

## **GNCOC Executive Committee Meeting**

Minutes

October 19, 2005

Harbor Homes, 78 Main Street

**PRESENT:** Klaas Nijhuis, Urban Programs, Chair  
Wendy Furnari, HIV/AIDS Task Force  
Miles Pendry, Harbor Homes, Inc.  
Linda Jeynes, Urban Programs  
Bob Mack, Nashua City Welfare  
Sandra Hurd, Keystone Hall  
Donnalee Lozeau, Southern NH Services, Inc.  
Mariellen Durso, Nashua Area Health Center

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:00 am. Minutes of the September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting were distributed. K. Nijhuis noted a correction to be made. B. Mack motioned to accept the minutes as amended, M. Pendry seconded, and the motion was passed.

**General Meeting Agenda:** K. Nijhuis asked for suggestions to the GNCOC meeting in November. The following items were agreed to be added:

Katrina update – M. Durso

Project Homeless Connect update – B. Mack/M. Wirbal

Healthcare for the Homeless Grant application update – M. Durso/P. Kelleher

**Leveraging Letters:** D. Lozeau passed out a sample letter to be used for leveraging services between agencies. Discussion ensued around the difficulty some agencies (those falling under HIPAA requirements) encounter relative to confidentiality when reporting service for particular clients. It was agreed that those agencies not bound by HIPAA would make the request with client names to those bound by HIPAA and agencies bound by HIPAA would then report back in the aggregate to the other agencies.

It was decided to look into the possibility of having a training session to decide on a more uniform way of recording/reporting information to make it easier to use for inter-agency purposes. There was some discussion how HMIS might capture and report this information within the CoC. D. Lozeau noted that not all funded agencies are on HMIS yet; there were concerns about the possible impact on project funding. K. Nijhuis agreed to contact Linda Newell to see if she could provide a status report to the full CoC.

**Impact of Katrina:** M. Durso reported that very few people have actually come to the Nashua Area Health Center requesting help. She observed that the lead agencies did not seem informed about the services available by the various CoC member agencies. She believes Katrina evacuees are mostly staying with friends or family. They either connect to the agencies and services that are known to the households they are staying with or they find it difficult to access some of the services available.

**HOPWA:** W. Furnari reported that the application has been sent and feels there is a very good chance that it will be awarded. It would be \$1.4 million spread over the next three years.

**Health Care for Homeless Grant:** M. Durso reported that Dr. Scully, who was very successful in Lawrence, MA with this effort, has agreed to review the last application submitted and offered

to help prepare the next application. She and P. Kelleher will report to the GNCOC on how this is moving forward at the November meeting.

**Guidelines:** Since K. Nijhuis has not received any word from BOSCOG as yet; work on the Guideline was tabled.

**Project Homeless Connect:** B.Mack reported that the ad hoc committee for this project had met and they are getting everything set up for the event in December. They are looking into the possibility of having it at St. Louis de Gonzague church on West Hollis Street. They are working on literature for informational flyers and invitations. If this is a success, they would like to see it done every year.

**Discharge Planning:** K. Nijhuis has received no feedback from the local hospitals on this issue to date. He is still working on it. M. Durso suggested that the Public Health Department seems the logical entity to coordinate on this issue. She will contact M. Nelson, Interim Director of Health and Community Services

**Next Month's Meetings:**

The next Executive Committee meeting will be **November 16, 2005**, 8:00 am, at Harbor Homes Inc., 78 Main Street. The GNCOC will meet November 2, 2005, 8:00 am in the City Hall Auditorium.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00.