Ending Homeless Committee minutes of the June 6, 2012

Present were: Eileen Brady, Wendy LeBlanc, Magaly Rios, Jerry Leclerc, Bob, Mack, Laurie Skibba, Ray Villeneuve, Lianne Bower, Denise Green, Ed Graves, Sandie Leavitt, Donald J. Pare, Sally Newhall, Pamela Deres, Lisa Milam, Kevin O'Meara, Kim Robinson, Sarah Jane Knoy, Hilary Keating, Germano Martins

Call to Order by chair person B. Mack. Introductions made by all. Minutes of our May 2nd meetings were reviewed, J. Leclerc made a motion to accept the minutes W. LeBlanc seconded. Motion passed.

B. Mack reported that the PIT data he reported last month was inaccurate he was looking at the wrong data. The group reviewed the correct number of the PIT and Bob explained to new comers what PIT stands for and how helpful of a tool this is.

There was some discussion about the changes HUD is making with the HEARTH Act and L. Skibba stated that she is concerned about how HUD may be changing the categorization of Transitional Housing. HUD is saying that people don't need to be in Transitional Housing for two years and want us to work on getting people rapidly re-housed much more quickly.

How do we provide quality wrap around services? Bob explained to the new members what the Wrap around group is. In the past, we had all the key providers meet and then sometimes the client did not show up, or there wasn't even a client situation to deal with, and attendance fell off. A good idea is to have it on a case by case basis. If you have a challenging situation with a client then we can bring it up within the Ending Homelessness committee so we can all work together to see how to better serve the person and what are the recourses.

One of the new members discussed his work at the hospital with people with respiratory issues and how quickly many come back and the concern is that they are not living in suitable conditions. The best thing to do may be to ask the client and know what resources are out here for them. 211 is getting calls from people getting discharged form the hospital but are to ill to go to a homeless shelter setting.

We were reminded that 211 tracks calls and so if more people used 211, we could better avoid duplication of services. The homeless hotline works together with the outreach worker. K. Robinson states that 211 keep track of people that call with the person's permission. There are only 5 staff person so, at times there may be a call wait time. It all depends on the person's situation. Sometimes they get calls from people just looking for food pantry that call doesn't take as long as it would if someone was calling because they are homeless.

Bob talked about learning at a recent meeting about 3 openings for Transitional Housing that he would have not known about if he had not gone to the meeting. It's an idea for us to come up with a system to better disseminate this type of info. An idea was suggested that if a program has an opening for something it can get posted to our COC web page. The problem with that is that we need to have someone to make time to update the website all the time. Another suggestion is to keep the email listing from the COC and send it to all the providers.

No meeting in July our next meeting will be in August 1st, 2012

Minutes taken by Magaly Rios, Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force