



**Guilford County Continuum of Care Membership Meeting**

**Minutes**

**06.13.24**

**Attending:** Chair Bernita Sims, Liz Alverson, Conor Baker, Sophia Bernard, Alicia Blanks, Janet Blue, Sherea Burnett, Corinth Camp, Tom Campbell, Edith Clifford, Danielle Cole, MaKayla Cooke, Jasmine Crosby, Meredith Daye, Cassie Dean, Amanda Douglas, Dr. LaKisha Ellison, Tamera Fewell, FFord, Whitney Fox, Catrice Frost, Genesis Gardner, Annette Harris, Deb Harris-Richardson, Teresa Hinkle, Laila Hosseinzadeh, Becky Hunt, Pamela Ingram, Kenyatta Jennings-Richardson, Angela Jimenez, April Jones, Stefanie Ledwell, Yolanda Lesane, Caroline Manson, Brooks Ann McKinney, Michelle McNair, Amy Modlin, Chewan Moore, Tonya Morehead, Cheri Neal, Renee Norris, Dr. Pamela Palmer, Drennan Paylor, Andrew Prochet, Sarah Roethlinger, LaToyha Sapp, Megan Scales, Ciara Smith, Erin Stratford-Owens, Mark Sumerford, Taylor Williams, Leroy Wilson

**Also Attending:**

Guilford County: Wilton Donnell (Recorder), Maria Lyons-Legrande, Jessica Polzin, Rykiell Turner; Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH): Charlesy Nance, Maya Saxena

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

**I. Welcome and Introduction - Chair Bernita Sims**

(Acknowledgement of any guests)

The meeting was officially called to order by Chair Bernita Sims at 9:30am. A welcome and greetings were extended as well as an opportunity for any guests to introduce themselves. Those that introduced themselves were: Conor Baker (Guilford County Emergency Management); Danielle Cole (Triad Adult and Pediatric Medicine); Amy Modlin (Trillium); Tonya Morehead (Greensboro Urban Ministry); and Alicia Price-Blanks (The Servant Center).

## II. Review and Approve Minutes – Chair Bernita Sims

### A. Review Minutes of Meeting of 05.09.24

### B. 2024 Meeting Dates (via Zoom until further notice)

**Jul 11; Aug 8; Sep 12; Oct 10; Nov14; Dec 12**

The minutes from the May 9 meeting were acknowledged as having been sent and received. Liz Alverson noted a correction needed to be made in item VII-C (\$3,000 and not \$3.00). Erin Stratford-Owens noted that, in the current agenda item III-B, Alicia Price Banks, should be Alicia Price-Blanks.

Tom Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted with the noted correction to be made. The motion was seconded. After question and voice vote, the motion was approved without objection.

## III. Action Items

### A. New Members - N/A

### B. New Committee (s/b CoC Board) Members – Erin Stratford-Owens

1. Alicia Price Blanks (The Servant Center) – Faith-Based Org.
2. Danielle Cole (Triad Adult & Pediatric Medicine) – DSP (chg'd\*)
3. Patrick Davis (Heroes Center) – Other DSP
4. Whitney Fox (Fox Valley Farms) – Lived Exp.
5. Michael Gibeley (Legal Aid) – Other DSP
6. Lt. Brian Hilliard (HPPD Special Victims Unit) – EMS/First Resp.
7. Angela Jimenez (High Point Housing Authority) – Lived Exp.
8. Tonya Morehead (Greensboro Urban Ministry) – Fam. w/Children
9. Erin Williams (Behavioral Health Response Team) - Advocate
10. Erin Stratford-Owens (Nonprofit Geek Consulting) – CoC Chair

**\* (Denotes change from Business Rep in 6/3/24 meeting)**

Nominations Chair Erin Stratford-Owens expressed appreciation for the service rendered and acknowledgement of the outgoing CoC Board members: Brian Evans, Charolette Leach, Heather Magill, Dr. Pamela Palmer, Shanna Reece, Mark Sumerford, and Beth Waters. The individuals shown above (Price-Blanks, Cole, Davis, Fox, Gibeley, Hilliard, Jimenez, Morehead, Williams, Stratford-Owens) were recommended for inclusion on the CoC Board for 2024-25 by Chair Stratford-Owens.

With the recommendation for membership of the noted individuals onto the CoC Board by the Nominating Committee, no second was needed. After question and voice vote, the recommendation was approved without objection.

- C. **New Committee Members - Systems Performance and Evaluation Committee (SPEC) – Renee Norris**
  - 1. **Megan Scales (City of High Point)**
  - 2. **Dr. LaKisha Ellison (Guilford County Sherriff’s Office)**

Systems and Performance Evaluation Committee (SPEC) Chair Renee Norris recommended Megan Scales and Dr. LaKisha Ellison for membership onto SPEC. **With the recommendation from Committee (SPEC), Megan Scales and Dr. LaKisha Elllison were presented for membership onto SPEC. Coming from Committee, no second was needed. After question and voice vote, the recommendation was approved without objection.**
- D. **SPEC Recommendation for NC ESG Funding (\$40,000)**

Chair Norris presented a recommendation for the Street Outreach funds of \$40,000 previously allocated to Partners Ending Homelessness (PEH) and returned be re-allocated to Tiny House.

**The recommendation of a reallocation of \$40,000 Street Outreach funds to Tiny House originally given to PEH was presented. After question and voice vote, the recommendation was approved without objection.**

**Special Presentations**

- 1. **CHS Update – Maya Saxena/Charlesy Nance**

[CoC Updates - June 2024rev.pptx](#)

Maya Saxena and Charlesy Nance used the attached Power Point to discuss the work that CSH has been doing. CSH spoke with 25-30 agencies while they were here. CSH has been building out mini-Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOTs) SWOTs to highlight priority areas. Feedback will be shared. The launch date for the funding survey is set to be June 24, with a closing date of July 22. Plans are in place for 2 sessions for office hours; July 10 and July 22; details will be shared. A definitions page is to be added to the Guilford County Resources map that Nhaomie Dhuyon has been working on that highlight member agencies and pertinent information. It was emphasized that the map is a tool and not a database.

**IV. HMIS Lead – PEH - Sherea Burnett**

[2024.05 - Guilford County CoC HMIS Lead & CE Lead Report \(May 2024 Data\).pdf](#)

The above Power Point was used to cover the Homeless Management Information System updates. The data completion/accuracy rate was 83.2%.

- A. **HMIS Annual Evaluation Status Update**

Sophie Probert and Alexis Hobson are helping Laura Baker on the Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) Annual Evaluation.

**B. Monthly HMIS Data Report**

**C. HMIS Committee Report – Vacant**

Beth Waters has stepped down as the Chair of the HMIS Committee. Anyone that has any interest in chairing the committee should reach out to Nomination Chair Erin Stratford-Owens or CoC Chair Sims.

Preliminary data from the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count was shared. The initial numbers did not include that from shelters not using HMIS. Those numbers have been added and are awaiting HUD feedback. Work is being done on HMIS policies and procedures.

**V. Coordinated Entry Lead – PEH - Sherea Burnett**

[2024.05 - Guilford County CoC HMIS Lead & CE Lead Report \(May 2024 Data\).pdf](#)

Collaborative efforts are underway by Partners Ending Homelessness (PEH) and Cloudburst around Coordinated Entry. HUD is no longer encouraging the use of the Vulnerability Index- Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) as an Assessment tool. A new assessment tool has been in use since June 1. More people have been assessed than housed due to a lack of housing. Over 30 individuals outside of PEH can do assessments. There was some discussion around clarifying acronyms and systems.

**A. CE Annual Evaluation Status Update**

The Coordinated Entry Committee is handling the Annual Evaluation. Laura Baker is the Committee Chair, but evaluation efforts are being led by Brooks Ann McKinney

**B. Monthly CE Data Report**

**C. Updates – Access Points**

No updated sites due to staffing limitations.

**D. Coordinated Entry Committee Report – Laura Baker**

No report

**VI. CoC Funding and Resource Development – Cheri Neal**

**A. HUD Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)**

Meetings with current grantees that receive funding are taking place. The Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW) has not yet been released; it is expected to be released in mid to late July. All were asked to get prepared. There is a meeting scheduled for June 25 with grantees; everyone was requested to have representation. The NOFO is going to a 2-year cycle but there are no details as of yet. All agencies were asked to prepare 1- and 2-year budgets. Partnerships with healthcare providers were emphasized as an important opportunity; no points have been received in that area; 14 points have been lost for 2 years as a result. Domestic Violence and Youth are other vital areas of opportunities.

**B. NC Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)**

The NC state office has released the grant today; the local ESG Requests For Application (RFA) will be released today. As of today, 7 Letters of Intent (LOIs) have been received. A slight increase has been received; approximately \$278,000 is the total available. The Grants 101 training was recorded. There are 3 training dates that agencies intending to apply for this funding need to attend which are being publicized. There were informational sessions held in April and May around the ESG. A need for collaborative partnerships was emphasized. There was some discussion around pursuing funding opportunities. It was suggested to add an item C to the agenda moving forward to address funding opportunities.

**VII. Municipal Partners and Housing Authorities**

**A. Greensboro Housing Authority - Tameria Fewell**

[GHAREptJun2024.docx](#)

The above document was used to present the Greensboro Housing Authority (GHA) report.

**B. High Point Housing Authority - Angela Jimenez**

All of the eligible vouchers have been leased/issued. The hope is for Section 8 users to be transitioned into the private market.

**C. City of Greensboro - Liz Alverson**

[CoCMembReptForm.LizUpdate.061324.pdf](#)

The above document was used to cover the city of Greensboro presentation. There was a record number of applicants for the Request for Proposal (RFP). Cheri Neal of the Collaborative Applicant added that area shelters were reached out to in an effort to help with cooling stations; present agencies were asked to help with the situation. Communications are being planned to help notify impacted citizens of resources. Efforts are underway to get a county-wide plan but there has been no agreement on a temperature point. Attendees were advised to read upon the Johnson vs. Grants Pass situation. Subrecipient payments and requisition dates were noted (please see the attachment).

**D. City of High Point - Michelle McNair**

There are still plans to utilize American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds for utility grants; applications are expected to go out in July. The CDBG grant recommendations are to go before the city council; it is possible contracts may be in place in July.

**1. Shelters Discussion**

Monthly meetings with area shelters are ongoing.

**E. Open Door Ministries (Day Center) – Michelle McNair**

A proposal was submitted to Guilford County for the Evergreen Building and feedback is anticipated. Follow up is to come. High Point was recognized as a recipient of the 2024 All-American City award.

**F. Guilford County**

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

There were 65 new clients, 26 of whom were Eviction Diversion cases. There were 12 clients for mediation clinics; 27 housing navigation (13 of which were homeless) clients. Of the clients, 74% were female; 5 were disabled (of which 3 were homeless); and 1 veteran. There was a number of homeowners looking for resources as they face foreclosure. The Landlord Outreach person was able to help add 2 properties as immediate housing sites that would accept Section 8; they reached out to 71 property management companies and landlords about housing vouchers and the mediation program, and 5 requested more information.

**2. Legal Aid of NC – Janet Blue**

59 new clients were accepted, which was a decrease attributed to eCourt. eCourt is being considered as both a challenge (the system is not designed for mass research) and an opportunity. The Guilford County Schools (GCS) are working with eCourt and Legal Aid of NC to reach impacted families earlier in the process(es).

**3. Guilford County Animal Services – Cheri Neal**

Partnerships are encouraged with agencies to see if anyone needing the services can be contacted. If supplies are needed, the Collaborative Applicant team can make the connections.

**VIII. Collaborative Applicant/CoC Lead – Cheri Neal**

The C/A team attended the Bringing It Home Conference as a part of NC CoC-504 and there were approximately 20 partners in attendance. Partner agencies had presentations during the conference and there were some ESG updates. There was some engagement with local HUD leadership. Cheri Neal and the Greensboro Housing Authority were asked to speak at an upcoming event. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness (MCAH) was also engaged during the conference around HMIS.

**A. HUD Technical Assistance**

**1. Coordinated Entry TA**

Refer to item V.

**2. CSH**

Meetings have been taking place.

**B. Cooling Station(s) Update**

See item VII-C

**C. Annual CoC Forms**

The annual forms are going out next week with updated language. The completion and submission of the Conflict of Interest forms was emphasized. Hyperlinking of members agencies is forthcoming on the web pages.

**D. NC HMIS**

**E. Staff Transition**

It was announced that Jessica Polzin's last day will be around the first part of July.

**F. Monitoring Updates**

It was expressed that the hope is to have monitoring completed by the first part of July.

**G. CoC Training Updates**

There have been trainings. Plans are for an in-person Meet-and-Greet in November.

**H. Board Vacancies & Chairs**

**1.Stronger Together Task Force Chair**

**2. Strategic Planning Committee Chair**

**3. CoC Board Secretary**

**4. Membership Committee Chair**

**Michelle McNair volunteered to Chair the CoC Membership Committee**

**5. HMIS Committee Chair**

**6. Advocacy Committee Chair**

**7. Lived Experience Representative**

**8. University Representative**

It was asked that anyone interested in either of these vacancies reach out to the Collaborative Applicant. There was discussion around CoC Board and committee participation.

Point-in-Time (PIT) Count planning is expected to begin in August. A reminder was provided that CoC member onboarding takes place monthly every 4<sup>th</sup> Friday for new members as well as existing members needing refreshing.

**IX. Stronger Together Task Force – Dr. Pamela Palmer**

**A. Strategic Plan Review (From April 11)**

[Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Agenda - 6.11.2024.pdf](#)

Thanks were expressed to Family Services of the Piedmont (FSP) for use of their boardroom for a meeting. A Strategic Planning Committee met with a consultant to craft/update an addendum to the current extended (refer to May 6 CoC Board/Exec meeting) plan relevant to feedback received from partners. Consideration is being given to strategic priorities going forward for 2024-2025. The goal is to develop a new Strategic Plan for 2025-2026. An amendment document will be generated and feedback is expected to be shared in the July CoC meetings.

**B. Inter-Local Committee**

The June meeting was canceled; a committee synopsis was provided by Chair Sims.

**C. Guilford County Homelessness Task Force**

No forthcoming meeting date has been determined.

**X. CoC Committee Reports**

**A. Membership Committee –**

Please see item VIII-H-4

**B. Nominating Committee – Erin Stratford-Owens**

Please see item III-B

**C. Governance Committee – Chair Bernita Sims**

More news is to come as work is to be done on revisions to the governance charter and impact on the Collaborative Applicant.

**D. Strategic Planning Committee – Dr. Pamela Palmer**

Please see item IX-A

**E. Advocacy and Public Relations Committee – Vacant (needs chair)**

**F. Systems Performance and Evaluation Committee – Renee Norris (see III-C)**

SPEC hopes to have a report in August or September

**G. Appeals Committee – As Needed**

**H. Youth Committee – Sarah Roethlinger**

Please refer to meeting chat

**I. Housing Resource Committee – Laura Baker**

A list of the Committee members was to be forwarded from Chair Sims to Chair-Elect Erin Stratford-Owens.

**J. Executive Committee – Chair Bernita Sims**

Monthly meetings are continuing.

**K. DEI Committee – Dr. Michelle Vance**

No Report



Cheri Neal has requested a list of all Committee members.

Chair Sims acknowledged that all funds for the Emergency Hotel Stay program have been spent, and the program is wrapping up its existence. There have been no placements since the first part of the week. There are no plans for moving forward at this time.

**XI. Membership Announcements (please see calendar on CoC website)**

A. Membership Portal

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

**XII. Adjourn**

Liz Alverson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded. After question and vote, the motion to approve the adjournment of the meeting passed without objection. The meeting was officially called to adjourn at 11:28am.