

GREATER NASHUA CONTINUUM OF CARE MEETING MINUTES

Nashua City Hall Auditorium

November 6, 2013 @ 8:00AM

www.nashua-coc.org

Ana Pacine, Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 8:05AM. Introductions were made by all, and the attendance sheet passed for signatures. Newcomers were asked to add their email to the list if they would like to be added to the GNCOC mailing list. Ana explained the meeting format for new attendees. The minutes of October 2, 2013 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Bob Mack, which was seconded by Wendy LeBlanc. Minutes were approved.

Ana introduced this month's presenter, Mariellen Durso, Lamprey Health Care; Jane Navarro, Harbor Care Clinic; and Cecilia Skerry, Manchester Community Health Center.

Presentation: Affordable Care Act

Mariellen explained that three agencies represented at the presentation (Lamprey, Harbor Homes and Manchester Community Health Center) are working together to provide information and assistance to register individuals in the Healthcare Marketplace. She emphasized that they are willing to do presentations at individual agencies and organizations in an effort to get the word out about ACA. Mariellen confirmed that while the website is not working as planned, the call center is up-and-running and able to register people in the Marketplace. Calling the center provides personal service and is working well.

Mariellen referred to a Powerpoint presentation as she spoke. The file will be emailed to all members of the Continuum of Care as well as being attached to these minutes. The Powerpoint provided an overview of the Affordable Care Act and its supporting goals to provide financial support to the in-insured, strengthen private insurance and expand Medicare coverage.

Some of the key facts she shared included:

- New Hampshire opted to use the Federal marketplace instead of developing its own.
- Those who don't sign up will face a penalty; amount of penalty grows each year. Penalties will be paid through taxes.
- Hardship exemptions are available, including an exemption for those who are homeless. The staff that has been trained as navigators can help with filing for these exemptions.
- Credits are available to those who qualify as the way to make health care affordable to low-income individuals and families
- The Call Center is set up to handle 140 different languages
- Those with no income will continue with their current benefits; Medicaid expansion continues to be a topic that needs to be worked out by the State legislature. Coverage will be limited or non-existent if the Medicaid expansion is not authorized. Everyone is encouraged to contact their state elected officials to voice their support of Medicaid expansion.
- Non-residents do not qualify for coverage under the Affordable Care Act. Individual has to be a legal resident/have a legal status to be in the country.
- Best recommendation was that people should apply for coverage; system is set up to direct them to the best type of coverage (Marketplace/Medicare/Medicaid, etc) based on the information provided at the time of the application
- 211 has information to direct people to places where they can sign up
- Goal is to get everyone covered.

Announcements

- **Wendy LeBlanc, NH Aids Taskforce:** A World Aids Day Open House and Candlelight Vigil will be held at the Taskforce offices from 4-6pm on Monday, December 2.
- **Tom Lopez, Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter:** The Employment Committee will meet on November 13 at the Adult Learning Center
- **Glenny Liranzo, The Front Door Agency:** Sign-ups for the Front Door's annual Santa Fund program were happening the evening of the GNCOC meeting, November 6.
- **Cindy Moher, HEARTS Peer Support Program:** She is taking part in the Granite Leaders Program
- **Eileen Brady, Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter:** Reminded the group that the Adult Learning Center's Community Resource Expo is scheduled for Thursday evening, November 6 and Friday morning, November 7.
- **Peter Kelleher, Partnership for Successful Living:** Harbor Homes will be holding their annual community Thanksgiving Dinner on Tuesday, November 26 from 11:30am-2:30pm at 45 High Street. Anyone wishing to volunteer is welcome.
- **January 2014 Meeting Date:** It was noted that the date of the January 2014 would be New Year's Day. Consensus was that the meeting would be moved one week later and held on January 8. Bob will confirm availability of the auditorium at City Hall on that date. The annual Point in Time Count will be a main agenda item for the January meeting.
- **2014 NOFA:** The NOFA for the upcoming funding year has yet to be released. It is expected that the information will be available by mid-November. Members of the GNCOC will be notified when the NOFA is released.

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

Minutes taken by Beth Todgham, Southern New Hampshire Services