

**Committee on Ending Homelessness**  
**Minutes of the November 2, 2005 Meeting**  
Nashua City Hall, Room 208

Present at the meeting were: Bob Mack, Miles Pendry, Wendy Furnari, Donna Juskiewicz, Eileen Brady, Jennifer Spencer, Maria Brown, Germano Martins, Klaas Nijhuis, Alphonse Haettenschwiller, Mary Andosca, Kimberly Tink, Doug Doyle and Joi Harris

Bob Mack called the meeting to order at 9:15 am. Introductions were made. Minutes from the October 5, 2005 meeting were reviewed. Wendy made a motion to accept the minutes and Eileen seconded. Minutes were approved. Minutes from the October 27, 2005 meeting were reviewed. Donna made a motion to accept the minutes and Wendy seconded. Minutes were approved.

Project Homeless Connect: The event will be held on December 8, 2005 from 10:00-2:00 at Main St. United Methodist Church located at 154 Main St. Agencies have been invited to participate by an email sent by Maryse Wirbal and so far response has been good. The next meeting of this committee will be November 15, 2005 at 1:00 at Nashua Pastoral Care Center at 7 Concord St. Outreach workers have been invited from Community Council, So. NH Services and Nashua Public Health. They will be given a flyer to distribute and will be asked to invite homeless folks as well as those who may be doubled up or at risk of homelessness. Lunch will be provided to the clients. Discussion involved a similar project called Veteran's Stand down which is along the same idea but provides more actual services on the day of the event.

Revolving Loan fund: Jennifer reported that the committee met on October 26, 2005. She has spoken with Earl Rossi from Sovereign Bank and Denise Thompson from Citizens Bank who are willing to discuss participation. Earl Rossi is looking for funding requests. Tony recommended contacting Lori Piper from Merrimack County Savings Bank, a GNCOC member, who may know others to involve. At the last meeting, the group discussed reaching out to credit unions. Nashua Pastoral Care Center is waiting to hear about their grant application for a similar type of revolving loan fund before making final decisions about this revolving loan fund. The group is looking for a banker and a lawyer to serve on the oversight committee. Klaas suggested we ask our Board of Directors for an attorney to help with this project and for any leads to be communicated to Jennifer or Bob Mack. The group also covered the application process and eligibility at their last meeting. The client must be able to repay the loan, it will be for rent and mortgage only and it will be an unsecured debt. Klaas suggested setting a target date for the program to begin.

Ending Homelessness Plan: Discussion took place around dividing the group into three subcommittees to address prevention, wrap-around services and rapid re-housing. There was significant discussion about which agencies should participate in which committees,

and it was decided that the chairperson of each subcommittee will be charged with identifying the participants for their group and the Wheel of Responsibility should be utilized. It was noted that there are many other community partners that are currently not participating in the GNCOC and more outreach needs to take place to engage them in the process. Bob is scheduled to present on City Welfare at the next Greater Nashua Leadership Meeting on November 16, 2005 and will also highlight the GNCOC. Alphonse suggested that before inviting hospitals, police, corrections, etc... we need a clearly defined mission and goals for the meeting in order to engage them. Bob Mack offered to chair the prevention subcommittee as well as continue to chair the EHC. Germano agreed to work on the rapid re-housing committee, although does not feel comfortable to chair it alone. Klaas suggested that Bridget Belton-Jette from Neighborhood Housing Services might be the ideal person to partner with as co-chair. Germano will contact her to see if she is interested. Since no one from this meeting felt that they could head up the wrap-around component, Wendy suggested that it be brought to the Executive Committee for suggestions and/or the next general GNCOC meeting.

Additional discussion regarding wrap-around services took place as Doug suggested that advocacy needs to be done with employers to educate them about hiring the homeless. At another point, Eileen mentioned that NSK&S have been getting fewer referrals from churches and perhaps this is due to Greater Nashua Interfaith Hospitality Network. Also, Bob reminded us of the Good Neighbor Agreements and this is a good way to try and get new folks at the table.

The next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 am on December 7, 2005 in Room 208 at Nashua City Hall. There will be no second meeting in November.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am.

Minutes prepared by Wendy Furnari/Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force