

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care
November 7, 2018
Nashua City Hall, 3rd floor Auditorium

Call to Order 8:00AM

Chairing today are Mandy Reagan and Heather Nelson.
Introductions were made by all. Welcomed Ashley Gauthier our new GNCOC coordinator.

Took a moment of silence for the President of Board, Alderman Brian McCarthy who passed away unexpectedly on Sunday. He has accomplished a great deal during his many years of service.

A few edits were made from last month's meeting. Mike Apfelberg made a motion to accept the minutes from our October 3rd meeting, second by Rosemarie Dykeman. All were in favor.

Today we have Elena Coleman, Training & Programs Coordinator of the Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence and Rachel Duffy, Transitional Housing Advocate for BRIDGES Domestic & Sexual Violence supports. Elena's program provides free training opportunities for staff working with Domestic Violence (DV) survivors. They don't work directly with DV survivors. The coalition is part of the Balance of State Continuum of Care. When a client is fleeing from abuse, they call 211 and 211 will give the client the local BRIDGES information. Nothing is entered into HMIS.

Rachel explained how someone can qualify for their Emergency Shelter. It's very important to have a very specific release of information in place for BRIDGES to talk to other organizations. It's also important to note that they will not call a client for services, the client needs to call the organization to get services. They do take self-report referrals; no proof of assault or stalking is required. They have an Empowerment Model which helps a client with safety planning. They will go to court with the person to file a restraining order. Currently their shelter is full. When it comes to referring people to concord as there was a new facility that opened, due to the facility being under renovations but had reopened and may have available space for shelter. Through the transitional housing program and housing first program we may be able to provide security deposits as it is not a general service we offer. The person must be able to live independently in order to get this assistance. They have a relationship with some landlords in the community that will rent to their clients. Nashua Housing Authority, through the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) survivors can certify themselves through Nashua Housing Authority which can place priority on their situation and potentially aid them in moving up on the list. Many resource handouts were available for agencies to take back.

Announcements:

- New Blue Bus routes are available to take back to your agency.
- Winter is coming! This is a good time to remind our community about the Coordinated Entry number, so they're aware of what number to dial when individuals are experiencing homelessness. We can do an email blast and also add it to our social media.
- The Partnership for Successful Living is hosting their annual Thanksgiving Dinner for the homeless and for those in need. Flyers were given to everyone and they also have some Spanish flyers available. Please let Magaly know if you are going to put them up in your agency.
- The Salvation Army will be doing their Christmas registrations in November every Tuesday and Thursday from 9am-12pm and 1pm-3pm. On Wednesday, from 9am-12pm is registration for people who do not speak English. A Spanish speaking translator will be available. Thanksgiving Dinner is November 18th at 5pm at the Salvation Army.
- The Southern N.H HIV/AIDS Task Force will be commemorating World AIDS day on November 29th from 4:30pm-5:30pm. We will be hosting an open house at 45 High Street, followed by a candlelight vigil in front of City Hall in memory of those who passed away due to HIV/AIDS. Flyers will soon be available.
- The Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter will be giving out winter coats at 35 Spring St. near Gate City Co-op every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday starting November 14th from 1pm-5pm

Meeting Adjourn 8:58AM