

DURHAM HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

3:00 p.m.

**Durham County Human Services Building
414 E. Main Street – 2nd Floor Conference Room**

The Durham Homeless Services Advisory Committee met on the above date and time.

Committee Members Present: Chair Charita McCollers, MSW (Lincoln Community Health Center/Federal Health Care for the Homeless); Vice-Chair Ellecia Thompson, (Durham VA Medical Center); Secretary Jonathan T. Crooms (Durham County Veteran Services Office – *Proxy for Lois Harvin-Ravin*); Durham City Manager Thomas J. Bonfield; Reverend Dr. B. Angelo Burch, Sr. (Corporate Private Sector Representative for Durham County/Executive Director, African American Dance Ensemble); Heidi Carter, Durham County Commissioner; Xavier Cason (Durham Public School Board); Meredith Daye, Development Director (Durham Housing Authority); Janeen Gordon (Durham County Social Services – *proxy for County Commissioner Heidi Carter*); Calleen Herbert (NCCU Office of Community Engagement & Service); Angela Holmes (Former Homeless Representative for Durham County); Regina King (Faith Community Representative for the City of Durham); Tracy Stone-Dino (Alliance Behavioral Healthcare); Fred Stoppelkamp (Non-Profit Representative for Durham County); Ve’ga Swepson, Resource Specialist (Durham Technical Community College); Chris Toenes, MSW (Non-Profit Representative, City of Durham/TROSA); Tony Tosh (Prosperity Recovery Services/Private Sector, City of Durham).

Excused Committee Members: Drew Cummings, Chief of Staff (Durham County Manager’s Office); Pam Karriker (Faith Community Representative for Durham County/Christian Assembly) and Melody Marshall, Homeless Liaison (Durham Public Schools).

Committee Members Absent: Alma Davis (Durham Crisis Response Center – *Proxy for Kathy Hodges*); Captain Stan Harris (Durham County Sheriff’s Department); Lois Harvin-Ravin (Durham County Veteran Services); Kathy Hodges (Durham Crisis Response Center); Mark-Anthony Middleton (Durham City Council – *proxy for Mayor Steve Schewel*); Alex Protzman (LIFE Skills Foundation); Mayor Steve Schewel; Captain Helen Tripp (Durham County Emergency Medical Services (EMS)); Angela Vick-Lewis (Formerly Homeless Representative, City of Durham) and Mayme Webb-Bledsoe (Duke University).

Staff Present: Director Reginald Johnson, Assistant Director of Strategy Karen Lado, Project Manager II Hanaleah Hoberman, Project Manager II Lloyd Schmeidler, Project Analyst Keshia Barnette (Department of Community Development) and Senior Administrative Assistant Macio Carlton (County Clerk to the Board Office).

Also Present: Valaria Brown, Chip Dudney, Derek Freeman, Rikki Gardner (Housing for New Hope); Michelle Graham (Project Access of Durham County); Ryan Fehrman (Families Moving Forward); Harvey Hinton III (Healing with CAARE); Sheldon Mitchell (Urban Ministries of

Durham); A. Larry Partee' (Former Homeless); Lillian Presley (Spaghetti Theatre Outreach Program) and Malcolm White (Alliance Health).

Subject: Call to Order and Welcome

Chair McCollers called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. She thanked everyone for attending and read the goals of the HSAC aloud. She invited everyone to have food and cake to celebrate the Continuum of Care scores for Fiscal Year 2018 Program Competition.

Subject: Minutes Review and Approval

February 27, 2019 HSAC Meeting – **Motion** by Commissioner Carter, seconded by Committee Member Burch to approve the minutes. The motion was approved unanimously at 3:15 p.m.

Subject: Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

Subject: CoC 2018 Debriefing

Lloyd Schmeidler, Project Manager II, explained the Continuum of Care (CoC) document that summarized the scores received for fiscal year 2018 CoC Program Competition. He stated Housing and Urban Development (HUD) did not provide a precise breakdown on how the CoC Program scored and only provided limited information. Mr. Schmeidler discussed the new project for rapid rehousing for survivors of domestic violence that was implemented by Durham Crisis Response Center adding the CoC did not score well on application questions 3A-2 and 3A-4 in the document.

Mr. Schmeidler explained the overall total CoC application score of 174.5/87.3 percent for fiscal year 2018 was the highest ever received. He stated the fiscal year 2017 CoC score should have been recommended for appeal before the deadline date because many felt it was an unfair score. Mr. Schmeidler thanked and acknowledged the Homeless Services Advisory Committee members, staff and acknowledged those who attended one or more of the 2018 collaborative application preparation meetings.

Committee Member Burch asked who had the reasonability to make sure that application questions 3A-2 and 3A-4 were addressed. Mr. Schmeidler responded staff and leadership were working with the homeless housing providers across the system to consider what could be done to reduce the length of homelessness and the number of people who return to homelessness. He added the City and County were investing to reduce homelessness and provide additional support.

Subject: Priorities for the 2019 CoC Competition

Lloyd Schmeidler, Project Manager II, discussed separating CoC funding for the 2019 competition from the recommended state Emergency Solution Grant Funding. He stated the two (2) essential recommendations:

1. Permanent support housing for chronic homeless citizens - should be a priority for any permanent housing bonus available.
2. New projects applying for the domestic violence bonus - would only be ranked ahead of a project applying for permanent support housing for chronic homeless citizens if the project score was greater.

Mr. Schmeidler stated the Durham Crisis Response Center should implement the 2017 CoC project before reapplying for any additional funding. He recommended other homeless providers apply for the domestic violence bonus funding available in 2018.

Mr. Schmeidler stated there were more chronic homeless citizens in Durham than available funding. He added 50 to 60 chronic homeless citizens were being housed each year and about 70 citizens were on the waiting list. Mr. Schmeidler explained Housing and Urban Housing (HUD) defined a citizen as chronic homeless if the person had a disability, if the person continued to be homeless for a year or more or had four (4) or more episodes of homelessness in the last three (3) years that totaled a year or more. He stated HUD was expected to release the Notice of Funds Application in May and was allowing the expansion grant.

Committee Member Stone-Dino asked if there were any projects with the Community Development Department that could combine CoC funds with the City housing funds to create affordable housing for chronic homelessness. Karen Lado, Assistant Director of Strategy responded no, this would require a developer to come to the CoC and have support for services. She added a project was funded that provided some affordable units and they worked with Alliance to provide some services.

Commissioner Carter asked if the CoC had considered any other bonus categories besides the current housing and the domestic violence bonus. Mr. Schmeidler responded HUD established two categories in 2018 and had not indicated any other bonus categories. Commissioner Carter inquired about a list that defined chronic homeless disabilities. Mr. Schmeidler responded there was a form projects could use to determine disabilities and he would forward the form to the committee members.

Mr. Schmeidler stated the final vote on priorities would occur in April and asked members review and ask any further questions before the April meeting.

Subject: Timeline for FY 2019 – 2020 City ESG and CDBG Competition

Karen Lado, Assistant Director of Strategy, shared a presentation “*Timeline for FY 2019 – 2020 City ESG and CDBG Competition.*” The presentation highlighted the following: City of Durham Federal Funding, City of Durham FY 2019 – 2020 Annual Action Plan, Draft FY 2019 – 2020 Annual Actual Plan Proposed Homeless Funding and FY 2019 – 2020 Funding Application Schedule.

Committee Member Stopplekamp asked for clarity on homeless households. Ms. Lado responded those households included family and individuals.

Subject: Homeless Systems Improvement Pilot RFP Updated

Hanaleah Hoberman, Project Manager II, presented a presentation entitled “*City Funded System Improvement Pilots.*” The presentation reviewed the following topics: System Improvement Projects, Coordinated Entry Planning and Administration, Coordinated Entry with Diversion, Coordinated Entry Central 101 and Landlord Engagement.

Committee Member Stone-Dino asked if the system improvements would pose a conflict of interest. Ms. Hoberman replied no, improvements would be an expansion of the current role. Chair McCollers inquired about the training for providers. Ms. Hoberman responded the training was for operationalizing of policies. Committee Member King asked if partnering with North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCCH) would it bring data entry and statistics up to date. Ms. Hoberman replied yes, updates, improvements and new data standards would be bought up to date.

Commissioner Carter inquired about the other special population needs. Ms. Hoberman responded those areas included veterans, domestic violence, higher level of support with adult care and substance abuse treatment. Committee Member Burch asked would the Department of Social Services open a line of communication for veteran’s care. Ms. Hoberman replied the process would refer veterans to appropriate resources at Veterans Affairs (VA) to get assessed and receive proper care. Committee Member Burch inquired about alternative locations for veteran other than the VA. Ms. Hoberman responded the goal was to make citizens aware of any other services and to provide all other options.

Chair McCollers inquired about the assessment for sexual offender status. Ms. Hoberman replied there would be a short list of why a citizen would not be eligible for referral. Committee Member Stopplekamp mentioned the risk ligation funding was ending soon and asked if the landlord engagement would help continue some of the same services. Ms. Hoberman responded the landlord engagement would have no risk ligation funding. She added there was other existing funding available for risk ligation. Chair McCollers asked to get an update on the risk ligation funding. Ms. Hoberman responded a report could be given to the committee in early Fall of 2019.

Subject: Sub-Committee Overview

Hanaleah Hoberman, Project Manager II, commended all the members who signed up to join subcommittees. She invited members to join any of the three (3) subcommittees: Housing Results, Youth Adult Council and Performance Management.

Ryan Fehrman, Families Moving Forward, explained the description for the Housing Results was to create additional permanent housing opportunities for formally homeless households. He added Housing Results had been partnering with “*Unlocking Doors.*”

Committee Member Holmes explained Performance Management bought policies and procedures to the HSAC. She added also worked with North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCH) to evaluate and make sure everything is implemented correctly.

Ms. Hoberman explained the Youth Adult Council focus was working on the HUB. She added the committee would be getting updates soon from Alex Protzman and some the youth he worked with.

Subject: Announcements

Hanaleah Hoberman, Project Manager II, stated the next meeting on April 24, 2019 would be a full meeting and two (2) hours long.

Chair McCollers reminded everyone about the Celebrating Soar Event on May 7, 2019 hosted by the Disability Work Group.

Committee Member Gordon explained Durham County had applied to become an Age Friendly Community and asked for members to join the Steering Committee for the Master Aging Plan.

Subject: Adjourn

Motion by Committee Member Commissioner Burch, seconded by Committee Member Herbert to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

With no further business to come before the body, Chair McCollers adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Macio Carlton
Senior Administrative Assistant
County Clerk to the Board Office