

Wilson-Greene Regional Committee Meeting Agenda
Wesley Shelter
January 20, 2015
10:00a.m.

Attendees:

Candice Rountree – Wilson County DSS
Howard Anthony – Wilson County DSS
Donna Pridgen – The Wesley Shelter
Linda Walling – Hope Station
Valinda Belkin – Wilson Housing Authority
Lori Walston – Wilson County DSS
LaTasha McNeal – Eastpointe
Shana Baron – Hope Station
Lisa Council – Wilson Health Dept.
Yolanda Taylor – Legal Aid of NC/Wilson
John Duvall – Barton College Intern

- **Welcome/Introductions**
- **Election of lead and co-lead:** Howard Anthony was elected lead. There were no other people interested in co-lead though Mary Mallory had voiced an interest. We discussed if anyone was interested in being secretary for the committee and there were not volunteers. Linda Walling noted that she is not able to help at this time but may have time once their ESG grant is further along.
- **Updates from Balance of State:** Candice talked about the sub-committee meetings and the availability of the schedule on the website and updated the committee on the BoS activities.
- **PIT Count:** Donna has the bags that will be given out to homeless people during the count. These bags will include some clothing items in addition to personal care items. Reverend Marty is leading and coordinating the efforts to conduct the PIT count this year. 1/29/15 @ 11:00pm meeting at Wilson Police Dept. Major Scott Bittle will help on the evening street count. Candice, Linda, Mary and Marty will be going out that evening. John/intern from the Wesley Shelter will also be helping at 11:00pm. Candice talked about the on-line training that is available for those conducting the PIT count. This year we will be doing a clean up of the data by having people available at the soup kitchen at St. Timothy's (Claudia 930a-11am, Logan/Intern, Latasha, Andria/Spanish Speaker) to check with people to double check on their status and if they were contacted by PIT people. Candice opened up the discussion about other locations where homeless people may be located and should be included in the street count and the group discussed

the subject. Terri from the school district may be someone who has information and Candice will contact her. Linda asked if it might be useful to use their organizational face Book page to seek information from the community regarding people who are homeless and where they are located. Candice noted that the PIT count has been advertised in the community. The Bus Station, Hospital and Library Dumpster were noted as possible locations.

- **CoC Committee Member Updates:**

Hope Station: Linda noted that she heard that the police are now ticketing people who are staying at the bus station. She noted that they recently provided hotel assistance to a number of people/families during a period of cold weather. People started going to the police station asking for housing vouchers so she had to stop the assistance for everyone and only could be done for people that police have found and determined to be homeless. During this communication with police, she discovered that people are being ticketed. She also talked to the Wilson Mayor about addressing shelter needs for homeless when the temperature has dropped to an unsafe level. The group discussed the need to contact the police department to see what the new policy is for addressing homeless people who might be staying at the bus station or other city locations. Candice noted that Gordon Dino had been invited to attend a CoC meeting to talk about the emergency procedures that may be in use in the county to include the “White Flag” policy. The committee will seek out information in the city and county to see what can possibly be done for homeless people during periods of severe cold. John’s internship is going focus on creating a listing of low income housing in the county and address their ability and willingness to rent to those with various barriers such as criminal history, mental health history etc, in addition to passing the ESG inspection. Valinda and Yolanda noted they might have information to provide to Linda in their effort to create a list of landlords. February 17th is the Wilson Landlord Breakfast.

WCDSS: The agency successfully concluded the LIEAP program for 2014-2015. We still have CIP funds to address heating emergencies.

Legal Aid: Their staff attended a meeting related to former offenders. They discussed what can be done to help those being discharged from the prison system. It was noted that Hope Station helps with people in this category but they are limited in the ability to house everyone. St Johns is able to take some people but the understanding of the group is that it cost to stay there thus those w/o income cannot pay to live there. Legal Aid noted that they are helping people with to clear their records for certain felonies.

Wilson Housing Authority: The WHA waiting list is still closed. The 62 and older waiting list is open at C Bruce Plaza Towers. The new building at Pinnacle Point may have opening for 62 and older.

Next Meeting will be held at 10:00 am, on February 17, 2015 at the Wesley Shelter