

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes of May 1, 2013

www.nashua-coc.org

Wendy LeBlanc, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:05 A.M. Introduction were made by all.

The minutes of the April 3, 2013 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by L. Wilshire and seconded by P. Kelleher. The motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee

W. LeBlanc reported that the executive committee has been reviewing the HEARTH Act regulations and new compliance rules. Three subcommittees have been formed to work on meeting the changing regulations in a timely manner. Three areas are: (1) Coordinated assessment/intake process for access to homeless services; (2) Formation of a Board of Directors that will need additional stakeholders beyond those currently on the executive committee; and (3) Establish by-laws/guidelines based on the new requirements.

W. LeBlanc indicated that the June presentations will be by Robert Tourigny of Neighbor Works of Southern NH, and Brian Boyer of Harbor Homes, Inc. will present the Emergency Solutions Grant. She also reminded the attendees that there will not be a meeting in July 2013.

W. LeBlanc shared that V. Talasazan has confirmed that a VISTA worker has been approved to be funded by the United Way who will work on the GNCOC process. It is a full time position for one year. If the planning monies which were requested as part of the NOFA application are approved, then the United Way will be reimbursed for the VISTA grant.

W. LeBlanc indicated that there was a glitch with the NOFA application having to do with the Tier 1 and Tier 2 request ranking criteria, which basically meant that the Tier 1 requests were over budget by \$8 and therefore it resulted in the lowest ranked project in Tier 1 (HMIS \$13,000) into the Tier 2 category. Wendy indicated that Senator Shaheen's office has been helping to interact with HUD to hopefully resolve this small deterioration and restore HMIS to Tier 1 ranking. She thanked the representatives for Senator Shaheen's office who were in attendance at the June GNCOC meeting for their support and assistance.

Ending Homelessness Committee

B. Mack indicated the committee is focusing on the action items within the 10 year plan and reviewing the goals to ensure that the GNCOC stays on task. He indicated that the goals are basically HUD driven. They have put in place a red-yellow-green structure to determine where each goal/task currently stands. He highlighted the collaboration of community activities. He encouraged the use of wrap-around services to help and support specific client concerns, and that this valuable resource is underutilized.

He also shared that the Union Leader reported attended the last meeting of the Ending Homeless Committee which resulted in positive press by the paper.

Community Relations Committee

P. Murphy shared that the committee had reviewed the new branding project that is being done in conjunction with the Nashua North High School. Website content and brochures have been discussed and the intent is to complete the project prior to the school year's end. Then the committee would like to bring the re-branded GNCOC on the road with updated presentations to the appropriate groups. Pat asked all to provide tangible ideas to the committee that could be incorporated into the new presentations. Next meeting is set for 6/19/13 at the Merrimack Town Hall. L. Wilshire suggested asking for business community support for the cost of branding the project – underwriting the cost of brochures, printing, design, etc. This suggestion was well received and will be pursued.

Legislative Affairs Committee

E. Brady indicated they don't have a committee; she is looking for members to join her that are interested in housing and legislative affairs. She also indicated that there is a legislative hearing on May 9th for those interested in tracking the state budget process. L. Wilshire indicated there was no report for Local (City of Nashua) legislation. W. LeBlanc did indicate that the HUD secretary will be in Boston soon for a public session; the date was shared by email for those who are interested.

Data Gathering Committee

W. LeBlanc reported on behalf of M. Pendry. She indicated that all the HIC and PIT data had been submitted to HUD. M. Pendry has requested a careful review of PH/TH/VASH/ and S+C data. He indicated that he has not received the response review from all the participants of this data. Please confirm with him that the information provided is accurate. W. LeBlanc suggested that it may be appropriate to bring back to the Data Gathering Committee a representative from each agency that participates in this data gathering and reporting to ensure the accuracy of the final reporting.

Employment Committee

T. Lopez discussed the upcoming Employment Connect Event. He is looking for more outreach to local businesses to participate in the upcoming event.

Housing Action NH

L. Redden reiterated the May 9th date for the state budget legislative sessions. There will be one from 3-5PM and another from 6 – 8PM. She encouraged meeting attendees to reach out to their legislators and particularly the Senate President – Peter Bragdon to ensure that the impact of sequestration to Nashua area region agencies and their clients is heard, including human impact stories and agency layoffs.

Shelter Directors Meeting – no report.

Updates to accomplishments section of 10 Year Plan – none this month. Will add the VISTA team member when that person is in place.

Announcements/Discussion

Lamprey Health Care shared that 5/9 and 5/10 Ruby Tuesdays will be giving back 20% of purchases to their organization.

More Than Wheels provided a flyer regarding access to vehicles for military and veteran families. A more detailed announcement will be emailed to GNCOC members at cocmembers@nashua-coc.org.

Bridges announced they will be holding two events: May 15th at the Crowne Plaza and May 22nd at the Milford Amato Center.

Harbor Homes indicated they have significant resources to help support veterans and their families at this time. Please contact them with any questions.

E. Brady welcomed the CASA group to the meeting, thanked them for attending.

NH Alliance shared that on May 9th at the Nashua Public Library there will be a forum highlighting the immigration and refugee programs, and the Institute for Refugee Resettlement will speak at their offices on May 13th.

Gerardo Zayas Jr., MBA serves as the project liaison for DHHS' Health Profession Opportunity Project. He indicated that there are health professional opportunities available. He was available following the meeting to discuss in more detail with those interested. Contact information: Gerardo.zayas@dhhs.state.nh.us . Tel. 603-339-4108.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:00AM.

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