



DURHAM HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

City Council Report

January 2022

The Durham Homeless Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) serves to advise the Durham City Council and Durham Board of County Commissioners on the implementation of collaborative initiatives to prevent and end homelessness in Durham. The HSAC is the governing board of the Durham City and County Continuum of Care (NC-502) and is tasked with overseeing implementation of the strategic initiatives and investments of the CoC.

The Committee's goals are to:

- Finish the job of ending chronic homelessness
- Prevent and end Veterans homelessness
- Prevent and end homelessness for families, youth, and children
- Set a path to ending all types of homelessness

MEMBERS

Chair Angela Vick-Lewis (Formerly Homeless Representative, City of Durham)
Vice-Chair Helen Tripp (Durham County Emergency Medical Services)
Secretary Dr. Angeloe Burch (Durham County Homeless Subpopulation advocate)
Shiesha Bell, (Youth Homelessness Representative, Lifeskills Foundation)
Michael Best, (Formerly Homeless Representative, Durham County)
Natalie Beyer (Durham Public School's Board of Education)
Heidi Carter (Durham County Commissioner)
Jonathan T. Crooms (Durham County Veteran Services Office)
Drew Cummings, (Chief of Staff, Durham County Manager's Office)
Ryan Fehrman (North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness)
Janeen Gordon (Durham County Social Services)
Calleen Herbert (NCCU Office of Community Engagement & Service)
Shantesea Kinard (Durham City Business Representative)
Eliza Mathew (Duke University Office of Durham and Community Affairs)
Charita McCollers, MSW (Lincoln Community Health Center/Federal Health Care for the Homeless)
Mark-Anthony Middleton (Durham City Council Representative)
Wanda Page (City of Durham, City Manager's Office)
Ebony Ross (Durham Public Schools Homeless Liaison)
Tracy Stone-Dino (Alliance Behavioral Healthcare)
Vega Swepson (Resource Specialist, Durham Technical Community College)
Ellecia Thompson (Durham V.A. Hospital)
Renee Vaughan (Faith Community Representative, Durham County)
Jenise Washington (Faith Community Representative, City of Durham)
Jasmine Young-Bradshaw (Victim Services Provider, Durham Crisis Response Center)

Vacant Seats

Public Housing Authority

Law Enforcement/Local Jails
Workforce Development
Durham Public Schools-School Administration

The Durham HSAC meets on the fourth Wednesday every month except the month of July. The HSAC held 11 regularly scheduled meetings during FY20-21 as well as a special meeting in July 2020 to address the COVID-19 response. Due to the COVID pandemic the HSAC meets virtually through Zoom. The Durham County and City of Durham respective Clerk's Offices post the meeting notices online for the public. The Committee's agendas, minutes and presentations are available online at the Durham Continuum of Care (CoC) Website (www.DurhamCoC.org).

COVID-19 Response

The HSAC received presentations and updates throughout the year on the Durham Homeless System's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Continuum of Care Members provided frequent updates on their programs and organizations' activities related to preparing for, preventing and responding to coronavirus. Homeless service providers in the community are managing congregate and non-congregate shelters, standing up and running a White flag program, and implementing and deploying COVID-19 funding and programs to the community, including Homeless Prevention, Rapid Rehousing, Emergency Shelter and Street Outreach.

Funding Recommendations

As part of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) regulations the HSAC is tasked with approving funding recommendations for federal funding that is awarded to homeless service providers. In 2021, The HSAC approved the State Emergency Solutions Grant- COVID round two (ESG-CV 2) funding recommendations for CoC homeless service providers. The annual allocation State and City Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding recommendations were also approved. HUD CoC Funds for HUD Fiscal Year 2020 were awarded to Continuum of Care providers based on HUD renewing HUD Fiscal Year 2019 awards.

System Improvement and Reports

The HSAC received System Performance reports from CoC Lead Agency Staff as well as the Coordinated Entry Annual Evaluation. Graduate intern research was presented related to Justice Involved Individuals and Homelessness in Durham. A report on the 2021 Point in Time Count detailed the number of people experiencing homelessness on a given night in Durham. The Committee received presentations about Affordable Housing development, the Forever Home, Durham program, as well as Durham County sponsored multi-family affordable housing development on Main Street.

HSAC Board Updates

The HSAC elected a new executive committee in September 2020. HSAC members and CoC Liaisons continued their work on the Policy and Planning Committee and Performance Management Committee.

The Policy and Planning Committee analyzes system performance for the CoC and works in collaboration with the Lead Agency to develop strategic priorities and policies for the improvement of CoC performance. This work includes an Annual Gaps Analysis as well as developing CoC funding recommendations.

The Performance Management Committee is responsible for reviewing and setting standards for the delivery of homeless services and for data management related to homeless populations and services, evaluating the implementation of CoC Policies and Procedures, and providing guidance to the HSAC regarding funding recommendations.