

Council to End Homelessness in Durham • June 16, 2016, 10:00-11:30am

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

**Attendance:** Andrew Franklin (CEF), Ann Tropiano (FMF), Catherine Pleil (FMF), Charita McCollers (LCHC-HCH), Courtney Millsap (DCRC), Cynthia Harris (HFNH), Dan Hudgins (DHA), Doneicia Johnson (Durham VAMC), Fred Stoppelkamp (UMD), Gudrun Parmer (CJRC), Janet Xiao (CEF), Lloyd Schmeidler (City of Durham), Matt Schnars (City of Durham), Melissa Oberrath (Kingdom Life Church Int'l), Olive Joyner (HFNH), Rachel Baisden (DCIA), Snehan Sharma (CEF), Spencer Bradford (DCA), Tia Willis (LCHC-HCH), Tiana Terry (Volunteers of America), Valaria Brown (Alliance BHC)

**Welcome and Call to Order:** Olive called the meeting to order at 10:10am. The group shared introductions.

**Charita made a motion to approve the March meeting minutes.** The motion was seconded by Fred, and passed.

### **Dan Hudgins**

*Chair, Board of Commissioners, Durham Housing Authority*

- Dan assumed the Chair position on Jan 1, been with the Board less than a year. Tom Niemann had chaired Board for 10 years, he will be the chair of DHA's non-profit development entity (Durham Ventures Inc). Within a month of taking over, got the notice that ED Dallas Parks was retiring. I was also DSS director here for 27 years, worked with a number of organizations here. One of the things I was focused on was building community partnerships with non-profits. I want to strengthen the relationship between non-profits and the DHA. I think this is the perfect time to do what we're doing. Bo and I have been going around listening to folks—providers and participants. That's the kind of feedback we need in order to strengthen our services. Would rather a good chunk of the meeting to listen to *your* concerns.
- We are excited: this is “the perfect storm” in Durham to do something around affordable housing. In my 40 years now in Durham, there's never been a better environment for resources and partnership; we have a City Council focused on that, and we are going to have some changes in leadership at the DHA that will help us begin to address that as a public-private partnership.
- Introducing Anthony Scott, who starts on Monday:
  - He's met the head of Habitat for Humanity, and wants to start meeting with consumers. On his first day here, went to Oldham Towers and Cornwallis and talked to participants. He wants to be involved from the standpoint of direct consumers and wants to be part of what's happening in this community with non-profits. I have every expectation that he'll be at the Mayor's Roundtable.
  - Background: Anthony Scott went to Howard University. During his time in LA, he was involved in affordable housing as a private developer, and received awards for community service. He decided that being an architect did not allow him to have enough of an impact in creating and improving communities, so he got involved in redevelopment in Richmond, VA. After a year there, became the Director of their Housing Authority. He was then recruited to go to Baltimore, where he was HA

director in a City Dept that had public housing as a component. Having been a City employee there, that will give him experience to coordinate well with the City here.

- Highlights:
  - Experience in urban setting, public housing
  - Private developer
  - Partnership work in those agencies.
  - The last two Housing Authorities were 4-8x as big as ours. He's used to a bigger scale, but his knowledge of the programs will help us choose two critical positions that are now vacant: CFO and Director of HCV.
- The thing that's troubled me: the number of unassigned vouchers. The time to get your designated CoC vouchers in is ASAP.
- Anthony Scott also wants to wait to open the waiting list, because he has ideas for what might be running smoother.
- The group asked Dan a series of questions about topics ranging from the RAD conversion process of public housing units, and whether providers could make referrals to public housing instead of HCVs; DHA/City housing code discrepancies; and whether HCV eligibility based on criminal background could be changed.

**Janet Xiao** (*CEHD Secretary; Community Empowerment Fund*)

#### **Presentation & Discussion: Mayor's Landlord Roundtable**

- Q: Will Social Serve/NC Housing Search be speaking at the event?  
A: Yes, but they won't be taking too much time
- Q: Can we collect data on landlord concerns in advance?  
A: Yes, we've already done that. The data will have guide a facilitated conversation with landlords.
- Q: More information about the hotline?
  - The group decided that the we can commit to 2 business day max. agency callback time.
  - The idea is that most agencies will respond within 24 hrs, so we will give 48 hours in order to have some leeway, and be able to deliver on the commitment
  - "under promise, over deliver"
  - Fred reminded the group: we need to incentivize landlords with something valuable, so let's not be vague
- Housing for New Hope and Matt Schnars will be spreading the word to ~30 landlords
- Matt suggested that we involve a landlord in the introductory video, or invite a landlord to speak at the beginning of the meeting

#### **Agency Announcements:**

- Rachel (DCIA) has finished update housing/shelter guide on DCIA website. Please download and use!
- Tiana (VoA): NC Serve is a coordinated network for both private and public non-profits. It's a resource bank that we can use. Unfortunately, it's only for veterans right now, and it makes

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case managers' jobs 10x easier. Can do referrals for Legal Aid etc., all contact information is there. They just launched on June 1, and are now looking for other providers to join. We're looking to potentially incorporate this into coordinated intake and assessment.

(Raleigh.americaserves.org) No cost to join.

- Spencer (DCIA): We've got notice of Durham's award for Emergency Food and Shelter program funding for this next cycle. DCIA will be posting application process information for that on the second week of July. Good news: it is an increase of funding over what Durham's been awarded the last couple of years. We don't yet know when the funds will be delivered by UW.
- Ann (FMF): On July 2, the families from Roxboro St will be moving downstairs to Queen St.
- Valaria: ILI funding will come to an end next Monday, June 20. Closing out books for the fiscal year. If you have any applications out there, please submit by this upcoming Tuesday. Also, new ILI training for web-based page will be conducted on July 12. There are also still available spots for DASH permanent supportive housing programs for singles and families.
- CoC homeless grants competition: we are anticipating HUD releasing NOFA by the end of the month. Durham will likely have until mid-late September to complete our collaborative application and associated project applications. Hoping that Durham will be awarded \$200,000 as a permanent housing bonus. Comm Dev will be recommending that new or reallocated funds be used for PSH for people who are chronically homeless, including chronically homeless families.

**Olive adjourned the meeting at 11:32am.**