

Ending Homelessness Committee

Minutes form May 2, 2012

Present in meeting were: Eileen Brady, Wendy LeBlanc, Magaly Rios, Jerry Leclerc, Bob Mack, Laurie Skibba, Ray Villeneuve, Lianne Bower, Gale Sylvia, Glenn Liranzo, Hilary Keating, Lisa Milam, Jennifer Hinderer, Sandie Leavitt, Ed Graves, Kevin O'Meara

B. Mack, Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00AM. Introductions were made by all. The minutes of the April 4, 2012 meeting were reviewed. There being no changes, a motion to accept the minutes was made by J. Leclerc which was second by L. Skibba and approved by all.

Ending Homeless Plan:

The actions that have already been accomplished have not been updated on our web page yet. Many agencies are currently using HMIS because it's required by their program but it is very useful for all agencies serving homeless clients. HMIS reports outcomes on clients as well. HMIS also tracks how many people are getting SSI/income. The super NOFA link on the GNCO web page posts several outcomes on a monthly basis, so if anyone is interested in looking at that information, it is available there. It shows many different data elements and it can be interesting to see. One of the biggest challenges is tracking where people go after leaving the shelter or other housing programs.

L. Skibba stated the key is to have affordable housing. Currently at Anne Marie House they have 9 families and all have parents who are employed. The program allows clients to save 75% of their income to help client with getting an apartment but at \$8.00/hr and no public transportation from Hudson to Nashua it gets very challenging for people. Many clients are moving out of Hudson to different towns that have affordable housing. Many are staying the full 2 years in the program and most go on to Permanent Housing.

E. Brady stated that Visualize Nashua is meeting tomorrow at 6PM. There have been many participants there, both providers and clients. They are talking about reductions in affordable housing stock. Affordable housing should be included. Many landlords are increasing the rent all around town. The new Merrimack Mall is hiring Managers at higher salaries, however, retail staff are making around \$8.00/hr. The Work Force Housing bill passed the house.

G. Liranzo reported that at The Front Door Agency Security Deposit Assistance program has been refusing many people because they clearly cannot afford the apartment moving forward. She will look into the Transitional program and its outcomes. Some discussion re: www.movethemountain.org. There are many groups that are currently meeting, over 1,000 through this program/process, but none here in New England. Many people that have been unemployed for extended periods of time are getting desperate and applying for SSI/SSDI. NH Housing may have a clear picture of how many affordable housing is currently available.

Minutes taken by Magaly Rios, Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force