

**Greater Nashua Continuum of Care
Meeting Minutes
Nashua City Hall Auditorium
September 5, 2007
www.nashua-coc.org**

Call to Order: 8:02 a.m. by Chair Lori Wilshire.

All present introduced themselves and visitors welcomed.

Minutes of August 1, 2007: (handout) B. Mack requested a correction on page 2, paragraph 13. B. Mack motioned to accept the minutes with corrections. J. Leclerc seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: L. Wilshire mentioned that the committee discussed a grant that the GNCOC is applying for through The New Hampshire Charitable Fund. She also mentioned that committee membership was discussed and there is a need to encourage people to join and participate.

Ending Homelessness Committee: B. Mack indicated this committee met on August 1, 2007 and made revisions to the plan which will be posted on the website. He also discussed the need to heighten awareness and communicate with the landlords. Services need to be provided after individuals are placed in housing, this may be something the wrap around committee may want to assist with this.

The e-mail loop was also discussed. When B. Mack sent an e-mail regarding the increase in homeless females, he received many responses.

GAPS Committee: L. Wilshire mentioned the committee is working on revising a form to collect data. At the next Continuum the form will be handed out to get feedback.

Community Relations Committee: L. Wilshire mentioned that they are setting up dates to contact shop owners to explain services available and leave contact information.

Continua: MCOC-T. Epaphras was not present at the meeting.

BOSCOC- Looking for a new volunteer to report for this committee.

ICH- L. Christie mentioned a sub committee will be looking to set up a process to show how the \$400,000.00 is allocated between security deposits and how the agencies handle the money.

P. Kelleher reminded everyone about the Homeless Provider Conference.

B. Mack mentioned that preparations are being made for the Project Homeless Connect. The next planning meeting will be held on Sept. 7th at 1:15pm, 18 Mulberry Street. He mentioned that last years event went well and the planning process should not be difficult. If anyone has any thoughts or concerns they are welcome to attend the meeting. The event will be in December, tentatively between 12:00pm and 4:00pm.

G. Martins indicated that Rapid Re-housing meets the first Tuesday of every month, 8:30am at the Red Cross. He also mentioned the committee is following a grid from EHC.

Announcements:

M. Read asked what number should be used during evening and weekend hours. It was explained that even though the 211 line is not operating the homeless hotline is still available, the number is 1-800-852-3588.

L. Newell mentioned that HMIS is working on APR's once a month and SuperNOFA goals. She discussed permanent housing over 6 months, transitional housing and transitional to permanent housing.

S. Mead asked what is considered transitional housing. L. Newall explained that it is the HUD definition of transitional housing up to 2 years.

J. Leclerc announced that on September 29, 2007, The Greater Nashua Interfaith Hospitality will be holding their fundraising event at the Crowne Plaza in Nashua. Tickets will be sold for \$75.00 per person. There will be a silent auction, raffles and cocktails at 6:00pm. If anyone is interested they can contact Jerry or Linda Jeynes.

J. Karwatske mentioned there will be a Financial Literacy Program at the Pastoral Care Center on 7 Concord St, Nashua, NH.

G. Martins discussed the Statewide Transportation's plan to connect all routes and identify the transportation problems within the state.

B. Mack mentioned that the Nashua Regional Planning Commission has a lot of gaps. People are unable to get transportation unless they have a handicap.

G. Martins discussed a waiver from the Federal Government to connect to funds to improve access to service.

E. Cochran indicated that Manchester oversees the transportation and this makes a big difference.

B. Mack discussed Bridgett's recent announcement in regard to affordable housing. He mentioned the need for a comprehensive system to capture all of the units.

A. Quinn discussed the stigma that individuals may have and the tendency not to reach out for help. There needs to be a concern once these individuals are placed in housing. She stated that the only way to obtain a Case Manager is if the individual suffers from a chronic mental illness.

K. Paquette mentioned that the homeless individuals she meets with are very protective of their surroundings and afraid. S. Mead offered to accompany Kathy when she meets with these homeless individuals.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:53 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Kim Berube, Harbor Homes, Inc.