

GREATER NASHUA CONTINUUM OF CARE

Meeting Minutes

Nashua City Hall Auditorium

September 7, 2005

www.nashua-coc.org

1. Call to Order: 8:10 a.m. by Vice-Chair Ruth Morrisette.
2. All present introduced themselves and visitors were welcomed.
3. Minutes of August 3, 2005: (handout) D. Lozeau noted two corrections and motioned the minutes be accepted with these amendments, B. Mack seconded and the motion carried.
4. Report of Executive Committee: R. Morrisette reported that this committee met August 17th and is still working on the Guidelines. She reminded everyone that election of officers would take place at the October meeting and to send any nominations to the Executive Committee. It was suggested that the Clerk indicate the current members of the Executive Committee on the attendance sheet for the GNCOC.
5. Ending Homelessness Committee Update: B. Mack reported that this committee would be meeting again today. He will be attending the New Hampshire Property Owners meeting on September 12th in Hudson and will talk with them about our COC and our Ending Homelessness Plan with the hope of gathering suggestions from them. P. Kelleher commended B. Mack for the great job he did in facilitating the Ending Homelessness Committee meeting with the landlords and property owners last month. It was a very positive meeting. B. Mack further reported that the committee has been looking at the length of stays in all the shelters. He said that all shelters are operating at full capacity now and are preparing for the expected overflow in the winter months. D. Lozeau asked if information could be provided on which agencies provide shelter beds and how many beds they have, both regularly and their overflow capacity. The possibility of housing "Katrina" evacuees was discussed with no decision at this time. B. Mack repeated the information about the Program Homeless Connect scheduled nationwide for December 8th. Discussion ensued about how the Greater Nashua area might participate. M. Durso told of her observations of the one done in San Francisco and felt it worked well for them. P. Kelleher suggested we get in touch with the local colleges to see if a class might be interested in taking on this project and help get it organized.
6. Homeless Wraparound Team: D. Juskiewicz announced that a Homeless Wraparound Team has been formed and will be meeting on September 27th at the Economic Opportunity Center in the Millyard from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. Anyone interested can e-mail her. A discussion evolved about how important the function of this new group is to the GNCOC.

7. Data Gathering Report: D. Juskiewicz reported that the data gathering from the July Homeless count was compared to the figures in January and it showed a 21% decrease in sheltered, a 35% increase in unsheltered, and a 13 % increase in homelessness overall. The next count will be done in late October.
8. CHALENG survey: J. Campbell thanked everyone for filling out the survey form and said that anyone who still hasn't returned a form, please send it back in the next week or two.
9. Endorsement Letter for Possible HOPWA Application: B. Mack said the city has been contemplating applying for HOPWA (Housing Operations for People With AIDS) funds. New entities need to apply, so the City would be the applicant/grantee and Harbor Homes and HIV/AIDS Task force would be the sponsor. The application deadline is before October 6th, which is before the next the next GNCOC meeting. These funds would help to create supportive, permanent housing for people diagnosed positive with AIDS. There was some discussion about who the sponsor should be. L. Christie motioned that the GNCOC submit a letter of support if they decide to go ahead with the application. G. Martins seconded and the motion carried with one in opposition.
10. Continua Reports: D. Lozeau read a written report submitted by T. Epaphras on the Manchester COC's meeting, which was on August 24th. Three candidates for the Welfare Commissioner spoke to the group in Manchester. Patrick Herlihy from the State Homeless, Housing and Transportation spoke about the importance of HMIS. Meena Gyanwali of the City of Manchester announced that Heritage United Way is working with Southern New Hampshire University to write Manchester's 10-year plan. Keith Kuenning of the NH Coalition to End Homelessness said the Governor's council is looking for a presently-or-formerly homeless person to join the Council. Families in Transition announced the opening of their new facility on Second Street on September 26th. The MCOC will meet again on November 16th.

M. Auer said BOSCO did not meet in August but did meet in September.

11. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. Executive Committee – September 14th, 8:00 am – Harbor Homes, 78 Main St. (*Later corrected to September 21st.*)
- b. Ending Homelessness Committee – September 7, 2005, 9:00 am Room 208, City Hall and September 29, 8:30 am, HHI Board Room, 78 Main St.
- c. General Meeting GNCOC – October 5, 2005, 8:00 am, City Hall Auditorium

12. Announcements: R. Morrisette reminded everyone to submit any nominations for next month's elections.
M. Durso announced that two more Family Practice physicians were hired at the Health Center. Pediatric and Prenatal patients seen as soon as clinically appropriate. Adult new patients will wait for next appointment 12-20 weeks. Please encourage new adults to keep their appointments so they can establish long-term primary care. The demand for primary care uninsured clients is overwhelming.
13. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:00 am.