**Neuse Trent Housing Alliance**

**Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**8 AM**

**September 7, 2016**

**United Way Building**

Present:

 Ken Becker, Family Endeavors

 Patricia Benefield, Coastal Community Action

 Mary Candace Bryant, Reviving Lives

 Jackie Dees, City of New Bern Electric

 Alison Dunn, Promise Place

 Ron England, CarolinaEast Health

 Brian Fike, Trillium

 Clayton Gaskins, Community Care Plan of Eastern Carolina

 Landa Gaskins, City of New Bern Community Development Coordinator

 Tova Hairston, Coastal Women's Shelter

 **Debbie Hodges, Homeless Liaison, Craven County Schools**

 Donnie Inge, Trillium

 Susan Lucas, RCS

 Ryan Pirthe, City of New Bern Utilities

 Glenda Riggs, Carteret County DV Program

 Juliet Rogers, RCS

 Lovay Singleton, VEBOG

 Reeshema Walker, DWS NC Works

* Jackie called the meeting to order. Introductions were made.
* August minutes were approved.
* Jackie introduced Ryan Pirthe, who is the new energy management specialist for the City of New Bern.
* Juliet reported on the content of the most recent BoS conference Call. More regulations are in place for those wishing to build HUD housing. ESG applications will be released soon. Projects have been approved statewide. All mergers were approved. Our name as of January will be Housing Alliance for Coastal Carolina.
* Patricia reported on the August 10 meeting with representatives from Onslow. The group discussed possible names and there still remain processes to be finalized. The meeting was a good chance for people to get to know each other. There still will be local meetings. PIT numbers will be collected locally and combined for reporting. We might consider having mini standdowns where the homeless come to us to be counted. Onslow used this model this past summer with success.
* Update from the City: Landa reported that they are starting the new year for the CDBG. Paint Your Heart Out was successful. Their offices' action plan is under review. They will open up assistance applications soon.
* Juliet reported that RCS' capital campaign is underway to renovate the shelter. $850,000 is needed.
* Mary Candace reported that there are openings in both the men's and women's houses. Reviving Lives Ministry is a 12 step recovery program that holds participants accountable. The goal is that they gain the skills to become contributing members of society. The office ribbon cutting is next Tuesday at 2 PM.
* Glenda reported that Friday they will be hosting training for law enforcement supervisors featuring John Guard from Pitt County. Service providers are invited to attend. A kayak race fund raiser will be held September 24 and the annual luncheon and fashion show will be held on November 20.
* Tova reported that Catherine Johnson from the North Carolina Department of Administration visited CWS. Sixty percent of the funds needed for renovation have been raised. There is a Zumbathon on Saturday from 10-12 sponsored by the Havelock Police Department at the Havelock Rec Center. On October 6, a portion of proceeds from Beer and Burger Army will be donated to CWS--starting at 6 PM. On September 14 and 15, a census will be taken nationally of people staying in domestic violence shelter and receiving domestic violence services.
* Alison talked about Promise Place. They have gone through a restructuring but still provide trauma-informed therapy and serve as a rape crisis center. The shift of focus is to get service providers to rethink their approaches as the problems are not changing. We need to think about the root causes of social problems and identify the shared risks and protective factors. They are working with the CNI Leadership Academy to empower them to make a plan in the residences.
* Patricia updated the group concerning a case of a homeless family with whom CCA is working. They have located housing and CCA has gotten their electricity turned on and is in the process of finalizing paperwork to get the water turned on. Some marital dynamics may mean that they will be working with a single mother and her children instead of a family.
* Juliet presented the case of an RCS client who needs to have his disability application fast tracked. Brian will provide resources to assist.
* Susan asked for volunteers to help with an October 2 fundraiser to benefit RCS. A list of volunteer needs will be sent to all members of this group.
* Jackie reported that a check for $500 from the Round Up Program will be given to RCS to distribute to those having difficulty paying their electric bills. There will be a City of New Bern Utilities table at MUMfest to share information about the program.
* Community Coalition for Craven County Children will sponsor Embrace Recovery at Union Point Park on September 23 from 6-9 PM.
* On Saturday from 8 AM - 12:30 PM there will be a health fair at Trent Count featuring a mobile doctor.
* Ron thanked Reeshema for a informative presentation to the Rotary. He described the CarolinaEast Intensive Outpatient program open to the community. A copy of the flyer will be sent to this group.
* Veterans Stand down is on September 16 from 9 am to 1 pm at the National Guard Armory. Donations will be taken to support the renovations at RCS and food donations will be accepted.
* VEBOG will be selling mums at MUMfest.
* Emergency Assistance Funding is in at Coastal Community Action. Call Nina George for Craven County at 269-4491 or Kythe Gallaway at 665-1533 for Jones.
* Next meeting: October 5 @ 8 AM.