**Wilson Greene Housing Committee**

**August 20, 2019**

Present: Candice Rountree, WCDSS; Jonathan Rogers, VOA; Lori Walston, WCDSS; John Apol, Hope Station; Jeralene Merritt, Duplin Christian Outreach Ministries; Lynne White, Wesley Shelter; Shana Baum, Hope Station; Timothy Rogers, Wilson Housing Authority; Britney Holmes, Carolina Family Health Center; LaTasha McNair, Eastpointe; Suzanne Coker Craig, Wilson Area Habitat for Humanity; Amy High, Wilson County Schools; Tony Conner, NCWorks; Alecia Amoo, Legal Aid of NC; Mary Lovick, Greene Lamp; Angela Bates, Greene Lamp; Cameron Cochran, Wilson Forward; Reverend Marty Stebbins; Linda Walling, Hope Station; Jacqueline Caron, Salvation Army Wayne County; Janice Sauls, Salvation Army of Wayne, Shakeda Muldrow, The Salvation Army of Wake County

**Welcome/Introductions**

We have lots of people from across the Neuse Region at the Wilson Greene meeting today. Thanks to everyone for being here.

Minutes were reviewed and approved.

**Balance of State Update**

<https://www.ncceh.org/bos/>

The Balance of State Continuum of Care (BoS CoC) was created in 2005 in order to help rural communities apply for Continuum of Care funding from HUD. CoC funding serves homeless populations through permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, supportive services, and HMIS projects, and is accessed through an annual application process. For more information on the CoC application, please visit our webpages for the [current CoC application](https://www.ncceh.org/bos/currentcocapplication/) and for [prospective BoS grantees](https://www.ncceh.org/bos/prospectivegrantees/). The BoS is one of twelve CoCs in North Carolina, representing 79 out of 100 counties in the state. For more information on CoCs in North Carolina, please visit our [CoC webpage](https://www.ncceh.org/coc/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_self).

Our Wilson Greene committee is part of the Neuse Regional committee, including Duplin, Sampson, Wayne and Lenoir Counties.

Our next Regional meeting is 9-11-19 in Wayne County. Specifics will be communicated via e-mail.

**ESG**

The Neuse Region’s funding review committee is as follows: Deneice Cole, Lead; Candice Rountree, Lori Walston and LaTasha McNair. The funding committee will review all ESG applications and make recommendations for funding. Our Region can apply for up to $232,568. We currently have 4 applicants requesting $341,000. There will be difficult decisions made regarding funding. There are changes to the project and regional applications this year. In years past, our Balance of State partners have reviewed applications thoroughly and requested numerous edits. This information was shared with all applicants to make them aware that the application process does require a local and state-level review.

Applicants were invited to present at the Wilson Greene meeting and the Downeast meeting, as we didn’t have a Regional meeting scheduled that allow us to meet the application deadline.

Hope Station, Salvation Army of Wayne County, Greene Lamp and Duplin Christian Outreach Ministries presented their request for Emergency Solutions Grant funding. Each applicant shared information about their organization and experience with ESG or other grant implementation. Wilson Greene attendees asked questions of each applicant regarding grant management experience, staffing, fiscal management, and participation in Neuse Regional Coordinated Entry and Point in Time count.

Hope Station – the new family shelter will be part of the ESG application, Wilson County has the 3rd highest rate of evictions in the state, men’s shelter numbers are increasing each year, they typically spend 100% of their allocation and are requesting $110,000.

Salvation Army of Wayne County – They are requesting $100,000 for rapid rehousing. There have been some difficulties spending allocation as a staff member has been out on leave.

Greene Lamp – will cover Lenoir and Greene. They have been in existence for 54 years with over 100 partners and they cover 10 counties. They have 150 staff members. They are requesting $56,000. They have managed community service block grants.

Duplin Christian Outreach Ministries – they have been existence since 2004, they have a grant writer on staff and have a staff of 57 volunteers with 1 full time employee. They have received and managed FEMA and Duke Endowment grants.

All Neuse Regional committee members will be asked via e-mail to vote yes or no to moving each project application forward. The funding committee will review all applicants that are approved by our Regional Committee.

**Coordinated Entry**

We are hoping to get more agencies involved in coordinated entry process. We do have a list of names and have problem solved the issue of confidentiality restrictions and domestic violence individuals requesting housing. Linda Walling is the Neuse Regional Lead for CE.

**Veterans**

Tony is helping plan Stand Down events in Pitt and Wayne County. He will share flyers with the group when they are ready. He is working with The Spot to provide transportation for Wilson County veterans.

**Community Partner Updates**

Reverend Marty has been promoted to Bishop and will be moving to Montana. She will be missed. She will recruit a clergyperson as her replacement. Congrats to Reverend Marty!

Wilson Forward – Cameron shared information about the next quarterly meeting to discuss health and wellness issues in Wilson County.

Wilson County Schools – Amy shared that she is already aware of 7 homeless children before school has started. There were 166 children identified as homeless last year. Amy shared her contact information and a poster in English and Spanish for agencies to share with the families they serve

Eat Smart Move More – we now have an EBT card reader at the farmer’s market in Wilson County and we are talking with the schools about installing water fountains with bottle filling stations

Medicaid – Lori provided an update on Medicaid managed care and shared a flyer. DSS has an enrollment broker on-site.

Eastpointe – there are Permanent Supportive Housing beds available for those with a MH/DD/SAS diagnosis who are also chronically homeless