

# **Norfolk Homeless Consortium**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **August 15, 2007**

#### **Attendees:**

Irma Hinkle, ACCESS	Stacie Walls-Beegle, ACCESS
Barbara Gaddy, Barrett Haven	George Davies, CAMG
Trish Manthey, The Dwelling Place	Martha Gorman, Ghent Area Ministries
Vikki Henderson, ForKids	Pamela Davis, NCSB
Peggy Crutchfield, NCSB	Sari Friedman-Rosner, HART
Linda Williams, Park Place Medical	Bill Groom, Sacred Heart
Larry Ryan, Salvation Army	Charles Peek, Second Chances
Alicia Matthews, St. Columba	Brian O'Dell, TACT
Debbie Williams, The Planning Council	Julie Dixon, The Planning Council
Pat Vedomske, The Planning Council	Marti Chick-Ebey, VA Medical Center
David Wall, VA Medical Center	Jay Clarke, VSH – Gosnold Apartments
Kathy Taylor Gaubatz, Virginia Social Ventures	Roxie Hoven, YWCA
Mike Taylor, The Planning Council	Jill White, The Planning Council
Sylvia Powell, Eastside CDC	Kathy Nious, Eastside CDC
Betsy Duerheimer, The Planning Council	

#### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

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

#### **II. 2007- 2008 Committee Chairs**

Debbie Williams introduced the Committee Chairs for the 2007-2008 membership year and passed around a sign-up sheet.

Committee Chairs:

- Employment Taskforce – Charles Peek & Katie Kitchin
- Continuum of Care Committee – Stacie Walls-Beegle
- HMIS Committee – Irma Hinkle & Juanita Dowdy
- Single Adults Committee – Clara Smith
- Healthcare Committee – Julie Dixon
- Central Intake/Families Committee – Sari Friedman-Rosner
- Homeless Vigil Committee – Martha Gorman

#### **III. Continuum of Care Committee Report**

Stacie Walls-Beegle reported that the Continuum of Care Committee met just before the NHC meeting to discuss the Standards of Care and the revisions that had been suggested during the first round of reviews.

The second round of agency reviews will begin this winter. The goal is to bring non-CoC funded agencies into the process. There have been discussions at the Executive Committee meetings about approaching the City and other funding agencies about incorporating the Standards of Care into their funding process.

The Committee will meet again September 12<sup>th</sup> to continue

#### **IV. HMIS Committee Report**

Irma Hinkle reported that the Committee continues to work on data quality. Pat Vedomske is running ART reports monthly for agencies and these reports show that drastic improvements have been made. Agencies are working much harder to ensure that they are entering correct data into HMIS. Pat Vedomske has installed the PKI certificate on computers at half of the agencies.

The Committee is also working through the process of moving to an open system. The process is about half-way completed. The committee is setting up a timeline for the remainder of the process and is also working through security issues regarding moving to an open system. Pat Vedomske is going to do a run through with one of the central intake agencies in the next month to test that all the security issues have been resolved.

#### **V. Housing Broker Team**

Julie Dixon introduced Mike Taylor and Jill White who were recently hired to be the Housing Broker Team. They have backgrounds in social services and property management. Mike and Jill are located the 741 Monticello DHS building. When clients are ready to exit and need help with housing they can be referred to the Mike and Jill who are working to increase housing resources. They are also providing outreach to landlords to increase the affordable housing inventory.

Trish Manthey said that she was excited that the Housing Broker Team is finally in place. This is an important piece of the Housing First methodology.

#### **VI. Central Intake**

Sari Friedman-Rosner reported that the Central Intake meetings are still occurring twice a month. At the meetings the Committee discusses clients who are still awaiting shelter and also what has worked well during the month. The major issue that Central Intake currently faces is the frustration of singles who are calling the hotline number and being referred elsewhere because Central Intake is only for families.

#### **VII. Project Homeless Connect**

Project Homeless Connect is August 23<sup>rd</sup> and people can still sign up to volunteer.

#### **VIII. Healthcare**

The Healthcare for the Homeless group has been meeting for several months to discuss the program and it has now evolved into a Healthcare Committee. Alicia Matthews has linked St. Columba's prescription program with Healthcare for the Homeless. ACCESS has volunteered to fulfill the transportation need for walk in appointments and the first pick up will be on September 6<sup>th</sup> at St. Columba. The pick up will be at 1:15pm, and when they are finished clients can wait for the van at Park Place or they can obtain bus tickets at Park Place. The pick-up sites will rotate weekly between St. Columba and Union Mission. The three walk-in slots are not taking the place of new patient appointments. They are in addition to the appointments that have already been allotted to homeless patients.

If other agencies have individuals who need to see a doctor they can call St. Columba or Union Mission to see if they have 3 people for the van. If there is space they can send their client over to meet the van.

Pamela Davis asked about the ID requirement. She stated that in the past that she had been able to write on letterhead that the client was who they said they were, but that Park Place had stopped accepting those letters. Pamela wanted to know if this is still the case. Linda Williams stated that clients did need to have a photo id because of the blood work that was being done. The Ghent Area Ministry temporary ID is still accepted though. Pamela stated that if the goal is to reach out to street homeless, they do not have IDs and that obtaining one is another step that they have to complete before they see a doctor.

Linda Williams announced that Park Place medical will be hiring another outreach person in the next few months.

## **IX. Regional Conference**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Conference on homelessness will be February 5, 2008 at the Renaissance Hotel in Portsmouth. The program is being developed now. There will be emails in September with more information. Registration will be available on The Planning Council's website, and this year credit card registration will be available on the internet to make the process easier.

## **X. Treasurer's Report**

There are currently 20 paid members and the account balance is \$959.97.

## **XI. Announcements**

Martha Gorman asked for suggestions regarding the date for the Homeless Vigil. December 21<sup>st</sup> is the national date for the event because it is typically the shortest day and the coldest day of the year for many locations. The discussion centered on what the focus of the event should be. Typically this is a memorial service for those who have lost their lives on the streets. Last year it became a celebration of the accomplishments and some felt that it lost the focus of the purpose of the event. The suggestion was to hold the event on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Even though it is around the holidays and many agencies are busy, if it is a memorial service the Homeless Vigil would require less planning. Also, if the NHC is going to call it a Homeless Vigil, it should be close to the national date and have the purpose of the national event.

Kathy Taylor Gaubatz announced that Virginia Social Ventures is in need of books, music and movie donations. VSV provides on the job training and then the trainees run Spotlight Books. Several agencies already give them unwanted donations but they need more!

## **XII. Upcoming Meetings**

The next NHC meeting is **September 19<sup>th</sup>**.

Brown Bag Series – September 14<sup>th</sup> – Predatory Lending