**Johnston County Regional Housing Committee**

**NC Balance of State Continuum of Care**

***Meeting Minutes from April 17, 2014***

**In Attendance:**

Cheri Stocks, Johnston County Health Department

Melissa Payne, Johnston County Mental Health Center

Pam Radford, Johnston County Mental Health Center

Graham Kelly, Family Endeavors

Keith Curtis, Smithfield Housing Authority

Ruth Marler, Johnston Health

Cherri Swails, Johnston Recovery Services

Kelly Freese, Johnston County DSS

Nicole Jones, Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action

Tiffany King-Batiste, Alliance Behavioral Healthcare

Michelle Wareham, NC Recovery Support Services

Marie Watson, Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action

Janis Nutt, Johnston County Mental Health Center

Esther Goeke, Volunteers of America

Margaret Hinnant, Johnston County Mental Health Center

**Introductions:**

Attendee introductions were made.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Motion was made by Margaret Hinnant and seconded by Kelly Freese to accept the minutes from the March 20, 2014 meeting with no corrections being noted.

**BoS Steering Committee Meeting Updates from 4/1/14**

* Presentation from *More in My Basket*, which is a program run by the NC Cooperative Extension designed to connect low-income families to food benefits and show people how to get the most out of money spent on food. More information can be found on **morefood.org**
* The State ESG office has notified communities about unspent ESG funds that are being redistributed—our region had unspent funds and the Regional Committee voted unanimously to redistribute the funds to JLH Community Action.
* NCCEH continues to coordinate and organize data from agencies and regions to be submitted to HUD

**Updates on gaps, barriers, and improvements**

Ruth Marler recommended that the Committee ask the Hospital Volunteer Chaplain group for guidance regarding the best way to reach out to and involve our faith-based community in committee goals and activities. She will speak with Rev. Greg McLain.

Committee discussed desire to create a brochure specific to housing/homelessness that could be distributed to community partners and citizens who may be in need of assistance.

Committee discussed creating a toolkit for consumers that would help guide community partners and consumers in accessing resources that would improve consumers’ ability to succeed in obtaining and maintaining housing stability. Ideally, this would complement coordinated assessment.

**Coordinated Assessment**

Reviewed material from Balance of State—elements, goals, toolkit, and timeline.

**Announcements:**

Community Action Annual Banquet on May 5, 2014 at Johnston Community College.

**Adjournment:**

The next meeting will be held on May 15, 2014 at 10:30 am at the Johnston County Mental Health Center Conference Room.