

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care  
Meeting Minutes  
February 3, 2010  
[www.nashua-coc.org](http://www.nashua-coc.org)

Call to Order 8:04 am. All present introduced themselves.

Review of minutes from the 1/6/10 meeting. B. Alves made a motion to accept the minutes as written. J. Leclerc seconded and the motion carried.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Executive Committee

W. LeBlanc told the group that Lori Piper from Merrimack County Savings Bank has offered to be the new clerk for the GNCOC. A full vote was taken—all in favor and the motion carried to appoint L. Piper as the new clerk.

W. LeBlanc mentioned that some agencies have not yet turned in the Point In Time Count sheets and requested that those who have not please get them back to her ASAP. There is a new data gathering committee but it is still headed by L. Newell. More time needs to be spent on the 10 Year Plan.

#### Ending Homelessness

E. Brady reviewed the numbers from Project Homeless Connect. 120 attendees and mixed reviews. The Tenant's Rights workshop that was held at Harbor Homes was not well attended.

There will be a Landlord workshop on 3/4/10 at 7pm at the Nashua Public Library. An ad will be in the Telegraph and any agencies who work with Landlords are encouraged to distribute the flyer to promote the workshop. The focus will be on rights, responsibilities and obligations of Landlords.

#### Community Relations

P. Murphy noted that the committee is working to get the Plan out to Town managers. They will be drafting another letter to Towns regarding the PIT homeless count so they can see what is going on with homelessness in their communities. The next meeting will be in Mid-March.

#### Legislative Affairs

Rep. Schulze is not in attendance as she is in session. She is chairing a committee that is looking at medical and mental health services in the prison system. L. Wilshire noted

that Senate bill 396 is being discussed and entails restricting the use of physical restraints to contain clients. This may affect agencies that employ such practices. P. Kelleher mentioned that there is legislation going to the House that will propose creating a commission to study homeless veterans. So far no one has opposed that bill.

### Data Gathering

The Data Gathering Committee met in January to coordinate the PIT count. The next meeting will be at Harbor Homes on 3/12/10 at 10:30 am.

### HMIS

L. Newell explained the HMIS system to the Continuum and to any new folks who were in attendance. Copies of the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) were handed out and the numbers were in range. Community Services Council is now fully staffed. L. Newell also distributed data sheets regarding how we are doing in meeting our HUD goals.

### Statewide Committees

MCOC—L. Newell attended the MCOC and said they had done a PIT training and are also looking at fundraising for a new resource center in Manchester. Renovations have begun on the building and Helping Hands is the managing partner while the United Way is the fiscal agent.

BOSCOC—Most recent meeting was cancelled; next meeting will be 2/25/10.

ICH- P. Kelleher attended the ICH meeting on 1/24. The topic was updating the 10 Year Plan. There is also an effort to develop a 4 Year Plan to End Veteran Homelessness. Anyone with input can email P. Kelleher.

NH Coalition to End Homelessness- C. Gebhart mentioned that the NH Coalition to End Homelessness meetings are now quarterly, not monthly like they used to be. Next NHCEH meeting will be 3/6 at the Salvation Army on Clinton St. in Concord.

Shelter Directors Meeting- K. Merrill attended the Shelter Directors Meeting on 1/8/10. They discussed data collection and those facilities that are not using HMIS. They also received a letter from the ACLU regarding shelters discriminating against sex offenders by refusing to house them. There will be a statewide committee of shelter directors to address the issue.

### Announcements

Janet Watson from Nashua Area Health Center requested a letter of support for her program that provides outpatient substance abuse services to pregnant and parenting

women. P. Kelleher made a motion to give the letter of support; C. Gebhart seconded and the motion carried.

B. Alves said that Marguerite's Place has an on-site, licensed daycare facility that is now open to the public. Anyone interested can call 598-1582 x.15 and speak to Celeste for more information.

BHHS is releasing an RFP for a lead agency to sponsor and coordinate the HMIS system. Bernie Bluhm from BHHS is looking for members of the GNCOC to help evaluate proposals that are submitted.

S. Gagnon from the NHA shared a flyer advertising space available on the waitlist for elderly housing. Applicants must be 62+ years old and reside or work in Nashua. Single person income limit is \$44,800.

T. Benhardt handed out Fuel Assistance pamphlets. SNHS has increased monthly allotments by 20% and plenty of funds are available.

J. Leclerc is looking for members to join the Project Employment Connect Committee. They will be meeting soon to begin coordinating the 2<sup>nd</sup> event. Please contact Jerry if you are interested in joining the committee.

Adjourn: 8:45am

Minutes prepared by Jessica Karwatske, NPCC