



Guilford County Continuum of Care Membership Meeting

Minutes

06.08.23

Attending: Chair Bernita Sims, Liz Alverson, Shana Ayscue, Laura Baker, Janet Blue, Will Bohaboy, Brad Bowers, Caitlin Bowers, Debora Braden, Helen Cain, Corinth Camp, Tom Campbell, Edith Clifford, Lisa Cowan-Dudley, Katherine Faulkner, Tameria Fewell, Denise Fulmore, Tina Gray, Debra Harris-Richardson, Kelly Hedgecock, Councilwoman Sharon Hightower, Albert Hodges, Donna Hodges, Emma Holland, Becky Hunt, Robbielene Lawson, Stefanie Ledwell, Jane McDaniel, Brooks Ann McKinney, Traci McLemore, Michelle McNair, Dr. Pamela Palmer, Angela Parker, Drennan Paylor, Sophie Probert, Kenyatta Richardson-Jennings, Quiotti Ratliff, Kecia Robinson, Sarah Roethlinger, Ryan Ross, Megan Scales, Kristina Singleton, Ciara Smith, Erin Stratford-Owens, Mark Sumerford, April Thompson, Erin Williams, Leroy Wilson, Claretta Witherspoon

Also Attending:

Sherea Burnett, Jessica Camire, Wilton Donnell, Jennifer Hurdle, Laura Zbehlik

This was the regular scheduled monthly meeting of the CoC Membership body. The meeting was held virtually via the Zoom platform.

I. Welcome and Introduction - Chair Bernita Sims

(Acknowledgement of any guests)

The meeting was officially called to order by Chair Sims at 9:35am. A welcome was given as well as an opportunity for any guests to be acknowledged.

Katherine Faulkner, the new Partners Ending Homelessness (PEH) Housing Support Specialist introduced herself as did Stefanie Ledwell of the Center For Housing and Community Studies with UNC-G, who attended on behalf of Renee Norris.

II. Review and Approve Minutes – Chair Bernita Sims

A. Review Minutes of Meeting of 05.11.23

B. 2023 Meeting Dates (via Zoom until further notice)

Jul 13; Aug 10; Sep 14; Oct 12; Nov 9; Dec 14

The minutes were acknowledged as having been sent out electronically and

received. A motion was made by Michelle McNair to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was properly seconded. The motion, after a verbal vote, was approved without issue.

III. CoC Funding and Resource Development – Cheri Neal

A. HUD NOFO (upcoming RFA)

B. State Emergency Solutions Grant

[CARept06.05.23.pdf](#)

The Collaborative Applicant report was read by Wilton Donnell. Note was made that the Letters of Intent are due June 9, 2023; only I had been received at this point. Any questions should be submitted through infoCoC@guilfordcountync.gov. Annual membership applications forms (Conflict of Interest and Membership forms) due date is July 1. It was also discussed that the Letters of Intent (LOI) for the State ESG are due June 9. They, or any questions should be emailed to the infoCoC address. There was mention of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding and a summary of the process. Approved agencies (around \$1.1MM funding approved by the Guilford County Board of Commissioners) are working with the county to complete contracts. One agency was approved for \$40,000 but will not accept the funds. A look is being given to share those funds and utilize them in a different way. Efforts are still ongoing in pursuing the original \$9MM ask. Help was asked of CoC agencies to engage their county commissioners to advocate for the CoC and/or participate in the Homelessness Task Force meetings. There were 2 asks or matters for consideration:

Email tree (advocacy/issues)

Information on funding results/recipients

IV. Municipal Partners and Housing Authorities

A. City of Greensboro (Liz Alverson)

1. Home ARP Funding/Other Funding

Scores should be getting finalized for those who applied for Homelessness Prevention RFP. Nussbaum fund recipients are being contacted. There are grant funds available for those dealing with aids diagnoses and homelessness situations. A Request for Proposal (RFP) is to be issued. The city of Greensboro Low-Income Homeowner Assistance Program applications are out through June 15. They are based on 2022 city tax payments and differences in tax payments for 2021 and 2022. Work is being considered on White Flag planning. The Regency Inn is transferring ownership to Step Up on Second and will not be a resource for the coming year. There will be forthcoming updates on summer cooling stations.

<https://www.greensboro-nc.gov/departments/housing-neighborhood-development/housing-services/low-income-homeowner-assistance-program>

B. Greensboro Housing Authority (Tameria Fewell)

Of the 40 EHB vouchers issued, 38 have been leased and 11 are still searching for housing. Any unused vouchers will be moved to other areas within GHA before they expire. Agencies that received vouchers should consider the Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs). The GHA waiting list for HCPV vouchers is now closed but there are project-based vouchers available for those aged 62-above.

C. City of High Point (Michelle McNair)

1. Home ARP/Other Funding

The funding cycle for city and CDBG funds has taken place and agencies (24) have been selected. The city ARPA funding applications have been submitted but no decisions have been made yet. The Home ARP funds process has not yet begun. There are discussions taking place about pan-handling. Homeless camps need to be addressed. There is a pending housing project involving Wynnefield properties for approximately 60 multi-family units. The High Point Salvation Army will be hosting a cooling station from 8am-5pm. There were discussions about issues on available beds and family situations. Reimbursements are being made to Open Door Ministries and West End Ministries for hosting winter shelters. Help is being sought for additional funding for upcoming winter shelter sites.

D. High Point Housing Authority

The old Daniel Brooks housing is being torn down for Legacy Ridge and a site for future construction. There were updates about upcoming events. Updates on the Day Center will come at the meeting next month.

Ryan Ross needs to be added for next month's agenda

E. Guilford County

1. UNCG CHCS Eviction Mediation Program (Data) – Renee Norris

[evicmedrept06.08.23.docx](#)

2. Legal Aid of NC – Janet McAuley-Blue)

Collaboration is in place with UNC-G. There are sites in Greensboro on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and in High Point on Mondays and Thursdays. There has been an increase in the number of walk-ins. In May, 191 tenants were served. There were 55 lance clients, 90 courthouse clients, and 46 walk-ins. 59% of tenants who attended court on the days Legal Aid was present were not evicted.

It was asked to include space for shelter reporting/updates

3. Tenant Leadership Academy – Stefanie Ledwell

There were 13 participants in sessions. Transportation is being offered.

- V. **Collaborative Applicant – Cheri Neal**
 - A. **HUD Technical Assistance**
 - 1. **Strategic Plan**
 - 2. **Coordinated Entry TA**
 - B. **Infectious Disease Homeless Response Taskforce (Sherea)**
 - C. **MOU Review/Vote**
 - 1. **Collaborative Applicant**
 - 2. **Coordinated Entry**
 - 3. **HMIS**

Refer to Collaborative Applicant report in item III

- VI. **HMIS Lead– PEH (Erin Stratford-Owens)**
 - A. **HMIS Annual Evaluation Status Update**
[HMISRpt060523.docx](#)
 - B. **Monthly HMIS Data Report**
There was an expressed concern for how are people exiting the system? There is concern about data that is reported as not collected. There are reconsiderations in the process of filling HMIS positions. First hire will be HMIS Reporting Specialist; there will also be HMIS Admin Lead and then an HMIS Training Specialist. There is a new HMIS Housing Support Specialist, Katherine Faulkner. Final interviews for an Executive Director are upcoming. Consideration is being given to a QR code for marketing purposes.

- VII. **Coordinated Entry Lead – PEH (Erin Stratford-Owens)**
 - A. **CE Annual Evaluation Status Update**
 - B. **Monthly CE Data Report**
[Guilford CoC Committee Report Form05.2023.docx](#)
There was discussion about a survey; what would it look like and how would agencies engage? The survey would involve a 24-hour answering service involving agencies.

- VIII. **Stronger Together Task Force – Dr. Pamela Palmer**
 - A. **Homeless Shelters Meeting – TBD**
Touched on earlier in the meeting
 - B. **CoC Press Conference**
Looks are being given to a more global presentation; can someone lead This effort as Chair of the Advocacy and Public Relations Committee?
 - C. **Inter-Local Committee**
Continuing to meet and recognition/appreciation was given to Victor Isler, staff from the cities of Greensboro and High Point and Guilford County, and local elected officials for their collaborative support
 - D. **Guilford County Homelessness Task Force**
Acknowledgement earlier in the meeting around ARP funding and

that this Task Force was established to enhance the CoC system and bring resources to the table.

IX. CoC Committee Reports

There was an invitation extended to get members involved as a Chair or a committee member

- A. Membership Committee – Beth Waters (quarterly – 8/10/23)**
[NewMembershipRpt060523.docx](#)
No report; vote to come in August meeting.
- B. Nominating Committee – No Report Submitted**
- C. Governance Committee – Chair Bernita Sims**
A meeting is forthcoming; there is hope for a presentation in July
- D. Strategic Planning Committee – Dr. Pamela Palmer**
Refer to the Collaborative Applicant report in item III
- E. Advocacy and Public Relations Committee – Vacant (needs chair)**
- F. Systems Performance and Evaluation Committee – Vacant (needs chair)**
A committee meeting is forthcoming
- G. Appeals Committee – As Needed**
- H. Youth Committee – Sarah Roethlinger**
A youth street outreach event is being planned and help was requested
- I. Housing Resource Committee – Scott Jones (No Report Submitted)**
- J. Executive Committee – Chair Bernita Sims**
The committee met Monday. MOUs were received and recommendations are forthcoming. It was noted that metrics should be incorporated for HMIS and Coordinated Entry. A recommendation emerged that the lifting of Covid restrictions from 2019-20 addendums, based on federal direction, had been adopted at the meeting. A motion was made to adopt the recommendation from the Executive Committee to go back to policies prior to Covid. There was no question or discussion presented. A vote was held with verbal affirmation. The motion passed unanimously without issue and so the body will move to pre-Covid policies/procedures.

X. Membership Announcements (please see calendar on CoC website)

- A. Renewal Applications/Forms Process(es)- May 1
- B. Membership Portal (Sherea/Jennifer)

<https://www.guilfordcountync.gov/our-county/human-services/continuum-of-care/coc-member-portal>

XI. Old Business/New Business

- A. Membership Process – update organization profiles
<https://www.guilfordcountync.gov/our-county/human-services/continuum-of-care/membership>

Mention was made of a comprehensive plan survey from Guilford County. The link was placed into the chat. There was also discussion on looking at a half-day

meeting to further engage with CoC issues/planners and shelters in an in-person event.

<https://www.guilfordcountync.gov/our-county/planning-development/planning-zoning/long-range-plans/guilford-county-comprehensive-plan>

XI. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:15am.