**Homeless Coalition Meetings**

**2015-16**

**Meeting – November 19, 2016**

**(Held at Fat Tracy’s in Spindale, NC - Rutherford County)**

* Attendees
  + Lauren Beard - Outreach Specialist for Rutherford County Schools
  + Victoria Green - Outreach Specialist for Rutherford County Schools
  + Chris Kiser - RHA Mobile Crisis
  + Debbie Briscoe Smith - Sisters in Christ Homeless
  + Kathy Pressly Dills - Sisters in Christ Homeless
  + Amy Upham—Smoky Mountain Center LME/MCO
  + Timothy Brulett—VA
* Announcements were made for holiday happenings. Sisters in Christ mentioned their Motel Ministry is giving Thanksgiving dinners next Wed. starting at 12pm. They are also collecting toys for the Cheer Center; they have chosen 50 families (angels) and need volunteers to purchase 4 toys per family. Victoria asked if they accepted “gently used” toys, and Sister Debbie responded the shelter would accept them and give them to families in need, but the Cheer Center will not.
* Update on ESG Grant: Amy thanked all who contributed to the proposal. It was submitted via mail with all parts on time and we await decision, likely sometime in January
* Election for Back Up was held. Chris Kiser from RHA was only individual nominated. Vote was motioned and unanimous.
* Timothy Brulett from VA gave presentation
  + 4 programs in Asheville: SSVF offers short term voucher (ABCCM, Homeward Bound), HUD VASH is long term voucher through VA, VRQ is 3rd largest transitional housing program in country with 200 beds, First at Blue Ridge SU beds-20 male, 6 female
  + VA has walk in hours for housing info 8-4 daily
  + Will need verification of service-DD214-best place to get that is through local VSO (Veteran Service Officer)
  + Everyone was glad to have him present and he said either he or Arianna will attend monthly meetings
* Mental Health First Aide—Amy proposed a mental health first aide training via Smoky Mountain at Rutherford Community Health Center in Spindale. Marilyn Kaylor to present. Amy asked whether they wanted the Youth training, which helps folks to know how to respond to mh crises and trauma, or the Adult training, which helps folks recognize certain diagnoses. Group wants both, Mondays or Tuesdays work best. Amy will coordinate with Marilyn and bring possible January dates back to next meeting.
* Coordinated Assessment Meetings—Group agreed once a month CAM was sufficient until funding came in as few resources to coordinate. We will meet at the Rutherford homeless liason office. January date TBD at next meeting. In meantime, Amy will connect with Sisters in Christ to help train them on VI-SPDAT. Amy asked liasons if their county had funding to help their homeless children and they reported they generally rely on churches, etc. for assistance.
* Code Purple—Meaning of Cold Purple was explained and announced it was in effect the coming weekend. Sisters in Christ participates.
* Meeting adjourned, next meeting will be December 17th, 2015 at Fat Tracy’s BBQ from 10am-11:30am.