

Council to End Homelessness in Durham • October 20, 2016 10:00-11:30am

*Location: Families Moving Forward, 300 N. Queen St, Durham, NC 27701*

**Attendance:** Ann Tropiano (FMF), Catherine Pleil (FMF), Charita K. McCollers (LCHC-HCH), Courtney Millsap (DCRC), Erica Wilkerson (Durham VAMC), Garrett Mitchell (Triangle Empowerment Center Inc.), Janet Xiao (CEF), Lindsay Hege (Transforming Hope), Maria Davis Dorsey (DDI), Mary Moore (Durham Tech), Matt Schnars (City of Durham), Miguel Hunter (Triangle Empowerment Center Inc.), Nigel Brown (Housing for New Hope), Randy Oberrath (TFAHC), Shaina Lubliner (Duke University), Sheldon Mitchell (UMD), Tammy Baggett (Library—Durham County), Tiana Terry (VoA), Valaria Brown (ABHC)

**Fred convened the meeting at 10:01am.**

**September Meeting Minutes:** Catherine Pleil made a motion to approve the September minutes. The motion was seconded by Mary Moore, and passed.

### **Tammy Baggett, Director, Durham County Library Durham County Main Library Transformation**

- Students are currently conducting a survey on why people use the library
  - Initial findings: people use the library to borrow/return DVDs and books
  - Initially, interviewed 12 people, and 1-2 of them identified as homeless.
  - Hopefully we will continue to have more data.
- Ms. Baggett hopes to hear suggestions and feedback on how the library can better serve our homeless population.
- The aim of the Main Library transformation is to connect the community.
- The library space will expand from 144 to almost 185,000 sq ft. The upcoming library bond will include a complete update of all maintenance systems.
- Set up the space so that there can be fairs and programming—including things to serve the homeless community.
  - November 9<sup>th</sup>: will begin finalizing programming
  - Hoping to increase partnerships – eg. offering programming at UMD, Alliance BHC, HeadStart, and City of Durham’s Mobile Work Force Development vehicle
  - Looking at hiring a social worker
  - Trying to set up a program where the library that lends free wifi hotspots or tablets, with educational and fun materials
- Hope to increase the walkability and serve the businesses/residents downtown.
- In the interim: Library staff will be at DCVB; some parts will be housed at Northgate Mall (NC Collection, MakerLab); using CJRC’s multi-purpose room 3 days per week.
- If the bond passes, the library would close in early 2017
- Feedback, questions and discussion:
  - For the survey, the importance of noticing literacy levels, and possibly reading the questions to people
  - Q: Will there be additional employment options?  
A: Unsure! Right now, requesting 2-3 more specialized staff. With all of the extra

efficiencies that are coming, we may be able to operate at existing staff amount. Eg. The social worker could be a peer support outreach worker.

- Q: This is a prime opportunity for workforce development in the construction field. You have human capital right across the street at the shelter.  
A: The architects that we're using, Vines Architecture, they have agreements about WMBE—can put people to work in that sense. They have a good track record of meeting those requirements.
- Q: Will there be opportunities for school field trips to the new library?  
A: Yes! We do that now, from day cares all the way up to high school, and hope to do more.
- CEHD members expressed the desire to endorse the bond and propose that Vine connects with Urban Ministries of Durham residents for employment opportunities in the renovation process. Ms. Baggett will provide the contact information for who that endorsement will go to.

### **Fred Stoppelkamp, Workforce Development Manager, UMD & Chair, HSAC**

#### **HSAC Priorities**

- In September, Fred invited HSAC to take on a focus initiative. They'll be making a decision at their next meeting.
- The options:
  - Coordinated Intake for Individuals
  - Free 8 bus route: connection to workforce development and education opportunities
  - Transition Age Youth: need to put supports and policies in place to meet needs of transition age youth
  - Case management once housed: landlords are more receptive to partnering if we provide case management after people are housed
  - Tenant insurance: landlords have asked for us to establish insurance that will protect the landlord and insure the tenant while residing at that unit
- Janet will send out to the CEHD group, so that members can vote

### **Janet Xiao, Co-Director, CEF & Unlocking Doors**

- Janet shared a presentation to envision and gain feedback on a “Shared Risk Fund”  
[Presentation is linked here](#)
- Feedback:
  - Good idea!
  - What if we think of the double/triple-deposit funds paid out through rapid rehousing as a part of the same pot, which those non-profits could contribute?
  - This serves as a security blanket—currently landlords often think they're going to get repair funds back from DHA, and don't.
  - Start off with vouchers (via Unlocking Doors) for the pilot, and then expand from there
- Rapid Rehousing needs to exist in the same conversation. eg. Right now, HNH has clients with HCVs

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- TCF did a fundraising effort that generated \$10,000—and that money is still sitting in a bank. The HSAC is the official entity that decides what to do. Could ask HSAC.

### **Agency Announcements**

- Mary Moore: Durham Tech provided information about free workforce development classes. Programming will run all the way until mid-December. Also included lab (walk in/out) schedule, which are free if the client is unemployed/underemployed. Additionally, the first hour of the lab is focused on a job search strategy.

**Fred adjourned the meeting at 11:33am.**