

DURHAM HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

**Durham County Human Services Building - Conference Room B - 2nd Floor
3:00 p.m.**

The Durham Homeless Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) met 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; Mayor Pro Tempore Cora Cole-McFadden, Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager, Edward Abdullah, Lindsey Jordan Arledge, VA Medical Center; Drew Cummings, Assistant County Manager; Charita McCollers, MSW, Lincoln Community Health Center; Shannon McLean, Chief Development Operations Officer, Durham Housing Authority; Kimberly Monroe, Fred Stoppelkamp, Reverend Chris Tuttle, Pearlie Williams, NAMI Durham and Stephanie Williams, Alliance Behavioral Healthcare.

Committee Members with Excused Absences: Chair Minnie Forte-Brown, Mayme Webb-Bledsoe, Duke University and Jason Wimmer, OEWD.

Committee Members Absent: County Commissioner Michael Page, Captain Stan Harris, Durham County Sheriff's Department, Reverend Warren Herndon and Jackie Love, Homeless & At-Risk Liaison for Durham Public Schools.

Also Present: Director Reginald Johnson, Project Managers Lloyd Schmeidler and Matthew Schnars (Department of Community Development); Brianna Bake (World Relief/AmeriCorps); Latasha Wilson (SAVE Health Care Services); Daniel Oladel (VOA); Ryan Fehrman (Genesis Home); Darryl P. Hicklen (USA Veterans Help/Healing with CAARE, Inc.); Rodney Crooms (Lincoln Community Health Homeless Services Clinic); Patrice Nelson (Urban Ministries of Durham (UMD); Catherine Pliel (Durham Inter-faith Hospitality Network (IHN) and Angela Holmes (HSAC Subcommittee)

Subject: Call to Order/Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Vice-Chair Bowman who extended a welcome to everyone. The four goals of the HSAC were read aloud and members were asked to focus on them during a moment of silence.

Subject: Minutes Review & Approval – March 26, 2014

Motion by Committee Member Glenn seconded by Committee Member Harvin-Ravin to approve the minutes of March 26, 2014 was unanimously approved at 3:09 p.m.

Subject: Public Comment Period

No public comments were presented at this time.

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Subject: Income Subcommittee – Matt Schnars (Department of Community Development)

On behalf of Jason Wimmer, Chair of the Income Subcommittee, Project Manager Matt Schnars (Department of Community Development) asked if any member of the HSAC would be interested in co-chairing the subcommittee or if members would like to join. Expertise in the area of accessing non-cash benefits such as social security benefits, food stamps and Medicaid is needed for this Subcommittee.

Currently, the subcommittee does not have a standing date set for meetings. Interested persons are asked to contact Committee Member Wimmer.

Subject: Structure Subcommittee

Reverend Tuttle pointed out that the Structure Subcommittee has focused on making sure the HSAC is more representative of the entire community as reflected in HUD's interim rule. Five members were added to the HSAC last year and partners at the Council to End Homelessness (CEHD) have endorsed the HSAC as Durham's Continuum of Care (CoC).

Joint HSAC and CEHD meeting was held in late November 2013 where collaboration was increased.

Currently, the Structure Subcommittee plans to make sure there are policies and procedures in place as the August 31, 2014 interim rule deadline approaches. They also hope to have begun a regular schedule of meetings of the full CoC with the first meeting of 2014 being June 19th which would be in lieu of the HSAC's regular meeting on June 25, 2014.

Goals for this meeting would include:

- Compliance
- Recruitment
- Relationship building

Reverend Tuttle briefly reviewed a possible format of a draft agenda for the meeting of the full CoC. The Structure Subcommittee will hold their next meeting on Thursday, May 15, 2014.

Vice-Chair Bowman asked if the joint meeting of the CoC would be conducted in the manner it was last year with breakout sessions. Reverend Tuttle responded that for the sake of time they would not use the same format but rather have presentations from the Chairs of the Results Teams that would include follow-up information.

In reference to CEHD's presentation on the draft agenda for the joint meeting, Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden wanted to know who makes up the membership of the group. Also, if they represent non-profits who receive any money through the city she asked if it would be possible during their presentation they would include the composition of their board of directors.

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She added that it is important to the community that each committee that they work with is representative of the population that they serve.

Motion by Committee Member Cummings seconded by Committee Member Stephanie Williams that the Durham Continuum of Care will meet on Thursday, June 19, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. and this meeting would be in lieu of the HSAC's regular meeting scheduled for June 26, 2014 was unanimously approved at 3:20 p.m.

Subject: Point in Time Count & Homeless Housing Inventory

A power point presentation entitled "2014 Housing Inventory & Point in Time Count Results & Analysis" was given by HSAC Vice-Chair and Performance Management Subcommittee Chair Bowman. The presentation provided information such as:

- Important Reminders of the Point in Time Count
- Permanent Housing Bed Inventory & Number Housed, 2008-2014
- Emergency Shelter (ES) & Transitional Housing (TH) Inventory, 2008-2014
- Unmet Housing Need, 2008-2014
- Total Homeless PIT Count, 2008 – 2014
- Housing Inventory, PIT Sheltered & Unsheltered, Count, 2008-2014
- DRM's & TROSA's share of ES & TH Inventory & PIT as a Percentage, 2008-2014
- DRM & TROSA's share of Sheltered PIT Count, 2008-2014
- Housing Location Prior to Shelter Entrance, 2008-2013
- Exit Destinations, 2009-2013
- Concluding Thoughts

Vice-Chair Bowman explained that the two largest providers for beds for ES & TH are the Rescue Mission and TROSA. The Rescue Mission does not participate in CHIN and TROSA no longer reports in CHIN because the number of beds they used to have through the Triangle Engage Program dropped between 80 and 100 beds. Therefore, they no longer need to report. However, the number of beds increased by 150 for the Rescue Mission because of their new dormitory.

Also, Vice-Chair Bowman mentioned that the HSAC should encourage the Department of Social Services (DSS) to continue to work on an integrated coordinated intake assessment. This would allow an in-take person to be in contact with someone who may be on the verge of homelessness and they can connect them to the appropriate resources.

Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden requested that the power point presentation given by Vice-Chair Bowman be sent to the HSAC members. She also asked to receive the list of Emergency Shelter (ES) or Transitional Housing (TH) organizations and the number of people in each organization.

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Lloyd Schmeidler, Project Manager (Department of Community Development) stated Mr. Schnars would send the requested information to HSAC members.

Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden also had questions about whether the count has always been done in the same manner. She went on to share the story of a woman who started out in the TROSA program, and is now preparing to move into a Habitat for Humanity home soon. Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden commented that it would be good to cause more stories such as this to happen. She noted that it is good for an organization to assist with helping people to continuously move forward and not just stabilize them.

Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden mentioned that some of the recommendations presented by Vice-Chair Bowman on behalf of the Performance Management Subcommittee would also fit into what the Housing Task Force Subcommittee is doing under the Mayor's initiative to end poverty.

Committee Member Cummings pointed out that all of the numbers that have been discussed during the meeting do not include DHA numbers. He asked that the HSAC think about whether the model is following the same idea of transforming people to a higher level and he added that he is not sure if the model is performing the function that it needs to perform.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden's question about how the PIT count is conducted, Mr. Schmeidler stated that they are to count Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing beds that are dedicated for use by homeless people.

Committee Member McLean responded to Committee Member Cummings' concern regarding DHA. She commented that DHA has approximately 1800 households on the public housing program and a little over 2600 households on the ACV program. She added that some consider DHA as permanent housing and others feel that DHA should have people "move in, up and out." Committee Member McLean also explained that the Goley Point Development, which CoC funding is received, has a community and supportive services component tied to it where the goal is to have the people increase their skill set, receive their GED and move out if they choose to do so. However, Goley Point is considered permanent housing and therefore the residents are not required to leave the development. Committee Member McLean noted that there will be two homeownership units at Goley Point with the hopes of having a person move from being a renter to becoming a homeowner within the same development. After further comments from Committee Member McLean concerning DHA's "Community and Supportive Services" program and its process she wanted it noted that the Community and Supportive Services component is not tied to DHA's housing units. She added that as long as a person is eligible and abides by their lease they cannot be required to move out of the property.

Committee Member Bailey (Secretary), commented that maybe a different kind of data is needed to go with numerical data that is currently being collected. More specifically, report on the stories and experiences of people who have stayed at particular facilities.

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Additional discussion followed regarding the types of data contained in CHIN and what questions to ask to help in collecting data.

City Manager Bonfield thanked staff for the work they have done and he agreed that they have to start with the data first and then add the stories. He also commented that HSAC's goals to end homelessness are very definitive and the Committee has to think about how these goals relates to the data.

Vice-Chair John Bowman pointed out that the Performance Management Subcommittee is now processing the numbers and the best way to present them to the HSAC. They welcome comments and suggestions.

Committee Member McLean agreed there is a great need for permanent housing as well as a need for housing in general and that DHA has a lot of success stories. However, she added that in her opinion DHA's problem has been how to display their success stories better to the community.

It was noted by Committee Member Glenn that they all agree that Durham is a very welcoming community and there are very successful homeless programs in Durham. People are moving to Durham to take advantage of these programs. However, he feels that this will work against them in reducing the numbers below where they are now. He would like to see Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden work with her group to look at a national data base that would tell where the people are coming from. He stated Durham should receive some type of credit for providing services for folks who may come from other areas and Durham should not be penalized because their numbers are not dropping.

Committee Member Harvin-Ravin pointed out that because the Department of Veterans Affairs has to offer to veterans across the nation, the figures for veterans are not indicative of Durham. She agreed with Committee Member Glenn and added that people are moving here from other places to receive services.

Committee Member Pearlie Williams stated that she recently had the opportunity to visit with ten women who are in prison. Three of the women will be coming out in June and have expressed their interest in coming to Durham. Committee Member Pearlie Williams welcomes these women and added that it is exciting as well as a privilege to play a part in getting services and reconnecting these women back into society.

Subject: HSAC Meeting Attendance & Subcommittees

Mr. Schnars explained that clarity is needed for the City Clerk's Office as well as for the Committee concerning the Interlocal Agreement for the HSAC; specifically Subsection G on attendance under Section VII. Organization, that deals with a member missing fifty percent (50%) of regular Committee meetings and unexcused absences.

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Comments were received from Committee Member Stoppelkamp regarding the importance of attendance at the meetings.

It was suggested by Vice-Chair Bowman that the Executive Committee review the attendance policy and bring back an update to the full HSAC.

Subject: Follow Up Items

Follow up to questions received from the following HSAC members at the March 2014 meeting include:

Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden

Number of members on the Urban Ministries Board: **24**
Racial Demographics: **8 African American, 16 White**

Mayme Webb-Bledsoe

Number of youth in homeless housing system 14 to 24 years old at UMD: **68 persons (9% between July 1, 2013-March 31, 2014)**

Request for demographics on Durham Veterans

- See document entitled “*U.S. Census Bureau American Fact Finder – Veterans Status 2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*”

In response to Committee Member Stoppelkamp’s question as to what Results Teams will be presenting at the June 2014 meeting, Mr. Schnars stated that he would check the schedule and send this information to the Chairs.

Committee Member Glenn announced that his term would be expiring June 2014 and because this is his 2nd term he is not eligible to serve again. He added that he holds a faith-based position and therefore he encouraged any pastors or others interested to apply.

Darryl Hicklen (USA Veterans Help/Healing With CAARE, Inc.) stated that in reference to the follow-up question that was asked, the concern was more about the breakdown of male and female homeless veterans that are in system. He noted that this information is important going forward so they will know how to address the veteran population. He explained that an e-mail was sent out and he asked that staff share with the group what the e-mail stated.

Mr. Schnars stated that information can be collected from CHN as well as the Point In Time report which contains detailed breakdowns of veterans and all of the different sub-categories. At the next HSAC meeting staff will provide a presentation of all requested data regarding homeless veterans.

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Mr. Schmeidler noted that the Point in Time Count number of homeless veterans this year was 130; an increase from 93 last year.

Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden pointed out that on May 28, 2014, she, City Manager Bonfield and possibly Reginald Johnson are scheduled to attend a City Council Work Session on the budget. Therefore, they may not be at the HSAC meeting in May.

Subject: Adjourn

With no further business to come before the body, Vice-Chair Bowman adjourned the meeting at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Sheila Bullock, Office of the City Clerk