

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2016

www.nashua-coc.org

Ana Pancine, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:03 A.M. Ana reviewed the meeting structure and then introduction were made by all.

The minutes of the March 2, 2016 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Amy Brady and seconded by Magaly Rios. The motion passed. Ana also pointed out the attachments to the agenda provided by Lori Piper at Enterprise Bank, a series of learning sessions by the “Non-Profit Collaborative”

Presentation #1:

Jen Skibba presented on Nashua Habitat for Humanity. She explained that Habitat builds homes or provides improvements/repairs for those who meet income guidelines, as well as provides disaster relief and infrastructure support globally. She also let us know that people don't receive free homes, they have to have a down payment and make mortgage payments.

Habitat utilizes volunteers for most aspects of their projects and they work with other non-profits to life families out of poverty. Families receiving support from Habitat must work very hard to receive a home. They must be within 30-50% of the Median Income, they must provide a minimum of 350 sweat equity hours (actually working on the home themselves) and they must participate in the Partnership Program where they learn skills associated with being a homeowner, such as financial literacy and budgeting.

Habitat runs a Restore on Amherst Street in Nashua, at the same location as their administrative office. They accept donations of furniture, building materials, etc. to help support the program. They raised \$75,000 last year.

Jen showed pictures and talked about the recent project they finished at 45 Chestnut Street that was renovated into a duplex, the current project they are working on at 42 Nottingham Drive with Veteran Build for a veteran family, and the plans for the next project at 42 Chesnutt, the former Soup Kitchen building, that will be demolished and a new building will be built with two 3-bedroom units.

She talked about the home repair program for those within Lower Medical Income guidelines. Habitat provides labor and the family provides the materials. They do things such as handicap ramps, siding, window repair, etc... Jen told us about the Microloan program where families can get a 0% interest loan to buy the building materials.

Jen shared some info on the staff and volunteer numbers as well as the numbers of units of labor provided, as well as sponsor info. Jen's colleague, Bill, also reiterated that they provide critical home repairs to keep folks in their houses. Home construction is often provided to single moms. He also shared that a new home for a Habitat family will cost them 50-60% less than a mortgage in the

commercial market. They are looking for referrals for their info night for new families interested in the program. The next info night is tonight but if someone can't make it, they should still contact the Habitat office.

Presentation #2:

Kathleen Reardon, the CEO of NH Center for Non-Profits spoke to us about the Center and what they offer to support non-profits. Their primary goals are to raise visibility of non-profits and to advance the capacity of non-profit agencies.

They have a website that has a lot of materials available to members with resources such as templates, tools and videos dealing with multiple administrative needs. They have programs for Board members on governance, sustainability, fundraising, etc... and will be hosting one of these series in our area in the fall. There is a Board assessment questionnaire that is free on their website to any NH organization, even for non-members. Non-members can also access other website and email resources such as educational flyers.

She discussed a new program, NH Giving Day, which will take place on June 7, 2016. This is annual day of giving online and is a 24 hour competition to raise money for non-profits. They are recruiting now for non-profits to participate. All agencies on this platform can get donations and volunteers. It will also give tools and resources for future online giving. In response to questions, we learned that NH Gives is open to all non-profits, even non-members, as long as they are registered with the Secretary of State. "Givegab" the company that runs the site gets 5% of donations made. There is more info on nhnonprofits.org.

Any questions or future needs, feel free to contact Kathleen Reardon at Kreardon@nhnonprofits.org or 225-1947 ext 112.

Announcements:

Sue Mead from Greater Nashua Mental Health Center introduced their new Executive Director, Craig Amoth.

Amy Brady from the VA announced that they are having an employment collaborative tomorrow at 1:00PM at the VA. The goal is to have employment agencies collaborate on breaking down barriers to employment for veterans.

Magaly Rios reported on behalf of Tom Lopez and the Employment Committee that they will be meeting on Tuesday April 12 at 2:00 at the NSKS on Quincy Street. They are working on Employment Connect and are recruiting partners within the COC who may be offering employment, as well as Great American Downtown.

Eileen Brady stated that NHHPP (expanded Medicaid) was reauthorized and encouraged members to thank those who really helped move this legislation forward, including the Chamber of Commerce that testified in favor.

Liz Fitzgerald from the United Way asked about Habitat's role in lead paint issues. Bill answered that they currently do not get involved with lead paint or asbestos abatement as volunteers do not have training in these issues. If they are renovating a property and find these issues they contract out for removal. Bob Mack mentioned that the City has a lead paint abatement program.

Liz then shared that there will be a "Welcoming Day" for those new to the community on April 16th at the Nashua Public Library from 12:00-2:00. Beth Todgham added that this session's focus is emergency services.

Dan Weeks introduced himself as a candidate for Executive Council and said that he wants to support non-profits and would like to visit agencies so he can better understand the work we all do. If you would like to offer info about your agency, please contact him at dan@danielweeks.com or 264-2877.

Bob Mack reminded us that the Ending Homelessness Committee would begin at 9:00AM.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:00AM with a motion from Bob Mack, a second from Candace Gebhart and a unanimous vote.

Minutes taken by Wendy LeBlanc, Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force