**Wilson Greene Regional Committee**

**September 20, 2016**

Welcome/Introductions

Present: Candice Rountree, Wilson County DSS; Lori Walston, Wilson County DSS; LaTasha McNair, Eastpointe; Shana Baum, Hope Station; Tamey Knight, VOA; Yolanda Taylor, Legal Aid; Joyce Wetherington, Wilson County Health Department; Melodie Horne, Wilson Housing Authority; Tony Conner, NC Works; Lisa Council, Wilson County Health Department; Marty Stebbins, St. Timothy's; Amy High, Wilson County Schools

Updates from Balance of State shared with the group.

LaTasha shared information about the committee restructuring. Yolanda asked why this was happening. BOS wants fewer regional committees. We will be moving from 27 to 13 Regional Committees. Our group expressed concern that this plan is more about state partner needs and not local stakeholders.

How do we do coordinated assessment across 6 counties?

Participation in the new Regional Committee meeting is important.

Quarterly meetings will need to be set.

There will be a merged meeting in November in Kinston at the water park on November 9th at 11:30. Leadership roles will be elected. We urged the group to consider a leadership position. There is a new funding committee.

There will be a PIT count across all 6 counties

Coordinated assessment across 6 counties will be a challenge. A plan is due by April.

Name for new Regional Committee? It's important for Wilson Greene members to participate in the new Regional Committee. Wayne, Lenoir, Duplin, Sampson, Wilson and Greene will now be a Regional Committee. There is always a short timeframe with funding applications. In situations where a vote has to occur, we will do phone voting or electronic voting.

BOS is hosting a Regional Committee Training in Greenville on October 20th. If anyone is interested in a leadership position with the new Regional Committee, it would be helpful to attend this meeting. Please let Mary Mallory know if you are interested.

Marty invited the group to, Ecumenical Working Group on Poverty and Economic Justice in East Carolina at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church on October 18th from 11:00 - 2:00. The focus is trying to break the cycle of poverty. If anyone is interested in attending, send Marty an e-mail. [revmarty@sttimothyswilson.org](mailto:revmarty@sttimothyswilson.org)

Tony - The stand down is on October 6th; this is specifically for veterans. Be at the Salvation Army at 8:00 if transportation is needed. Please sign up ahead of time. It's at Herman Park in Wayne county.

Legal Aid serves as a location as a navigator to help families access health care. They are doing community development work in Rocky Mount around affordable housing. Our group has been concerned about double deposits and other housing issues. Yolanda asked about a training on fair housing practices and the group is interested. Candice and Yolanda agreed to plan the event.

Hope Station - Monday, Wednesday and Friday's from 9:00 - 11:30 is their food pantry assistance time. Their grant, Fighting Fat on a Skinny Budget has started and they will recruit 50 families to participate who will receive healthy food and nutrition education.

Dog food is available on the 3rd Saturday at The Spot. There will be a pet blessing at October 2 at 2:00 at St. Timothy's.

Eastpointe is planning on offering a fair housing training on November 8th at the cherry conference center in Wayne County.

Wesley Shelter - As to updates, we have 9 women and 5 children in the shelter. One new homeless coming in this morning. Lots of new DV cases. Linda at Hope Station assisted yesterday with a hotel room for a DV victim with 6 children until we could work with her this morning.

Eastpointe’s CoC application is at the top of Tier 2. Hopefully the project will be funded. We should hear in the first quarter of next year.

DSS- the ABAWD food assistance recipients who are not working/volunteering will stop receiving benefits in October. We have a job readiness class, volunteer opportunities through United Way and GED classed at WCC as options to complete hours and continue to receive assistance.

On October 4, at DSS, there is a listening session to share concerns/thoughts about serving seniors who are in need of Adult Protective Services and Guardianship. Contact Candice if you would like to attend. State DHHS staff will be there to hear from our community.

There are 30 - 35 families who are homeless in Wilson County Schools. Amy says the need is great through the school system and she asked for specific items for a teen she is serving. Candice suggested she contact Sharon Toney with DSS regarding access to funding to help with clothing. There is a school fundraiser with Chick Fil A. Please let Amy know if you would like a lunch box.