

## Ending Homeless Committee

October 2, 2013

Present in meeting were: Eileen Brady, Wendy LeBlanc, Magaly Rios, Bob Mack, Matthew Tingler, Jerry Leclerc, Kathy Paquette, Abigail Alicea, Lianne Bower, Glenny Liranzo, Sandie Leavitt, Pamela Deres, Kevin O'Meara, Stephanie Roy, Sandra Delosa, Richard Rutter, Kate Sementa

Call to Order 9:00am, Introductions were made by all. Minutes from our September 4<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed. A. Alicea made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by E. Brady. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Committee thanked D. Pare for coordinating with St. Patrick's Church to host Project Homeless Connect 2013. There will be an email sent out to all agencies with registration forms and save the date flyer.

### *Ending Homeless Action Plan:*

-Harbor Homes will be the fiscal agent for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund; not sure on details yet.

-In Goffstown NH there is a community loan program that provides 107 affordable mobile homes

### *Wrap Around Services:*

Any provider that is interested in having a wrap around meeting for a client can contact B. Mack. They will need to host it and B. Mack will work with the agency to identify key providers to brainstorm and find a solution for the individual. Many agencies have been utilizing this service and it can be very helpful for individuals who are stuck in a situation.

Project Homeless Connect (PHC) will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am-3:00pm. Bob explained the PHC for those who are not familiar with this event. It is not only beneficial for folks who are homeless and at risk but it's also good for providers to network and see what else is out here to better serve their clients.

W. LeBlanc stated that The Partnership for Successful Living has a link on their website where people who are looking for services can email their situation and the six agency leaders will get the email. If a person is struggling with substance abuse then Keystone will respond to them, if a person is living with HIV then Task Force will respond, etc. In many cases these individual are reaching out from out of state and have no resources.

Group discussed the true meaning of homelessness. HUD doesn't consider people living in hotels as homeless people. We recognize that they are homeless if the city pays for the motel but if an individual is paying for the hotel we don't necessarily know that unless they are getting assistance through the state or through an organization. If a family is placed in a motel and then there is room in a shelter, they must go to the shelter. Many people don't want to go to a homeless shelter once referred.

The Front Door Agency helps people with security deposit vouchers; no longer helping with first month of rent. It has been over one year since they have had funding for that program. It would be helpful for landlords to be more aware of what is available for tenants who are struggling. There is a NH Property Owners Association that meets regularly. G. Liranzo will look into connecting with this organization to educate them. Some churches from the community will help individual with rental assistance.

Conversation was made re: animals in a homeless shelter and K. Paquette stated that New Horizons in Manchester will allow a "service animal" as long as you have a doctor's note. There was some disagreement because it is against the law to ask a person why they need a "service animal", as that may violate privacy. Will look for some clarification from NH Legal Assistance. Bedford Animal Hospital will help temporarily shelter pets for people that have dogs and cats that are homeless.

Meeting adjourned.

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