

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2012

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Wendy LeBlanc, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:02 A.M. Introduction were made by all.

The minutes of the February 1, 2012 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by L. Skibba and seconded by P. Murphy. Motion passed.

**Presentation:** Maureen Ryan, NH Bureau of Housing and Homelessness, presented changes to the Emergency Solution Grant, including information about new money for rapid re-housing and prevention. HUD wants states to collaborate with the Continuum of Care in the planning process of how to utilize the additional funds. She discussed the short turn-around time to plan for the funds and issue an RFP.

Q: Does it have to be one agency that does both the Rapid re housing and prevention or can the agency just do one? A: They would prefer to have one agency do both. Q: Is this new money or will other programs be cut? A: No current funding to shelter programs will be cut. This is additional funding that is being discussed. Q: Have you looked at other states and how they are managing this? A: We did look at Massachusetts but they have a larger amount of funding and they have multiple grants. M. Ryan is going to a conference on Monday and Tuesday to meet with others from all over the country to see what other states are doing.

**Announcements:** K. Hiza from The NH Food Bank spoke regarding people not having transportation to go to the district office to apply. A web site called NH Easy can be used to apply for Food Stamps and other services provided by the state. She can help people one-on-one doing this application. Posters and handouts were made available.

P. Kelleher announced that HHI has bought a new permanent housing unit in Clermont NH. Currently they have 8 residents and can take up to 12 people. It's for men and women. The preference is Veterans but will take anyone. Contact Scott Slattery at Harbor Homes.

T. Lopez reports that the Employment Subcommittee is meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 PM at 12 Amherst St. starting to talk about Project Employment Connect. We are looking for help to get Employers.

L. Wilshire stated the Block Grant Resolution Planning is meeting tomorrow.

L. Christie reported that there is a plan to take out the Bronstein apartment. This means 49 Housing units will be taking away which is a big concern for low-income families.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 AM

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