



Guilford County Continuum of Care Membership Meeting

Minutes

09.14.23

Attending: Chair Bernita Sims, Liz Alverson, Debbie Bailey, Laura Baker, Will Bohaboy, Caitlin Bowers, Sherea Burnett, Helen Cain, Corinth Camp, Edith Clifford, Melissa Coley, Lisa Cowan-Dudley, Jasmine Crosby, Bennita Curtain, Meredith Daye, Tiffany Dumas, Alex Dummit, Tameria Fewell, Shonta Fleming, Denise Fulmore, Genesis Gardner, Lori Gerlach, Crystal Gorham, Annette Harris, Teresa Hinkle, Donna Hodges, F. Hopkins, Becky Hunt, Robbielene Lawhorn, Charolette Leach, Jane McDaniel, Brooks Ann McKinney, Michelle McNair, Justine Moton, Dewey Mullis, Cheri Neal, Dr. Pamela Palmer, Drennan Paylor, Ann Pinto, Sophie Probert, Kecia Robinson, Sarah Roethlinger, Kristina Singleton, Ciara Smith, Mark Springfield, Jimmy Story, Erin Stratford-Owens, Mark Sumerford, Beth Waters, Leroy Wilson, Andrew Young

Also Attending:

Jessica Camire, Wilton Donnell, Rebecca Pfeiffer, Laura Zbehlik

This was the regular scheduled monthly meeting of the Continuum of Care (CoC) Membership. The meeting was held virtually through the Zoom platform.

I. Welcome and Introduction - Chair Bernita Sims

(Acknowledgement of any guests)

The meeting officially began at 9:36am. There was an official welcome and greetings with an opportunity for any guests to acknowledge themselves. There were no guests identified.

II. Review and Approve Minutes – Chair Bernita Sims

A. Review Minutes of Meeting of 08.10.23

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

Oct 12; Nov 9; Dec 14

The minutes from the August 10 Membership meeting were acknowledged as having been sent and received. An ask was made to see if there were any questions or corrections. The City of Greensboro asked about no mention of

a presentation in that meeting, but it was noted that because of the action items that needed attention in that meeting, no presentation was made. A motion was made by Liz Alverson to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded, and the motion passed without objection.

III. Action Items

A. NOFO Funding – Cheri Neal

There was an explanation of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) process. A review of the spreadsheet, which had been recommended by the Systems and Performance and Evaluation Committee (SPEC) was made. The threshold for Tier 1 projects (necessary projects per HUD that have supportive data) was \$2.2MM. To be eligible for funding, an agency must be a part of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Coordinated Entry. Based on recommendations by SPEC, the motion was to approve the funding requests as shown. The motion was seconded. After question, the vote took place using verbal affirmation/rejection. There was no objection, so the motion passed.

B. Nomination(s) Discussion -Sarah Roethlinger

Interim Nominating Committee Chair Sarah Roethlinger presented first the candidates for Membership with the CoC Board. Erin Stratford-Owens was presented as a Business Representative on the Board and would serve a 3-year term; she would be relinquishing her current role as Interim Chief Executive Officer of Partners Ending Homelessness on September 18. In addition, Quiotti Ratliff was presented to officially serve on the Board for a 2-year term as she had served in an unofficial capacity for 1 year. The motion to recommend these candidates for CoC Board spots came from the Nominating Committee; the motion was seconded. After question, the motion passed without objection. Next, a motion was to approve the extensions of Shanna Reece and Sarah Roethlinger for 3-year terms (as their current terms had expired) to membership on the CoC Board, based on the specific functions/populations served by their agencies, which are required by HUD, and, an extension for Charolette Leach to serve an additional 1-year term on the CoC Board. This motion again was recommended by the Nominating Committee. The motion was seconded, and after question, the motion passed without objection. There was discussion on the need (per HUD requirements) for a person with lived experience to serve on the CoC Board. The slate of officers for 2023-24 was mentioned, which had been recommended by the Nominating Committee. Chair Sims motioned for the appointment Renee Norris as Chair of SPEC, and the motion was seconded. After question and vote, the motion was approved without objection. There arose discussion about the need for a Chair for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee; additional discussion was on a public housing association representative on the Housing Committee, and a request for help with the Advocacy and Public Relations Committee. There was also discussion of a presentation before the Greensboro City Council later on today.

- IV. CoC Funding and Resource Development – Cheri Neal**
 - A. HUD NOFO (upcoming RFA)**
 - B. State Emergency Solutions Grant**

- IV. Municipal Partners and Housing Authorities**

- A. City of Greensboro – Liz Alverson**

HOPWA grant services are pending and the applications are for services in Guilford, Randolph, and Rockingham counties. Request for Proposals (RFPs) are coming out soon. A Request for Proposal (RFP) is being launched for the Doorway Project, which was at Pomona Park last year. November 1 is the start date. Like last year, applications have to be submitted through paper PDFs. The documents will be posted. Plans that are being more inclusive (municipalities) are incorporated in White Flag planning. This should make things less confusing for the community. The temperature threshold is to be 32 degrees across each municipality to trigger White Flag. There should be another meeting to solidify the process. There was an ask for CoC endorsement. There is a shortage of 45-50 beds lost from the Regency transition and there are no Covid funds available anymore. Discussion arose on the issue that included CoC leverage and support.

- B. Greensboro Housing Authority – Crystal Gorham**

Greensboro Housing Authority (GHA) staff are conducting educational workshops, recertifications, and home visits, and other educational programs.

- C. City of High Point – Michelle McNair**

- 1. Shelters Discussion**

Monthly meetings with the area shelters are occurring. There is no update on the Day Center; the city is working with Open Door Ministries. The city did not get the low-income housing tax credit grant. Looks are being taken at other funding for affordable housing. There has been no announcement yet regarding American Rescue Plan funds but applications are in. There have been bi-weekly meetings around panhandling. A pilot program to discourage the act is starting; there is some consideration around signage. Looks are being made at dealing with homeless camps but with consideration of a lack of shelter and services. Oak Street Health has a cooling station; a meeting is to take place to consider other opportunities. The High Point Housing Authority has signed on 38 new landlords to accept Section 8 vouchers.

- D. Open Door Ministries (Day Center) – Ryan Ross**

- E. Guilford County**

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

- 2. Legal Aid of NC – Holly/Janet/Destiney)**

No Report

- V. Collaborative Applicant – Cheri Neal**

- A. HUD Technical Assistance**

- 1. Strategic Plan (needs a vote no later than November 2023)**

2. Coordinated Entry TA

Work is being done on TA escalation. A representative from the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness is providing help.

C. Infectious Disease Homeless Response Taskforce (Sherea)

A meeting is to be held next week

C. Reallocation Policy

[NC-504 Reallocation Policy Final Version 7.26.23.docx](#)

D. Upcoming Meetings –

DEI/PWLE Committee Meeting: August 24, 2023 1-2pm via Teams

May need to separate; next meeting September 21 at 1pm. There was a discussion about the need for a Chair and whom to include from the August 24 meeting

PIT Count Planning Meeting: August 30, 2023 10-11am via Teams

The next meeting is to be held September 27. The county is helping to develop an app for easier accessibility

VI. HMIS Lead Update– PEH (Erin Stratford-Owens)

A. HMIS Annual Evaluation Status Update

B. Monthly HMIS Data Report

[HMIS Lead & CE Lead Report - August 2023.pptx](#)

VII. Coordinated Entry Lead Update – PEH (Erin Stratford-Owens)

A. CE Annual Evaluation Status Update

B. Monthly CE Data Report

[coordEntryreptsep2023.docx](#)

Waitlist was cleaned up to match inactive list and changed numbers dramatically. Some clients still being served through Winter Shelter. Collaboration with the Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness is underway to correct the information.

VIII. Stronger Together Task Force – Dr. Pamela Palmer

A. Homeless Shelters Meeting - TBD

B. CoC Press Conference

C. Inter-Local Committee

D. Guilford County Homelessness Task Force

Note that the official name of the Inter-Local Committee is the Inter-Local Homeless and Housing Committee and there was discussion of its origin/function as well as the Homelessness Task Force. It was noted that the current Strategic Plan expires in December 2023, but it was extended to March 2024. Collaborative work is being done with the Collaborative Applicant, a consulting firm, and volunteers to help craft a new plan. A Zoom meeting is to be held to work on that process. From the Board recommendation to extend the Strategic Plan, it was seconded. After question and vote, the motion passed without objection. It was mentioned for work to be done, and not held up, waiting on approval for TA help.

IX. CoC Committee Reports

- A. Membership Committee – Sarah Roethlinger**
- B. Nominating Committee – Sarah Roethlinger**
- C. Governance Committee – Chair Bernita Sims**
- D. Strategic Planning Committee – Dr. Pamela Palmer**
- E. Advocacy and Public Relations Committee – Vacant (needs chair)**
- F. Systems Performance and Evaluation Committee – Vacant (needs chair)**
- G. Appeals Committee – As Needed**
- H. Youth Committee – Sarah Roethlinger (No Report Submitted)**
- I. Housing Resource Committee – Scott Jones (No Report Submitted)**
Chair is vacant; it was mentioned that Laura Baker was interested in this position.
- J. Executive Committee – Chair Bernita Sims**

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

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

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

- C. Housing Summit**
[Save the Date! GHC 2023 Housing Summit.pdf](#)

XI. Old Business/New Business

- A. Membership Process – update organization profiles
<https://www.guilfordcountync.gov/our-county/human-services/continuum-of-care/membership>
- B. Discussion – CoC Engagement Meeting (1/2 day session)
- C. Homeless Services Workforce Survey (see p.3)

It was reinforced that all Board members should be serving on a committee, or as a Chair of a committee. A list of committees and the Chairs is to be sent out. For the next Executive Committee meeting, there should be updates on committee listings in place. It was also asked that membership serve in some capacity somewhere. A request for a seminar on homelessness was made that included outside voices and could be held off-site in the early spring.

XI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:16am.

Dear CoC Leader/Representative,

I'm writing with an invitation. The National Alliance to End Homelessness is seeking to promote a better understanding of the strengths and challenges of the homeless services workforce. As a part of this work, we created a survey, which can be found here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfDB7lu7Jju9eIC8_d1V7JQAPJhLJwv_xPS9-ODijrdylrXYA/viewform?usp=sf_link.

We'd like you to participate in the survey and broadly share it with other people working in homeless services (including both frontline workers and office personnel). We anticipate that the results of the survey will be published this fall.

We greatly appreciate your input and contributions to this process!

Joy Moses

Homelessness Research Institute (HRI)

National Alliance to End Homelessness