

DURHAM HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 28, 2018

3:00 p.m.

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

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

Committee Members Present: Chair Charita McCollers, MSW (Lincoln Community Health Center/Federal Health Care for the Homeless); Vice-Chair Ellecia Thompson, (Durham VA Medical Center); Secretary Jonathan T. Crooms (Durham County Veteran Services Office – *Proxy for Lois Harvin-Ravin*); Durham City Manager Thomas J. Bonfield; Reverend Dr. B. Angelo Burch, Sr. (Corporate Private Sector Representative for Durham County/Executive Director, African American Dance Ensemble); Heidi Carter, Durham County Commissioner; Alma Davis (Durham Crisis Response Center – *Proxy for Kathy Hodges*); Meredith Daye, Development Director (Durham Housing Authority); Janeen Gordon (Durham County Social Services – *proxy for County Commissioner Heidi Carter*); Captain Stan Harris (Durham County Sheriff's Department); Calleen Herbert (NCCU Office of Community Engagement & Service); Pam Karriker (Faith Community Representative for Durham County/Christian Assembly); Regina D. King (Faith Community Representative, City of Durham); Regina King (Faith Community Representative for the City of Durham); Melody Marshall, Homeless Liaison (Durham Public Schools); Mark-Anthony Middleton (Durham City Council – *proxy for Mayor Steve Schewel*); Alex Protzman (LIFE Skills Foundation); Mayor Steve Schewel; Tracy Stone-Dino (Alliance Behavioral Healthcare); Fred Stoppelkamp (Non-Profit Representative for Durham County); Ve'ga Swepson, Resource Specialist (Durham Technical Community College); Chris Toenes, MSW (Non-Profit Representative, City of Durham/TROSA); Tony Tosh (Prosperity Recovery Services/Private Sector, City of Durham); Captain Helen Tripp (Durham County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Angela Vick-Lewis (Formerly Homeless Representative, City of Durham).

Excused Committee Members: Xavier Cason (Durham Public School Board) and Angela Holmes (Former Homeless Representative for Durham County).

Committee Members Absent: Drew Cummings, Chief of Staff (Durham County Manager's Office); Lois Harvin-Ravin (Durham County Veteran Services; Kathy Hodges (Durham Crisis Response Center) and Mayme Webb-Bledsoe (Duke University).

Staff Present: Director Reginald Johnson, Assistant Director of Strategy Karen Lado, Project Manager Lloyd Schmeidler, Hanaleah Hoberman, Project Manager II, Senior Project Manager of Strategy Goal 1, Matthew Walker, Administrative Analyst Keshia Barnette and Senior Administrative Assistant Macio Carlton (County Clerk to the Board Office).

Also Present: Chip Dudney, Rikki Gardner, Housing for New Hope (HNH); Catherine Pliel Families Moving Forward (FMF); Carolyn E. Hinton, Harvey Hinton III (Healing with CAARE); A. Larry Partee' (Former Homeless); Harvey Hinton (Healing with CAARE), Joyce Caesar (WakeUpReachUp); Karen Barfield, St. Joseph Episcopal Church; Patricia Johnson, Durham Technical Community College; Sean Planchard, Wyrick Robbins Yates and Ponton and Joanne Pierce, Durham County Department of Public Health.

Subject: Call to Order and Welcome

Chair McCollers called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.; thanked everyone for attending and read the goals of the HSAC aloud.

Subject: Minutes Review and Approval

October 24, 2018 HSAC Meeting – **Motion** by Committee Member Burch, seconded by Committee Member King to approve the minutes. The motion was approved unanimously at 3:12 p.m.

Subject: Public Comment Period

A. Larry Partee' announced he would be sending the HSAC members information that was sent to the County Commissioners regarding an HSAC member who should not be on the committee.

Subject: Racial Equity

Joanne Pierce, Deputy Public Health Director, Durham County Department of Public Health, shared a presentation titled "*All About Equity and Why it Matters Most*" discussing the following: Establishing a Common Language, Objectives, "*A Night to Remember*" by Walter Lord, History Repeats Itself: Flight 1540, Racial Equity Strategies and Why are People Poor.

Ms. Pierce discussed an article about the Racial Perception of Homelessness in a Chicago based study on racial bias. She stated she would email the article to Chair McCollers to share with the HSAC members.

Committee Member Toenes asked how many organizations, committees, boards and bodies received racial equity training. Ms. Pierce responded the City and County were conducting racial equity trainings. She added meetings were being held to see how business could be conducted differently; changing narratives to change outcomes and providing data with how and why answers.

Committee Member Burch asked if any changes were made from the racial equity trainings. Ms. Pierce responded a quick change was not to be expected; however, some improvements were made due to the trainings. She added the data was still being analyzed. Committee Member Burch asked were the changes being monitored in Durham. Ms. Pierce responded yes, needed more people hired to do the trainings and support at all levels.

Chair McCollers mentioned Lloyd Schmeidler was analyzing the HSAC's race data. She added the data would be emailed to HSAC members and discussed at the January 2019 meeting.

Subject: Encampments Policy

Karen Lado, Assistant Director of Strategy, shared a presentation on the titled "*Encampments on Public Property*" discussing the following: Background, Qualifying Encampments, Responsible Parties, Guiding Principles, Encampment Response Approach, Prevention, Response and Mitigation.

Committee Member Stone-Dino asked were the increased encampments being located across the County or in specific areas. Ms. Lado responded she did not know, but would find out and respond. Committee Member Stone-Dino asked what prompted the creation of the policy. Ms. Lado responded the encampment on the Durham Freeway 147 and West Chapel Hill Street.

Committee Member Stoppelkamp asked if any other encampments in Durham were being reviewed. Lloyd Schmeidler, Project Manager, responded the encampment across Roxboro Street by First Baptist Church in downtown was recently cleared. He added George Habel, Durham Bulls Vice President, contacted him about the encampment under the Durham Freeway 147 and Blackwell Street overpass.

Committee Member Toenes asked for clarification of the development of implementing a site litigation plan to disincentivize rehabilitation of the area. Hanaleah Hoberman, Project Manager II, responded looking at the physical characteristics of the site such as trees and bushes.

Committee Member King asked how inclusive was the HSAC with all the agencies that could provide resources for homeless citizens. Ms. Lado responded the agencies listed in the policy provided an immediate role in responding to homeless citizens; adding a critical part would be to create a plan to address the individual homelessness. Committee Member King discussed concerns with the amount of money the County was spending on the RI International: Durham Recovery Response Center. She added the City and County needed to look at long-term care for mental health and substance abuse since RI allowed citizens to only stay one-week. Ms. Lado replied the HSAC was reaching into systems where citizens tend to frequent and address them at discharge to insure the citizens have a place to go when released.

Ms. Lado requested for the HSAC members to review the policy and send Ms. Hoberman any feedback. She added also respond with any feedback on how the policy could apply to encampments on private property.

Chair McCollers asked once the policy was approved would there be an Encampment Lead Agency (ELA) to take on the role. Ms. Lado responded yes, this was still under discussion but would be an expansion of the Street Outreach capacity. She added the plan was to bring the final policy to all bodies for approval in January 2019.

Subject: Announcements

Committee Member Tripp shared during the month of December the Durham County Community Paramedics Program and Durham County Public Health would sponsor flu vaccine clinics for homeless citizens who had no insurance or were underinsured. She added the clinics would be at Urban Ministries, Open Table Ministry and Durham Rescue Mission.

Chair McCollers shared the following announcements:

- Reminded everyone that housing Durham homeless was not the end of the road. She added after the homeless received housing, they would need more help and support with additional services.
- Partnership for a Healthy Durham had established a Racial Equity Subcommittee Group and was seeking people to join the group. She informed the HSAC members of the first meeting date and stated she would like members to join.
- Reminded HSAC members to read and review the *Glossary of Key Terms for Durham Continuum of Care* attached to the agenda.
- Healing with CAARE World AIDS Day Event would be celebrated on November 30, 2018 from 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. at 214 Broadway Street, Durham. She added HIV testing would be available at the event. Chair McCollers announced the new appointment of Dr. Harvey Hinton III, Assistant Executive Director, Healing with CAARE.
- 2019 Bull City Fresh Start Save-The-Dates. She added Bull City CANVAS was from November 5, 2018 – January 14, 2019; Bull City COUNTS on January 23, 2019 from 9 p.m. – 12 a.m.; Bull City CONNECTS on January 24, 2019 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Committee Member Burch shared Ruby Holmes was showing a documentary of Durham Homeless at the Carr Building on Duke East Campus on November 28, 2018 from 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Committee Member King added the documentary contained interviews with six ladies from Families Moving Forward.

Subject: Adjourn

Motion by Committee Member Commissioner Burch, seconded by Committee Member Tripp to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

With no further business to come before the body, Chair McCollers adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Macio Carlton
Senior Administrative Assistant
County Clerk to the Board Office

