

GREATER NASHUA CONTINUUM OF CARE MEETING MINUTES

Nashua City Hall Auditorium

December 3, 2014

www.nashua-coc.org

The meeting was called to order at 8:10am by chair, Ana Pancine. Ana explained the rotating format of the monthly meetings (one meeting committee reports; next meeting presentations). She invited anyone who was new to add their name to the sign-in sheet and asked that people review listings on the sign-in sheet to make sure the information was up-to-date.

Introductions were made around the table.

The minutes of the November 5, 2014 were reviewed. Change was noted that date of the Community Relations meeting was October 23, not October 30. Candace Cappio-Gebhart made a motion that the minutes be approved with change; Bob Mack seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Presentation:

Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter

The Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter is up and running at their new location at 2 Quincy Street. Clients are benefiting from the expanded space. They are currently looking for volunteers. Schedules can be very flexible for those interested in volunteering. Individuals who have computer skills and/or are bi-lingual are needed. Call the Shelter at 889-7770 if interested.

The Soup Kitchen serves breakfast Monday through Friday from 7-8am. Food is distributed from the food pantry from 11am-2:45. Clients can visit the food pantry two times each week; they need to bring their own bags. Dinner is served from 4-6pm Monday-Saturday. Lunch is served at noon on Sunday.

Clients also have the opportunity to receive a food box one time per month.

A computerized system allows them to keep track of who has received food through the food pantry.

Shower and laundry facilities will be available beginning January 1, 2015 for those homeless individuals who are living outside. Facilities are limited and will be available on a scheduled basis.

There are currently job openings at the NSKS. They are looking for a full-time overnight shelter person and a kitchen manager. They are also looking for a part-time advocate to work with clients.

There is currently a transitional apartment available for a family with children. Potential residents must have an earned income of at least \$1000.

Services provided at the new location include fuel and rental assistance, helping clients get IDs, translation services. The Birthday Room is available but must be booked in advance. The Employment program offers assistance with car registration fees (but not cars) and bicycles. They provide job development assistance (on-line job search, applications and resumes) in handicap accessible space with four workstations. The Rosetta Stone software allows them to offer language literacy assistance. Tom Lopez is available for one-on-one assistance.

It was noted that a goal is to connect the clients at the NSKS with other resources in the community. They currently provide services to up to 150 people a day and welcome the chance to have staff from other community organizations come to their site to give presentations.

Food items will be distributed for the Christmas holiday during the week of December 15. Everyone who comes to the Soup Kitchen will receive a box. 1,300 boxes were distributed for the Thanksgiving holiday.

AMR

Presentation offered information on when to call 911 – especially in the cases of stroke and heart attack. Nashua has a strong history of fast response – something that is critical when dealing with these two crises. Signs that a person is having a stroke (changes in facial appearance, ability to grasp, etc.) were discussed. Actual symptoms depend on what part of brain is damaged. Changes could be subtle and are best recognized by someone who is close to the possible stroke victim and can identify what's different in their appearance and/or behavior. The quicker a person comes under professional care, the better the outcome.

Announcements:

Employment Committee: The next meeting of the Employment Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, December 9 at 2:30pm.

Homeless Memorial Day: Eileen continues to collect names for Homeless Memorial Day later this month. Contact her if there is a name you would like to have added.

SNHS Programs: Beth distributed updated brochures for SNHS' energy programs

Information was sought by **211** on any holiday programs that are still taking names. Indication was that programs are closed but there may be some items left over after the holidays.

Senator Shaheen's office encouraged anyone working with an individual having difficulty with an agency of the Federal Government to get in touch with them at 647-7500 so they can help resolve the issue.

Ending Homelessness Fund: Peter Kelleher encouraged anyone who knows of a chronically homeless person in need of housing to contact Harbor Homes so they can be helped using funds available in the Ending Homelessness Fund.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05am.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 7, 2015