

North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

bos@ncceh.org

919.755.4393

www.ncceh.org/BoS

Balance of State Steering Committee Meeting

3.1.11

Regional Leads Present:

Albert Barron, Chris Battle, Debbie Cole, Jim Curtin, Donna Mc Cormick (for Wanda Feldt), Sharon Foust, LaKasha Best (for Laura Hartman), Jane Motsinger, Vanessa Neustrom, Joel Rice, Jackie Sheffield, Michele Steele, Teena Willis

Regional Leads Absent:

Kristi Case, Ramona Gilbert, Beverly Hall, Melissa Ledbetter, Amy Modlin, Paulette White

Interested Parties Present

Bonnie Bettini, Kim Braxton, Mary Brown (the Beacon Center), Emily Carmody, David Collins, Jean Crabtree (Southeastern Services), Nicole Dewitt, Nancy Holochwost, Nancy Hunter, Lynn Inman, Casey McCall, Carol Mitchell (RHA Health Services), Denise Neunaber, Faye Pierce, Emila Sutton, Kanika Turrentine

Approval of February Minutes

There being no changes needed, the minutes were approved by common consent.

2011 Application Intent Form

- Committee members were reminded that all organizations that intend to apply for new or renewal funding in the 2011 competition should fill out the Application Intent Form.
 - The form is posted on the NCEH website at www.ncceh.org/BoSgrantees/.
- This form lets NCEH staff and Regional Committee leads keep track of who is interested in funding and provide information to potential applicants.
 - NCEH staff will share submitted forms with Regional Committee leads.
- There is no due date. All organizations that know they're interested in applying should submit it now.
- The Intent form does not replace the pre-application.

Regional Committee Leadership

- All Regional Committees who have not already done so should elect or re-approve their lead at their next meeting. The lead must email meeting minutes documenting the election to bos@ncceh.org by the end of March.

- The job description for regional committee leads is posted at www.ncceh.org/BoS/
- NCCEH staff is re-establishing active Regional Committees based on the minutes received. Over the last few years some RCs have stopped meeting or have formed new configurations, so this process allows staff to know which areas are active.

Point-in-Time Count Update

- Point-in-Time Count forms were due from all BoS agencies February 4. About 60 agencies have not yet turned in their forms. All agencies are required to be included in the PIT and the Housing Inventory Chart.
- Regional Committee leads and local PIT coordinators were emailed the week of February 21 with names of missing agencies from their regions. Forms can be emailed to bos@ncceh.org or faxed to 888-742-3465.

HEARTH Update

- The HEARTH Act was signed in to law in 2009. Changes go into effect during this year's application cycle for Continuum of Care(CoC) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding. However, HUD had not published regulations and some changes may be phased in. Our understanding is that they have been written and may be released any time.
- HEARTH changes how both the CoC and ESG will be run.
 - New rules should go into effect this year (ESG=July 2011, CoC=Fall 2011 NOFA)
 - There is an ESG Advisory Committee that will advise the State on how to adhere to the new rules and create the new application.
- The current homeless system, with emergency shelter at its center, was reviewed. The new approach places housing stabilization at the system's center, using prevention, rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing. Rural BoS communities that do not currently have a shelter system to rework may find it easier to transition to this system.
- ESG Changes
 - Emergency Shelter Grants will become Emergency Solutions Grants.
 - New ESG = old ESG (shelter and transitional housing) + HPRP (prevention and rapid re-housing activities)
 - We have to advocate with Congress to adequately fund these activities.
- CoC Changes
 - Instead of the SHP, Shelter+Care, and Rehab/SRO programs, there will be one CoC program that includes all eligible activities. Applicants can mix and match the activities they apply for.
 - Rapid re-housing services will be an eligible activity (rental assistance, security deposits, case management, etc.).
 - Administrative funding for applicants will increase to up to 10%, but it is up to HUD's discretion when this will go into effect.

- The CoC's application will be submitted by the Collaborative Applicant (previously called the Lead Agency), which will be eligible for 3% admin funding. (This will be the State or NCCEH—this does not apply to Regional Committees)
- There are additional performance measures that the CoC will be scored on. The three most important are:
 - reducing lengths of homeless episodes;
 - reducing recidivism back to homelessness;
 - reducing the number of new people who become homeless.
- The BoS will have to increase its performance to remain competitive and receive new funding.
- Transitional housing programs will affect the CoC's score on lengths of homeless episodes. HUD's goal is for episodes to be 30 days or less. The transition-in-place model, in which transitional services are provided in a permanent housing setting that the client remains in after the end of the program, can be used to help move the BoS towards this goal.
 - Committee members expressed interest in continuing the conversation about this model on the next Steering Committee call.
- There will be a uniform 25% match requirement for all activities except leasing, which will continue to have no match requirement. This 25% requirement is CoC-wide, not per project, but at least initially BoS applicants will still be asked to provide 25%. Match can be cash or in-kind.
- CoCs that score well will be eligible for a bonus project for proven strategies, including Permanent Supportive Housing for chronically homeless persons, rapid re-housing for families, or other activities that HUD determines are effective.
- All Permanent Supportive Housing projects will renew outside of pro rata (not just Shelter+Care). All PSH activities will be adjusted for inflation at renewal.
- Additional Requirements
 - Any projects that serve families cannot refuse to serve clients because of the ages of the children (includes ESG programs).
 - Projects must identify a staff person who will be responsible for coordinating children's education.
 - The CoC is responsible for all agencies participating in HMIS (not just grantees). Data from HMIS will be used to answer questions about performance measures, so all BoS agencies will affect the CoC's score.
- The HUD definition of homeless will change to include more situations than it does now.
 - Both CoC and ESG programs will be able to serve:
 - People losing housing in 14 days or less who lack resources/support to obtain housing
 - People who have moved from place to place and are likely to continue to do so because of disability or other barriers to housing stability
 - ESG programs can also serve people who are at risk of homelessness. CoCs can use up to 10% of their funds to serve people who are doubled up or in hotel/motels.

- Questions to consider:
 - What system and program changes are needed to ensure achievement of performance standards?
 - Now that there are new tools and evidence, what is the right mix of programs in the system?
 - How can we set strategic priorities for the BoS and each Regional Committee?

QPRs Due

- Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs) are due to NCCEH from all grantees 30 days after the end of each quarter of the operating year.
- Emila Sutton emailed all grantees who have QPRs due. A list of QPRs due in February/March was reviewed.

Regional Committee Updates

- Surry County – A client who had been in their PSH program for one year after living under a bridge has just moved into a Habitat for Humanity house with her husband.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 5 at 10:30.