

**Committee on Ending Homelessness**  
**Minutes of the November 1, 2006 Meeting**  
City Hall, Nashua

Present at the meeting were: Bob Mack, Wendy Furnari, Gene Murray, Germano Martins, Linda Jeynes, Klaas Nijhuis, Eileen Brady, Laura Nault, Anne Quinn, Linda Newell, Mary Andosca, Jean Russell, Lori Wilshire and Jerry Leclerc.

The meeting began at 9:05 am. Minutes were reviewed from the October 4, 2006 meeting. Klaas motioned that the minutes be accepted, Lori seconded. Motion passed.

Bob began the meeting by talking about the many goals in the ending Homelessness Plan and how difficult it is to review the goals monthly. We need to condense the goals and break out steps.

The majority of the meeting was spent discussing Project Homeless Connect (PHC). Flyers and posters were distributed. 20 agencies have signed onto participate in the event. There will be a banner across Main St, which is waiting for the Mayor's approval. Press releases have gone out. Germano reported that "Dress for Success" cannot participate. Eileen offered to contact Pastoral Care and the Adult Learning Center to see if they could offer a similar program that day. Jerry Leclerc from St Joe's came to the meeting today to learn more about PHC. They are planning to have a scheduler present at the event to offer appointments with a PCP. There is a new PCP on Amherst Street that is interested in working with this population. He asked for some clarification on what he heard at the GNCOC meeting that indicated that homeless clients don't want a PCP. Folks clarified that they believe that it is generally an issue of payment that keeps clients from seeking care. Klaas suggested that there be someone at PHC to explain the free care system. He also let Jerry know that collaboration is welcomed and that the more options available for homeless clients, the better. Duplication is ok in this case. Germano shared information about the Healthcare for the homeless grant in Manchester and how they all collaborate. Bob said that as we invite clients to the event that we should tell them to bring photo ID if they have it so that they can apply for food stamps. Germano said that they will be able to call DHHS and see if the person may have applied in the past and if so, they may have copies of ID in their file. Lastly, the issue of translation came up and although Wendy said there will be Spanish interpreters from the Task Force, Anne said it is important to have interpreters for the deaf. Linda is going to check with someone she knows and others thought they might have a resource.

Bob brought up winter over flow and said that So. NH Rescue Mission has purchased the building at 40 Chestnut St and is in the process of getting all requirements met. They plan to have 10 beds. Bob also said that New Horizons told him that if they receive a letter of decision from Nashua stating that there is no shelter space available, that they will take the person. (As long as they are not a sex-offender)

Klaas and Germano reported that the rapid re-housing committee is still working on the universal application, which is basically the HMIS sheet. Folks can see the HMIS forms at NH-HMIS.org. Linda will email a copy to everyone as well.

Regarding a forum for inter/intra state homelessness issues, folks thought that this would be more along the lines of something that the NH Coalition to End Homelessness would take on. We should not duplicate efforts. Germano will bring this up at the next ICH meeting.

Regarding the wrap-around services committee, it was noted that the community relations committee has taken over the road show.

Regarding the funding oversight committee, Klaas suggested this be moved to the Executive Committee. This is to help us all be aware of what resources are available and what agencies are going for what funding so that we can collaborate on grants rather than compete for them.

Discussion took place regarding the reference sheet that Germano drafted. It was decided that although a full sheet is good for the police to have, we need to produce small cards that can be handed out to a homeless individual with emergency shelter info and one or two other points of contact. Germano will work on this.

Bob mentioned the landlord toolkit and that it is on line and needs to be update. He suggested asking agencies to look at the crisis map and update it. Klaas said he would have HHI IT staff update it.

We talked about the decision some months back to share success stories at the beginning of each meeting, which hasn't happened. Anne shared a story in which she was able to advocate for someone to get them connected to a needed program. Klaas said that although anecdotal information is not always capture the hard numbers that HUD and other funders want, they are valuable because they can give ideas to others.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10am.

The next meeting will take place on December 6, 2006 at 9:00 at HHI at 45 High St to begin set up for Project Homeless Connect.