

DURHAM HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

3:00 p.m.

**Durham County Human Services Building
414 E. Main Street – 2nd Floor Conference Room**

The Durham Homeless Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) met on the above date and time.

Committee Members Present: Chair John Bowman, Vice-Chair Mayme Webb-Bledsoe, Secretary Stephanie Williams, Assistant County Manager Drew Cummings, Lindsey Jordan Arledge, VA Medical Center, Dr. Janice Harper, Assistant Vice-Chancellor, University Programs, NCCU, Captain Stan Harris, Durham County Sheriff's Department, Angela Holmes, Michelle Jordan, Assistant for Community Relations, Continuing Education, Durham Technical Community College, Pam Karriker, Christian Assembly, Charita McCollers, MSW, Lincoln Community Health Center, Fred Stoppelkamp, Urban Ministries of Durham (UMD); Reverend Chris Tuttle, Westminster Presbyterian

Absent Committee Members: Mayor Pro Tempore Cora Cole-McFadden, County Commissioner Michael Page, Minnie Forte-Brown, Durham Public School (DPS) Board, Michael Becketts, Director Durham County Social Services (DSS), Reverend Warren Herndon, Jackie Love, Durham Public Schools Homeless and at Risk Liaison and Latasha Wilson (SAVE).

Excused Committee Members: City Manager Tom Bonfield, Lois Harvin-Ravin, Durham County Veterans Services Officer and Jason Wimmer, Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD)

Staff Present: Director Reginald Johnson, Project Managers Lloyd Schmeidler, Matthew Schnars, Administrative Analyst Keshia Barnette (Department of Community Development) and Sheila Bullock, (Office of the City Clerk).

Also Present: Kevin J. Murphy, (Citizen), Kati Ruark (Legal Aid), Tiana Terry (Volunteers of America), Sandra Lassiter, Tiara Lassister (Stick & Stay Prevention), Dr. Sharon Elliott-Bynum (Healing with CAARE, Inc.), Charlie Harless (LATCH), Joy Hager (Volunteers of America), Reverend Ernie Mills (Durham Rescue Mission (DRM), Patrice Nelson (Urban Ministries of Durham (UMD), Ann Yeung, Community Empowerment Fund (CEF), Cynthia Harris (Housing for New Hope (HNN)), Darryl P. Hicklen (USA Veterans Help) and Catherine Pleil (Durham Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN)).

Subject: Call to Order/New Member Welcome

Chair Bowman called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. and welcomed new member Michelle Jordan, Assistant for Community Relations, Continuing Education at Durham Technical Community College. He noted that Ms. Jordan was replacing former Committee Member Sue Jackson who retired in January 2015.

Ms. Jordan gave a brief description of her job responsibilities at Durham Technical Community College.

Chair Bowman also commented since there was no quorum, approval of the minutes would be delayed until later in the meeting when a quorum was reached.

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Subject: Public Comment Period

No comments were made.

Subject: State ESG Supplemental Appropriation

Project Manager Matt Schnars (Department of Community Development) reported that Durham was notified by the State ESG office that an additional \$34,473.00 is available to Durham for Rapid Rehousing or HMIS activities. Mr. Schnars outlined the following criteria to receive this funding:

- Funding must be used for Rapid Rehousing.
- Up to 15% of funding can be used for HIMIS costs.
- Currently funded State ESG grantees are the only organizations that can apply for the funding. In Durham, these organizations are Healing with CAARE, Inc., Housing for New Hope, Urban Ministries of Durham, Durham Interfaith Hospitality Network and Genesis Home.

Mr. Schnars explained that a recommendation is needed from the HSAC as to who will apply for the funding. Additional comments were made concerning the process for applying for the funds.

Committee Member McCollers expressed her concern that the breakdown of information on the handout entitled “State of NC Emergency Solutions Grant Additional Supplemental Funding” under the HSAC Recommendation of \$19,822.00 to Housing for New Hope was confusing. Mr. Schnars commented that staff could refine that section so it would be clearer.

Motion by Committee Member Karriker, seconded by Committee Member Holmes to adopt staff’s recommendation to apply for the additional ESG money was approved unanimously at 3:18 p.m.

Subject: Minutes Review & Approval – March 25, 2015

Motion by Assistant County Manager Cummings seconded by Vice-Chair Webb-Bledsoe to approve the HSAC minutes of March 25, 2015 was approved at 3:19 p.m.

Subject: CoC Charter- Presenter Chris Tuttle, Structure Subcommittee

As part of its work to ensure Durham is in compliance and as a requirement of the CoC Interim Rule, Committee Member Tuttle, on behalf of the Structure Subcommittee, presented a final draft of the Governance Charter for the Durham CoC. He stated the goal from the discussion was to have the HSAC review the Charter and give any feedback they may have. The document is being reviewed by the City Attorney and Committee Member Tuttle stated that the Structure Subcommittee will also follow up with the Council to End Homelessness in Durham (CEHD), some providers and the Citizens Advisory Council to make sure everyone is on the same page. It is the hope of the Structure Subcommittee to bring the document, with any changes or suggestions, to the HSAC in May to be voted on. Afterwards it can be shared with the full CoC at the June 2015 meeting.

Mr. Schnars added that the idea behind the Governance Charter is to look at the existing way things are operated in Durham and see what can be layered over the top of this. It does not require any substantial change in what the CoC does or how they do it. However, he asked that HSAC members look specifically at page 3 of the draft Charter entitled *Continuum of Care Membership, Section 6. Decision Making* where it discusses review and update of the CoC Governance Charter.

Assistant County Manager Cummings made comments about Section 6 of the draft Governance Charter and the distinction between CoC membership and the CoC Board as it relates to who should be annually

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adopting or ratifying the Charter. The question was raised as to how the HSAC would put the Charter into effect at the May 2015 meeting as opposed to the broader CoC.

Additional discussion followed concerning who would approve changes to the Charter, would changes be approved annually and at which meeting and how would these changes be presented to the entire CoC.

Chair Bowman reminded members that the Governance Charter was not up for approval at this meeting. He encouraged everyone to read over the document and be prepared to vote on it in May 2015.

Chair Bowman thanked staff for all the work they did on the Governance Charter.

Subject: Point in Time Count & Housing Inventory

Project Manager Lloyd Schmeidler (Department of Community Development) gave a PowerPoint presentation on the review of the 2015 Durham Homeless Housing Inventory. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Components of the Point in Time (PIT) Count
- Permanent Housing Bed Inventory
- Emergency Shelter & Transitional Housing Inventory 2008-2015
- Unmet Housing Need 2008-2015
- Homeless by Living Situation 2005-2015
- 2015 Homeless Count – Demographics
- 2015 Homeless Count Subpopulations

Reverend Ernie Mills (Durham Rescue Mission (DRM) asked that Mr. Schmeidler's PowerPoint presentation be sent out. Mr. Schmeidler responded that staff would send it to the CoC membership.

Dr. Sharon Elliott-Bynum (Healing with CAARE, Inc.) pointed out to Mr. Schmeidler that for the last year and a half they have been using Rapid Rehousing to help Veterans who are leaving per diem housing and those who are not working well in the USA Veterans situation. She added that it's the same amount of work that they do with the single adults everywhere, however she feels that it should be acknowledged that it's the Rapid Rehousing piece that is really guiding them to where they need to be.

Committee Member Karriker commented that she is aware of pastors who are contacted by the Police Crisis Intervention Team in search of emergency shelter beds. Therefore, she asked that Mr. Schmeidler explain the statement that was made about not needing any more emergency shelter beds. He offered an explanation and additional comments concerning this question.

Reverend Mills reported that they are in the process of building a dormitory that can assist with Transitional living. Reverend Mills pointed out this new building will allow space to be freed up in their Emergency Shelter so the beds can be spread out and more comfortable for the residents.

Patrice Nelson (Urban Ministries of Durham) expressed concern that the numbers were getting worse and they are discouraging. She stated she is frustrated and asked what the implications were for funding coming from HUD into the community of the numbers getting worse versus better.

In response to Ms. Nelson's question regarding whether these numbers have to be reported in their CoC applications and funding applications and are used in the ranking when decisions are made about communities funding to implement the goals that HUD has given, Mr. Schmeidler responded yes.

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Ms. Nelson added that by having the numbers go up, ranking and opportunities for funding is jeopardized because the numbers are going up and not down.

Chair Bowman pointed out that when the numbers have been reported, an asterisk has been placed by the number to indicate how many might be at the Rescue Mission. Mr. Schmeidler stated that yes, this information is being recorded.

Dr. Elliott-Bynum stated that the medical respite people are coming from the shelters, the hospitals and other places. She asked Mr. Schnars how was he ensuring that these numbers aren't being duplicated or are they just not being counted.

Mr. Schnars responded that the numbers are not being duplicated on the Point in Time Count. Other comments were made regarding the housing inventory information.

Subject: Performance Monitoring, ZERO: 2016

Mr. Schnars gave a demonstration of the ZERO: 2016 Framework visualization tool. He noted there is new functionality through software that will provide answers to a lot of the same questions that committee members have asked at each meeting. He led a discussion on how to access information with this software and what can be done with it.

Reginald Johnson, Director (Department of Community Development) informed Committee members that during a recent City Council meeting the matter was brought up relative to HMIS and the Rescue Mission and its impact on the CoC's collaborative application and how HUD reviews it. There was some brief discussion by the City Council regarding this matter. Mr. Johnson stated that he will have Mr. Schnars send out the link so that everyone can hear that discussion and noted that this is a piece that they will have to work on at some point.

Subject: Reminders

The next regular meeting of the HSAC will be Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. in the Durham County Human Services Building located at 414 E. Main Street in the 2nd floor conference room.

The 2015 Durham Project Homeless Connect will be held on Friday, October 2, 2015 at the Durham Bulls Athletic Park.

Subject: Adjourn

With no further business to come before the body, Chair Bowman adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Sheila Bullock
Office of the City Clerk