

# **Norfolk Homeless Consortium**

## **Meeting Minutes**

January 17, 2007

### **I. Call to order**

Thaler McCormick called to order the regular meeting of the Norfolk Homeless Consortium at 12:40 on January 17, 2007 at the Norfolk Public Health Center

### **II. Attendees**

Alisa Berry, Rebecca, Corsar, Peggy Crutchfield, George Davies, Pamela Davis, Sari Friedman-Rosner, Barbara Gaddy, Claudia Gooch, Martha Gorman, Bill Groom, Marilyn Hernandez, Vicki Henderson, Irma Hinkle, Bruce Johnson, Linda Jones, Leila LaRock, Trish Manthey, Karen Martin, Alicia Matthews, Thaler McCormick, Cheryl Moore, Brian O'Dell, Angel Pimienta, Sheilynn Robinson, Larry Ryan, Clara Smith, Kathy Taylor-Gaubaltz, Stacie Walls-Beale, Debbie Williams, Kim Williams, Cynthia Thompson

### **III. Open issues**

Katie Kitchin gave an overview of the Central Intake process for homeless families

- a) Central Intake for homeless families; hotline # is 664-6083. The Department of Human Services' Homeless Action and Response Team (HART) will handle Central Intake from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. The phone lines will turn over to the family shelters in the evenings.
  - 1. ForKids, inc. will monitor phones in January
  - 2. Dwelling Place will monitor phone lines in February
  - 3. YWCA will monitor lines in March

**Note:** Volunteers needed 7:00pm – 11:00am [week nights]

Norfolk Dept. of Social Services [NDHS] needs volunteers during daytime hours

- b) Volunteer training to be held at NDHS
- c) YWCA to train their own volunteers
- d) Call Diana at ForKids [757- 664-6400] to sign up for training

### **IV. New business**

- a) Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness Lobby Day – Thaler McCormick asked attendees to attend Lobby Day in Richmond to rally support for a 3-year Rental Assistance Program which will address our affordable housing crisis and the raising of the minimum wage.
- b) Point in Time count to be conducted January 24-25, 2007. Volunteer training to be held at 4pm in Room 106 and NDHS-721 Monticello Ave. All Continuum of Care agencies are asked to send two staff members to volunteer. All other volunteers are welcome.

Count Process: Shelters, NEST, soup kitchens, canvas neighborhoods.

- c) Project Homeless connect needs 500 volunteers. To register, call 664-4488. Event to be held February 15, 2007 at the Scope. The Planning Council will provide some move in funds to homeless ready to move into vacant apartments.
- d) 2007 Homeless Vigil - to commemorate those who lost their lives while on the street and to celebrate those who have overcome homelessness will be held February 20, 2007 at 5:30pm – St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. Also, to highlight organizations working to combat homelessness and show solidarity and give a report to the community on the outcomes.

**Note:** The next Vigil Planning meeting will be at ForKids at 3:30pm 1/30/07 – Chairpersons: Debbie Wall and Alison Carmen

- e) Clara Smith reported that the Gosnold Apartment opening was well attended; 22 residents currently moved in. There are 60 units total; 42 for Norfolk; 12 for Virginia Beach and 6 for Portsmouth.
- f) Claudia Gooch reported that SRO II – Virginia Beach is going through rezoning process; goes to city council next month; may open in two years. Virginia Beach to convert Section 8 vouchers to help fund the project.
- g) Claudia Gooch reported for the Housing Committee that they are preparing their recommendations for the utilization of excess Continuum of Care Funds. They will submit those recommendations to the Continuum of Care Committee who will create recommendations for this year’s Continuum of Care process, taking into consideration the requirements of this year’s SuperNOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- h) Stacie Walls-Beegle reported for the Continuum of Care Committee that the Standards of Care review process has started and the consultant, Vicky Greene, will begin reviewing Continuum of Care agencies at the end of the month.

They are still waiting to hear the results of last year’s Continuum of Care application, which funds many of the programs of the Norfolk Homeless Consortium. HUD announced that they had many more applications from across the country than ever before, so the award announcements are delayed and the grants process is more competitive.

**Note:** The next Continuum of Care meeting will be February 14, 2007.

**V. Adjournment**

Thaler McCormick adjourned the meeting at 2:05pm.

Minutes submitted by: Cynthia Thompson, Secretary

Minutes approved by: Thaler McCormick, President