

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care

Ending Homelessness Committee

Minutes of the November 3, 2010 Meeting

Present at the meeting were: Eileen Brady, Joan Koliss, Wendy LeBlanc, Jerry LeClerc, Angela Linke, Katherine Merrill, Laura Nault, Magaly Rios, Janet Roy, Dennis Roy, Ray Villeneuve

9:10 am Call to Order by Chair Eileen Brady

All present were introduced.

Minutes from Oct 6 meeting were reviewed. J. LeClerc made a motion to accept the minutes; W. LeBlanc noted a correction – she had not offered to find someone to update the toolkit.

E. Brady announced that M. Rios was recruited to take minutes.

Accomplishments for the 10-year Plan to End Homelessness were reviewed. R. Villeneuve noted that Fresh Start was doing a great job; they are already included in the Plan's accomplishments. L. Nault noted that there is a shorter wait (8 months) for elder housing managed by the Nashua Housing Authority

J. Roy noted that Fresh Start is trying to get the word out that clients should not be calling Fresh Start directly, but should be going through agencies. In general, they are able to help one time and persons should not be referred multiple times for assistance. This remains an issue for them. It was suggested that any clients who do call directly be directed to an agency, where they can receive even more information and assistance beyond the household items. As of Oct. 5, there have been 12 requests for help.

E. Brady reported on the NH Housing Conference (Oct. 25) which was very good; she recommended going to the website www.nhhfa.org for material from the conference. E. Brady also attended "Warmth in the Millyard" program at UNH-Manchester, where a video on homeless vets created by Matt Bernard was shown; also highly recommended and features Harbor Homes' programs and Nashua homelessness in general. W. LeBlanc will bring up the possibility of having the video available after a future CoC meeting at the next executive committee meeting.

Project Homeless Connect will be on Tues., Nov 30 from 12-4 pm.

W. LeBlanc noted that there is a need to be redirected at the Ending Homelessness meeting to name and accomplish some specific tasks. Wendy will bring this issue to the next executive committee.

New business: K. Merrill expressed her concern regarding the number of 17-year-olds who are coming to Maple St. Shelter and having to turn them away with only a blanket because the shelter is full. Police are helpful but there is not much they can do. Discussion ensued about what schools could do, that it is an ongoing concern on what to do about the needs of minors, and that newly-elected officials should be made aware of this growing need. The 10-year plan does not address youth homelessness and perhaps this needs to be added.

Announcements: Next week on Nov 9 and 10, the Adult Learning Center will be hosting a Community Resource Expo, attended by many local agencies.