



GUILFORD COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE

Working to End Homelessness in Guilford County

Guilford County Continuum of Care Membership Meeting

August 13, 2020

Minutes

Present: Debbie Bailey, Chip Berry, Brad Bowers, Latoya Bullock, Tom Campbell, Elizabeth Danley, Lauren Doyle, Alisha Doulen, Lindy Garnette, Brian Hahne, Annette Harris, Kelly Hedgecock (staff), Steve Hess, Donna Hodges, Albert Hodges, Jackie Hundt, Steve Key, Latonya Jenkins, Scott Jones, Jon Lowder, Gattis Long, Heather Magill, Brooks Ann McKinney, Michelle McNair, Chewan Moore, Dr. Pamela Palmer, Rachael Pontillo (staff), Shanna Reece, Kecia Robinson, Sarah Roethlinger, Rhonda Sawyer, Dr. Stephen Sills, Ciara Smith (staff), Kertia Smith (staff), Mark Sumerford, Captain John Thompson, Robyn Ward, Leroy Wilson, Thanena Wilson, 1 phone number (336-741-7178)

I. Welcome and Introductions – Dr Palmer opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their participation this summer. Dr. Palmer asked for introductions – Dr. Stephen Sills, Rhonda Sawyer (volunteer with GUM) and Jackie Hundt (consultant) were introduced.

II. Review and Approve Minutes – July 9, 2020 Membership and July 17, 2020 Called Membership – Steve Key made a motion to approve the minutes and Michelle McNair seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

- A. 2020 meeting dates (via Zoom meeting until further notice) - Sept 10, Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 10 – Dr. Palmer welcomed Dr. Stephen Sills to the Membership meeting as a new Board member.

III. Collaborative Applicant UPDATE – Brian Hahne

- A. COVID-19 Homeless Response Task Force – The Task Force has been meeting weekly since mid-March. He is continued to be impressed with the level of collaboration, innovation, and cooperation between shelter representation, Guilford County Public Health and local hospital representation.
 - a. Emergency Shelter / Transitional Housing Operation – The emergency shelter and transitional housing operations are checked in with weekly. The bed utilization numbers are a good indicator of how things are going.
 - b. Isolation and Quarantine Hotel Site – Brian introduced Ciara Smith as the Homeless Services Coordinator to navigate between the clients, the homeless shelter system, and the Guilford County Public Health department.
 - c. Guilford County Partnership – The County continues with rapid testing results, leading to same/next day results. The high was 62 clients a few weeks and now at 13 clients. There has been a great partnership with the County and they have been supportive of our network.

- d. COVID-19 Relief Funds – The Task Force is trying to determine a winter strategy and ask for further funding from the County for staffing, site cleaning costs, supplies, and food costs. If anyone would like further information or like to participate on the Task Force, please contact Brian. Sarah Roethlinger asked where her clients could go while waiting test results and Brian responded that the Public Health department would work with her about sites quarantining clients.
- B. System Performance and Evaluation Committee – Thanena Wilson asked about the GIW review and Debbie Bailey sent out the notifications.
- a. Funding Notifications for the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) Division of Aging and Adult Services COVID-19 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV) – Thanena shared that all agencies who applied for the ESG-CV grant were awarded and \$929,015 will enter the community to assist with COVID-19 relief. A press release about the awards was released on Monday and was shared over Zoom during the meeting. Thanena announced the award amounts. She thanked the agencies for their applications and thanked the SPE Committee for their review of the applications. Lindy Garnette said thank you for the press release and thanked Thanena for her leadership during the process.

IV. HMIS UPDATE – Brian Hahne

- A. Written Standards Outcome Report – Brian shared that there have been technical glitches from the reporting software, so the full written standards report is not currently available. The current report is from March and he is curious about what the numbers will look like due to COVID-19. Transitional housing positive exits are 56% through July and is close to current written standards report.
- B. Weekly Bed Utilization Report – Emergency shelter numbers are roughly at 50% because the shelter capacity has been cut in half to remain safe. The transitional housing programs remain at almost full capacity, especially for veterans. These numbers are reviewed by the Task Force on a weekly basis.
- a. Dr. Palmer acknowledged Justin Williams-Blackwell for being willing to serve on the HMIS Committee and Scott Jones will now chair the Housing Resource Committee. Dr. Palmer asked for a chair and members for the HMIS Committee because this is a critical committee to align with written standards. Thanena asked for nominations to be sent to her if anyone is interested in serving on a committee.

V. Coordinated Entry Lead UPDATE – Brian Hahne

- A. Committee Report – Shanna Reece shared that the Coordinated Entry Committee met yesterday. Coordinated Entry is happening, and the marketing materials will be available shortly. There has been an issue with HMIS reporting software. Heather Magill and Brian will be working on a Facebook Live rollout for Coordinated Entry. Brian asked the

agency leaders for a meeting to understand the Coordinated Entry rollout. Shanna shared that there will be some recommendations for written standards and will be presented in the next couple of months.

- a. Brian introduced Kentia Smith and Rachael Pontillo as the new Coordinated Entry staff members. They shared the Coordinated Entry phone number, which will be included on the marketing materials. They shared their daily experiences with Coordinated Entry.
- B. COVID-19 Policies and Procedures Amendment – The Coordinated Entry Committee will be presenting to the Board two addendums. One addendum is due to the Coordinated Entry policies changing considering COVID-19. The second addendum is for the written standards due to the HUD allowances for flexibility. Both addendums will be in effect from when the Board approves until the Board decides to rescind the addendums.

VI. Guilford County CoC MOU's – Dr. Palmer asked for any feedback on the Collaborative Applicant and HMIS MOUs and asked for a vote. Lindy asked that the vote postponed to next month's Membership meeting so that it can be added to the agenda. Any feedback should be received by August 20 for Collaborative Applicant and HMIS MOUs.

- A. Collaborative Applicant – Scope of Services – CoC Board has reviewed the MOU.
- B. HMIS – CoC Board has reviewed the MOU. Thanena pointed out a typo on the MOU document.
- C. Coordinated Entry – The MOU is being worked on and will be available at a later Membership meeting.

VII. Nominating Committee Update – Thanena Wilson

- A. New Board Members – The nomination of Dr. Stephen Sills from the UNCG Center for Housing and Community Studies was recommended and presented to the Membership. Shanna Reece made a motion to approve the nomination and Scott Jones seconded the nomination. There were no opposing votes and the membership was approved.
- B. New Officers and Committee Members
 - a. The recommendation for Justin Williams-Blackwell to serve on the HMIS Committee was presented to Membership. Debbie Bailey made the motion and Shanna Reece seconded the motion. There were no opposing votes and the motion was approved.
 - b. The Nominating Committee recommended that the Officers remain and serve for another year to keep continuity during the current climate. Scott Jones made the motion and Gattis Long seconded the motion. There were no opposing votes and the motion was approved.

VIII. CoC Committee Reports

A. Housing Resource Committee – Scott Jones has created a goal of developing an electronic system so that CoC members can log in and see real time permanent housing options available online.

B. Governance Committee – Thanena Wilson – No updates

C. Advocacy and Public Relations Committee – Gattis Long welcomed Scott Jones to the Advocacy Committee. Recently, Gattis, Dr. Palmer, and Brian met with the Greensboro NAACP Veteran Affairs Committee so that they can learn more about the CoC. Gattis asked the CoC to participate on a social media campaign to introduce and educate the public on the CoC. Sarah Roethlinger asked about the social media plan and Gattis discussed a plan to use Facebook Live. Sarah suggested that agencies could change their social media profile picture on one day and she offered to help with the profile picture and instructions. Gattis suggested September 1, 2020 as the day to use CoC logo as profile picture. Reminders will be sent out regarding this.

D. Membership Committee – Bernita Simms – Not present and no updates

E. Nominating Committee – Thanena Wilson – Discussed earlier in the meeting

F. Strategic Planning Committee – Pamela Palmer shared that Nancy Hunter from NPH Consulting is working with the Committee on strategic planning. Feedback was received from stakeholders and the Committee is discussing the areas that need to be addressed. Workgroup is meeting in August. The emerging areas and opportunities are governance/structure, relationships, narrative, and performance. The work will be presented to Membership at a future meeting.

G. HMIS/Data Committee – Vacant – Discussed earlier in the meeting.

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 – Pamela Palmer – Discussed earlier in the meeting.

L. Youth Committee – Sarah Roethlinger asked for new members to join the Committee. The first meeting will be held on September 9 at 10:00 AM. Kentia Smith and Latonya Jenkins offered to serve on the Committee and Tom Campbell will find someone from Family Services of the Piedmont to serve.

IX. Old Business / New Business

- Kentia Smith asked if anyone wants to know more information about Coordinated Entry to contact her or Rachael.
- Steve Key suggested that we continue to send out press releases for CoC activities.
- Scott Jones gave a shout out for the number of people who are attending breakfast downtown and at the quarantine hotel. To date, 1744 meals have been served, including 63 people this past weekend.

X. 11:00 AM – Adjourn

Next CoC Membership Meeting 9/10/20 and CoC Board Meeting 9/16/20 via Zoom