

Norfolk Homeless Consortium
Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2007

Attendees:

Irma Hinkle, ACCESS
Barbara Gaddy, Barrett Haven
Trish Manthey, The Dwelling Place
Martha Gorman, Ghent Area Ministries
Cheryl Moore, Habitat for Humanity
Sari Friedman-Rosner, NDHS-HART
Katie Kitchin, OTEH
Bill Groom, Sacred Heart
Cynthia Thompson, Second Chances
Shelby Jones, TACT
Julie Dixon, The Planning Council
David Wall, VA Med Center
Marge House, ForKids

Stacie Walls-Beegle, ACCESS
George Davies, CAMG
Thaler McCormick, ForKids
Angel Pimienta, Habitat for Humanity
Peggy Crutchfield, NCSB
Alisa Berry, OTEH
Linda Williams, Park Place Medical
Larry Ryan, Salvation Army
Alicia Matthews, St. Columba
Debbie Williams, The Planning Council
Marti Chick-Ebey, VA Med Center
Roxie Hoven, YWCA

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

Stacie Walls-Beegle reported that the Continuum of Care application has been submitted to HUD. One June 8th, Debbie Williams sent an email to the NHC asking for members to vote to affirm the ranking as recommended by the Continuum of Care Committee.

The Committee recommended that NCSB be awarded all of the available new funds for the Pathways model Housing First program. The CoC Committee also makes the recommendation that the program be given priority for the remaining 10 units in the 2008 funding cycle. This means that they would receive the Samaritan Initiative and additional funds as they are available.

David Wall asked if this meant that there would be no additional money available for new projects next year. Stacie said that this could be the case, but Katie Kitchin said that if funding levels are the same it is not likely. The project requested funds for 28 units this year and would only need 10 next year, so there it is likely that there will be money available for other new projects.

The Committee makes this recommendation because typically the process is competitive, but for the NHC to be supportive of city funded projects the Committee wanted everyone to be aware that this project would be a priority for next year's funding cycle.

For agency that is considering applying for funds in next year's CoC cycle, there is an 80% attendance requirement at CoC Committee meetings. This requirement starts with the next

meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for July 11th; however, Stacie and Debbie will both be out of town at conferences so the meeting needs to be rescheduled if there is no objection.

Stacie also thanked Debbie for all her work on the Continuum of Care statement. Stacie serves on committees in other cities and having a staff person working on the application made the process much easier for her as Chair of the CoC committee.

III. HMIS Committee Report

Irma Hinkle reported that the PKI certificate has been purchased and Pat will be installing it on user computers when she returns from vacation. Agencies finished updating their data to include the missing data elements before the CoC application was submitted. The system will become open on August 1st. Also, ART reports are being run and distributed at the HMIS Committee meetings. If an agency would like to pick up their reports they can do so at the committee meetings.

IV. Single Adults Committee Report

Martha Gorman reported that the committee did meet last month. They are looking to have a newspaper article written highlighting the situation of single adults. The article should be written in a positive light though and a couple of agencies are collecting data for a publication and the committee may work on an article when that data is collected.

The committee also discussed the homeless situation in Ghent. The zone officer for Ghent attended the last meeting where the homeless sleeping in Sacred Heart's parking lot were discussed. Sacred Heart is no longer allowing the homeless to sleep in the parking lot, and those individuals have moved onto other areas in Ghent.

V. Families Committee

Katie Kitchin gave an update on the Families Committee. An additional grant for the Housing Broker team was received from the Norfolk Foundation. She is also working on contracts for in-home case management for families coming into the central intake that are not eligible for CSA and the case managers will work through The Dwelling Place and ForKids.

Central Intake has been receiving approximately 1,000 calls a month and there have been 18 emergency shelter placements. The system has been avoiding hotel stays for the majority of families who have called the hotline.

VI. Nominating Committee Report

Katie Kitchin reported on the recommendations of the committee. The committee nominates Trish Manthey for Vice-President and Martha Gorman for Treasurer.

Thaler McCormick called for a vote on the committee's recommendation. Each individual and agency member present had one vote. 14 members voted in favor of the recommendation, 0 members voted against the recommendation.

VII. Membership

Debbie Williams handed out the membership dues form. Dues are \$24 and are required for the 2007-2008 membership year which begins July 1st. Thaler reminded everyone that they can join as an individual; they do not have to be part of an agency. Also, individuals may join even if their agency joins.

VIII. Website

The webmaster for the Norfolk Homeless Consortium website has sent an invoice for the next year that is due June 30th. The invoice is for \$441.90 and includes the domain name, web hosting and webmastering services.

Martha Gorman made a motion that the NHC vote to approve the payment. Thaler seconded the motion. Each individual and agency member present had one vote. 14 members voted in favor of the recommendation, 0 members voted against the recommendation.

IX. Regional Taskforce Update

Julie Dixon reported that at the last meeting of the Regional Taskforce members discussed the Cloverleaf project. The number of units for each city has been confirmed and Norfolk will have 12 units in the SRO project.

The taskforce has also begun planning the 2008 Homeless Regional Conference. The date has not been confirmed but it will be sometime in the beginning of February.

X. ForKids Program Presentation

Thaler McCormick gave an update on ForKids programs and outcomes. ForKids runs an Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing programs, Permanent Supportive Housing, and aftercare services. Thaler discussed that while ForKids does make extensive referrals for their families they also provide extensive services within their agency some of which are adult counseling, intensive case management, medical and dental assistance, life skills classes, sports programs, tutoring, and music and arts programs.

Haven House is the ForKids emergency shelter which provides up to a four month stay for families. Morgan Place is a transitional program that has 7 family apartments in which families can stay up to 2 years. Elizabeth Place is ForKids new transitional housing program which focuses on shorter stays and houses 5 families for a 3 to 6 month targeted stay. Legacy Permanent Supportive housing currently has 6 units for families with disabilities and will be expanding by 4 units. ForKids also offers aftercare services at their Family Resource Center.

XI. Announcements

Habitat for Humanity will be having a day at UNO's on July 27, 28 and 29, where 20% will go to Habitat.

Katie Kitchin announced that Stanley Clay Walker has an opportunity for employment for people in recovery. He is hiring street homeless individuals for power washing work and they will be taken to AA meetings during lunch. If the individuals perform well for a few weeks they will have the opportunity to be placed on payroll with benefits.

The next Project Homeless Connect will be August 23rd.

Stages of Change training will be Thursday June 28th, 10:00am – 5:00pm at the Attucks Theater. If people are interested in attending and have not RSVPed they should contact Katie immediately.

Julie Dixon handed out An Investment in Priorities which was prepared by The Planning Council. The book contains indicators for the region on many different issues and compares how each city and Hampton Roads as a region is doing on these indicators.

After the next NHC meeting a Healthcare for the Homeless meeting will take place. Any shelter providers who are interested in the program should plan on staying. It was mentioned that perhaps this should become a committee of the NHC for the next year. Linda Williams told those present that if they have problems getting through to a person to schedule appointments they should call her cell phone which is 240-8519.

Irma Hinkle announced that next week is National HIV Testing Week and that on June 28th ACCESS will be offering free HIV and syphilis testing from 2-6pm at the shopping center at 28th St & Granby St.

XII. Upcoming Meetings

The next NHC meeting is **July 18th**.