

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care

Wednesday, May 6, 2015

Nashua City Hall, Nashua, NH

Ana Pancine called the meeting to order for announcements and introductions. Reviewed minutes of April 2, 2015 meeting. Wendy Leblanc motioned to approve minutes and it was seconded by Barbara Alves. Motion passed.

GNCOC Conflict of Interest Policy & Form

Abigail Alicea spoke regarding article 4 #3 and explained the changes. Also stated that when application opens if there's competition, all parties with a conflict to abstain.

People with any conflict can participate in discussion but not participate in the voting.

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This is one of the policies that HUD recommends to adopt. Vote on #3 Article 6 – C. Abigail motioned to accept and it was seconded by Ana. Motion passed.

Ending Homelessness

Bob Mack spoke about the Coordinated Access (CA) and stated that they are extending pilot another 30 days. There were 58 callers the 1st 60 days. . CE is only 90 days into the 120 day process but still needs to refine the process of getting people connected to the right services. CE is in the learning process and a constant work in progress.

There are 5 Family Promise sites in New Hampshire which includes the two upcoming openings in Laconia and Concord.

Community Relations

Pat Murphy stated that they haven't met at this point and that there are no future meetings scheduled.

Data Gathering Committee

Abigail and Ana spoke regarding the PIT and stated that they are working on issues logging into the system. It's fixed and should be able to submit reports on time as requested by HUD.

Samantha assisted Ana with data entry and would like to join the data gathering committee.

Employment Committee

Tom mentioned that they are working further along this year with downtown promotions and that this event on 9/23/15 is much more visible than last year employer event. Job fair prep portion includes donated clothing/business attire, barbers/hair dresser, showers. They will prepare applicants to make a good impression and also prepare employers as well. There is more interest (6 companies) will solicit agencies to budget event – basic supplies. Meets 2nd Tues every month 2 Quincy St current events.

COC/Nashua Soup Kitchen Shelter

Job fair for at-risk and homeless population. Logo design – get someone from committee involved to see it then get it approved by board.

Shelter Directors Meeting

See attached Shelter Directors' meeting notes presented by Tom.

Legislative

Eileen Brady stated that Legal Assistance this month May 21 at Nashua Soup Kitchen Shelter Info on benefits, SS, VA, Food Stamps, DHHS.

She also spoke about the 21 pages of people who wanted to testify regarding the proposed budget cuts that would be millions cut in homeless services and not refunding Medicaid expansions or mental health services. She suggested to be proactive and contact local senators in Nashua, Kevin Avard or Bette Laskey.

Sylvia Gale stated that mental health would be dramatically reduced if this was to pass. She added that people's lives will dramatically be impacted.

She spoke about the projection of 1000 deaths of young people due to heroin because of the state epidemic and the need to keep young adults in state.

NH Cares meets every Friday at 9am at Independent Living in Concord.

Good news is that the bill to raise rent didn't pass because of everyone that pulled together to oppose this.

There will be an event on May 21 at Rivier College for discussion with the police department and other community leaders to discuss diversity conflicts, such as the incident in Baltimore, etc. as well as, conflicts in lower economics area and how it effects the community. Transportation is available and flyers will be sent out to COC in both Spanish and English.

NH Listens – focus is children in poverty. The meeting is at Elm St. Middle School from 6-9pm on May 6, 2015.

HIV/AIDS Task Force

Wendy LeBlanc spoke about the stigma of HIV/AIDS and reminded others to please refer any clients that need housing or other resources to reach out and contact her.

Other

Donna Marceau stated that the work ready program helps people develop job search skills, computer skills. She said the program makes good graduates ready for employment.

Beverly Alvges stated that the 2nd Annual Fall Festival is a great opportunity to win money for your organization. Create a float. Email gsff@nashuanh.gov

June 6th is the summer blast at Greely Park and is a fun event for the whole family and the Memorial parade is on May 25th.

Behavioral Health Track will talk about program on June 12.

Peter Kelleher announced that he is going to Washington DC to help with the efforts of ending Veteran's homelessness by the end of next year.

Motion to adjourn by Abigail Alicea and it was seconded by Pat Murphy.

Notes by Angela Roberts, GNCOC Secretary