

**Northwestern Continuum of Care
Policy and System Performance
Committee Meeting
March 22, 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**
 - **HMIS Reporting- SPM and LSA Submitted**
 - **Revision of Written Standards and CE Policy and Operations Manuals to include
the new definition of Category 4 language**
 - **Annual Point in Time Count-Updates**
 - **Watauga Housing Council**

- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates
CoC Focus Discussion with HUD TA on Strategic Planning**

- **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**

- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**
 - **NWCoC – Virtual Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 10am**

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

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

+1 [828-552-4129](#) United States, Asheville (Toll)

Conference ID: 585 407 593#

[Local numbers](#) | [Reset PIN](#) | [Learn more about Teams](#) | [Meeting options](#)

**Northwest Continuum of Care
Policy and System Performance Committee Meeting
Wednesday March 22, 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
Jakin Rohlinger: Outreach 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
Joel Rice: Community Housing Specialist, VAYA Health
Jerry Shore: Executive Director, OASIS, Inc.
Sara Crouch: Director of Community Programs, OASIS, Inc.
Kat Danielik: RRH Coordinator, OASIS, Inc.
Jazmyn Vickers: Housing Coordinator, OASIS, Inc.
Jeannie Futrelle: Director of Client Services, OASIS, Inc.
Austin Combs: Director of Services, Watauga County, Daymark Recovery Services
David Barr: Housing Coordinator, Easter Seals
Kecia Robinson: Coordinated Entry Specialist, Salisbury VAMC
Howard Anderson: Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Outreach Asheville-VAMC
Madi Reynik: Guest

- **Welcome and Agency Updates**

- **Kim Cashatt:** The Northwest Regional Housing Authority (NWRHA) is still closed to the public/drop-in but is scheduling appointments from 8:30 to 3:00pm. The public housing conversion for NWRHA's 48 units in Cove Creek is about 80% complete and another complex is also near completion. All public housing in the NWRHA portfolio is being converted to Section 8. Partnering with OASIS to do 8 unit (6 1 bedroom and 2- 2 bedroom) in Avery County for victims of domestic violence. NWRHA currently has 2,195 total vouchers and 2016 are active. We are looking at adding 27 tenant protection vouchers. Still no word from HUD on the Stability Vouchers request from October 20, 2022.
- **Jazmyn Vickers:** OASIS Permanent Supportive Housing is full and the Avery family unit is now occupied. Emergency Shelter is also full but will work to assist those with other placement.
- **Kat Danielik:** RRH Coordinator, OASIS. The RRH project is full. Have had some luck in Ashe County finding units and have two clients housed at this time. There may be one possible opening in RRH but need to reach out to client again for contact. If cannot locate the

household, will open up for CE referral and schedule meeting. Contact Kat at: kdanielik@oasisinc.org

- **Lori Watts:** Housing Specialist – Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for VAYA Health. Joel Rice, the new Community Housing Specialist for VAYA Health is also here for VAYA. 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 can maintain attendance at the Northwest meetings. The One-Time Assistance program at 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. 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, Mountain Health Solutions, Infinite Beginnings, Stepping Stone, Easter Seals, etc.). Information about the One-Time Assistance Program should be directed to: HousingSupport@vayahealth.com or Joel Rice at: Joel.Rice@vayahealth.com. For more information at Lori.Watts@vayahealth.com. or call VAYA Housing Support Voicemail: 800-893-6246 x 4560
- **Kecia Robinson:** Coordinated Entry Specialist at the Salisbury VAMC. Introducing, Howard Anderson with Asheville, VAMC to the Northwest CoC. Salisbury serves Alleghany and Wilkes from the Northwest CoC and has transitional housing available and a wide variety of assistance for Veterans. Contact Kecia Robinson for assistance at Kecia.Robinson@va.gov
- **Howard Anderson:** Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Outreach at the Asheville VAMC, which covers Watauga, Avery, Ashe, Mitchell, and Yancey. Can get people into First at Blue Ridge that need SA treatment and the GPD beds in Asheville at the VRQ. 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 ; work cell - 828-708-9603; HCHV walk-in clinic 828-298-7911 ext. 1198
- **Graham Doege-Osler:** RRH Coordinator for Hospitality House. Currently working two days a week in Wilkes County at the Housing and Outreach center. Lots of families coming in to that office for assistance and resource referral. Doing intakes and assessments. Have housed a client last month and another unit passed inspection just this morning for RRH household. Last week, the RRH program took 8 referrals from CE and those clients are now enrolled. Prepared to take more from CE next week.
- **Jakin Rohlinger:** Outreach Specialist, Hospitality House is also working in Wilkes. Has a homeless Veteran currently working with that needs VAMC assistance.
- **Ethan Flynn:** Will meet with Lori Watts and Sonya Hamby to input PIT/HIC data into HDX. The annual Point in Time and Housing Inventory Count (PIT/HIC) was conducted January 25, 2023 for the Northwest CoC. There are a few forms outstanding across the region. Hospitality House works with area partners to collect all the PIT/HIC data, OASIS collects the DV agency data, and area schools contribute to the PIT/HIC. The PIT surveys collect demographic information and the HIC collects bed/unit inventory and utilization rates. The PIT and HIC is usually submitted by the end of April in HDX to HUD. Lori is also meeting with Jazmyn to get the VSP information.
- **Tina Krause:** Hospitality House (HH) Emergency Shelter and the Night-by-Night program is operating at full capacity. Have several families coming in for shelter and services. Taking

some in NBN based on severe weather protocol. Seeing higher number of families right now seeking shelter and have developed a waitlist. Wilkes Center is now open and seeing many households coming for assistance. Some days, people are lined up out the door. The Wilkes Center is near the hospital in Wilkes and convenient to other providers/transit. Excited to be there but will require some real work and capacity at HH to deliver services. Have some options for opening a few spots in scattered site- one in Wilkes, one in Watauga. Have COVID in the facility this month. Opioid settlement application to fund staff for the Wilkes Center was submitted. The HH board voted to open a small center in in Avery similar to the Wilkes office and have started the process of looking at possible sites.

- **David Barr:** Easter Seals has openings at all locations. For referral, contact: David Barr 336-817 6394 or email at david.barr@eastersealsucp.com
 - **Jeannie Futrelle:** The OASIS Emergency Shelter is currently full but we do have some hotel vouchers. One case manager is going on maternity leave soon, so OASIS is working on sustaining capacity while staff out on FMLA. We are working with other shelters to provide safe emergency shelter but most in region are full. Call us, even if we are full, we will offer assistance.
 - **Austin Combs:** Director of Services, Watauga County, Daymark Recovery Services. The Tailored Care Management (TCM) is now up and running at Daymark and have hired three care managers to support TCM. Housing is a perpetual need for clients and hard to come by. People who qualify for TCM are already Medicaid recipients and have been identified by the state/VAYA and referred to us. Anything related to housing/SSI/SSDI or applications for Medicaid/shift plan to TCM can also assist. Can help clients who may have missed calls or paperwork submission deadlines to navigate that process. If you need a copy of the Medicaid change application form or know of a Tailored Care Management eligible person who hasn't been contacted and needs assistance, contact Austin Combs at: acombs@daymarkrecovery.org
- **CoC Planning:**
 - **NC HUD Technical Assistance:** Tina Krause and Christiana Glenn Tugman 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. We have proposed to have this presentation as part of the regular CoC meeting with a QA session but can do as standalone presentation. Probably need more than one meeting to cover region and accommodate schedules. Can start planning on how to schedule, whom to reach out to, and begin process. Key is having all the grantees there as well.
 - **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. The System Performance Measure's for NC 516 was submitted last week. There is a 28% increase in non-cash benefits and 32% increase in cash income for program participants. Overall, performance measures are much better. Also shows a 22% increase in exits from shelter to PH. Limited error's in this year's submission as most have been addressed. The Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) was submitted in January for the Northwest CoC. All

the federal reports (SPM, LSA, PIT/HIC) combine to make the NOFO Competition Report for Northwest.

- **NC HMIS Update:** NC HMIS multi-jurisdictional implementation is a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) cost-share and governance implantation of eight Continuum's of Care in NC. The NC HMIS Governance Committee membership is selected from each CoC in the implementation. The GC representatives for Northwest are Tina Krause, Ethan Flynn, and Christiana Glenn Tugman. Sonya Hamby, is the Local System Administrator (LSA). HMIS use is a requirement of organizations receiving HUD dedicated funding for homeless housing, shelter and service programs. HUD has offered technical assistance for NC HMIS to do a strategic plan.
 - Northwest has compiled a list of stakeholders to meet with the TA as a focus group in our strategic plan development and sent the names of Northwest stakeholders to the TA. Please respond with times you can attend in person and/or complete the survey. Thank you to people who agreed to be in the focus group.
 - NC HMIS finally selected a vendor for the implementation's data warehousing. Green River was selected as the vendor. NC HMIS received an award from NCDHHS ESG Office for \$210,000 to cover NC HMIS WellSky costs and the data warehousing costs. NC 505 gave notice to leave the implementation by June 30, 2023. The additional grant funding will help defray costs for the remaining CoCs in the implementation.
- **ESG-CV Update: The Northwest CoC received 1.4 million in funding under ESG-CV.** Both OASIS and Hospitality House (HH) received additional funding through re-allocation in 2023 but all ESG-CV funding ends September 30, 2023 for providers, except for HMIS and Administration, which ends December 31, 2023. HH is out of Street Outreach funding but received some private dollars to keep this program operational. HH currently uses ESG-CV funding for RRH and ES and Administration. Wilkes Opioid funding may cover Outreach work if awarded.
- **CoC NOFO Award:** Still waiting for Notice of award on annual competition from HUD.
- **CoC Special NOFO Award:** Meeting with HUD representative from Greensboro Office in the next few weeks. The meeting is with NCCEH and us but no agenda has been presented. Hospitality House was awarded a grant under the Special NOFO for its PSH project of \$446,625. Only BoS NC 503 and NC 516 received an award in NC but HUD stated in the press release that more awards may be coming soon but nothing has been announced.
- **Opioid Settlement:** Wilkes established an application process for providers seeking funding under the Opioid Settlement. For other local governments that received settlement dollars, have not seen anything.
- **Watauga Housing Council:** 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
- **Other Business:**
 - The Northwest CoC needs to schedule CE meetings for twice a month rather than a once a month and ad hoc basis. After discussion, the second and fourth Tuesday at 3:00 was selected by providers. Meetings can be cancelled if providers are unable to take referrals

due to being at capacity. Lori Watts will send out a re-occurring meeting invitation to the CE stakeholders.

- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**

- Next scheduled meeting of the Northwest CoC- **April 18, 2023 at 10:00 am**
Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 828-552-4129 United States, Asheville (Toll)
Conference ID: 585 407 593#