

**Northwestern Continuum of Care
Steering Committee Meeting
Tuesday January 17, 2023 – 10:00 AM
Meeting Log in Below**

- **Welcome & Agency Updates and COVID Response**

- **COC Planning**
 - **HMIS LSA Reporting submitted**
 - **Annual Point in Time Count- January 25, 2023- Updates on Planning**
 - **Watauga Housing Council**

- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates**

- **COVID Relief State and Federal Grant Updates**
- **ESG-CV Reallocation contracts**
- **ESG-CV: Update on area projects**
- **Homeless Prevention and Diversion Program, Rapid Rehousing and CE/Outreach/Supportive Services**

- **Other Business**

- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**
 - **NWCoC – Virtual February 21, 2023 at 10am**

Below are the meeting link /call in information for next Tuesday's meeting.

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**Northwest Continuum of Care
Steering Committee Meeting
Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 10:00am
Via Phone Conference**

• **Attendees:**

Tina Krause: Executive Director/CoC Lead, Hospitality House of Northwest NC
Sonya Hamby: Lead Service Coordinator and NC HMIS LSA, Hospitality House
Christiana Glenn Tugman: Compliance and Planning Specialist, Hospitality House
Marnie Slawson: Homelessness Prevention and RRH Coordinator, Hospitality House
Graham Doege-Osler: RRH Coordinator, Hospitality House
Kennedy Freeman: Data Specialist, Hospitality House
Kim Cashatt: Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator, Northwest Regional Housing Authority
Lori Watts: Housing Specialist – Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), VAYA Health LME/MCO
Teresa Spears: Peer Support Specialist, Daymark Recovery
Sara Crouch: Director of Community Programs, OASIS, Inc.
Kat Danielik: RRH Coordinator, OASIS, Inc.
Jeanie Futrelle: Director of Client Services, OASIS, Inc.
Jazmyn Vickers: Housing Coordinator, OASIS, Inc.
David Barr: Housing Manager, Easter Seals

• **Agency Updates and COVID Response**

- **Kim Cashatt:** The Northwest Regional Housing Authority (NWRHA) is still closed to the public/drop-in but is scheduling appointments. The NWRHA submitted an application for LITCH for the property in Newland but was not awarded a tax credit. NWRHA is working on development of Saw Mill Village in Yancey County and anticipate a construction start date of early spring 2023. NWRHA just received an award of 30 mainstream vouchers (30) which is more than any other PHA in state received on this award. There are approx. 2000 vouchers in the NWRHA inventory. The NWRHA has not heard back from HUD on the Stability Vouchers at this time. The NWRHA public housing conversion to Sec. 8 is almost complete. NWRHA is still able to assist with lease in place for eligible households.
- **Graham Doege-Osler:** RRH Coordinator for Hospitality House. Working with 4 households that are in housing. Two of those households are on track to get vouchers. One unit is pending inspection. One RRH households lost EHV as they could not lease up before it expired. This household needs to move to HCV. Completed intake on client with lengthy episodic history of homelessness. Have some questions regarding CE and institutional discharge/eligibility for RRH. Increasing RRH enrollment due to additional funds from ESG-CV re-allocation. New ESG Annual funds began January 1, 2023.
- **Marnie Slawson:** Homelessness Prevention and RRH Coordinator for Hospitality House. The Hospitality House Prevention and Diversion program has 3 households enrolled and one may enter this week. Currently working with 6 households in RRH. The ESG-CV funded Prevention program is low in funding, with just a few months left. Some households will be exiting soon. Contact Marnie Slawson for assistance at: marnie@hosphouse.org
- **Lori Watts:** Housing Specialist – Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for VAYA Health. Joel Rice will start next week as the new Community Housing Specialist and is filling Lori's previous role in this position with VAYA. Hopefully, Joel will be able to join the Northwest CoC meetings as well. Joel comes from out of the Northwest area but has been involved for many years in housing in the Northeast area of Raleigh. Lots of changes in roles and responsibilities at VAYA but hopefully Lori can maintain attendance at the Northwest

meetings. Rachele Ellis at VAYA is the contact for the one time assistance program. VAYA is receiving many referrals from Wilkes County for this assistance. The one-time assistance program with VAYA is for contracted providers to refer members/recipients for help initially getting into housing and provides a maximum of \$500 to a household for either rent deposits, 1st month's rent, and/or utility deposits but not for past due rent, ongoing rent, or past due utilities. Referrals must come from community providers (Daymark, Mountain Health Solutions, Infinite Beginnings, Stepping Stone, Easter Seals, etc.). Information needed about Housing Support One-Time Assistance Program should be directed to HousingSupport@vayahealth.com Providers may contact Rachele Ellis for more information or also at Lori.Watts@vayahealth.com

- **Jazmyn Vickers:** OASIS has COVID tests available for anyone that needs them.
- **Kat Danielik:** The CoC funded RRH project is up and running. Housed one household last Friday which is the first placement in RRH! Working with a single individual, one family, but lost one household because cannot locate.
- **Jeanie Futrelle:** The OASIS emergency shelter is at capacity.
- **David Barr:** Easter Seals has openings in the Northwest region for qualified persons with severe persistent MH that are Medicaid eligible. In Boone- have one opening at Winkler's Creek and are still working on repairs in the other units. Wilkes has four openings. Ashe has two on Burkett Ave., one in Lenoir, and one opening in Morganton. Carl in Ashe/ West Jefferson had one opening that was offered to a group home eligible client. Felony convictions can create problems but a reasonable accommodation can be made. Can take a family of two but head of household needs to be a qualified applicant. If need assistance with referral and application, contact david.barr@eastersealsucp.com. The application can be returned to David Barr directly or housing@eastersealsucp.com.
- **Sara Crouch:** Update on Watauga Housing Council. The Council issued a survey and received 44 responses on whether to incorporate as a charitable organization. The survey was also posted to social media. Meeting this afternoon to decide on 501c3 and discuss with community partners on how to move forward because the Watauga Housing Council will not be providing direct services but doing community work. Watauga Housing Council and the committees are meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at 3:30. There are three committees: Fiscal, Housing Solutions, and Community Outreach that all flowed from the Watauga Housing Forums. For more information on upcoming events or on how to participate in a workgroup: Wataugahousingforum.org
- **Teresa Spears:** Daymark Recovery- Peer Support Specialist. Daymark is working hard on Tailored Plan role out. Kyle Sigmon was hired as a QP, so now we have 3. The walk-in clinic is available between 8-4. All centers are now walk-in clinics.
- **Jeanie Futrelle:** Have COVID tests available for pickup at the main office. These tests are free. Also available at the Avery office.
- **Tina Krause:** Hospitality House (HH) Emergency Shelter and the Night-by-Night program is operating at full capacity. Taking some in NBN based on severe weather. Have one opening in PSH Wilkes in scattered site. Repairs needed but working to complete. For COVID response- HH is back to weekly testing. Surge of illness/positives in area with RSV and COVID. Trying to be pro-active. Staff are doing testing it at this time rather than High Country Health. Quarantine area has some openings but that can change quickly. Working out of the office in Wilkes at Housing Outreach Center. Graham will do 2 days a week there for office hours. Have grant application pending to provide funding for position. Jakin cannot do updates for Street Outreach as he has a class that conflicts with this meeting. Ordering cots/mats almost weekly to accommodate persons seeking shelter.

- **CoC Planning:**

- **NC 516 LSA submission:** Sonya Hamby, Local System Administrator for HMIS. The Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) was a challenge to submit this year as there were many unresolved errors from previous year submissions. Addressed most of the errors and remaining errors had detailed explanations. Bed inventory problems are also hopefully resolved. Some of the same errors were never reconciled in previous year's report, but going forward, things should be much better. Had some assistance from Lori Watts.
 - **PIT/HIC-** The annual Point in Time and Housing Inventory Count (PIT/HIC) is set for January 25, 2023. There is a service count as part of the PIT. Ethan Flynn is point of contact for the 2023 PI/HIC. There is a press release that will go out later today from Todd. The survey form is for agencies to do interviews. Will continue to work with Sonya, Lori and Tina to finalize planning for the PIT/HIC. Have done work to get all the partners on board (Ashe/OASIS etc., are also assisting to prepare for PIT). Tina is meeting in Wilkes to get out info and do surveys. One area- the school liaisons has been challenging- have to try and get update on some of the name. Have new interns starting today we can also utilize for PIT. If know of agency that can help- reach out to Ethan. This year, the PIT will collect age ranges of persons. Lori will work with MH and SU and the Ashe County Coalition to manage PIT reports from them. Also will work with Kim Cashatt at the NWRHA to get information out about the PIT to the outer lying counties of Avery, Mitchell, Yancey and Alleghany and PSH/EHV data. Good participation from Wilkes agencies, the Watauga county LEAD program, and OASIS. NC 516 does an unsheltered count and a service count annually. The service count helps the Northwest CoC bring in smaller partners information (food pantries, etc.) for PIT data. Hospitality House works with area partners to collect the PIT data, OASIS collects DV agency data, and area schools contribute to the PIT/HIC. The PIT surveys collect demographic information over a historical time. The Veteran count is always low for NC 516 but the VFW collects some information for the PIT. Salisbury VAMC may be able to help to collect homeless Veteran data for those persons in the CoC. Planning with Wilkes Schools and Watauga and Jazmyn is going to work on PIT/HIC coordination for OASIS with crisis providers. Lori Watts will reach out to providers as well to make connections and will work with Daymark to get additional contacts. Lori Watts will work with Ethan and Sonya to cross train in PIT/HIC data collection and submission to HUD.
 - **NC HMIS Update:** Analytical Force training on Tableau to create dashboards is ongoing with the final meeting this week. NC 516 Wellsky costs for the October, November, and December invoice were approved for each CoC that requested it. NC 505 gave notice to leave the implementation on June 30, 2023. Still waiting to hear from ESG Office about NC HMIS award for 2023.
 - **Meeting with NCCEH/Wake and NC HMIS Executive-** Christiana Glenn Tugman, Laura Llama from Winston/Forsyth CoC, and NC HMIS Chair Mary Ann Priester met with the ED of NCCEH and Wake CoC earlier this month on collaboration/data for the HMIS implementations. Will work on an ROI agreement across all implementations to document chronic homelessness/LOT. Will continue to work with this group to move forward.
 - **ESG-CV:** Both OASIS and HH received additional funding.
 - **OASIS RRH Program:** The new CoC funded RRH has one ready to move in, another household on the waitlist, and two new clients in Alleghany County.
- **Other Business:**
 - No other business.
 - **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**
 - Next scheduled meeting of the Northwest CoC- **February 21, 2023 at 10:00 am**
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