# NC BoS CoC Racial Equity Subcommittee Minutes

February 16, 2022

**Attendees**:

Dr. Deniece Cole, Bonnie Harper, Dr. Cherie Lindsay-Chapman, Angela Wallace, Elle Evans Peterson,
Lori Watts, Kenett Melgar, Angela Harper King, Makala Perez, Manuel Hyman, Teresa Robinson Jefferey Rawlings

**Staff**: Laurel McNamee, Andrea Carey, Sarah Murray, Ryan Fehrman

**Staffing announcement:** Ryan Fehrman introduced himself and made an announcement that Jeremy Ratcliff is no longer with the agency.

**RE Sub updates:** Laurel McNamee lead a discussion about how to improve participation in subcommittee meetings and noted that subcommittee meetings have become more staff heavy with updates and set the intention for more participation from members in 2022. One change that will begin with this meeting is the inclusion of an option for subcommittee members to add agenda items for the next meeting.

Laurel also noted that there was an open opportunity to participate in the National Alliance to End Homelessness, Racial Equity Network, which is a listserv that hopes to connect CoC’s across the country that are prioritizes the work of racial equity. The group decided to join as an entire subcommittee rather than electing leaders to join as representatives.

**Workgroup updates:**

**RE Equity Initiative:** Andrea Carey presented an update on the Equity Initiative, which was formed by an invitation from HUD to participate, and which has set goals to create a replacement to the VI-SPDAT. The Core Team is the small group charged with leading this process with support from HUD TA. Need more people to participate in the Core Team! Interested people should contact Andrea at andrea@ncceh.org

* Elle Peterson asked what skill set would be ideal for participation in this group.
* Andrea noted diversity of experience, cultural/racial lens, people with lived experience of homelessness, those that represent different stakeholders. Core Team meets at 9am on Thursday mornings.
* Angela Harper King noted the need for people with experience working with people with criminal backgrounds (or someone with a background themselves) and re-emphasized the need for more people on the core team, who could speak from their own diverse perspectives.
* Dr. Deniece Cole: noted that she reached out to a re-entry coordinator but said that he could provide materials for a discussion about re-entry if requested.

**Racial Equity Dialogue Series:** Sarah Murray provided an update that she will be taking over coordination of the Dialogue Series in Jeremy Ratcliff’s absence. Provided an overview of the Dialogue series, and noted that she will be reaching out next week to re-convene the RE Dialogues work group. Sarah noted that this work group can also use more people!

**2022 Goals:**

Andrea presented a conversation to discuss the goals for 2022. Utilized the tool Jamboard to facilitate participation from the subcommittee. Subcommittee members offered ideas for future initiatives including advocacy for affordable housing, additional forums or public facing events, pushing for increased accountability by landlords to maintain safe and decent affordable housing. Members expressed that Fair Housing laws need to be promoted, disseminated, and enforced. More education and landlord recruitment for Fair Housing may be needed. The group discussed having a forum on Fair Housing including property owners and tenants and expressed that tenants need to know and understand their rights across the state. Angela Harper King emphasized that this conversation is happening in other spaces as well and noted that what is needed is “safe, decent, and affordable housing”. Conversation centered heavily on increasing political advocacy and education around fair housing.

Andrea led the group to begin thinking about which initiatives could take place in workgroups vs. the subcommittee as a whole. The group decided to continue the conversation of how to tackle the initiatives at the next meeting for the sake of time.

# Celebrations/Announcements

# Dr. Deniece Cole: there is a Duplin Christian ministries COVID vaccine event: Feb 26, 10am-12pm

Agenda items for next meeting:

BoS Scorecard updates

Dialogues work group will bring ideas about incorporating future topics into current planning.

**Next Meeting** is March 16, 2022