

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2012
Location: Harbor Homes, Inc.
45 High Street, Board Room
www.nashua-coc.org

Wendy LeBlanc, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:35AM.

In attendance were: Wendy LeBlanc, Bob Mack, Peter Kelleher, Beth Todgham, Michael Flaherty, Mariellen Durso, and Lori Piper.

Guests: None

Minutes of the April 11, 2012 meeting were reviewed. P. Kelleher motioned to accept the minutes, B. Mack seconded the motion, and there being no discussion, the passed unanimously.

Prior to the agenda items, W. LeBlanc commented that she is not feeling supported by the group, she is not getting responses to emails. She cited a specific recent example whereby she sent an email out to the committee regarding the HEARTH Act clinic that took place in Concord and was looking for feedback. She received no response from any committee member. She again explained that like everyone else on the committee, she too is a volunteer and does not feel that she is necessarily the most appropriate person to be responding to certain communications that come out from HUD or other agencies. She is asking for others in the group, particularly funded agencies to participate in a more active manner.

Topics of Discussion:

HEARTH ACT – There was quite a bit of discussion about the HEARTH Act and the recent clinic that took place. There will be a follow up call and W. LeBlanc will participate in the follow up call, however is looking for input from the committee. It was suggested that she indicate that our COC is reluctant to take too many steps until the new regulations are released in August, and that the GNCOC has continued to be very active in addressing the issue of homelessness. P. Kelleher provided a current total sheltered and unsheltered households and persons chart at the meeting from HMIS data that demonstrated the number of sheltered and unsheltered households and persons in emergency shelters, transitional housing or safe havens, as well as the unsheltered numbers. A discussion ensued about the fact that new parameters within the HEARTH Act will call for no more than 25% of the homeless population being in shelters. The GNCOC number presently stands at 31%. M. Durso and others suggested that it may be necessary for the focus to be at the individual client level in order to move the percentage downward as the group works diligently to comply with the new parameters. P. Kelleher suggested that HMIS look at the 336 individuals indicated on the spreadsheet provided at this meeting, and start with a certain population, for example the 105 persons currently in emergency shelters, and one by one start to address specific situations in order to move people into permanent housing situations, or rapid re-housing. The Executive Committee will recommend to the GNCOC that the Ending Homelessness Committee, which meets directly following the monthly GNCOC meeting, roll the former Wrap-Around Committee into its committee to address this situation. P. Kelleher indicated that he would have Miles Pendry, the HMIS coordinator provide monthly data on the shelter/unsheltered numbers as part of this process.

CoC Checkup – W. LeBlanc indicated that a new action plan must be place and provided to HUD by its mid- June deadline. It was agreed that certain members of this committee would meet on Wednesday, May 30th from 9 – 11 at Harbor Homes, Inc. to complete this action plan. This ad hoc committee will present the action plan at the June 13, 2012 Executive Committee Meeting for approval before placing on the HUD website.

Pulse Project - W. LeBlanc indicated she received no response from any committee members relative to her email regarding this project. Since then, HUD has scrapped the project, which was basically to be a quarterly point-in-time count, and therefore no further action is needed by this committee.

Advocacy Issues/Discussion - None.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:30AM.

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