



**Guilford County Continuum of Care Membership Meeting
October 8, 2020 – 9:30am – 11:00am
Minutes**

Present: Mike Aiken, Debbie Bailey, Brad Bowers, Elizabeth Danley, Alisha Doulen, Debbie Duross, Lashawna Forbes, Lindy Garnette, Brian Hahne, Annette Harris, Kelly Hedgecock (staff), Steve Hess, Albert Hodges, Donna Hodges, Jackie Hundt, Becky Hunt, Nancy Hunter, Steve Key, Heather Magill, Donna McCormick, Michelle McNair, Chewan Moore, Shanna Reece, Dr. Pamela Palmer, Rachael Pontillo (staff), Kecia Robinson, Sarah Roethlinger, Ericka Sanders, Pastor Kevin Sanders, Dr. Stephen Sills, Bernita Sims, Kentia Smith (staff), Mark Summerford, John Thompson, Josie Williams, Justin Williams-Blackwell, Myron Wilkins, Leroy Wilson, Thanena Wilson

I. Welcome and Introductions – Dr. Palmer opened the meeting and asked for everyone to identify themselves if they are calling in by phone. Guests for the meeting were Pastor Kevin Sanders, Ericka Sanders, and Nancy Hunter.

II. Review and Approve Minutes – September 10, 2020 Membership Meeting and September 18, 2020 Called Membership Meeting was included on the meeting invitation. The Strategic Plan was also attached. Dr. Palmer presented the minutes for a vote. Sarah Roethlinger made a motion to approve the minutes for September 10 and Nena Wilson seconded the motion. Sarah made a motion to approve the minutes from September 18 and Nena seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

A. 2020 meeting dates (via Zoom meeting until further notice) – November 12 and December 10

III. Kevin Sanders (Oakwood CDC) – Nena Wilson introduced Kevin Sanders from Oakwood Community Development Organization. Pastor Sanders and Ericka Sanders have started a project to open a day center for homeless individuals with showers, clothing, haircuts, and basic skills labs. The land in High Point has been approved and they are working on the building blueprints. Representatives from the City of High Point have met with Pastor Sanders and he would like to be connected with the CoC. Nena asked for updates on the project as it progresses.

IV. Nancy Hunter – The Strategic Plan Presentation has been presented and approved by the CoC Board. This document is meant to be a GPS and not the final destination. It can be updated as needed.

A. The running theme is “Stronger Together.” The four key issues and opportunities are: 1) Structural/Governance, 2) Relationships, 3) Narrative, and 4) Performance. Action items have been developed around each of these areas.

- B. Dr. Palmer asked for questions from Nancy's presentation. Bernita Sims asked if there was a roadmap for moving forward when the plan is approved? Dr. Palmer replied that the plan is the responsibility of the Strategic Planning Committee. Nancy also replied that there are dates on the plan that need to be completed and that the Committee has oversight of the implementation of the plan which will begin at the end of the comment period. Feedback from the Strategic Plan should be sent directly to Nancy by October 19 and her email address was included in the Zoom chat. Nancy suggested that the Strategic Plan is discussed each month during the meetings.
- C. Voting Action – Dr. Palmer made a motion to accept the recommendation of the framework of the plan pending any comments from the Membership. Bernita seconded the motion. There were no opposition and the framework for the Strategic Planning was approved.

V. Collaborative Applicant UPDATE – Brian Hahne

- A. COVID-19 Homeless Response Task Force continues to meet weekly since mid-March and is a valuable group to think strategically on the COVID-19 response.
 - a. Emergency Shelter / Transitional Housing Operation – Brian shared that there has been extensive conversation around the Winter Strategy Preparation. Bed numbers continue to be around 50% capacity and the shelters are trying to determine how to make more beds available. Asked for others who may wish to join the TF. Staffing will be an issue this winter due to the loss of volunteer help.
 - b. Isolation and Quarantine Hotel Site – The Task Force continues to work closely with the Guilford County Public Health Department on this process and testing. The Task Force continue to do regular check-ins with the clients at the hotels. The number is currently low but can fluctuate if there are any positive cases at a shelter.
 - i. Bernita has received requests from churches and others who want to assist with items such as blankets and personal items. Dr. Palmer asked if this could be addressed by a committee on how to coordinate these requests for outreach and supplies. Both Dr. Palmer and Shanna Reece suggested that the Housing Resource Committee can coordinate these requests. Dr. Palmer will follow up with Scott Jones on a plan.
- B. System Performance and Evaluation Committee – Thanena Wilson
 - a. North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) Division of Aging and Adult Services Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) – Recommendation for Funding Project Applications. Thanena explained that the fair share allocation for Guilford County was \$276,898. Applications were received for five renewals and one new project. The regional application is due on Friday, October 16. SPEC met on September 24 to review the applications.

- b. Renewal applications were received from Partners Ending Homelessness (\$40,896 for HMIS), Family Service of the Piedmont (\$11,400 for Emergency Response and \$19,000 for Housing Stability), West End Ministries (\$42,750 for Emergency Response), Open Door Ministries (\$91,697 for Housing Stability), and The Servant Center (\$45,000 for Housing Stability). A new project application was received from Tiny Houses Community Development (\$26,155 for Emergency Response).
- c. SPEC recommended reductions for the renewal projects. The renewals from Partners Ending Homelessness, Family Service of the Piedmont, and West End Ministries were reduced by 5% and the renewals for The Servant Center and Open Door Ministries were reduced by 10% in order to recommend funding to the new project for Tiny Houses. There is additional money coming into Guilford County as well as funding received this summer from the ESG-CV. The regional application will be submitted on October 16. The CoC Board approved the funding recommendations at the Called Board meeting on October 7.
- d. Voting Action – Nena made a motion for funding recommendations from SPEC and Sarah seconded the motion. Shanna Reece, Steve Hess, Steve Key, Brian Hahne, and Brad Bowers recused themselves from the vote in the Zoom chat. There were fifteen yes votes and no opposition.

VI. HMIS UPDATE

- A. Committee Report – Dr. Stephen Sills – There are no new updates, and the Committee will meet next week.

VII. Coordinated Entry Lead UPDATE

- A. Committee Report – Shanna Reece – The Committee has developed an evaluation checklist that will be presented at next Board meeting and then at the next Membership meeting. A Coordinated Entry MOU draft will also be presented at the next Board meeting. A partnership agreement is also being developed which will outline the responsibilities of the players involved in Coordinated Entry. The Coordinated Entry hotline received 208 calls in September including 43 assessments, 30 shelter placements and 10 placements on the rapid rehousing list. Debbie Bailey shared that there have been a lot of requests for family shelter placement and no beds are available. The goal for emergency shelter placement is ultimately housing.
 - a. Kecia Robinson asked about how the phone calls are categorized? Debbie explained that the database notes families, individuals, and other information
 - b. There was a conversation about affordable permanent housing issues. Josie Williams addressed pending eviction issues. NC Legal Aid has been awarded funding for Guilford County.

- c. Dr. Palmer asked how members in this network can share data for housing information and coordination of services. Shanna said that CE needs to be housing focused and work on the 211 system to deal with the other issues.

VIII. Guilford County CoC Stronger Together Task Force - Dr. Palmer

- A. Dr. Palmer asked for a called Membership meeting on Thursday, October 15 at 2:00 PM. This meeting may require a vote and Dr. Palmer asked to identify other representatives for agencies if you are unable to attend.
- B. Dr. Palmer shared that the Task Force is meeting on a weekly basis. Dr. Palmer, Brian Hahne, and Lindy Garnette have met with the Guilford County Commissioners Work Group several times. On September 28, Dr. Palmer, Dr. Sills, Shanna Reece, Nena Wilson, and Mike Aiken met with the City of Greensboro staff, city council, and the mayor. On September 29, Dr. Palmer, Brian, and the County Commissioner Work Group had a meeting with representatives from HUD regarding Technical Assistance. Guilford County has expressed interest in becoming the Collaborative Applicant. Dr. Palmer and Brian have met with the City of High Point Community Development Committee. The City of High Point will provide a formal communication of the City's support of the relationship with Guilford County. Dr. Palmer welcomed others to join the Task Force if interested.
- C. The CoC Board will have a called Board meeting next Wednesday, October 14 at 2:00 PM.
- D. Dr. Palmer asked for questions. Albert Hodges asked if the decision about the process (Collaborative Applicant) would be made by the County Manager or County Commissioners? Dr. Palmer said that the decision would be made by the work group, which is comprised of the CoC representatives, the County Manager, and the County Commissioners.

IX. CoC Committee Reports

- A. Housing Resource Committee – Scott Jones – Was not present at the meeting.
- B. Governance Committee – Thanena Wilson shared an update in the Zoom chat that the Committee is continuing to work on an evaluation tool for the Collaborative Applicant and a timetable for review that will be presented at the next Membership meeting.
- C. Advocacy and Public Relations Committee – Gattis Long – Was not present at the meeting.
- D. Membership Committee – Bernita Sims - Restoration Transitional Housing submitted a membership application. Bernita made a motion to add Restoration Transitional Housing as a member and Chewan Moore seconded the motion. There was no opposition.
- E. Nominating Committee – Thanena Wilson
- F. Strategic Planning Committee – Dr. Pamela Palmer – Discussed earlier in the meeting.
- G. HMIS/Data Committee – Dr. Stephen Sills – No update
- H. System Performance and Evaluation Committee – Thanena Wilson – Discussed earlier in the meeting.

I. Coordinated Entry – Shanna Reece – Discussed earlier in the meeting.

J. Appeals Committee – as Needed – No update.

K. Executive Committee – Dr. Pamela Palmer – No update.

L. Youth Committee – Sarah Roethlinger shared that the Committee has met on a regular basis. A youth outreach event called Haunting and Helping has been planned for Friday, October 30 in downtown Greensboro and High Point. Volunteers will hand out candy, resource guides, and toiletry bags. She asked for more representation from High Point on the Committee.

X. Old Business / New Business

XI. 11:00 AM – Adjourn

Next CoC Membership Meeting 11/12/20 and CoC Board Meeting 11/18/20 via Zoom