

**Johnston County Regional Housing Committee**

**NC Balance of State Continuum of Care**

Conference Room – Johnston County Mental Health Center

521 N. Brightleaf Blvd, Smithfield, NC

**Meeting Minutes from February 18, 2016**

**In Attendance:**

Roxanne Curry, Johnston County Mental Health Center

Margaret Hinnant, JCMH Community Relations

Angela Jones, Johnston/Lee/Harnett Community Action

Judy Brown, Smithfield Housing Authority

Rose Jones, Family Endeavors (Fayetteville)

Teresa Wall, Johnston County Emergency Services

Krystal McCullen, Commwell Health

Betsy Johnson, Carolina Outreach

Robert Boyette, Veterans Services

Bertha Byerson, Volunteers of America

Renee Williams, Carolina Outreach

Shalonda Pellam, CommWell Health

Melissa Payne, Johnston County Mental Health Center

**Introductions:**

Attendee introductions were made.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Minutes were approved by common consent.

**BoS Steering Committee Meeting Updates from 02/02/16:**

* Staff presented information on several efforts afoot to address and **end veteran homelessness** across NC, including:
	+ US Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) 10 Strategies to End Veteran Homelessness: <https://www.usich.gov/tools-for-action/10-strategies-to-end-veteran-homelessness>
	+ USICH Criteria and Benchmarks on what it looks like when a community has ended veteran homelessness: [www.usich.gov/tools-for-action/criteria-for-ending-veteran-homelessness](https://www.usich.gov/tools-for-action/criteria-for-ending-veteran-homelessness/)
	+ Operation HOME Task Force is a committee of the Governor's Working Group on Veterans, Service Members, and Their Families and was created to address and end veteran homelessness in North Carolina: [ncceh.org/files/6674](http://ncceh.org/files/6674)
	+ Updated map of SSVF providers in NC by county: [ncceh.org/files/6684/](http://ncceh.org/files/6684/)
	+ The BoS CoC is participating in two HUD technical assistance efforts:
		- Vets@Home: help for BoS CoC to reach USICH criteria and benchmarks to end veteran homelessness
		- Multi-family Public Housing Authorities: establishing a preference for homeless veterans
* Regional Committees conducted the **Point-in-Time (PIT) Count** in January.
	+ PIT Count Leads:Send PIT count forms for non-HMIS agencies and unsheltered counts to NCCEH by Feb. 19 by email (preferred) data@ncceh.org or fax 1-888-742-3465
* SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) announced availability for **Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) grant funds**: <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-16-007>
* Regional Leads and alternates, please plan to attend in-person, all-day meeting in Raleigh on Friday, March 4. Staff will send registration info.
* **BoS Permanent Supportive Housing Subcommittee**, Mon., Feb. 15, 10:30 a.m.: [ncceh.org/events/954](http://ncceh.org/events/954)

**Coordinated Assessment Up-Dates:**

Angela Jones - Coordinated Assessment Lead, Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action

1102 Massey Street, Smithfield, NC 27577, (919) 934-2145 or ajones.jlhca@gmail.com

**Guest Speaker:**

Robert B. Boyette, Jr., Johnston County Veterans Service Officer

Land Use Center, 309 E. Market Street, Smithfield, NC 27577

(919) 989-5067 or robert.boyette@johnstonnc.com

**Discussion:**

It is the Johnston County Veterans Office mission to:

* Advise local veterans and their dependents about their rights and entitlements under various state and federal laws
* Actively assist them in filling out the necessary forms and papers, obtaining documents and affidavits, and forwarding the same to the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs for review and presentation before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Services include processing claims for:

* disabilities compensation and pension
* educational benefits
* home loans
* insurance
* death and burial benefits
* health care
* state veterans benefits

The Johnston County Veterans Office supports all local veteran’s organizations and the Johnston County Veterans Council. They also provide off site support for homebound veterans or veterans and dependents confined in Nursing homes to insure continuation of benefits.

Useful websites:

* Consumer guide on housing and mortgages for veterans and active military covering veteran’s loans, benefits, how to apply for benefits, and special protections against foreclosure, etc. [www.mortgageloan.com/veterans/](http://www.mortgageloan.com/veterans/)
* U.S. Veterans Administration: [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)
* The American Legion: [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)

**Announcements:**

**Next Meeting – March 17, 2016 at 10:30 am**

**Johnston County Mental Health Center Conference Room**