

Wake County CoC Membership Meeting		
MINUTES	Date: Aug 9, 2021	Time: 2:00 – 3:30 PM EST
Meeting Facilitator:	Margaret Cahill, CoC Board Chair	
Note taker:	Robin Saenz, RWPEH	

	Agenda
1	<p>Call to order – M.Cahill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Agenda Overview
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Funding Review Committee</u>: Nominations Committee received 7 applications and recommends the following to the FRC: <p>Amanda Stapleton, NC Office of Recovery & Resilience Decorba White, Healing Transitions Marni Cahill, Private Practice Meredith Yuckman, The Hope Center at Pullen Rick Miller- Haraway, Retired Community Volunteer Stephanie Williams, Office of the Secretary, NC DHHS Sylvester McKay, St. Augustine University</p> <p>--Each member has accepted --First meeting is Aug 18, 2021, at Noon</p>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee & Workgroup Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>CoC Systems Modeling-Gaps Analysis Workgroup</u>: J. Volkel reporting Has met several times to review data and identify key populations (cohorts) in our data: <p>Adults with Children (Families) Adults Only (Singles) Younger Adults (18-24) Older Adults (55+) Lived Experience</p> <p>--Focus Group occurred for each cohort --HUD rep (Whitney Patterson) will present on the final data at the next CoC Board Meeting including need to focus on longer-term non-chronically Homeless household and need for more RRH</p> ○ <u>Street Outreach Workgroup</u>: J. Volkel reporting Policy requested by the City of Raleigh and Wake County as a guide on how to engage street outreach encampments and if necessary, the process of encampment removal. Consulting from the City of Durham and building upon their encampment policy. Further discussions needed with the local health department, fire department, and waste management to collaborate and encampment removal. Policy will continue at upcoming meetings <p>Wake County has been selected to participate in the HUD’s new technical assistance opportunity through Community Workshops. Wake will participate in the Housing</p>

Focused Practices, Outreach and Shelter workshop. The workshops are an opportunity for technical assistance through group learning, peer to peer exchange, and individualized support from experts. 4 participants have been identified:

- Allison Sickles, Raleigh Wake Partnership To End Homelessness
- Paige Felton, Triangle Family Services
- Azalea Garcia, Oak City Cares
- Arlene Smith, WakeMed Heart

- Emergency Housing Vouchers Workgroup: J. Volkel reporting
138 Emergency Housing Voucher available (American Rescue Plan Act) via the Raleigh Housing Authority. Workgroup **prioritized unsheltered homeless as main priority**. On August 9th, 2021, RWPEH & RHA staff presented on the process at case conferencing. The By-Name-List Coordinator and case managers have worked together to develop a list of potential EHV applicants. Up to **20** people/households per month (recommended by HUD rep) to be referred to EHV. Workgroup meets bi-weekly to discuss successes/challenges. J. Volkel encouraging those who would like slides/information from the meetings to reach out to her.

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- Partnership/CoC Lead Updates

- NC DHHS ESG Application: K. Crawford reporting
NC ESG Annual RFA Released. 9 organizations complete the LOI. 6 new organizations, 3 returning. Fair Share/Available funding for NC 507: **399,175** (2000 less than award last year)
--Emergency Response: **239,505** (no more than)
--Housing Stabilization: **159, 670** (no less than)

3-person review community (None of the reviewers have any association with NC 507)
--Sept 9 and 10 Interviews (Approx. 30-45 mins)
--Sept 14 Notification to applicants
--**Sept 24 SUBMISSION to NC ESG**
--**Oct 1 NC ESG DEADLINE**
Meeting tomorrow with 9 organizations tomorrow, Aug 10, 2021
- CoC NOFA Updates: J.Von Egidy reporting
If intending to apply for CoC grant application visit www.coc.org This is for both new and renewal projects. Due 2 weeks from the date the NOFA drops (unsure of when this will be). Eligible project types: RRH &PSH
--Bonus project types may be included once NOFA drops
--No Emergency Shelter or Transitional Housing Projects
A mandatory information session will be scheduled with all applications to review CoC timeline for application materials
- Anti-Discrimination Policy-Language Support: J. Von Egidy reporting
Policy training went out and 100% ESG and HUD agencies have watched training. Wake CoC and partner agencies and their staffs, volunteers and contractors will not:

Deny meaningful access to persons with limited English Proficiency, to include translated documents, notice of participant's rights, grievance forms, and other materials vital for programs access or fail to work with language services or interpreters to assist persons who speak an alternate primary language other than the staff person and need assistance communicating

Suggestions for compliance included:

- Creating MOU's with nonprofits/org wanting to assist with translation services
- Language Lines
- Hiring more bilingual staff
- Local DSS (assists with over 100 languages 24/7)
- Several resources listed in chat (attached)

- NC Strategic Housing Plan: K. Crawford reporting
Develop a comprehensive and strategic housing plan at the state level. Will guide NC DHHS policy efforts and resources decisions- looking at what they can do at a state level to support CoC's Engaging Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) as they develop housing plan. NC 507 volunteers to participate (currently have 2- ideal would be 7-10). Encouraged those who would like more info/want to attend to reach out.

Meeting:

- Wednesday, Aug 11, 2021, 2:00-3:00pm

- HMIS: E. Doll reporting
HMIS vendor change- vendor demos will take place in the Sept., Oct., Nov., HMIS monthly meeting. (HMIS requiring 6 months' notice if choosing another provider) Data Advisory Committee will be rolling out in August. VoA plans to enter live data in HMIS on Nov 1. However, they will be backdating data to July 1. HMIS Summit recording have been released on HMIS Learning Center. New sharing QSOBAA needed as new partners join the HMIS database. ESG-CV uploads completed for city, county, state

J. Volker: Need new system identified by Dec 2021. Spoke of challenges of HMIS database and needing software that better supports referral process. Top 2 vendors will be invited for general demo (recording will be provided)

K. Crawford: Who's Going to Pay?? 200 licenses have been issued (50% jump)
Researching options to secure funding for new software.

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- Community Actions & Updates

- Eviction Prevention: Brandon Bell (Telemon)
Acknowledged the difficulty of applicants being able to reach staff- due in large part to massive number of calls being received (approx. 5000-8000 per week). Started off with 12 staff- now at 32/33 staff to meet demand. Recently discovered that the HOPE Program had been reporting wrong information for Wake County number. This has since been resolved. Is expecting Wake County press release this week.

As of Aug 9, 2021:

- Approximately **6900** applications received
- 2633** applications completed

--1777 approved

Total funds expended/obligated/remaining eligible: 16,859,497 out of 70,000,000

Have become very liberal with what “COVID related loss in income” means. Is encouraging everyone to apply. Online application has made the application process relatively easy, however biggest complaint from applicants and landlords is they must call in for update on application.

Launching new software called Neighborly- a platform specifically for rental assistance programs. Is hopeful that platform will speed along process. Right now, the timeliest piece of the process is the 45-55 days it’s taking to get required documentation. New platform will also landlords/tenants to sign in to not only view status but outstanding documents that are needed.

Telemon can provide 15 months’ worth of past due rent and utility bill assistance (which includes electric, water/sewer and internet) Applicant can also qualify for assistance moving forward

Questions answered via chat: (Attached)

--There is no cap on dollar amount

--Approx. 20% of landlords have turned down program

--Has list of landlords currently participating. For those interested/wanting more info, Brandon encouraging them to reach out to him

-- Spoke to significant gap between applications started and applications approved- a lot of applicants either not finishing the application or stop the process when asked to submit required documentation

--Can not be used for mortgage payments. However, 10 billion dollars (American Recovery Act) funding the Homeowner Assistance Fund. Being rolled out soon in NC

-- Making sure appropriate documentation is submitted will move process along quickly.

--Breakdown of administrative costs: 335,292 (City) 444,456 (County) **Total: 779,748**

- Eviction Moratorium 60-Day Extension: Sarah Dixon (Legal Aid)
CDC Moratorium extended to Oct 3, 2021, for counties with high rates of COVID-19 transmission (as of today, this includes 98 counties covered including Wake). Rates of transmission are found on the CDC website: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view> The existing CDC Declarations form will be sufficient for tenants to be covered. The moratorium prevents evictions for nonpayment of rent. Tenants may still be evicted for other breaches of the lease or criminal activity.

Eviction cases can still be filed for nonpayment of rent however tenants can provide landlord with signed Declaration **AND** go to court to request a continuance of the hearing until after expiration of the moratorium. Tenants whose request for continuance are denied, or against whom a judgment was entered, have 10 days to appeal. If no appeal is filed and the case is for non-payment, then covered tenants should not be locked out until after Oct 3, 2021

Tenants with questions should always be encouraged to reach out to Legal Aid

- Discussion

White Flag

Workgroup needed to prepare for winter white flag shelter. (Site, challenges from last year, what we want/don't want to continue) Do not want to get caught behind the 8ball. Kim will be sending out email looking for volunteers to participate in workgroup. P. Morris suggesting that white flag site will not be needed and those experiencing homelessness can instead be housed in the shelters. Also expressed concern for those who test positive for COVID who at this time are not able to be accommodated. K. Crawford open to having conversations with shelters re: accommodations and willingness to participate as WF sites. L. Rowe encouraging and gathering support of staff from their respective shelters to be included in the work group.

CoC Digest

Submitting information to CoC Digest would be helpful in passing out pertinent policy changes with your organization in light of COVID to the entire CoC. Jenn V. has made her contact info available in the chat (attached)

HNU Update

K. Crawford explaining to group that there have been no significant updates. We can expect the County to start moving forward with the project early/mid-August. The Partnership still has an operational HNU, the only thing its's not doing is meeting with new landlords.

Day shelter during summer months

K. Johnson suggesting this can be included with white flag workgroup. K. Crawford reminding group that the County opens cooling stations open up when temp is 100 and higher

6 Adjourn

- Slides from today's meeting will be available on website
- Partnership will send out information re: workgroups
- Next Meeting is Monday Sept 13, 2021, 2:00-3:30PM

--3:30pm: Meeting Ends--

Meeting Chat Messages:

Jennifer Von Egidy (to Everyone): 2:08 PM: Sorry Paige!

Seaira Green (to Everyone): 2:25 PM: Language Resource Center

Charlotte: (704) 584-7889 Greensboro: (336) 218-6348

Toll Free: 1-877-322-1244 Raleigh: (919) 324-3544

Fax: (704) 208-4018

Website: www.languagerc.com

Eric Doll (to Everyone): 2:31 PM:

<https://www.hmislearningcenter.org/index.php/hmis-training/hmis-summit>

LaKeesha Brown (to Everyone): 2:45 PM: Is there a limit on how much a person can request?

Danielle Butler (to Everyone): 2:47 PM: @Brandon - Can you clarify the FAP Admin Costs?

William TorresFuentes (to Everyone): 2:48 PM: Do you have a list of current landlords working with the program?

William TorresFuentes (to Everyone): 2:48 PM: Thanks!

Katie Braam (to Everyone): 2:48 PM: Could we see the previous slide again?

MARGARET Cahill (to Everyone): 2:49 PM: What accounts for the gap between the number of applications started and the # approved?

Jackie Roundtree (to Everyone): 2:50 PM: If someone applied for the program and received a response saying that it was on hold for irregularities. What could that mean?

Natalie Barnes (to Everyone): 2:50 PM: Can it be used for mortgage payments as well?

LaKeesha Brown (to Everyone): 2:50 PM: Is there any additional information that helps the process move quicker for those of us who completes the Housing application on the behalf of the applicants.

MARGARET Cahill (to Everyone): 2:51 PM: thank you.

Michelle Mozingo (to Everyone): 2:52 PM: sorry jenn! can you move forward to the next slide?

Danielle Butler (to Everyone): 2:53 PM: @Brandon - Can you clarify the FAP Admin

Costs?

William TorresFuentes (to Everyone): 2:57 PM: Brandon can you post your contact inform?

Brandon Bell (to Everyone): 2:57 PM: Brandon Bell - 919-590-0302 - bbell@telamon.org

Lisa Rowe (to Everyone): 2:57 PM: very helpful Brandon - thanks!

Michelle Mozingo (to Everyone): 2:58 PM: Thank you!

William TorresFuentes (to Everyone): 2:58 PM: thanks for the information.

Sarah Dixon (to Everyone): 3:00 PM: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/EvictionProtectDeclare_508.pdf

Sarah Dixon (to Everyone): 3:04 PM: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/EvictionProtectDeclare_508.pdf

Sarah Dixon (to Everyone): 3:04 PM: 866-219-5262

Sarah Dixon (to Everyone): 3:07 PM: sarahd@legalaidnc.org

Sarah Dixon (to Everyone): 3:07 PM: 919-863-1417

Stephen Gruver (to Everyone): 3:19 PM: Salvation Army is happy to be a part

AMANDA BLUE (to Everyone): 3:19 PM: I agree with mandatory participation/representation and I'm happy to be on the committee

Seaira Green (to Everyone): 3:20 PM: Is any representation needed for agencies that provide shelter by way of vouchers? White flag would be new to us but willing to be at the table.

Vance Haywood (to Everyone): 3:22 PM: Is there any need to discuss day sheltering during the summer months (heat related) potential hurricanes)

Vance Haywood (to Everyone): 3:25 PM: Thank you!

Peter Morris (to Everyone): 3:25 PM: A comprehensive plan to think about homeless not just as white flag but the effect of COVID, isolation, illness, day sheltering, quarantine, etc. is an important step -- hot or cold

Tosheria Brown (to Everyone): 3:26 PM: Wake County Cooling Stations

Tosheria Brown (to Everyone): 3:26 PM: <https://www.wakegov.com/news/wake-county-open-cooling-stations-wednesday-through-friday>

Rick Miller-Haraway, he, him, his (to Everyone): 3:27 PM: While I am no longer involved at the level of detail that I used to be before retirement, I just want to say thank you to Kim and all of the staff at the Partnership for the hard work that they are doing. The Partnership is coordinating and providing more leadership in some many more areas than ever before in our history. While there is a need for so much more growth, it is important to recognize how far we have come.

Jennifer Von Egidy (to Everyone): 3:27 PM: <https://wakecoc.org/wake-coc-digest-submittal/>

AMANDA BLUE (to Everyone): 3:28 PM: Thanks Peter