

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes of May 4, 2011

www.nashua-coc.org

Meeting was called to order at 8:05 am by Chair, Wendy LeBlanc. Introductions were made by all. W. LeBlanc explained the meeting format for new attendees.

The minutes of the April 6, 2011 meeting were reviewed. L. Christie motioned to approve the minutes, which was seconded by B. Alves, and minutes accepted unanimously.

Presentations:

Elissa Margolin of **Housing Action of New Hampshire** will present at a future meeting. (She did not make the meeting due to a miscommunication regarding the date).

Jeanne Mastranzi of the Greater Nashua Mental Health Center, along with several other employees presented the **Sign Shop Program** to the group. JM indicated that the sign shop now employees 10. They brought several examples of their work and several in the group indicated that they have successfully used the services and products of the Sign Shop and recommended others use them. They hope to eventually become a co-op that the employees will run themselves. They are looking for more work and appreciate the help in getting the word out. Their current shop is very clean, however they would like better ventilation so that they could handle silkscreening projects too. They indicated that their pricing is very competitive.

Letter of Support Request:

Andrea Reed of Harbor Homes, Inc. requested a letter of support from the GNCOC as part of a new grant request of \$7,000 they are submitting to help fund a third one-day stand down event for homeless veterans. A. Reed spoke about the success of the previous stand down held at HHI on 10/21/10, and also provided a handout narrative of the last event's activities and outcomes. L. Wilshire motioned for the letter of support by the COC to be written, and L. Christie seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

HMIS:

Given that the Housing Action of NH presentation was tabled, it allowed time for D. Curley of HHI to present the HMIS HUD Outcome Measurements through 4/30/11 and review the results.

- Section 2.3 which is to increase the percentage of homeless persons staying in permanent housing over 6 months to at least 77%, the HUD benchmark, 87% is the GNCOC 12 month goal. Actual April 2011 GNCOC outcome exceeded both goals at 91.4%.
- Section 3.4 which is to increase percentage of homeless persons moving from transitional housing to permanent housing to at least 65%, the HUD benchmark, 76% is the GNCOC 12 month goal. Actual April 2011 GNCOC outcome fell below the 12 month goal by 37.4%. There were 6 clients in 'other' and 15 clients in 'unknown' categories. D. Curley asked members to be diligent in their reporting to improve the accuracy.
- Section 4.3 which is to increase the percentage of homeless persons employed at exit to at least 20%, the HUD benchmark, and the GNCOC goal is also 20%. Actual April 2011 GNCOC outcome was 21.5%, which is 1.5% higher than both the HUD and GNCOC goal.

Announcements:

Pastor Gwen P. of Main Street Methodist Church indicated they are assessing their mission and facilities downtown and working on a cost benefit analysis to determine how important it is to the community to be located downtown, and they are looking for feedback. She can be reached at 882-3361. Several in the group let the Pastor know that many of their clients have been helped by the church and many would find it difficult to reach the church if on the outskirts.

Sylvia Gale of NH Citizens Alliance for Action encouraged the attendees at the meeting to support NH's middle class and working families. They have been contracted by the AFL-CIO to push back at the legislative level on Right to Work issue. The website is www.ProtectNHFamilies.org.

E. Brady indicated that NH Cares – NH Can Do Better signs are available at the Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter.

J. Leclerc indicated that the Project Homeless Connect Job Fair will be held at 45 High Street on 8/30 and will be sponsored by Welcoming Light. They are asking businesses to make a donation to defer costs. The job fair will run 9am – 2pm. Next planning meeting will be at the HIV Task Force office on May 17th at 1PM.

B. Doolan of Marguerites Place asked that members keep up with the 10 year plan in terms of the upcoming SuperNOFA application. She also let the all know of the Jazz and Juice Event to benefit Marguerites Place to be held June 10th at the Nashua Country Club, tickets \$40.

K. Beaulieu from Manchester COC has indicated that the MCOC and Granite United Way will be joining together to conduct a summer Point-in-Time count, to compare to the traditional winter count.

K. Paquette indicated that the emergency fuel assistance is finished. Clients should be referred to Southern NH Services or the NH Hotline, and that starting 7/1/11, the hotline will be taken over by 211.

There being no further business or announcements, the meeting adjourned at 8:50am.

Minutes taken by Lori M. Piper, Merrimack County Savings Bank