

**Northwestern Continuum of Care  
Policy and System Performance  
Committee Meeting  
April 18, 2023 – 10:00 AM  
Meeting Log in Below**

- **Welcome & Agency Updates and COVID Response Vaccinations**
  
- **COC Planning**
  - **HUD TA NC-516 The Role of the CoC in the Community**  
Dates for presentation-Dates in July
  - **Ending Rural Unsheltered Homelessness Award Celebration-May 31, 12:30-2:30**  
Northwest CoC and NCCEH-Location Hospitality House Dining Area
  - **HMIS Reporting**
  - **Revision of Written Standards and CE Policy and Operations Manuals to include the new definition of Category 4 language**
  - **Annual Point in Time Count-Data Entry Updates**
  - **Watauga Housing Council**
  
- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates**
  
- **COVID Relief State and Federal Grant Updates**
  - **ESG-CV: Update on area projects**
  - **Homeless Prevention and Diversion Program, Rapid Rehousing and CE/Outreach/Supportive Services**
  
- **Other Business- HUD NOFO Debriefing**
  
- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**
  - **NWCoC – Virtual Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 10am**

Below is the meeting link /call in information for Wednesday's meeting.

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**Northwest Continuum of Care  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 10:00am  
Via Phone Conference**

- **Attendees:**

**Tina Krause:** Executive Director/CoC Lead, Hospitality House of Northwest NC

**Ethan Flynn:** Director of Grant Funding, 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

**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

**Jerry Shore:** Executive Director, OASIS, Inc.

**Jazmyn Vickers:** Housing Coordinator, OASIS, Inc.

**David Barr:** Residential Supervisor, Easter Seals UPCC

**Kecia Robinson:** Coordinated Entry Specialist, Salisbury VAMC

**Howard Anderson:** Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Outreach SW Asheville-VAMC

- **Welcome and Agency Updates**

- **David Barr:** The Easter Seals Boone location has ongoing issues with keeping managers with the ARC. We have had five openings in Boone for nearly a year. The manager has resigned so June 30<sup>th</sup> 2023, Easter Seals will cease operations at the Boone location and the remaining clients will either stay under ARC or clients can relocate with Easter Seals if they choose. For our other site openings, W. Jefferson (2), Lenoir (2), Wilkesboro (3) Waynesville (1) and Morganton also has (2) openings. Admissions criteria at Boone Arc will remain roughly the same as HUD, the only difference may be treatment/ health billing. For Easter Seals referral, contact: David Barr 336-817 6394 or email at [david.barr@eastersealsucp.com](mailto:david.barr@eastersealsucp.com)
- **Graham Doege-Osler:** RRH Coordinator for Hospitality House. Currently working on finding units and helping clients maintain housing. Several households moving to vouchers this month. Working two days a week in Wilkes County at the Housing and Outreach center doing intakes and assessments.
- **Jazmyn Vickers:** The OASIS Permanent Supportive Housing project is full, Transitional is also full. Emergency Shelter is also full but will work to assist those with other placement. Have a Coordinator going on FMLA so adjusting to capacity. Kat is working on housing two clients this week in the OASIS RRH project and everything is going well.
- **Kim Cashatt:** The Northwest Regional Housing Authority (NWRHA) has been invited to apply for Stability Vouchers by HUD. Only 5 vouchers at this time. NWRHA would like to thank the Northwest CoC for their work and partnership in applying for these vouchers and other projects. We do have other vouchers available and lease in place options for households. We can help quickly so contact us if a household is in need.

- **Lori Watts:** Housing Specialist – Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for VAYA Health. Lots of changes in roles and responsibilities at VAYA but hopefully Lori can maintain attendance at the Northwest meetings. Joel Rice will also be attending on behalf of VAYA but could not be here today. VAYA still has The One-Time Assistance program for contracted providers to refer members/recipients for help initially getting into housing. The program provides a maximum of \$500 to a household for either rent deposits, 1st month's rent, and/or utility deposits in 31 counties. Cannot pay for past due rent, ongoing rent, or past due utilities. This program operates on VAYA's FY that ends June 30, 2023, but anticipate funding for next fiscal year. Referrals must come from community providers (Daymark, RHA, Mountain Health Solutions, Infinite Beginnings, Stepping Stone, Easter Seals, etc.). Information about the One-Time Assistance Program should be directed to: [HousingSupport@vayahealth.com](mailto:HousingSupport@vayahealth.com) or Joel Rice at: [Joel.Rice@vayahealth.com](mailto:Joel.Rice@vayahealth.com). For more information at [Lori.Watts@vayahealth.com](mailto:Lori.Watts@vayahealth.com). or call VAYA Housing Support Voicemail: 800-893-6246 x 4560
- **Kecia Robinson:** Coordinated Entry Specialist at the Salisbury VAMC. The Veteran Administration goals set for 2022 exceeded their targets. Next goal, focusing on returns to homelessness, the VA will work to close that gap by doing targeted outreach to 28,000 homeless Veterans. Salisbury can hire 5 case managers to help with outreach- primarily street outreach. Contact Kecia Robinson for assistance at [Kecia.Robinson@va.gov](mailto:Kecia.Robinson@va.gov)
- **Howard Anderson:** Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Outreach at the Asheville VAMC, which covers Watauga, Avery, Ashe, Mitchell, and Yancey. Asheville exceeded goal with 191 placements and the goal for next year is 200. We can connect Veterans to First at Blue Ridge that need SA treatment and the GPD beds in Asheville at the VRQ. Please reach out to me and I am willing to meet with people in our service counties anywhere, including campsites. We have no VASH available in those counties but can offer transportation to medical appointments to eligible Veterans. Contact Howard Anderson at [Howard.Anderson@va.gov](mailto:Howard.Anderson@va.gov) ; work cell - 828-708-9603; HCHV walk-in clinic 828-298-7911 ext. 1198
- **Tina Krause:** Hospitality House (HH) Emergency Shelter and the Night-by-Night program is now operating under COVID-19 protocol as we had 30 cases in past two weeks. Admission to the facility is limited to program residents but services are still offered like laundry and showers but limited access to one at a time. Food is being provided to everyone. We look like positive cases are trending down but need more testing this week to confirm. HH will have one unit available in Wilkes Scattered site but the property owner requested one unit back we normally lease and he intends to give that unit to a homeless Veteran. We will retain one unit of the existing duplex. The DV Combined Component and /TH-RRH projects are moving people through the program successfully and we are taking new clients into program as spaces open. The Wilkes Center is open now five days a week. The Wilkes Center is near the hospital in Wilkes and convenient to other providers/transit. The Salisbury VA may want to use the space to do outreach and are welcome to have new outreach workers there if needing space. Excited to be at the Wilkes Center but will require some real work and capacity at HH to deliver services.
- **CoC Planning:**
  - **NC HUD Technical Assistance:** Tina Krause and Christiana Glenn Tugman. We did not do our monthly meeting with HUD TA this month. Tina spoke at Town Council in Boone and

Sarah Crouch was also there and Tina explained federal and state funding, coverage area of the Northwest CoC, and the need for coordination with local government. Waiting for Town of Boone and County to finish annual budgets. We are working with Region 4 TA (ICA) to do presentation on the roles and responsibilities of the Northwest CoC, the Collaborative Applicant, HMIS Lead are for providers, stakeholders, and local government. A PowerPoint presentation will be used to present information to small groups or in a larger setting. Plan is to invite members of local government, developers, and other providers to gain knowledge of the CoC.

- **HUD SNOFO Unsheltered Award Ceremony Announcement:** Hospitality House (HH) was asked by HUD in DC to host an award and recognition ceremony for SNOFO awardees in NC. Only Hospitality House and NCCEH/BoS received a SNOFO award in NC. The event will be on May 31, 2023 at 1:00 and focus on rural homelessness. Currently meeting virtually with HUD representatives and NCCEH every other week to do the event planning. Government officials, local stakeholders, and CoC members are on the invitee list. Lunch will be provided, the program has government, HUD, grantees, and lived experience speakers. Tours of the HH 18,000 facility will be conducted. Northwest CoC partners have been included on the invitee list and NWRHA has been invited to speak. OASIS, Daymark, and both VAMCs will have tables assigned for seating with federal, state, and local government and key partners.
- **NC 516 HMIS:** Sonya Hamby, Local System Administrator (LSA) for HMIS. Some of the issues with the HIC for Northwest in previous submissions have been resolved for this year's submission. Working on finishing unsheltered numbers- have draft to submit by next Friday. The System Performance Measure's for NC 516 showed a 28% increase in non-cash benefits, a 22% increase in exits from shelter to PH, and 32% increase in cash income for program participants. Overall, performance measures are much better. Will meet with Lori Watts and Ethan Flynn to input PIT/HIC data into HDX. The PIT and HIC is usually submitted by the end of April/early May in HDX to HUD.
- **Updates to NC 516 Written Standards:** The annual review/revision of the NC 516 Written Standards will include the new definition of Category 4. The public comment period announced in the Federal Register is closed and we are waiting for HUD to release the final definition to incorporate the new language. The new definition will further expand the definition of Category 4 to include persons with trauma, economic abuse, and/or cyber abuse. All grantees should make changes to their Operations Manuals that reflect the new definition and any changes approved in the Written Standards.
- **Watauga Housing Council:** Watauga Housing Council presented at Town of Boone. Discussions were primarily focused on water/sewer development outside of town because of development barriers created by infrastructure costs in town limits. The Watauga Housing Council and the committees meet 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](http://Wataugahousingforum.org)
- **NC HMIS Update:** NC HMIS will enter into a contract for data warehousing with Green River. This project will enable CoCs in the NC HMIS implementation to get real time data reports, do data matching, and improve reporting ability. The workgroup of NCCEH, NC HMIS, and Wake CoCs implementation is working on language for a statewide ROI so that providers can get homeless history for clients who may have touched multiple homeless service and housing systems.

- **ESG Update:** The ESG Office hosted a webinar on monitoring and compliance for ESG subrecipients. Focus was on known monitoring areas: VAWA, Equal Access, program participant eligibility, and the ESG-CV tie back to prevent, prepare and respond to COVID-19 in funded activities.
- **Bringing It Home Conference:** Registration is still open for the virtual conference on May 2-3, 2023. <https://nchousing.org/bringing-it-home-2023/>. Bringing It Home 2023 registration cost \$50 per person. When registering, please select the intensive breakout session you plan to attend. You also have the option to add other sessions. Registration closes Friday, April 28, 2023. There are scholarships available for those with lived experience who may want to attend.
- **Other Business:**
  - **Annual CoC NOFA Award and Debriefing Webinar:** The Northwest CoC will schedule a debriefing meeting to review the Northwest CoC's Consolidated Application scores. HUD's NOFA Debriefing webinar is this Thursday, April 19, 2023 at 2:00. Tina will send out the link to the webinar to project applicants. The debriefing document provides information on the Northwest CoC Consolidated Application score and the DV Bonus project application. The HUD webinar, also provides an overview of the process and whether significant changes will occur in the next NOFA.
- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**
  - Next scheduled meeting of the Northwest CoC- **May 16, 2023 at 10:00 am**  
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