



**Guilford County Continuum of Care Membership Meeting
June 10, 2021 – 9:30 AM– 11:00 AM
Minutes**

Present: Debbie Bailey, Chip Berry, Algernon Clark, Edith Clifford, Alisha Doulen, Tameraia Fewell, Tina Gray, Brian Hahne, Natalie Hairston, Annette Harris, Kelly Hedgecock, Steve Hess, Taylor Hicks, Albert Hodges, Jackie Hundt, Becky Hunt, Steve Key, Charolette Leach, Shannell Lucas, Heather Magill, Gia Mason, Brooks Ann McKinney, Michelle McNair, Cheri Neal, Chewan Moore, Dr. Pamela Palmer, Angela Parker, Rachael Pontillo, Shanna Reece, Kecia Robinson, Sarah Roethlinger, Jessica Schultz, Bernita Sims, Ciara Smith, Kentia Smith, Mark Sumerford, Beth Waters, Leroy Wilson

Guests: Obejanta Gray, Joy Shull

I. Welcome and Introductions – Dr. Palmer opened the meeting and asked for any guests or those attending for the first time to introduce themselves. Those who introduced themselves were: Shannell Lucas, Algernon Clark, and Gia Mason from Akachi Solutions LLC, Joy Shull and Obejanta Gray from EZ Portable Buildings of the Carolinas, and Jenna Antignano from Salvation Army High Point’s Center of Hope.

II. Review and Approve Minutes from the May 13, 2021 Membership Meeting – Dr. Palmer asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Shanna Reece made a motion to approve, and Beth Waters seconded the motion. There was no opposition, and the minutes were approved.

A. 2021 meeting dates (via Zoom meeting until further notice) – July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 11, and December 9, 2021

III. Collaborative Applicant Update – Cheri Neal and Brian Hahne

A. COVID-19 Homeless Response Task Force – Brian Hahne said that the Task Force has been meeting for 16 months and is in a process of transition. The number of clients at the quarantine hotel has reduced and the focus is on providing vaccinations at mobile and on-site clinics. The plan for the quarantine hotel is that it would only be used for a crisis in the future.

a. Shelter Update

b. Guilford County Isolation and Quarantine Hotel Site Update – Dr. Palmer asked if there has been any discussion of continuing to use the hotel as a point of entry because the hotel process has gone well. Brian responded that the hotel process has gone well, however the work of Coordinated Entry is not about shelter placement. The next steps are being discussed by the Task Force and the Coordinated Entry Committee. There was further discussion from Dr. Palmer, Brian, and Cheri.

Jackie Hundt suggested collaborating with Forsyth County because clients are going back and forth between the counties.

c. Vaccine Update

B. Crisis Response Team – Cheri Neal shared a recent situation in which 23 individuals were evicted from the United Youth Services transitional housing. Several agencies responded and assisted the families. Cheri suggested that the CoC create a Crisis Response Team to mobilize organizations and resources to respond to future crisis situations. She also suggested two separate teams for Greensboro and High Point. Guilford County is developing a crisis assessment tool to gather all information at one time. Dr. Palmer asked Cheri to make a recommendation to create a CoC Crisis Response Team. Bernita Sims made a motion to create a Crisis Response Team and Shannell Lucas from Akachi seconded the motion. There was no opposition. Cheri will take the lead in creating the Crisis Response Team.

C. Stronger Together Task Force – Dr. Pamela Palmer

a. County Partnership

b. Collaborative Applicant Transition – Cheri said that the meetings with the HUD Technical Assistance on the Collaborative Applicant transition are continuing.

D. Strategic Plan Update – No report

IV. HMIS Update – Brian Hahne

A. Committee Report – Dr. Stephen Sills was not present. Brian will be share more about the state level Governance Committee next month.

B. PIT Count Update – Jackie Hundt shared a chart with the historical context from the PIT Count information that was shared at the May Membership meeting. The 2021 numbers are trending downward. Cheri asked if the chart included a racial and ethnic breakdown. Jackie replied that this information was not included on the chart, but she will update this information starting with 2016's data. Cheri said she has not received the student data available from Guilford County School System. Albert Hodges said the CoC has done a lot of hard work improving these numbers, but the eviction moratorium could have an impact on future data. Cheri will share information and options about evictions at future meetings. Bernita asked about the number of people who are transitioning from shelter to permanent housing and Jackie responded that the exits to permanent housing will be shared during the strategic plan update in future meetings. Cheri said that the County is hoping to do a gaps analysis using data from the City of Greensboro and City of High Point in alignment with the CoC Strategic Plan.

V. Coordinated Entry Lead Update – Brian Hahne

A. Committee Report – Shanna Reece said that the Coordinated Entry model is not shelter placement or crisis response. Currently, Coordinated Entry has been modified because of

COVID-19, but it needs to get back to the original intent of diversion. She is concerned about the capacity of the Coordinated Entry staff if the CoC continues to use the hotel process because it is beyond their job descriptions. The committee has been discussing this and will make a recommendation for the future.

- B. Shanna said the HUD self-assessment went well, but there are some areas that need to be addressed. The committee will recommend policy changes, in particular to address transitional housing and to add street outreach. Albert Hodges asked to hear about the committee recommendations. Shanna suggested that the emergency providers come together for a meeting to address issues. Dr. Palmer replied that the COVID-19 Response Task Force would be the appropriate place to have this discussion.

VI. CoC Committee Reports

- A. Housing Resource Committee – Scott Jones – No update

- B. Governance Committee – Thanena Wilson – No update

- C. Advocacy and Public Relations Committee – Gattis Long was not present. Dr. Palmer said that the CoC needs to have a public communication sent out. There will be a Guilford County Commissioners meeting in July that the CoC has been invited to. Kentia Smith shared that PEH is hosting the annual Home Run for Homelessness baseball game on August 21. The baseball game will recognize the CoC and encouraged agencies to participate as sponsors for the event.

- D. Membership Committee – Bernita Sims welcomed representatives from Akachi Solutions for attending and participating in today's meeting. The organization was approved to be a CoC member at the May Membership meeting.

- E. Nominating Committee – Thanena Wilson – No update

- F. Strategic Planning Committee – Dr. Pamela Palmer – Discussed above

- G. HMIS/Data Committee – Dr. Stephen Sills – No update

- H. System Performance and Evaluation Committee – Thanena Wilson was not present. Brian said that the HUD NOFO season will be coming soon. He thanked the funded agencies for approving their grant information for the Grant Inventory Worksheet and that Cheri will send any changes on the worksheet to HUD.

- I. Coordinated Entry – Shanna Reece – Discussed above

- J. Appeals Committee – as Needed

- K. Executive Committee – Dr. Pamela Palmer – Announcement of Officers – The Board held a called meeting on June 9 to vote on the officers. The officers that were voted and approved were Dr. Palmer as the Chair, Bernita Sims as the Chair-Elect, and Beth Waters as the Secretary. Dr. Palmer shared that Bernita would assume the role of chairs of the Governance Committee and the Nominating Committee. Thanena Wilson will remain as the chair of the SPE Committee. Shanna will remain as a chair of the Coordinated Entry Committee for three more months and the Executive Committee is actively recruiting for a new committee chair.

- L. Youth Committee – Sarah Roethlinger – No update

VII. Membership Announcements

VIII. Old Business / New Business

- A. Discussion of Membership Meeting Format Going Forward – There was a discussion about whether the meetings should be held virtually, in-person, or hybrid. Cheri said that the County will host an in-person meet and greet event for the CoC agencies in the future. Dr. Palmer said the meetings will continue to meet virtually for the foreseeable future, but we will try to set up an in-person meeting in the fall with a virtual option available.
- B. Michelle McNair shared that Alisha Doulen will be leaving the City of High Point and that today is Alisha’s last Membership meeting.

IX. 11:00 AM – Adjourn.

Next CoC Membership Meeting on July 8, 2021 via Zoom