

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
45 High Street, Nashua, NH
May 8, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Wendy LeBlanc at 8:30AM.

Present: Wendy LeBlanc, Annette Escalante, Mariellen Durso, Beth Todgham, Barbara Alves, Bob Mack, Abigail Alicea, Vanessa Sarlo-Talazasan, Ana Pancine, Peter Kelleher, Michael Flaherty, and Lori Piper.

April minutes were reviewed. B. Mack motioned to accept the minutes, B. Alves seconded his motion. They were accepted unanimously.

Topics for Discussion:

VISTA:

V. Talazasan indicated that United Way will pay for the VISTA volunteer. It is a challenge finding someone to fill this spot. She will contact Families in Transition to check on whether locating these VISTA paid volunteers is a statewide concern. The funds from UW have arrived.

TAC:

P. Kelleher received a phone call from TAC. They have indicated that they will not be able to work with the GNCOC on the NOFA application. They indicated that it is a lot of work, and they believe it could be considered a conflict of interest as they also consult with HUD. TAC is looking into alternative possibilities for the GNCOC. V. Talazasan is researching other options as well. It has been announced that the NOFA will be coming out in July this year.

NOFA – Tier 2 awards:

W. LeBlanc indicated that we are still waiting to hear on the bonus project and the request for planning dollars for help with the work needed to implement the requirements under the new HEARTH Act. HMIS was awarded. We should know on the balance of the requests within 60 days. Matt Leahy of Senator Shaheen's office has checked in with us on the status of the HUD awards.

GNCOC Leadership email list for GNCOC brochure:

B. Mack indicated the committee is working with Nashua High School North to come up with the new logo and brochure. They are working on an email listing. It has been recommended that the new brochures provide the Chair and incoming Co-Chairs and incoming Vice-Chair's names and email addresses. This was agreed to by the attendees at today's meeting.

Upcoming GNCOC Presentations:

W. LeBlanc indicated that June is all set; looking to fill the September meeting. L. Piper suggested Paul Hebert, Executive Director of the Greater Nashua United Way provide a overview of the new nonprofit

being formed, known as BizHub, which is intended to provide supportive services to non profit organizations for the backroom functions, such as payroll, accounting services, human resources, etc. The intent is to provide nonprofits with the ability to spend more of their time and resources on the mission of the organization. V. Talazasan discussed having HPOP (Health Professional Opportunity Program) provide an overview of their program. It is training of people in various direct health care type jobs, to address the shortage in certain healthcare areas.

P. Kelleher indicated that although both of these suggestions have strong merit, that we refer to the HUD letter which recommends that the CoCs stay focused on their homeless plans and counts and the implementation of the HEARTH Act requirements as the priority at this time. After some discussion, the committee decided to table the decision on presentations for September while we determine the direction the GNCOC needs to take in order to meet and comply with the HEARTH Act parameters and its timeline.

10 Year Plan Action Steps:

B. Mack facilitated a discussion regarding the plan's general goals, discussed baseline goals. The homelessness committee has created a new process to establish a green/yellow/red status for each goal as well as specific changes to be made to the plan. P. Kelleher motioned to approve these changes for the plan, seconded by A. Escalante and the committee approved the adoption of the changes unanimously. The plan will be updated.

HEARTH implementation/Ad-hoc Committee Updates/TA requests?:

W. LeBlanc indicated that a lot of work has been done with a draft forthcoming shortly on the new guidelines. She indicated that we need to have staggered board member terms going forward. This is in the HEARTH interim rule. She also indicated that no one can discuss or vote on ranking of the NOFA application if they also represent an agency within the NOFA application submission. This will be challenging and will need to research how other COCs are handling this. A coordinated intake group meeting will take place on 5/15 for the first time. M. Durso indicated that she has contacted the schools for the liaison for homeless children and has all the contact persons at this point. She indicated that she would formulate a letter to be sent to the schools about this issue of board involvement, and to suggest a Fall meeting to discuss in more depth. B. Todgham will contact Ed Lecius of the Police Department to see if he can suggest someone from the Police Department to serve on the GNCOC board.

Letter from Ana Oliva to Grant Recipients, CoC Leaders, and Stakeholders (this was not on the agenda):

P. Kelleher provided the committee with a summary of Ms. Oliva's letter. He indicated that it says for the CoCs to focus more sharply on data collection, results, etc. He believes that if we took steps to deepen our discussions about the various issues that need to be addressed it could possibly lead to :

- Proactive preparation for PIT to ensure the most success;
- Determining which populations really need to be addressed; what are the next steps

- Suggested that NHHFA and NHA both be at the table for these discussions to provide their collective knowledge and input;

P. Kelleher has suggested that we consider a two day symposium to work collectively to try and get the homeless number down to 50+/- . No decision was made regarding this suggestion at this time. To be further discussed.

W. LeBlanc indicated that with the NOFA coming out in July, there will be more cuts coming as part of the next application which should be discussed at the June meeting. A discussion is needed as to how programs are performing; which ones well, which ones are not.

There being no further time, the meeting was adjourned at 10AM.

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