

**DURHAM HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
&
COUNCIL TO END HOMELESSNESS IN DURHAM
JOINT MEETING OF THE DURHAM CONTINUUM OF CARE**

**Thursday, June 19, 2014
4:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers/1st Floor/City Hall**

The Durham Homeless Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) and the Council to End Homelessness in Durham (CEHD) held a joint meeting on the above date and time.

Committee Members Present: Vice-Chair John Bowman, Secretary Dr. Deborah Bailey, Director of Academic Services Learning Program at NCCU; Edward Abdullah, Lindsey Jordan Arledge, VA Medical Center; City Manager Tom Bonfield; Drew Cummings, Assistant County Manager; Robert “Bo” Glenn, Lois Harvin-Ravin, Durham County Veterans Services; Sue Jackson, Executive Dean/Department Head Continuing Education at Durham Technical Community College; Charita McCollers, MSW, Lincoln Community Health Center; Fred Stoppelkamp, DERC; Mayme Webb-Bledsoe, Duke University; Stephanie Williams, Alliance Behavioral Healthcare, Pearlie Williams (NAMI Durham) and Jason Allen Wimmer (OEWD)

Excused Committee Members: Chair Minnie Forte-Brown, Shannon McLean.

Absent Committee Members: Mayor Pro Tempore Cora Cole-McFadden, County Commissioner Michael Page, Captain Stan Harris, Reverend Warren Herndon and Jackie Love

Staff Present: Director Reginald Johnson, Project Manager Lloyd Schmeidler, Project Manager Matthew Schnars and Administrative Analyst Keshia Barnette (Department of Community Development)

Also Present: Council Member Eddie Davis, Council Member Don Moffitt, Alma Davis (Durham Crisis Response); Ryan Fehrman, Diane Pledger, (Genesis Home); Cynthia Harris, Seaira Hinnant, Samuel Whitted, Eric Breit, Nigel Brown, (Housing For New Hope); Patrice Nelson, Alexander Herring, Maruka Rivers, Jim Jael, Jim Mawell, Shirleen Ward (Urban Ministries of Durham); Denene Hinton (Alliance Behavioral Healthcare); DeWarren Langley, Anitra Bailey (Citizen Advisory Committee); DeLisa Lee (DJL Training); Mary Moore (Durham Technical Community College); Catherine Pleil (Durham InterFaith Hospitality Network (IHN)); Sabrina Seymore (Durham County Social Services (DSS)); Thomas Townsend, Joanne Furmage (W.B.C.); Delvena Jones (USA Veterans Help); Jennifer Robinson (Lincoln Community Health Center for the Homeless); Tara Isley, Bettina Karpathian, Liz McDermott, Candice Chilton (LATCH/Duke University); Fleming Taylor, Diane Meglin, Ruebe Holmes, Julia Gamble (Duke University); Latasha Wilson (SAVE); Jane Xia, Anne Yeung (CEF); Lisa Sorg (Indy Week); Jack Preiss (Housing Results Team); DeDreana Freeman (GBNA); Edythe Thompson (Rebuild Durham); Reverend Katie Crowe (Trinity Avenue Presbyterian); Carol Smith (Vietnam Veteran); Ashly Spikes (DERC); Beverly H. Travis (CityWell UMC); Micah Kordsmeier (Self-Help) and Bob Zoz (Durham Furniture Project).

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Subject: Call to Order/Welcome

Vice-Chair Bowman called the meeting to order and asked that members take a moment to reflect on the goals of the HSAC after he read each one aloud.

Subject: Minutes Review & Approval

Motion was made and properly seconded to approve the HSAC minutes of May 28, 2014 was unanimously approved.

Subject: Public Comment Period

Carol Smith, of Winston-Salem, NC (Vietnam Veteran) made comments concerning situations that she had experienced with two agencies that assist homeless Veterans. She shared with HSAC and CEHD members about being homeless and receiving assistance from Veterans Volunteers of America who placed her in a dwelling that offered inadequate living conditions. Ms. Smith explained that the residence did not have a stove or refrigerator, dangerous flooring with holes, pipes and torn carpet existed causing her to fall on numerous occasions. The front and back doors do not fit properly; Ms. Smith is able to see outside through the large gaps. According to Ms. Smith the dwelling was formerly a duplex but was cut into making it one unit. Because of this, the unit is off balance which causes her furniture to sit off balance. She further commented that there have been two drive-by shootings targeting her residence which left the unit filled with bullet holes. She stated that she was told by the property owner that nothing would be done to bring the dwelling up to standard.

Ms. Smith expressed her concern and feeling of hopelessness that some organizations that say they are helping Veterans, really aren't. She stated that she suffers with post-traumatic stress as a result of being a Vietnam Veteran. She is asking HSAC, CEHD and any other organization for much needed assistance.

Vice-Chair Bowman thanked Ms. Smith for sharing her story with the group.

Subject: Joint Meeting – Welcome

Vice-Chair Bowman provided background information and a summary of the kind of work that HSAC and CEHD have been asked to accomplish in ending and preventing homelessness.

Subject: Overview – Continuum of Care (CoC)

HSAC Member Reverend Chris Tuttle (Structure Subcommittee) and staff presented a video from HUD that revealed key terms and the concept of the CoC. Afterwards, at the direction of Reverend Tuttle, the group interacted among themselves and talked about where they felt they fit in within the Interim Rule and why the work that they do matters to them.

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Members were asked to complete their index card with their name and place of work and put it on the bulletin board provided at the meeting. These cards along with contact information from the registration forms will be used in a continuous effort to foster connections.

Subject: Durham CoC Membership

HSAC Member Glenn discussed the intent of the CoC membership agreement created by the Structure Subcommittee. He explained that they have been working to expand the participation of individuals and organizations to meet the goal of ending homelessness in Durham and are asking folks to formerly join as members of the CoC. He noted that the membership form was designed to ask individuals and organizations to make an affirmative statement that they are members of the CoC and that by membership they can help the providers, community members and individuals work more collaboratively in helping to place clients more efficiently and effectively in services. Membership will also allow everyone to work together to end homelessness in the time frame that has been set out in the HSAC goals. By joining, organizations will be more observable by others. Membership requirements are primarily to get everyone to the table. The HSAC's Results Teams and Subcommittees are very active and they need everyone's input and involvement. HSAC Member Glenn asked that people take a moment to complete the membership agreement.

Subject: HSAC & CEHD Subcommittees

Reverend Katie Crowe (Trinity Avenue Presbyterian/CEHD) thanked all the providers for the great work they are doing.

Chairs of each HSAC Results Teams gave a brief summary highlighting their goals, meeting information and upcoming events. Each team extended an open invitation for new members.

Ryan Fehrman, Chair, CEHD/Director of Genesis Home provided an overview of the work of CEHD.

Housing Results Team

The Housing Results Team meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the 2nd floor of the Golden Belt Building, 807 E. Main Street. Fred Stoppelkamp is the group's chair and members include Rhega Taylor, Durham Housing Authority (DHA); Ryan Fehrman, Director, Genesis Home; Lindsey Jordan-Arledge, Durham VA; Stephanie Williams, Alliance Behavioral Healthcare; Joi Stepney, Housing for New Hope (HNH); Charita McCollers, Lincoln Community Health Center; Lloyd Schmeidler, Department of Community Development and Jack Preiss.

According to Mr. Fehrman, the overall goal of the Housing Results Team is to coordinate efforts to ensure people without homes have access to permanent affordable housing.

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Youth Results Team

The Youth Results Team meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Department of Community Development 2nd floor conference room of the Golden Belt Building, 807 E. Main Street. Co-Chairs for the group are Mayme Webb-Bledsoe, Duke University and Jackie Love, Durham Public Schools (DPS).

The group's main focus is to understand the issues as it relates to youth and homelessness. Currently the group is working on creating a Point in Time Count for transition age youth from 14 years of age to 24. The Count will be from October 23, 2014 – October 25, 2014 and the group is asking for help in identifying youth who would like to participate in the count.

Also, the Youth Results Team will be hosting a community conversation on “The Impact of Homelessness on LGBTQ Youth in Durham.”

Performance Management Subcommittee

The Performance Management Subcommittee meets the 2nd Monday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Department of Community Development in the Golden Belt Building, 807 E. Main Street. The group consists of John Bowman, Chair and members Minnie Forte-Brown, (DPS); Catherine Pleil, (IHN) and Angela Holmes.

Goals of the Subcommittee involve the recommendation of outcome measurements and standards for adoption by the HSAC; coordinate development of reporting tools; monitor performance of CoC funded projects and regularly review CHIN data.

Income Results Team

Project Manager Lloyd Schmeidler introduced and welcomed Council Members Eddie Davis and Don Moffitt along with new staff member Keshia Barnette, Department of Community Development, to the meeting.

Members of the Income Results Team are Lloyd Schmeidler, Jason Wimmer (OEWD); Jackie Brown; Alexander Herring (UMD); Mary Moore, Durham Technical Community College and Kelly McClain.

Mr. Schmeidler commented that it is difficult for people to maintain housing without income. He shared the following goals of the group:

- To work with OEWD and Joblink to promote initiatives to target people without homes for job training and job placement;
- Promote the work readiness credentials to make more connections between homeless people and the unemployed and to connect them to educational opportunities; and
- Develop more initiatives to encourage employers to hire people without homes.

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Council to End Homelessness in Durham (CEHD)

CEHD meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at Genesis Home. The group does not meet in July. Next meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2014. Members consist of Ryan Fehrman, Chair, CEHD/Director, Genesis Home; Joyce Stancil-Williams, Vice-Chair, CEHD (CASA) and Janet Jowell, Secretary, CEHD (Community Empowerment Fund (CEF))

Mr. Fehrman noted that the purpose of CEHD is to provide an opportunity for folks to network to learn about community resources and best practices. Some of the topics discussed by CEHD for 2014 included:

- Endorsing goals for affordable housing creation near light rail stations
- Provisions of the Affordable Care Act and how to link clients with local resources
- Durham Police Department's Crisis Collaborative
- Community goals related to programs performance and benchmarks
- Annual Homeless Assessment Report & Point in time Count
- SOAR method for disability applications
- Light Rail Planning process and possible routes
- Supportive Services for Veterans and their Families

Subject: Closing Remarks

Dr. Deborah Bailey, Secretary, HSAC, commended and thanked everyone for their heartfelt commitment, dedication and for all the work they do to help the homeless. She especially thanked Council Member Davis for his support and for being in attendance at this joint meeting.

With no further business to come before the body, the meeting concluded at 5:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Sheila Bullock
Office of the City Clerk