

9/12/22

First, I want to say the e-mail you all received on Friday was the first we were made aware of the termination of any contract. To clarify we did not and do not have a contract with Wake County for the fiscal year 22-23. Contracts with the City of Raleigh had not been fully executed. Nor have we applied as a collaborative applicant to either municipality but rather as a service provider within the CoC. Certainly, that does not change the e-mail from Friday.

Back in March of 2020 the CoC power / governing structure was held within a small tight knit group: the county, city, and a few partnership board members. Under the guidance and assistance of HUD technical assistance we, the partnership sought to change that, and we did in April of 2021. We started our new HUD compliant CoC with a diverse board of 20, a charter and an MOU for its collaborative applicant.

So so much has been accomplished in the last 2 1/2 years and as I look at the accomplishments of our CoC, under the guidance and leadership of the Partnership. I must admit I am baffled. How have we fallen "short of the mark?" As a collective we have all worked together under extreme conditions to fulfill our missions. We all have a role to play in the CoC, as has the Partnership. We are one of the team. We have done our best to provide the best possible service. Have we been perfect? No, we have not. But we have learned, tweaked, and improved along the way, just as you all have.

In the past 2 1/2 years we have been monitored on 10 different occasions by the state of North Carolina and the City of Raleigh. All monitorings have resulted in a positive outcome with no concerns, findings, or corrective actions. We have had no monitorings from the County, however, we did receive an "observation and feedback" report which we responded to in detail. Additionally we have reported our performance to both the CoC governing board and membership monthly. At no time has our performance as the collaborative applicant been discussed or come into question. So, I circle back to the original question, "how have we fallen short of the mark?"

Our CoC is governed by the HUD CoC program interim rule. Details as to how a CoC should operate are spelled out in great length. One of those items is the creation of a charter and MOU for the collaborative applicant. Our charter has been posted on the WakeCoCc.org website since its inception. I would encourage you all to review. Governing board members also have the MOU that details the respective responsibilities of the CoC collaborative applicant and HMIS lead.

Given the e-mail from the County to the CoC Friday I can see how many of you would be confused and or concerned. As we are as well. All this to say the decision to remove the Partnership as your collaborative advocate lies with the entire CoC not just one or two entities. We have proudly and fervently represented the CoC as your collaborative applicant and as a partner organization. We will continue to operate at the highest service level possible to you our partners and customers as well of as well as for those who most need our help. This means the NOFO / SNOFO / ESG RFA work continues, HMIS migration continues, and the Access Hub work continues.