

Ending Homelessness Committee

December 3, 2014 Nashua City Hall

Present in meeting were; Magaly Rios, Abigail Alicea, Richard Rutter, Kevin O'Meara, Olga Cruz, Maggie Dechene, Sandra Delosa, Roberts Angela, Lianne Bower, Peter Kelleher, Bob Mack

Call to order 9:00AM. Introductions were made. Minutes from our November meeting were reviewed R. Richard made a motion to accept the minutes second by A. Alicea. All were in favor.

Coordinated Assessment is moving along and will launch soon. The lead agencies are Harbor Homes Inc, Front Door Agency, and the Rescue Mission. They are still working out the details, maybe a telephone number will be the way to start, and Intake can be done at the most appropriate place for client. This committee will help clients minimize the number of people they need to meet with in the system. We need direct service providers to participate in this committee to talk about current capacity levels, that way the intake workers will know what is available for folks.

The committee discussed current client cases and how we can get clients quickly into a program. Generally, homeless clients are referred to a homeless shelter, then transitional housing, then permanent housing. Some clients can be picky and would prefer to choose their own form of shelter (motel), but it's important for them to take what is available. Many people in our community work but don't make enough money to afford housing independently, and some programs require income.

Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter has 3 family units but there is an income requirement, for Norwell House no income is necessary for parent age 18-35. Marguerites Place will have two openings in the beginning of the year but there are about 23 people on the waiting list. Ann Marie's House also has a big waiting list. Keystone hall will have a rapid re-housing program sometime next year, primarily for clients in the Keystone Program that have no place to go after they complete their treatment program. This is still in the very early stages, waiting for approval from HUD.

Providers knowing the criteria for different programs are will help us better assess the situation and send the person/family to the appropriate place.

The Point in time count last year counted 81 people homeless of those people 45/46 have been housed. The remainders cannot be found.

P. Kelleher reported that HHI's Mainstream Housing (Section 8 program) waiting list currently has 13 people on it and they had stopped adding people to the waiting list for the past 4 years. The waiting list will be open in the spring next year, and people can sign up again. The committee decided to create a centralized electronic email loop with homeless providers to talk about what they have available. We just need to come up with who needs to be in this email loop.

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