

## GREATER NASHUA CONTINUUM OF CARE MEETING MINUTES

Nashua City Hall Auditorium

January 8, 2014

[www.nashua-coc.org](http://www.nashua-coc.org)

Cate Sementa, 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.

**ENDING HOMELESSNESS FUND:** Bob Keating announced that the Kick-Off event for the Ending Homelessness Fund will be held at Harbor Homes on Wednesday, January 29 from 5-7pm in conjunction with the Point in Time Count. All are invited to attend. He passed around a flyer about the event and brochure about the fund.

**NOFA APPLICATON:** Wendy LeBlanc updated the group on progress being made in submitting the Continuum of Care grant application. The grant application is based on \$1.8M available to the community. The subcommittee met on Monday, January 6 to begin completing Exhibit One of the application which focuses on providing community information. The Exhibit One subcommittee is scheduled to meet again on Friday, January 17. The group is working with Tina Tiano, a consultant hired to help with the process.

Wendy noted that the focus for funding in this cycle is on Permanent Housing and Rapid Re-Housing programs and that HUD has given notice that no supportive service programs will be funded. The GNCOC currently receives funding for two such programs: Southern New Hampshire Services' Homeless Outreach Program and the Nashua Soup Kitchen's Employment program. Both programs have opted not to submit proposals this year in light of the shifted priorities.

There was a brief discussion on finding alternate funding sources for these two programs when the funding ends in September 2014. It was noted that the money received from HUD for SNHS' Homeless Outreach is only a portion of the total cost.

It was noted that the inability to pursue HUD funding for the two support programs had nothing to do with the value the programs have and that the process was following directives from HUD. The group will work to find ways to sustain the programs. At this point, however, priority is being given to completing the NOFA. Ways to sustain and/or continue to provide services from the two supportive programs will be addressed after the application has been submitted.

The Program Ranking Committee is scheduled to meet on Monday, January 13 to prioritize the program requests into Tier One and Tier Two rankings. The committee is made up of GNCOC members who do not receive HUD funding.

Bob Mack commended Wendy on her ability to keep the groups on track in completing a very complex application process.

Wendy indicated that the Exhibit 1 portion of the grant application will be valid for both the 2014 and 2015 funding request cycles.

**DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES:** The minutes of December were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Bob Mack, which was seconded by Barbara Alves. Minutes were approved.

**GNCOC GUIDELINES/APPROVAL VOTE:** GNCOC members in attendance voted to accept the updates made to the GNCOC Guidelines to make them compatible with changes to the Hearth Act. Primary update was in the make-up of Board membership. Wendy indicated that there might be a few other

minor changes that need to be made by the September 2014 deadline. Confirmation that the local COC is making these changes is part of the NOFA application.

Lori Wilshire made a motion to accept the guidelines as revised; Candace Cappio-Gebhart seconded. Motion passed.

### **Presentation: Point in Time Count**

Miles Pendry announced that the Point In Time Count will be held on Wednesday, January 29. Having an accurate count of the area's homeless population during this 24-hour period is critical as the data collected is used throughout the year in a variety of ways. The funding the area receives is based on this data; it is also included in the state consolidated plan. Anyone involved in the data collection process must take part in the training provided via a webinar produced by the Manchester Continuum of Care. Registration should be done ahead of time. Those interested can watch the webinar at Harbor Homes. It was noted that Harbor Homes will remain open all night for the Point in Time; anyone interested in volunteering that evening can contact Carol Furlong for more information. Kathy Paquette from SNHS indicated that in the past she has worked directly with the SNH Rescue Mission on their count; she and the new Executive Director will work together this year. Miles noted that information must be sent electronically. VA volunteers have offered to help; Wendy will let them know that volunteers are needed at Harbor Homes the night of the count. Miles is the contact person on all questions related to the PIT; he can be reached via email at [m.pendry@harborhomes.org](mailto:m.pendry@harborhomes.org) or by phone at (603) 882-3616 x 1104.

### **Announcements**

- **Donna Curley** introduced the person who has replaced Al Vitale as a data analyst for the Bureau of Homeless and Housing Services.
- **Laurel Redden** announced that NH Public Radio's Exchange was doing a program on homelessness this morning at 9:00am. Eileen Brady from the NSKS is one of the panelists.
- **Beth Todgham** provided material on SNHS' Fuel Assistance program. She encouraged anyone working with a client who might qualify to call the Allids Street office at 889-3440.
- **Tom Lopez** announced that the next Employment Committee meeting would be held on Thursday, January 9 at the ALC at 2:00pm.
- **Bob Mack** reminded the group that the Ending Homeless Committee is not meeting this morning, but that the group is currently working to connect a client to services.
- **Beth Todgham** confirmed that copies of the Free Tax Prep Forms were distributed via email before the holidays. Printed copies are available through United Way. Contact at UW is Liz Fitzgerald if anyone wants some delivered.

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

Minutes taken by Beth Todgham, Southern New Hampshire Services