

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care

Nashua City Hall, February 1, 2017

Chair Ana Pancine called the meeting to order at 8:08AM. Introductions were made by all.

Ana reminded the group that if there is a school closing in Nashua, there will be no GNCOC meeting.

Introductions were made by all. Ana explained the GNCOC format of alternating months having presentations or committee reports.

Minutes from the January 4, 2017 meeting were not yet available so review of those minutes were tabled until next month.

Committee Reports:

Board: Ana shared that we planned for March presentations at our January Board meeting, which will include preliminary Point in Time (PIT) data, follow up from the January program inventory workshop, and an update on programs at the Partnership for Successful Living.

Donna Curley, Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) manager, met with the Board to discuss the statewide plan to utilize HMIS for the Coordinated Entry (CE) process. We also discussed the data gathering committee and the need to make that committee more robust and more useful. This would also allow for beefing up the Annual Performance Report (APR) review process.

Ending Homelessness- Bob Mack shared that last month's meeting was a continuation of the inventory workshop from the GNCOC meeting. He reviewed the December meeting, which involved a review of winter overflow for shelter, and how referrals come through CE.

During the December meeting, updates were shared on program availability, such as Front Door's Rapid re-housing program, and the Bridge program, which requires a referral from Greater Nashua Mental Health Center. There is also available space in the homeless veterans programs.

Some data was shared regarding 60% of clients leaving Maple St Shelter have permanent housing. Some additional conversation occurred regarding the Housing First model, youth homelessness and the Project Homeless Connect event scheduled for 1/25/17.

Community Relations- Nothing to report from the subcommittee. Wendy LeBlanc used this opportunity to explain the reason for the GNCOC and how it operates to a few self-identified homeless guests that attended the meeting.

Mike Apfelberg shared that there was an excellent article in the Telegraph regarding youth homelessness. Doug Howard was featured in the article.

Data Gathering- No formal report but Elizabeth Martin shared that she had been taking the PIT information from those who attended the Project Homeless Connect (PHC) event. Preliminary data shows that of the 62 PHC attendees, 10 were homeless by HUD's definition. This led to an additional discussion of the PIT and that most data is collected through HMIS but agencies are still asked to provide their spreadsheets of clients that they work with who were homeless that night.

Employment: Magaly Rios shared that the committee is not currently meeting but will be reconvening soon to begin plans for 2017 Project Employment Connect.

Other Groups: Olga Cruz gave an update from the recent Shelter Director's meeting. Granite Pathways did a presentation, there was discussion on regional Access Point services, there was information shared about the addiction crisis line, information on Naloxone, and a review of the PIT. She also talked about a new spreadsheet tool being designed to help identify shelter openings around the state on a daily basis. There was some discussion about clients identifying as having issues of domestic violence are being turned away from the shelters and sent to the DV providers. They reviewed the process to ask questions to see if the client is fleeing and currently in danger, or having had a history of DV. Rachel from Bridges reinforced that their criteria is to provide shelter services to those in imminent danger.

Mike Apfelberg had an announcement about state legislation. SB-94 which will add money to the Affordable Housing fund. This fund is to provide loans and capital to developers who are building affordable housing.

Announcements:

Doug Howard talked about a literacy event taking place from 9-12 on April 8, 2017 for families of the Nashua school district. If anyone wants to have an info table (family friendly) let Doug know.

Wendy LeBlanc shared that the Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force, as well as the administrative and housing program staff for Harbor Homes and the Partnership for Successful Living have moved to 77 Northeastern Boulevard, along with another PSL agency, Healthy at Home.

Susan Mead told the group about an event from 11-1 on April 1, 2017 to "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans" at Alvirne High School. It is a resource fair for all veterans, with a special focus on thanking the veterans from the Vietnam era. All community members are encouraged to attend and show support.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00AM.

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