

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care

Nashua City Hall, August 3, 2016

GNCOC Co. Chair Abigail Alicea called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM. Introductions were made by all.

The minutes of June 7, 2016, minutes were reviewed as we did not meet in July. One correction was made to a member's last name that was misspelled. A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Mike Apfelberg and second by Andi Reed-Lenane seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Ending Homelessness- Had no meeting in July. Met in June and talked about having our GNCOC website updated. It still has information on our Project Homeless event that happened in January. IT will be notified to get that removed. Some discussion on the Point in Time count and that (PIT) Numbers are improving. Coordinated Entry is working very well. Concerns were discussed in regards to HUD not funding two Permanent Housing programs that house eight individuals. This PH program was just awarded a year ago now Harbor Homes needs to find other vouchers for them. People who have housing vouchers are having a hard time finding an apartment as the rents are so high, and there are not many vacancies. We talked about how to resolve issues when clients get kicked out of a local shelter. In many cases, clients are allowed back to the shelter after a few days, depending on the situation.

Community Relations- United Way and St. Joseph's Hospital have collaborated to meet with Nashua Telegraph to discuss the issues around Homelessness. Next month there will be an article in the paper. Folks were encouraged to let the committee know if they have any stories they wish to share so they can include in the article. HIPPO also started a series starting June 1st in their paper talking about homelessness. Not sure when the next article will be published.

Data Gathering- Has not met, anything new to report.

Super NOFA/COC application is in the process. The deadline to enter initial data was last Friday, and everything was completed on time for the first steps. The Front Door Agency is the only agency from the Continuum that applied for the bonus project which would be approximate \$90,000.

Employment Committee- Did not meet in July. Employment Connect will be held on September 21st at St. Patrick's Gym. Haircuts and Employment Preparation will be available for participants. Great American Downtown will be assisting us with "Suit yourself" for the clothing part. The Chamber is helping with recruiting employers. The event is from 9-2, clients will be getting ready for the first two hours then meeting with employers after that. An email will be sent to all with the client flyer as we are seeking employers right now. For now, folks can let their clients know this is coming up.

Announcements:

In June, United Way Community Assistance grants were announced, with applications being submitted in July. This will generate 30 different grants. It will take about three weeks for the committee to talk to the various agencies. In September it will be announced which agencies will be funded. This money comes from UW campaign which has been in place since 1930. On September 23rd, United Way will be doing their annual "Sleep Out". This is a fundraising event where participants sleep in a box outside to generate awareness of issues of homelessness. A PSA was made, and it will be getting played at our local Chunky's movie theaters before each movie letting folks know about the event. Also, the Day of Caring is coming up, and they are looking for volunteers to help. This is their 25th year doing this.

Laurel Redden reported that there was an RFP for Nashua Housing for new funds for housing subsidies. Next week there will be a meeting.

Legal Assistance won its case as now folks that get Social Security and get TANF; TANF will not include as a source of income.

The Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter have two units available; clients must have an income. Taking single moms with children or single fathers with children. Currently taking applications.

Valley ST. Jail will be offering drug treatment to the inmates.

Andi from Nashua Housing let everyone know that Salmon Brook Senior Housing have 31 units available. Must be 62 years old or older. Has been going through the application and many don't qualify because they do not meet the requirements. There has been much fraud with landlords. Nashua Housing has added a "Protect Yourself from Fraud" flyer, and this will be sent to Bob Mack so he can add it to the toolkit that City Welfare give out to folks.

Laurie Goodman invited everyone to next week's National Health Center day at 45 High St. starting at 10 am. Harbor Care Health and Wellness Center is hosting. There is an art contest for two different kids' age groups, and there will be two winners. We will also have Yoga and other great things. The Mayor is also coming!

Department of Health and Human Services office will be reopening in the next four weeks after being closed for many months due to a major water leak. They will continue to be at Pine St. Extension.

Eileen Brady asked folks to tune into NH public radio as they will be talking about homelessness in our community. Go to www.NHPR.org to listen to it.

Minutes were taken by Magaly Rios, Case Manager for the Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force-PSL