

**Committee on Ending Homelessness**  
**Minutes of the October 27, 2005 Meeting**  
Harbor Homes Conference Room, 78 Main Street

Present at the meeting were: Klaas Nijhuis, Bob Mack, Bob Keating, Miles Pendry, Wendy Furnari, Donna Juskiewicz, Eileen Brady, Jennifer Spencer, Maria Brown, and Germano Martins

Bob Mack called the meeting to order at 8:40 am. Minutes from last meeting were not available so reviewing and acceptance will take place at the next meeting.

Project Homeless Connect: No location has been confirmed yet. St Louis is unavailable as Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> is a Holy Day. The Latino Center may be an option. Wendy will contact Main St. Methodist. Klaas suggested inviting volunteers from Interfaith Hospitality and NSK & S to get more information to them regarding resources. Discussion involved the concern of too many providers taking away from the focus on the clients, although it was suggested that the homeless folks may already be aware of services. Eileen mentioned that they are seeing lots of new folks. Invitations have gone out to providers on the list-serves for NIAC and CoC. The next meeting of the Project Homeless Connect committee will be November 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at Nashua Pastoral Care Center at 7 Concord St. Further discussion included the fact that this event could come close to meeting item 3.8.2 in the Ending Homelessness Plan. As far as we know, no one else in NH is doing this event.

Welcome Home: Germano reported that a new homeless shelter has opened on Concord Street in Manchester, with 73 beds. It is privately owned, and Eileen said the location used to be a hospital and orphanage. May be a viable resource to be investigated further.

Prevention Strategy: Only one landlord attended the last EHC meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup>, despite Bob Mack emailing invitations. He thought that the leader of the Landlord Association would be there. They had requested that someone from the Housing Authority be there to answer questions regarding Section 8 and GJ Hicks-Grogan from Nashua Housing Authority attended. Discussion took place regarding the meeting, including the landlord's concerns about "entitled" individuals. Klaas suggested that we ask GJ to do an article for the NH Property Owner's newsletter to address concerns. Maria suggested a FAQ type article. Germano noted that the landlord who attended the meeting had concerns about elderly tenants hoarding and other challenging behaviors, and that referrals to DHHS should be made. Maria mentioned that there is a new property manager in Milford who took over the Mayo properties and is letting her know about pending evictions. Bob Mack wants to compile a list of landlords and number of rental properties in Nashua. He wants agencies to email him the lists they use and he will compile them. There was discussion around what type of information the City of Nashua's Assessor's office has. Bob will call them for information.

Landlord/tenant toolkit: The tenant toolkit is now on the CoC website. Once the landlord toolkit gets on line we will try to have it highlighted in the property manager's newsletter. Paul Bergeron and Paul LaFlamme were going to look at the tenant toolkit and tweak it to fit the landlords. Donna will check with them. Germano talked about Manchester's landlord reference sheet and how it is a single sheet with referral numbers. He will bring a copy to the next meeting for the committee to review. Bob Mack pointed out the Help Book and reminded us that these were given out to the landlords that attended the first meeting. Miles P. is working on compiling similar info for an electronic version.

Ending Homelessness Plan: B. Mack addressed the fact that the Ending Homelessness Plan has many components and we definitely need to bring in more partners to carry out the tasks. He suggested making three committees to address wrap-around strategy, prevention strategy and rapid re-housing strategy. As it is, the plan is too aggressive to be accomplished by this one small group. Klaas asked Donna if the homeless wrap-around meeting group (formerly known as SPOW) could take on the wrap-around piece, with the idea that the current EHC focus on prevention, and that housing folks take on the rapid re-housing. Donna said that it is too soon for her committee to accept this task, as they are new and still forming their plans. She will re-evaluate this at the beginning of next year. Wendy suggested doing some targeted education and recruitment from members of the entire CoC. Klaas will suggest to the Executive Committee that the December full CoC meeting will be devoted to this topic of trying to get other members more involved.

Bob Keating made some suggestions on how to manage the tracking of the Plan, including reviewing and modifying as we go. He reminded us that this is a working document that should note achievements, modifications and status updates. At each meeting we should review the items for the time frame we are in as well as perhaps six months ahead, review steps, discuss action steps and modify if necessary. He suggested that we add a column to the plan for completion info.

United Way Affordable Housing Initiative: Bob Keating provided information and distributed copies of the email from United Way. Money is targeted for permanent housing. Agencies should submit a concept letter to United Way and if the United Way is interested then the agency will be asked to submit a more formal grant request.

Revolving Loan fund: Bob Mack reported that the committee has been meeting and has contacted a few local banks to partner with and get seed money. Additionally the steering committee is looking for members, including representation from a bank/financial institution and attorney, to form and oversight committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 am on November 2, 2005 in Room 208 at Nashua City Hall. There will be no second meeting in November.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

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