Greater Nashua Continuum of Care Meeting Minutes September 2, 2009 www.nashua-coc.org

Call to order: 8:03 a.m. by Chair Wendy LeBlanc.

All present introduced themselves and visitors welcomed.

<u>Minutes of August 5, 2009 (handout)</u>: W. LeBlanc asked everyone to review the minutes from the August 5, 2009 meeting. B. Alves motioned to accept the minutes. L. Nault seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Presentation of NH Works:

A Linke provided handouts and explained the NH Works One-Stop Service Delivery. She explained that the goal is to provide services under one roof and to help individuals navigate the labor market and direct them toward education and training opportunities. The NH Works Partners are NH Community Action Association, NH Employment Security, NH Dept. of Education, NH Dept. of Health & Human Services and the NH Community Colleges.

A Linke mentioned that the there is a Resource Center that provides adaptive equipment for the disabled along with employment information, internet access and a phone, fax, copier and printer.

- K. Paquette asked if they distribute bus passes. A. Linke responded that they don't provide the passes but would refer them to someone that does.
- E. Brady asked if there is anyone available to help individuals with disabilities. A. Linke indicated that she hasn't seen many requests for that type of assistance but someone is always available for assistance.
- P. Kelleher asked if there has been an increase in the volume of calls due to the economy. A. Linke replied that there has been an increase more so now than at first.

Announcements:

- L. Skibba announced an upcoming fundraiser being held the Friday after Thanksgiving. It will be held at the Elks Hall on Daniel Webster Highway in Nashua. Non Profit Agencies will be able to sell fundraising items to benefit their own programs. She indicated that tables will cost \$20.00 and the fair will be held from 10:00 am to 3:00pm.
- S. Stearns reminded everyone of Mental Illness Awareness Week and a free workshop that will be held on October 6, 2009 at The Greater Nashua Mental Health Center on Pearl Street.
- L. Newell provided handouts of the Outcome Measurements.

W. LeBlanc mentioned the Thomas Cash Walk being held on September 12, 2009 at Greely Park. She also reminded everyone of the Project Employment Connect being held at Harbor Homes, Inc. on September 17, 2009.

Presentation of The Nashua Area Health Center:

Janice Watson provided a presentation on Lamprey Health Care. She explained that there are 3 sites, which are located in Raymond, Newmarket and Nashua. The center provides a wide range of services and there are staff members available that are trilingual.

Jennifer Cote explained that she is a Registered Nurse with the Health Center and indicated that they provide Breast and Cervical Screenings. She mentioned that the center is abstinence based but they do provide birth control pills.

K. Paquette asked if an appointment is needed and how long is the waiting list. The response was there is no waiting list.

There was also a discussion of the need for methadone clinics for pregnant women. J. Watson mentioned the recent closure of the Odyssey House and the great need for substance abuse programs.

- M. Thornton asked what the geographic scope was for the center. J. Cote explained that they serve Greater Nashua but do include such towns as Mason and Lyndeborough.
- S. Stearns asked if any of their programs were cut and the response was yes but some of the funds were reinstated. The Methadone Clinic was closed on April 30, 2009 and individuals needed to be transitioned to other programs.

Additional Announcements:

- W. LeBlanc reviewed the list of upcoming meetings for new members of the continuum.
- J. Schulze provided a response to a question regarding obtaining a drivers license if an individual is homeless. She indicated that if you do not have a legal address you will not be able to obtain a license.
- B. Alves thanked the Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter for their recent back pack program. L. Christie indicated that over 2,200 back packs and supplies were distributed.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 a.m.
Minutes prepared by Kim Berube, Keystone Hall