

# WNC HOMELESS COALITION

## Regular Meetings -2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month 6/8/2022, 2021 10:00 am -11:00 am Referral and Monitoring Meeting/RRH Selection Committee 11:00-12:00 pm

# **MINUTES**

## **INTRODUCTIONS**

Name

Agency

Derek Lancour: Vaya Health

Lori Watts: Vaya Health

Robert Cochran: HERE in Jackson County

Katherine M Vanderpool: Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Mark Carden: Mountain Projects

Rhonda Blanton: Community Resources Macon County

Ally Schuenke : Center for Domestic Peace

Daniel Ferrera: Four Square in Andrews

Destri Leger: Community Outreach with First United Methodist Church of Waynesville

Jill Carter: Veterans Services of the Carolinas

Kenett Melgar: Blue Ridge Health

Michelle Bentley: SA advocate with REACH of Clay County

Veronica Murphy: REACH of Macon

Morgan Kilbey: Social Worker at skilled nursing: Ackerd Living Center

## STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

- Review & Approval of last month' Minutes
  - Robert C motioned, Dan F seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, no one was opposed, the motion carries
- Balance of State Steering Committee Update
  - Steering Committee updates and documents can be found at <a href="https://www.ncceh.org/bosminutes/">https://www.ncceh.org/bosminutes/</a>
  - Derek Lancour provide update
  - o FY 22 CoC competition
    - Registration completed
    - GIW to be released soon (1 week or so)
    - NOFA will most likely transpire early August
    - Intent to apply is mandatory for new applicants
      - Submit via smartsheet
      - Deadline will be 2 weeks after NOFA
  - o CoC Scorecard Committee
    - Completed scorecard work
    - Recommended new and renewing projects

- Scorecards posted on website
- Explore changes to scorecard content to better evaluate projects
  - Usability
  - Points
  - Equity
- 33% measured objective criteria (easily achieved)
- 20% system performance measures (changes to questions to meet and maximize score)
  - Percentages are per agency and not per specific projects (1 agency could apply for multiple grants)
- o ESG overview
  - Summarized program and detailed purpose and who it serves
  - HUD sets ESG priorities
  - 5 eligible components
    - Emergency shelter, street outreach, RRH, HMIS
- o CY 23 ESG AA process
  - NCCEH working to improve ESG competition
  - Offering 2 webinars
    - 1<sup>st</sup> is mandatory for Regional Leadership to attend (6/29/22 1:30pm-3pm)
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> is for all applicants (7/20/22 2:30pm-4pm)
- CY 23 ESG Funding Priorities
  - Last ESG funding priorities update transpired in 2019
  - Proposed changes to ESG funding priorities
    - Shifting audience to Project Review Committee
    - "Encourage" to "Eligible"
    - Performance
    - Racial Equity
  - Purpose: improve housing system service to better serve population and provide more robust supports for homeless population
  - Priorities
    - 1: Ensure access for homeless
    - 2: only applicants with capacity to administer grant
    - 3: Coordination at Regional level to ensure best results
      - Applicants should attend 75% of regional meetings
    - 4: performance
    - 5: NC BoS CoC: impact to disparities across marginalized communities
    - 6: Consistency and transparency in decision making at Project Review Committee level
- Edits to Anti-Discrimination Policy
  - Minor changes in wording
  - Minor changes in language
  - Draft is available on NCCEH website
  - Added new section on Racial Equity

- Webinar 6/8/22 at 2:30pm (registration required)
- NCCADV= North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence CoC- RRH project update
  - 4 Branches that include: technical assistance, public policy, training, and programs
  - NCCADV awarded just over \$2 million for first time ever
    - 90% of all homeless woman have experienced abuse in their lifetime
    - Majority of reported unmet needs relates to housing
    - Goal to serve 106 surviving households
      - o 63 scattered site apts
      - o 43 single family homes
    - They review project activities that included but are not limited to: financial assistance, case management, outreach services, housing search assistance, etc.
    - Goal to start by 10/1/22
    - 18 month implementation window (10/1/22-4/1/23)
    - For more info and/or questions contact Beth Chartrand (bchartrand@nccadv.org)
- o EHV update
  - All PHA's required to provide housing search assistance
  - Several PHA's lack capacity to meet this requirement
  - NCCIA and NCCEH plan to roll out plan in July 2022 to support with robust housing search plan
- Coordinated Entry Update (Robert Cochran)
  - Region 1 RAMM (twice monthly), reminder about dates and times
  - o Since Jan 2022 staffed and approved 46 households in total
  - All entities/organizations are invited to participate and present cases if applicable
- Rapid Rehousing Update (Robert Cochran)
  - Region 1 received roughly \$55K grant from ESG
  - Spent \$18K thus far, which puts RRH spending at 34% spent thus far
  - Spending slightly behind goal but improved when compared to last year's spending
  - o Tight housing market and Back At Home Program have impacted RRH spending
  - Served 9 unique individuals at an average of \$2061 each
  - Note: RRH funds cannot be utilized if client is moving into an already subsidized living arrangement
    - HERE has experienced this with a couple of households over the past few years
    - Cases such as this would need to utilize alternative funding sources such as ESG for these households
    - How do service providers identify what apartment complexes would have subsidy connected?
      - If rent is based on income, then it typically has subsidy attached (either HUD or USDA)
  - EHV meeting for public housing providers to learn more about administering EHV (like Housing Choice Vouchers), EHV meeting scheduled for 6/16/22 at 11am (virtual meeting)

- EHV: some historical details and portability, funding guaranteed through end date but anticipate extension per reports and/or transitioning clients to different subsidy upon end date
- EHV priorities reviewed
- EHV need to enter via CE system
- Back@Home Update (Robert Cochran)
  - Time limited: ends in September
  - Katie Strong is Case Manager and referrals can be made by calling her directly at 828-331-1270
- Permanent Supportive Housing Update (Derek Lancour)
  - o 40 households being served (still below grant minimum)
    - 32 housed currently
      - 6 existing and 2 new unhoused
      - 70 persons in total
        - o 55 adults
        - o 13 children
      - 2 orientations completed (although one has yet to officially enter PSH program)
      - 2 rehouses completed (1 morel likely next week)
  - Spending through 12 months
    - 78.9% spent with minimum goal of 90%
    - Annual Performance Report (APR)
      - Working on submission currently
      - Due to HUD 90 after grant close which is 7/29/22
- Agency Report Outs
  - Center for Domestic Peace: receiving several calls asking for support to pay for hotel stays due to DV
    - Procedure is not to offer hotel stay initially. Instead, they must evaluate client/household/situation first to determine what supports are applicable and appropriate
  - o REACH of Macon
    - At capacity (may have 1 room coming available tomorrow)
    - 1 client who was previously approved is moving today into housing
    - REACH of Macon has connected with a private landlord and provided info about RRH and PSH. Landlord owns several single family homes in area. Landlord plans to contact Veronica when he has a unit come open and Veronica will present unit to WNCHC for applicable clients
    - Referrals from outside of the county would need to be immediate DV (within the week) due to shelter capacity limitations, but can still refer out of county clients and REACH will do their best to assist/support
  - Veterans Services of the Carolina's
    - Funds still available for prevention and RRH for all Western Counties
    - Focused on Veterans but new program coming available soon that pertains to

general public

- NC Serves is point of contact at 855-962-8387 (855-NCSERVES)
- Focus on employment as well
- Outreach program for veterans as well
- Offering extensions to support veterans for up to 2 years who are experiencing hardships

### **OTHER AGENDA ITEMS**

- Madison County included in Region 1 (was not included in BoS slides from Steering Committee)
  - Madison County potentially listed in HERE contract? Yes, confirmed for Back At Home and CE
  - Have lacked outreach to Madison County but have served Madison County folks with RRH
    - Not to the level of the other counties in Region 1 but have served area in past year
- Vacant Region 1 Lead position
  - Staff who may be interested in volunteering for Lead role
  - Or changes to other leadership positions
    - Dan: Four Square will circulate info to see if he can identify anyone interested
    - Kenett: Blue Ridge: requested role description and Derek will provide more info: kmelgar@brchf.com

### • SOAR info

- Point of contact: Sarah Murray (<u>sarah@ncceh.org</u>)
- SOAR workers in other Regions include: LME/MCO staff, local DSS staff, health care clinic staff, and/or hospital staff
- Several rural regions lack SOAR staff much like Region 1
- 2 models
  - 1<sup>st</sup>: having a dedicated SOAR worker serving entire region
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: SOAR worker dedicated solely to their own caseload
- Training:
  - All virtual, estimated 20 hours of training
  - Review medical and case summary reports
  - Training counts towards CE credits for licensed staff who need annual CE credits
  - Sarah reports all training and technical assistance is free
- Jill Carter (Vets services) looking into SOAR training currently with Pisgah Legal's partnership, she plans to revisit with Director
- Identified need for Region 1
- Barrier has typically been funding or lack there of
- Derek will follow up with Sarah to inquire about any potential funding resources
- Revisit vaccination distribution for Region 1
  - Derek sent questions about process procedure to BoS yesterday and awaiting

response

- Await responses from BoS, then will revisit at next month's WNCHC
- Interested parties: Veronica M, Derek L, Dan (Four Square) plans to follow up with new Director to see if Four Square would be interested in participating
- Rhonda Blanton: Stationed in Senior Center, Had vaccination clinic last month and provided 25 shots in 1.5 hrs, plan to do another vaccination event this month on 6/16/ 12:30pm-2pm, paramedic will be providing boosters again
  - Rhonda will email Derek with info
- Number of positive cases are rising again
- Reminder BoS staff: Laurel McNamee (<u>laurel.mcnamee@ncceh.org</u>) plans to attend WNCHC next month
  - Plan to relay any BoS related questions/comments/concerns during 7/14/22 meeting
- Effective 7/1/22 Gretta Worley (HERE) will be in Director position at HERE in Jackson County and Robert C's last meeting will be RAMM on 6/23/22

#### NEXT RAMM MEETING – 6/23/2022 at 11 AM

#### NEXT COALITION MEETING – 7/14/2022 at 10 AM