center LME/MCO
	+ Connie Orr-Steps to Hope
* **Purpose of Meeting**
	+ form a balance of state with Rutherford and Polk Counties by bringing a variety of individuals, agencies, or non-profits with the focus of addressing homelessness
* **What is Balance of State?**
	+ BoS is is one of 12 CoCs in NC
	+ Continuum of Care (CoC) - determining what the homeless services look like
		- a variety of services within a county
		- a coordinating body
		- most rural counties join a BoS
		- purpose is to find housing for homeless individuals and families return to permanent housing within 30 days
* **How do we form a BoS?**
	+ Once a month we have our Coalition meetings to review BoS and coordinate services/offer education
	+ Twice a month, we would have a coordinated assessment meeting and present cases we are dealing with. Each case will be given a VI-SPDAT score based on a number of factors. Case managers/shelters could take on each case that is presented.
	+ How can services work together to address homelessness in Rutherford and Polk Counties?
	+ Point-in-time count (probably January)--every homeless person is counted in one day.
* **Definition of Homeless as determined for adult individuals and families**
	+ federal guidelines distributed
* **Current Community Services**
	+ Rutherford County
		- Sisters in Christ - serves men and women (can house 40)
		- Crossroads (Shelby) - men’s mission
		- Lighthouse - domestic violence (Shelby)
		- Family Preservation
		- Gail’s House - houses females and children
		- No one in Rutherford County houses an entire family which consists of a male
		- Local hotels (Tri City, Stagecoach and Thrifty) will assist with housing a family for 7 days
		- RHA-mental health casework
		- Local faith-based organizations
	+ Polk County
		- Steps to Hope
		- Outreach Ministries
		- Polk County Schools
* **Current Community Needs**
	+ Lack of transportation for individuals and families
	+ Funds for doctors and medications
	+ Assisted with utility bills
	+ A need for a code enforcer to see that houses are up to code to pass an inspection fit for individuals to live in
		- Coz Pannell in Rutherford county has several rental properties
	+ ESG-Rapid Rehousing funding--could help those with mental health issues that have gotten behind on payments and become homeless. Funding can help pay deposits or past-due bills. There are also prevention dollars in this fund for those who are in danger of losing power or water.
* **Email contacts to Amy Uphman at Amy.Upham@smokymountaincenter.com as to who should attend the next meeting**

 **Handout passed out during meeting:** [**http://www.ncceh.org/bos/currentcocapplication/**](http://www.ncceh.org/bos/currentcocapplication/)

 **NC BOS Coordinated Assessment Toolkit**