Balance of State Regional Committee Meeting Minutes 03/21/2013

Members Present

Shari Wright BWB Connections
Heather Pack CCC&TI X
Larry McMullen VTAB
Frances Johnson National Guard

Vickie Basinger Kwanzaa Family Inn
Tracy Nelson Kwanzaa Family Inn
E.B. Freeman Dulatown Outreach Center
Sarah McBrayer Smoky Mtn.
Don Bushman Caldwell Healthnet Collab.
Tina Gilbert Shelter Home X
Sharon Poarch Shelter Home
Mindy Watson McDowell Mission
Bill Warren McDowell Mission

Joe Dillard VTAB

# Introductions: Shari Wright asked for introductions.

1. **Review of Minutes:** Shari W. asked for everyone to review January minutes. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Bill Warren and seconded by Frances Johnson.
2. **Announcements/Discussion:** The discussion was around the need to elect a Regional Lead. Shari informed committee that the Regional Lead needed to be elected and reported back to the BOS before the end of March. The committee unanimously elected Shari Wright to continue the role of Regional Lead as well as the committee Co-Chair along with Sharon Poarch.
3. **Finalize Decision on Fiscal Agent:**  Discussion was around the requirements of the Fiscal Agent. Sharon Poarch presented a questions and answers on the requirements of the fiscal agent. Sharon and Bill stated that the agencies will need to submit their billing to McDowell Mission and they will submit to ESG for re-imbursement. Foothills options are to opt out of having a fiscal agent this year or choosing one and submitting all reimbursement requests through them. Larry McMullen made motion that we choose to opt out of choosing a fiscal agent this year, the motions was second by Sarah McBrayer and agreed upon unanimously by committee. Larry McMullen stated that each county have a representative on the COG board. We need to find out who our representative is and have them be a part of the committee.
4. **Agency Updates:**
	1. **McDowell Mission:** Still doing renovations. They were not able to get the funding for their HELP program for from Sisters of Mercy. They want to see commitment from other counties to expand to Burke and Caldwell. Its Fundraising time: Golf Tournament in May and April 5, 2013 Dinner – Pulled Pork Barbecue dinner with silent auction at the Marion Community Building from 11 to 7pm.
	2. **National Guard**-A deployment ceremony 4:30 Mountain Grove Church in Granite Fall. Lenoir unit have 50 soldiers being deployed. March 30, 2013 Easter Egg hunt at the National Guard from 1:00 to 3:00pm.
	3. **Shelter Home**-Sharon P. reported the shelter is at about 55% completion on their project. Average daily occupancy is 25; they are a 21 bed facility.
	4. **VTAB**-Joe Dillard, coming up on the stand down. In the process of identify, informing and arranging transportation to get veterans to the stand down. Larry stated that in the past few week they have secure housing for 5 people. This was mostly through HUD Bash.
	5. **Caldwell Healthnet Collab**-Don Bushman reported on April 20,2013 from 10 -2pm a Bridges out of Poverty introduction by a certified trainer. Don is inviting various people to get an understanding of what it means to be homeless.
	6. **Shelter Home**: Average daily of 23 for 21 bed facility. In 5 weeks moving into the new parts and vacating old shelter. Bed count will be down to 16. Once complete 40 beds. Must be finished by May 23, 2013.

 **Smoky Mountain**- Will be hiring in reach coordinators, job positions are posted. These coordinators will follow through with clients to support families with needed services. Sarah will get information out when.

Larry requested that we share resources.

Minutes submitted by Shari Wright