

**Northwestern Continuum of Care
Data Quality Committee Meeting
May 16, 2023 – 10:00 AM
Meeting Log in Below**

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

- **COC Planning**
 - **Ending Rural Unsheltered Homelessness Award Celebration-May 31, 12:30-2:30. Northwest CoC and NCCEH-Location Hospitality House Dining Area**
 - **HMIS Reporting**
 - **Annual Review of Written Standards and CE Policy**
 - **CoC Grantee Monitoring- NC 516 Monitoring Guide 2023**
 - **Annual Point in Time Count-2023 Summary and 2024 Planning**
 - **Watauga Housing Council Update**

- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates**
- **ESG RFA Annual Funding Announcement** – The NC DHHS will allow the Northwest CoC to apply for approximately \$123,893 for the FY2023-24. Agencies may submit a Letter of Intent indicating which activity or activities they intend to apply for in the ESG Request for Applications. LOI is due Friday, June 2, 2023 by 5pm.

- **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 begins TA for SNOFO communities who were awarded**

- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**
 - **NWCoC – Virtual Tuesday, June 20, 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
Data Quality Committee Meeting
Tuesday, May 16, 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
Austin Combs: Director of Services, Watauga County, Daymark Recovery Services
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.
Sara Crouch: Director of Community Programs, OASIS, Inc.
Kat Danielik: RRH Coordinator, OASIS, Inc.
Jazmyn Vickers: Housing Coordinator, OASIS, Inc.
Emily Fortunato: OASIS Summer Intern, MPA Candidate
Kecia Robinson: Coordinated Entry Specialist, Salisbury VAMC

- **Welcome and Agency Updates**

- **Kim Cashatt:** The Northwest Regional Housing Authority (NWRHA) offices will open soon but currently seeing most people by appointment only. Vouchers (HCV) going to contract for persons leasing in place more so than people who are looking for units that have voucher assistance. Still working on development of sites in Yancey and Avery. The NWRHA has been invited to apply for Stability Vouchers by HUD. Only 5 vouchers at this time. NWRHA does have vouchers available and lease in place options for households. We can help quickly, so contact us if a household is in need of assistance.
- **Sara Crouch:** Director of Community Programs, OASIS, Inc. announced she is leaving OASIS on June 2, and will begin June 12th at NC DHHS as the Rape Prevention Education as the Program Manager. Sara will remain in the area with her new position and hopes to stay involved with both the Watauga Housing Council and CoC. Introduction of Emily Fortunato, OASIS Summer Intern, MPA Candidate who has joined OASIS and will attend the Northwest CoC meetings. The CoC memberships thanked Sara for her work and dedication to the community.
- **Graham Doege-Osler:** RRH Coordinator for Hospitality House. Currently working on locating one bedroom units which are hard to find. The RRH program will be taking a few new clients in CE soon. Concentrating on finding units and helping clients maintain housing. Also working two days a week in Wilkes County at the Housing and Outreach center doing intakes and assessments.

- **Jakin Rohlinger:** Outreach Specialist at Hospitality House is working in Wilkes Center to assist unsheltered households connect to resources. Still meeting in Boone area with unsheltered and Night by Night emergency shelter clients. High demand in the Wilkes area is noted with families needing assistance.
 - **Kecia Robinson:** Coordinated Entry Specialist at the Salisbury VAMC. The Veteran Administration is focusing on returns to homelessness in 2023 and will work to close that gap by doing targeted outreach to 28,000 homeless Veterans. The Salisbury VA can connect Veterans to Transitional Housing and other resources. Contact Kecia Robinson for assistance at Kecia.Robinson@va.gov
 - **Lori Watts:** Housing Specialist – Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for VAYA Health. VAYA still has funding for the One-Time Assistance program for contracted providers to refer members/recipients for help initially getting into housing. Funding is still available higher amount for this time of year due to not being able to find units. This program operates on VAYA's FY that ends June 30, 2023, but anticipate funding for next fiscal year. 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. 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 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
 - **Austin Combs-** Daymark Recovery Services office in Boone is hiring multiple positions- a new adult services clinician and two children's clinicians and one nurse are open. The ACTT is also looking for a clinician for adults and one for children. Signing bonus available and good team to work with in the community. Tailored Plan implementation is going well. ISOP was under threat (the Telehealth option) from the NC Legislature, but with help from VAYA, we will be able to keep Telehealth option available for clients.
 - **Tina Krause:** Hospitality House (HH) Emergency Shelter and the Night-by-Night program is still has some COVID-19 cases and we are managing shelter isolation on a case by case basis. HH has extra tests available for anyone who needs them as we have about 300 dropped off by Health Dept. Please come and get them. The HH housing programs are full, we are taking people off the waitlist for emergency shelter as we are concentrating on housing families to open up shelter space. The Wilkes 3 bedroom duplex is being taken over by the LL for a Veteran household. We no longer have an opening in Wilkes County-slated to be filled from CE in the next few days. Coordinators are in need of one and two bedroom units desperately. 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.
- **CoC Planning:**
 - **HUD SNOFO Unsheltered Award Ceremony Announcement:** Hospitality House (HH) is hosting an award and recognition ceremony at the request of HUD 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 from 12:30 to 2:00 and focus on rural homelessness. Government officials, local stakeholders, and CoC members have been sent invitations. 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 Recovery, and both VAMCs will have tables assigned for seating with federal, state, and local government and key partners. Parking is available in the secondary lot at Den Mac administration offices of HH and a shuttle will be provided to the main facility which is about a block away.

- **2023 PIT/HIC for NC 516:** The NC 516 Point in Time and Housing Inventory Count (PIT/HIC) for 2023 has been submitted to HUD. This year, NC 516 reported the EHV's in the HIC bringing the total housing inventory to 403. TH went up but RRH went down as the funding for ESG-CV is winding down. PSH went down slightly due to household composition changes on the night of the PIT. Slight increase in ES and Unsheltered due to more beds in ES. Better collection of data during PIT for unsheltered may account for changes from last year's data as outreach was more robust. The HDX submission summary is not finalized yet as HUD has to approve. Lori will send out the PIT summary and the county by county breakdown to the membership. Thanks to OASIS, Christiana, Ethan, Sonya and Jennifer for assistance on data collection and required narratives for the submission. For the 2024 PIT/HIC, Northwest will need to get help from people to finalize data collection and submit especially on the narratives and addressing trends or methodology due to turn over of staff and we need more input from those connected to the service delivery on the night of the count. For planning purposes, February is collecting the data from the night of PIT/HIC and the data cleanup, and then draft data should be submitted by beginning of March. At the March CoC meeting, present the draft, chart trends, get CoC membership help with narratives and have the draft submission done by April meeting. If this plan is followed, Northwest can have the PIT/HIC done before some of the major annual events that are held near the submission deadlines. The Northwest LSA should also get access through NC HMIS to reporting tools that could help collect and clean data instead of doing it manually. Sonya Hamby has an in person LSA meeting upcoming and will address this need with MCAH staff.
- **Annual review of NC 516 Written Standards and CE:** The annual review/revision of the NC 516 Written Standards will include the new definition of Category 4. The public comment period in the Federal Register is closed and we are waiting for HUD to release the final definition to incorporate the new language for Category 4 that will expand the definition to include persons with trauma, economic abuse, and/or cyber abuse as eligible for assistance. All grantees should make changes to their Operations Manuals that reflect the new definition and any changes approved by the CoC in the Written Standards.
- **NC 516 Grantee Monitoring:** In May-June of each year, the CoC desk monitoring tool has been sent to grantees within Northwest NC to conduct an evaluation/internal wellness check. In 2022, grantees and subrecipient applicants submitted policies and procedures during the competitions but this tool was designed to be more robust than the CoC Internal Wellness checklist and cover specific aspects of CoC project funding and grant management reviewed during a HUD monitoring and the tool follows CPD Monitoring Exhibits but with more detail to help grantees access compliance. Each grantee will be sent a cover letter, with grant numbers of specific projects by the end of the week and the monitoring tool. Christiana Glenn Tugman will be available to answer questions and provide guidance and support for grantees and staff completing the assessments.

- **Watauga Housing Council:** Sara Crouch provided an update on the Watauga Housing Council and the workgroup that is tasked with non-profit incorporation. Will be presentation at a meeting on May 31 of area employers looking at how they can help and what area employers need as recruitment of employees is difficult due to lack of affordable housing. 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 of 2021-22. For more information on upcoming events or on how to participate in a workgroup: 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. An order form was also submitted to Wellsky to write a script that will enable automatic daily uploads to Green River so that real time data can be collected and analyzed. The total start-up cost of this project is \$97,000 for the 7 CoC implementation but costs are being covered by the ESG award to NC HMIS. Subsequent operating years, the costs will decrease to about \$65,000 each year. Intent is to have a beta test by June for the new data warehouse. 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 RFA Annual Funding Announcement:** The NC DHHS/ESG Office announced the timeline for the 2023-24 ESG RFA at the CoC Leadership planning session. Leadership was also presented the timeline, draft applications, and the Fair Share. Northwest CoC is eligible to apply for approximately \$123,893 for the FY2023-24. Agencies may submit a Letter of Intent indicating which activity or activities they intend to apply for in the ESG Request for Applications. The LOI announcement will go out May 22, 2023 and is due Friday, June 2, 2023 by 5pm. Agencies may contact Tina Krause with any questions concerning the local process, ESG requirements, or for support in the competition.
- **ESG-CV re-allocation:** The ESG Office recently requested a spending update and additional funding request to ESG-CV subrecipients that may be in need of additional funding that can be spent by the 2023 deadline. However, the ESG office said that there will be no reallocation at this time as subrecipients that have not spent down their award were not returning funds. Another request letter may go out in July 2023 as the 2nd quarter closes, so subrecipients should plan accordingly if intent is to request additional funding.
- **NC HUD Technical Assistance:** Tina Krause, Ethan Flynn, Lori Watts, and Christiana Glenn Tugman met with HUD assigned TA Dave Whisnant from Collaborative Solutions on the SNOFO award. The TA asked generalized questions about HH and was told that at this time, the only thing needed was a breakdown of eligible/ineligible costs and any other difference in SNOFO PSH delineated by HUD in official guidance to be provided for grantees. Tina Krause and Christiana also met with TA Maseta Dorley last week who is assisting with local government outreach for the CoC.
- **Other Business:**
 - Discussion on immigrant eligibility for PSH and other CoC funded housing programs.
- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**
 - Next scheduled meeting of the Northwest CoC- **June 20, 2023 at 10:00 am**
[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 828-552-4129](https://teams.microsoft.com/join/18285524129) United States, Asheville (Toll)

Conference ID: 585 407 593#