

Norfolk Homeless Consortium

Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2007

Attendees:

Karen Martin, NCSB
George Davies, CAMG
Linda Williams, Park Place Medical
Debbie Williams, The Planning Council
Peggy Crutchfield, NCSB
Julie Dixon, The Planning Council
Alicia Matthews, St. Columba
Bill Groom, Sacred Heart
Stacie Walls-Beegle, ACCESS
Clara Smith, VSH- Gosnold
David Wall, VA Med Center
Vickie Greene, Perite, Inc
Kate Bahr, ForKids
Cheryl Marks, YWCA
Angel Pimienta, Habitat for Humanity

Brian O'Dell, TACT
Alberto Torres, TACT
Charles Peek, Second Chances
Alisa Berry, OTEH
Cheryl Moore, Habitat for Humanity
Pat Vedomske, The Planning Council
Mary Mann, The Salvation Army
Thaler McCormick, ForKids
Katie Kitchin, OTEH
Jay Clarke, VSH – Gosnold
Martha Chick-Ebey, VA Med Center
Bruce Johnson, Love Unlimited Ministries
Martha Gorman, Ghent Area Ministires
Lindsey Roach, Barrett Transitional Home
Juanita Dowdy, ForKids

I. Welcome and Introductions

Thaler McCormick called to order the regular meeting of the Norfolk Homeless Consortium and asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

II. 2007 Continuum of Care Report

The date for this meeting had been changed because the committee hoped to have the rankings available for the NCH to ratify. However, the CoC committee needs to meet again to discuss the rankings and the ranking processes for both the renewal and new projects.

An email came from HUD yesterday with the funding available for renewal projects. This email confirmed that an error had been made in the budget of a renewal project. This reduces the funding available for new projects, and the Ranking Committee met on Monday, May 21st and worked with a different amount than is actually available. When the Ranking Committee was presented with the new amount of funding, they recommended that the Continuum of Care Committee meet again to determine how the funds should be redistributed. David Wall was a member of the ranking committee and said that all four of the new projects that were submitted were worthy projects and this made the decision very difficult.

The Continuum of Care Committee will meet on Tuesday, **May 29th**, at the Salvation Army at 9:30am.

Stacie Walls-Beegle also urged NHC members to take a look at Exhibit 1 of the Continuum of Care application to be sure that all the information about each agency is correct. All NHC service providers, not just CoC funded providers should be listed in the application and each provider needs to ensure that all of their services are listed in the statement.

III. Standards of Care Report

Stacie introduced Vickie Greene who has been conducting the Standard of Care review. Vickie is working with the NHC for 2 years, and she has just completed the baseline reviews of the Continuum of Care funded agencies. In the winter she will go back to the agencies to conduct a second review.

Vickie gave a general report on the strengths and weaknesses of the CoC funded agencies. Overall, the agencies scored very well on the Standards review. There are some standards that need to be reviewed and altered based on findings from this review. There were several standards that were extremely strict and some that no agencies in the CoC were meeting.

The following are some of the major strengths for the CoC funded agencies. The CoC funded agencies are very solid on program operations. Also, administrative processes were very strong, financial processes for each agency were in order.

Stacie said that the Continuum of Care Committee would be meeting this summer to review and revise the Standards of Care before the second round of agency reviews.

IV. Hurricane Evacuation Plans

Katie Kitchin said that before hurricane season begins on June 1st, agencies should make plans for their clients which include how they will provide transportation for clients to leave the area. Katie asked that agencies send her a copy of their hurricane evacuation plan.

V. HMIS Committee Report

Juanita Dowdy reported that the first ART reports were distributed at the last HMIS Committee meeting. Agencies are using these reports to correct all missing information before the CoC application is turned in to HUD. Juanita also reported that the PKI certificate will hopefully be purchased very soon. The Planning Council is working out final details with Bowman.

The HMIS system will become open by July 1st. When the system goes open agencies will be view a limited amount of information, including clients' name and social security number. However, they will not be able to view which agencies entered the information.

VI. Nominating Committee

Thaler McCormick announced that the 2007-2008 year will start in July and at that time there will be two open positions on the Executive Committee. The positions available are Vice-President and Treasurer. The NHC needs volunteers to form a nominating committee who will meet and present its recommendations at the June meeting.

Katie Kitchin, Martha Gorman, Clara Smith, Mary Mann and Cheryl Marks volunteered for the Nominating Committee.

VII. Single Adults Committee Report

Martha Gorman announced that the Single Adults Committee will be meeting after the NHC meeting concludes. Also, she heard from Child and Family services that Traveler's Aid will be

ending on May 29th. They are out of money and have no plans to reinstate the program. She wanted the NHC to be aware of this because it will be a huge impact on the homeless community. There is no other agency that provides this service. If the program cannot be saved, then there needs to be discussion of who can pick up this service.

VIII. Healthcare for the Homeless

For the month of May, 10 new patients were scheduled and 5 showed for their appointments. On June 4th a new doctor will start and will see 3 new patients on Monday mornings and 3 new patients each afternoon. The next meeting for anyone who is interested in Healthcare for the Homeless will be June 6th at Park Place Medical Center.

The goal is to provide physicals for every homeless person.

IX. Treasurer's Report

There is currently \$988.38 in the NHC account at The Planning Council. However, there are some expenses that need to be submitted for the Homeless Vigil.

X. Announcements

Bill Groom brought up the issues facing Sacred Heart Church and the homeless individuals who are currently allowed to sleep in the parking lot. Some individuals are taking advantage of the opportunity and are defacing the church. The neighbors have been complaining and now Sacred Heart is faced with closing down the parking lot. Bill asked for advice and Martha said that the Single Adults Committee would be discussing the matter in their meeting. Thaler urged anyone who could to stay for the meeting.

Julie Dixon announced that the Homeless Prevention funds for 2006-2007 have been spent. HPP will have more funds in July, and will begin the direct referral system at that time.

Clara Smith announced that Gosnold is now officially at capacity!!!

XI. Upcoming Meetings

The Continuum of Care Committee will meet on May 29th.

The next NHC meeting is **June 20th**.