

## Northwest Continuum of Care (NWCoC) Meeting Schedule

The following is the Northwest Continuum of Care's Meeting Schedule for 2020. The Steering Committee (the whole CoC) will meet on the even months and the subcommittees (smaller focused meetings) will meet on the odd months. Hope this helps with planning.

- Tues. Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> 2020 – 10 am – ESG & RRH – Northwest Regional Housing Authority Office in Boone
- Tues. Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> 2020 – 10 am – Steering Committee – Northwestern Regional Housing Authority Office in Boone
- Tues. Mar. 17<sup>th</sup> 2020 – 10 am – PSH & CoC Programs – Microsoft Teams Call/Video Conference:  
Join Microsoft Teams Meeting    +1 828-552-4129    United States, Asheville (Toll), Conference ID: 585 407 593#
- Tues. Apr. 21<sup>st</sup> 2020 – 10 am – Steering Committee – Microsoft Teams Call/Video Conference:  
Join Microsoft Teams Meeting    +1 828-552-4129    United States, Asheville (Toll), Conference ID: 585 407 593#
- Tues. May 19<sup>th</sup> 2020 – 10 am – Data Quality – Microsoft Teams Call/Video Conference:  
Join Microsoft Teams Meeting    +1 828-552-4129    United States, Asheville (Toll), Conference ID: 585 407 593#
- Thurs. June 16<sup>th</sup> 2020 – 10 am – Steering Committee – Northwestern Regional Housing Authority Office in Boone  
Join Microsoft Teams Meeting    +1 828-552-4129    United States, Asheville (Toll), Conference ID: 585 407 593#
- Tues. July 21<sup>st</sup> 2020 – 10 am – ESG & RRH – Northwest Regional Housing Authority Office in Boone
- Tues. Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> 2020 – 10 am – Steering Committee – Northwestern Regional Housing Authority Office in Boone
- Tues. Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 – 10 am – PSH & CoC Programs – Northwest Regional Housing Authority Office in Boone
- Tues. Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> 2020 – 10 am – Steering Committee – Northwestern Regional Housing Authority Office in Boone
- Tues. Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> 2020 – 10 am – Data Quality – Northwest Regional Housing Authority Office in Boone
- Tues. Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 – 10 am – Steering Committee – Northwestern Regional Housing Authority Office in Boone



**Northwestern Continuum of Care (NC 516)**  
**Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 21, 2020**

**Attendees:**

**Tina Krause:** Hospitality House, Executive Director  
**Shane Johnson:** Hospitality House, Director of Grant Funding  
**Graham Doege-Osler:** Hospitality House, RRH/WeCan Coordinator  
**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Hospitality House, Compliance and Planning  
**Lori Watts:** VAYA Health, Housing Specialist  
**Kaylan Lewis:** OASIS, Housing Coordinator  
**Michelle Grit:** OASIS, Executive Director  
**Carl Jenkins:** Easter Seals, Housing Manager  
**Heather Ross:** Infinite Beginnings,  
**Murray Hawkinson,** Daymark Recovery Services  
**Kim Cashatt,** Northwest Regional Housing Authority  
**Ned Fowler,** Northwest Regional Housing Authority

• **Welcome & Agency Updates**

NRHA-Ned Fowler. There are voucher available. Currently, there are over 780 Landlords participating in region. Anticipate 3-4 lease ups a month. Poor credit history remains problematic for lease-up even with support of voucher assistance when assisting eligible participants.

Hospitality House-Tina Krause. Winter Shelter is fully functioning but inclement weather has taxed capacity. WS normal nightly count is 24 beds with 30 in overflow but another 50 persons seeking shelter came in on 1/20/2020 due to extreme cold which is approximately 30 more persons than normal. Hospitality House has an emergency protocol that allows persons who normally are banned for disruptive/violent behavior to access emergency winter shelter due to extreme weather conditions in the region.

The Combined Component for DDV/SA fully operational. Transitional component currently at capacity but there is RRH funds available to assist participants in securing safe housing. Referrals through the parallel victim services CE. Current availability and case management best suited for short term stays at HH, quickly moving toward RRH.

PSH at Rock Haven has one opening. PSH Coordinator working down prioritization list to place eligible participants in unit. Single only, disabled/high vulnerability score. PSH Coordinator Harley Atkins was joined by Amberly Bourday for PSH and to coordinate outreach to unsheltered. Amberly will facilitate intake, supportive services and housing. Unsheltered data and AHAR- working on language/fact sheet as NW was listed in top 5 CoCs in country on percentage of unsheltered in region.

NRHA- Kim Cashatt. Approximately 1950 vouchers are currently circulating in region but 2029 available. NHRA is trying to secure units quickly but many households holding main

stream vouchers cannot locate units. Please encourage Landlords to participate in voucher program. Currently have one 4 bedroom unit available in Oak Grove Village in Jefferson.

VAYA Health-Lori Watts. Have funds available for housing support for one time assistance in the VAYA network area. One time rent/utility deposit funds are available which represents 45% of the total allocation of funds available for this housing assistance. Please make referrals-VAYA will continue to accept until the funding is fully dispersed. VAYA is no longer funding half-way house stays which has freed up funds in the NW for this assistance. Held meeting with housing authority/Bianca Miller to transfer transition placements to mainstream voucher assistance for long term sustainability. Standing by with the state on Medicaid transformation- indefinite delay until the legislature reconvenes.

OASIS- Michelle Grit. High Country Community Health Care and OASIS partnered to get dental care/health assistance for participants. Good opportunity for dental care in particular.

Daymark Recovery Services- Murry Hawkinson. Daymark has multi-year grant for care management. Do not have anyone hired as care manager for this program. Have Peer Support Specialist to share between Watauga and Wilkes however. Trying to tie in support and primary health care to improve health outcomes for the affected population. In July, (second year of grant) Daymark will assign Peer Support Specialist and two health care managers for program. Five year grant total.

Easter Seals- Carl Jenkins. Meadows has current opening for staff person. Unit openings for Ashe, two for Wilkes and one for Wintergreen which is PSH. Watauga vacancies filling quickly but Ashe is slow to fill. Nicole Ramsey is point of contact for group home referrals with Easter Seals.

- **COC Planning- Members**

**Point in Time Planning and Materials- Shane**

Next Wednesday, January 29, 2020 is the PIT for the NW CoC. Documents have been sent out to providers and volunteers- need to circulate to those who participate in PIT. Please reach out to schools, LEOs across the seven counties, food banks, local churches, crisis centers, etc. Wilkes has huge team in place for the PIT and good assistance from the Health Department was received last year. Project FIGHT will be contacted by OASIS to ensure this population is captured. DSS/Tommy McClure in Ashe County is coordinating there. Alleghany coverage is difficult except for DV shelter who participate annually- contact Alleghany Cares and BROCK for confirmation of participation in PIT. Catherine Barber shelter now re-opened in Wilkes will be involved as well. Rotating temporary shelter in Avery-Mitchell is not currently operational but sometimes pays for hotels for households so need to check in for PIT. LEO's working better to transport unsheltered from more rural counties with no shelter availability to emergency shelter. Completed PIT forms due by end of February. PIT/HIC submission due by end of April. Providers have confirmed bed

listing for HIC. There will be a press release/public service announcement talking about PIT closer to January 29, 2020. Contact Shane Johnson for any additional information.

**HUD CoC Award Announcements.**

CoC Program Registration Forms now available in e-snaps. Due March 5, 2020 by 5:00pm. Tier I 2019 and Planning awards were announced January 14, 2020. Tier II announcement will hopefully follow soon. Full award received except for TH/RRH adjustment of approximately \$500 that may be a rent assistance adjustment for that project.

**NC-516 - Northwest North Carolina**

Hospitality House DDV/SSA Joint TH and PH-RRH Project- \$43,156

Hospitality House Permanent Housing for the Hard to Serve- \$18,561

Hospitality House Permanent Housing Leasing Expansion- \$52,852

Joint TH and PH-RRH Project- \$30,040

NC-516 CoC Planning Application- \$17,036

OASIS Edgecliff PSH-\$72,275

OASIS Transitional Housing- \$27,813

Hospitality House Rock Haven Permanent Housing Program- \$32,835

SSO Coordinated Entry- \$14,275

Hospitality House Wintergreen Supportive Housing Program- \$31,326

**NC-516 Total : \$340,169**

- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates**

**NCHMIS- New Project Manager visit**

Jared Hunter, new NC HMIS Project Coordinator, came for a site visit to NC 516 on 1/17/2020. Will work with Hospitality House and LSA to review data, look at unsheltered issues, expand services, and do graphic reports for the CoC.

**Dr. Dennis Culhane – Consultant on Statewide Data.**

Report out to NC HMIS on recommendations to do state wide data reports between two HMIS systems. Third party GDACT as option for facilitating. Each implementation would provide data to third party for reporting purposes. ESG funded the contract for NC HMIS.

- **State ESG Updates**

Hospitality House-Graham Doege-Osler. Spend down from 2019 complete for ESG funded RRH and for all funded activities in 2019. New contract signed for RRH/Emergency Shelter and HMIS. Operation of RRH through CE proving successful. Placements and exits to permanent housing destinations up from 2018.

- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**

**NW CoC PIT, January 29, 2020**

**NW CoC – NRHA February 18, 2020 at 10am**

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am

Minutes submitted by Christiana Glenn Tugman



**Northwestern Continuum of Care (NC 516)**  
**Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 18, 2020**

**Attendees:**

**Tina Krause:** Hospitality House, Executive Director  
**Shane Johnson:** Hospitality House, Director of Grant Funding  
**Graham Doege-Osler:** Hospitality House, RRH/WeCan Coordinator  
**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Hospitality House, Compliance and Planning  
**Lori Watts:** VAYA Health, Housing Specialist  
**Kaylan Lewis:** OASIS, Housing Coordinator  
**Michelle Grit:** OASIS, Executive Director  
**Carl Jenkins:** Easter Seals, Housing Manager  
**David Barr:** Easter Seals  
**Kim Cashatt,** Northwest Regional Housing Authority  
**Ned Fowler,** Northwest Regional Housing Authority  
**Matt Lucas:** Executive Director, Quiet Givers  
**Tommy McClure:** Ashe County Department of Social Services (DSS)

• **Welcome & Agency Updates**

Kaylan Lewis-OASIS has an opening at PSH in Avery

Tommy McClure- Ashe County DSS has noted increase in unsheltered in Ashe.

Lori Watts-VAYA has housing funds available for rent/deposits that are referred by a provider within the service area. VAYA launching needs assessment on Mental Health. Link to survey will be sent to CoC members.

Michelle Grit- SAFE in Wilkes has closed its DV shelter which had 15 beds. Both OASIS and Hospitality House worked to assist. NC Council for Women are handling closure and transfer of clients to other providers. Crisis lines are transferring to Alleghany and Avery. Legal Aid is handling the DVPO- possible release of funds for hotel vouchers for critical emergency from Council of Women. Some funding may be available in April to provide shelter if an agency pursues. Alleghany DV shelter only has 14 day stay and limited beds. Shane Johnson-The SSO/CE APR was submitted. New HUD CE data standards were requested for this APR even though not required until 4/1/2020. New CE page being created in HMIS to meet upcoming requirements.

Christiana Glenn Tugman- Attended Regional Housing meeting in Spruce Pine sponsored by the AMY Foundation. List of resources in Avery County did not include agencies represented at the CoC (VAYA, NRHA, OASIS, Hospitality House, e.g.). The Dept. of Social Services has closed a comment period on a proposed new rules that may impact SSI/SSDI recipients, thereby reducing income and increasing housing costs to agencies. Reviews of eligibility will be conducted every 2 years for certain conditions instead of every 7 years.

Carl Jenkins- HUD housing inspections just occurred-passed without issue or concerns.  
David Barr- N. Wilkesboro has 3 openings for group home placement/Wintergreen has one/Lenior has one opening/Downtown Boone-openings. Wintergreen placement goes through CE. All applicants except Wintergreen PSH must receive Medicaid. Office in Watauga still has opening for FTE for Boone Apartment manager. Posted on web-site and LinkedIn.

Kim Cashatt- NRHA has vouchers and we are working are way down the list-unfortunately, no housing is available for voucher holders to rent. Please encourage LLs to reach out. Mainstream vouchers 45 additional- three criteria to receive- (18-61, disabled and fit one of four subcategories (institutional discharge, at risk of or are homeless and income qualified).

Tina Krause- CE call last Friday- Rock Haven and HH units are full. Move-on strategy for one PSH resident will open another unit. Rock Haven will have another unit coming on line. Combined Component has four units that were prepared for SAFE closing but not utilized so they are ready to receive CC referrals through parallel CE. Winter Shelter fully active and has experienced highest numbers on record (50 additional persons per night on average).

- **COC Planning- Members**

- o Point in Time- Shane Johnson. Please turn in your PIT surveys. HH surveys complete. School system reports minimal numbers. Lori/Michelle working to finalize DV provider numbers. Please contact participating agencies and submit surveys by March 2, 2020.

- o HUD CoC Registration- AAQ/HUD Regional Office will be contacted for guidance on process for registration due to legal name change of Hospitality House. Registration closes March 5, 2020.

- o AHAR Report- NW has highest number of unsheltered families in country- in top five nationwide. 21% of properties are vacation homes/2<sup>nd</sup> homes while national average is 4%.

- o System Performance Measures- due 2/28/2020. Reports are being run- errors corrected. Wintergreen has some errors that need correction/data points missing that will be fixed in advance of due date.

- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates NCHMIS**

- o Marti Morris/NC HMIS local lead has resigned. Last day 2/21/2020.

- **State ESG and Rapid Rehousing Updates**

- o Funding in place- will take referrals from CE.

- **Other Business**

- o Still awaiting Tier II. Slower than last year.

- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**

- o NWCoc – NWAHA March 17, 2020 at 10am



**Northwestern Continuum of Care  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, March 17, 2020 10am-12  
Via Phone Conference**

**Attendees:**

**Tina Krause:** Hospitality House, Executive Director  
**Shane Johnson:** Hospitality House, Director of Grant Funding  
**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Hospitality House, Compliance and Planning  
**Lori Watts:** VAYA Health, Housing Specialist  
**Kaylan Lewis:** OASIS, Housing Coordinator  
**Michelle Grit:** OASIS, Executive Director  
**Jennifer Herman:** OASIS, Program Director  
**Holly Robinson:** Daymark  
**Kim Hill:** Daymark  
**Carl Jenkins:** Easter Seals, Housing Manager  
**David Barr:** Easter Seals  
**Kim Cashatt,** Northwest Regional Housing Authority

• **Welcome & Agency Updates**

Kim Cashatt: NRHA offering vouchers- many vouchers are issued but people cannot find affordable units. The NRHA offices are now officially closed due to COVID-19. Staff working remotely and accessible to tenants/prospective tenants. Drop boxes are available for paperwork. Buildings housing elderly residents have restricted access to ensure health and safety.

Michelle Grit: OASIS staff trying to work remotely. Shelter staff trying to limit exposure. Working on contingency plan if shelter quarantines or if someone fleeing domestic violence requires quarantine. NC Council of Women asking agencies to consult with local public health departments to coordinate health services concerning COVID-19.

Lori Watts: VAYA Health is moving most of staff to home-based work as of 3/16/20. Cuts from the state budget for ACT Teams/Substance use services. Housing assistance has spent 85% of funds for this fiscal year - accepting requests for assistance until funds are spent. VAYA is currently updating housing guides for all 22 counties, including information on COVID-19.

Holly Daymark: ACT TEAMS being given guidance on how to interact with participants during COVID-19. Trying to maintain business as usual with some modifications. Fifteen clients are currently being served in Watauga that need ACT Team services.

David Barr: EASTER Seals programs are operating as normally as possible with some modifications. Information being passed out to clients on COVID19. Restricting visitors at units is difficult but group homes have restrictions in place to protect residents. Currently, W. Jefferson has two openings, Lenior-1. Boone location is full but someone is transitioning out. Wintergreen has one opening which will go through CE but COVID-19 may delay placement. Wilkes has two openings.

Tina Krause: Hospitality House is working directly with the Watauga Health Department. OASIS and Hospitality House had meeting last week concerning COVID-19. HUD has issued some recent guidance. In the event of positive test of resident, quarantine protocol for 14 days will immediately go into effect for the facility and there are staff who have volunteered to stay on site if quarantine occurs. Temperature checks at shelter entry is required and thermometers and food boxes were distributed to Rock Haven/scattered site units to limit social contact. Residents will report directly to Coordinator. Senior staff is working directly with Health Department to garner medical supplies required to maintain safe shelter operations. Student volunteers leaving school has created some gaps with the addition of children who are not in school. The food pantry is open and community kitchen is serving meals. However, only one household allowed in at a time for food boxes and modifications in place to reduce exposure in serving line at community kitchen. Asked for hand-washing station for the facility for dining area/lobby. There are approximately 150 people engaging facility every day. Concern with MH/Substance use as anxiety/stress increases in population. Some residents are presenting with illness not related to COVID-19. Working with Blue Ridge Clinic to provide care/symptom screening and will utilize COVID-19 hotline as well. There are two family rooms set aside for COVID-19 isolation but that is all that is available. For DDV/SA referrals- Sonya Hamby is contact. Combined Component intakes may be completed by phone. Rock Haven has one potential opening-by-name list being reviewed.

- **COC Planning- Members**

- **COVID19 Planning for Northwest:**

For the CoC, please make CE referrals to Harley if cannot do intakes. Discussion regarding shelter quarantine if doors close for people left outside. Spaces at unoccupied buildings may be available but there are no staff to manage. Hopeful community leaders may devise a plan. Masks and protective gowns are in short supply- concerns from both OASIS/HH because if quarantined, nothing to protect staff when providing care. Agencies should submit lists to Health Department in case supplies become available.

The CoC members may need to communicate via phone/email while the health crisis unfolds. Encourage communication by members/for members concerning needs and COVID-19. Email questions/concerns directly to CoC list-serve.

If contacted by media and request is COVID-19 related, the local Health Department has offered to review press release to make sure information is accurate. General press releases concerning COVID-19 and homelessness should come from the NW CoC.

- **Point in Time Follow Up:**

Lori Watts: Worked with OASIS staff last week to finalize PIT numbers. Shane Johnson has the data from other agencies in the region. Will work to consolidate all PIT/HIC data and de-duplicate for submission. Only some reports are available in HMIS. May be extension for submission of PIT/HIC because of COVID-19.

- **HUD CoC Registration:** NC 516 registration for CoC Competition completed in *esnaps*.

- **SPM (System Performance Measures):** Shane Johnson, Local System Administrator for HMIS, submitted the System Performance Measures for the Northwest CoC.

- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates**
  - NCHMIS- MCAH submitted formal request to HUD requesting delay of PIT/HIC submission and the HUD CE data standards implementation required by 4/1/2020. Anticipate some changes in the deadlines established for 2020 on other required reports.
  
- **State ESG and Rapid Rehousing Updates:**
  - WECAN/RRH is operating but limiting open office hours. Current participants have direct access to Coordinator who is monitoring email and voicemail. Referrals should be made by email from partner agencies.
  - **Guidance and survey of challenges for ESG funded programs during Coronavirus:** State ESG office is sending email communications concerning COVID-19. Lead responded to questionnaire detailing concerns on behalf of agencies funded and non-funded since concerns are the same. Will forward out to CoC members if response received from state office. Will also send out contact information for Health Departments/phone number for direct contact.
  
- **Other Business**
  - Wintergreen: Transfer of PSH grant from NHE to Hospitality House. In communication with HUD Regional office. Current grant agreement expires March 31, 2020.
  - Tier II awards announced 3/13/2020. All renewals received requested funding. A slight adjustment in the RRH projects funding due to Fair Market Rent is noted. NW did not receive the HMIS bonus project that was submitted.
  - The GIW should be out in the next 4 weeks. NOFA timeline may shift back to later in the year because of COVID-19.
  - All restaurants and bars in state asked to close by 6:00pm. Takeout/drive thru is permissible however. Governor will hold press conference at 2:00pm today.
  - Unemployment assistance may be available for employees whose jobs are affected by COVID-19. Some current requirements to claim unemployment will be suspended. Agencies should try and assist participants to get paperwork completed or contact NCWorks directly.
  - OASIS reports calls coming in looking for shelter since SAFE closed. Information to LEOs /referring agencies not consistent and/or available. OASIS has talked to Council of Women about transferring crisis line. Michelle Grit has offered suggestions- currently calling crisis line- have to hang up and call a new number for assistance.
  - Lori Watts offered the VAYA conference line system if any CoC meetings need to be held before next scheduled meeting of NWCoC.
  
- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**

Northwest CoC – **NRHA April 21, 2020 at 10am**



**Northwestern Continuum of Care  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, April 21, 2020 10am-12  
Via Phone Conference**

**Attendees:**

**Tina Krause:** Hospitality House, Executive Director

**Shane Johnson:** Hospitality House, Director of Grant Funding

**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Hospitality House, Compliance and Planning

**Lori Watts:** VAYA Health, Housing Specialist

**Kaylan Lewis:** OASIS, Housing Coordinator

**Michelle Grit:** OASIS, Executive Director

**Jennifer Herman:** OASIS, Program Director

**Holly Robinson:** Daymark

**Kim Cashatt,** Northwest Regional Housing Authority

**Matt Lucas:** Quiet Givers

• **Welcome & Agency Updates**

Kim Cashatt: NRHA administrative offices are open part-time. Staff are working electronically as much as possible. NRHA are not issuing vouchers at this time. Staff are working on re-certifications and to help household utilize vouchers previously issued to utilize.

Michelle Grit: OASIS is working on arranging for hotels/motels stays for DV clients. Have applied for financial support with FEMA and some other funders. All services operating but some support is remote. Working with court system for DVPOs/enforcement.

Lori Watts: VAYA Health has exhausted housing support/one-time assistance funds through its fiscal year June 30, 2020. Anticipate new funding in July depending on whether these state funds are impacted by NC budget decisions. Referrals must come thru provider. Some research by housing team on county emergency resources during COVID-19 updating weekly- applying with FEMA for non-congregate shelter funding and working with partners to avoid duplication of efforts. May not secure funding in all counties across VAYA service area but will look for gaps to fill when other agencies will not seek. Avery, Mitchell and Yancey counties have limited cases to no cases- does not appear to be moving forward on this funding stream. There is an extension for Medication Assistance Treatment for uninsured through the end of July 2020 from May 2020. VAYA still looking for additional funding to finish out Federal Fiscal year to end of September 2020. VAYA has put out informational one-pagers on available services during COVID.

Holly Robinson: Daymark has moved almost all services to TeleHealth. Use of smartphones for clients to access TeleHealth. Daymark support staff in office to take emergency calls.

Matt Lucas: Quiet Givers is working on fund raising for this emergency crisis to cover utility payments. Large grant received so please make referrals for rent, utilities or even hotel stays. Contact at (828) 355-5046 or submit referrals through website. Assistance is capped at \$500 per household to extend viability of funds.

Tina Krause: Hospitality House is working to Transition Wintergreen. Took over April 1, 2020. Waiting for contract from HUD. PSH move-ins for open units are running through CE. Have one opening for Rock Haven- using by-name list and working with Coordinators

to fill. Will apply for FEMA funds under Category B for services and support. Working directly with the Watauga Health Department for issues related to COVID-19.

Received emergency ESG funding for COVID (\$13,421). Initial funding reserved for existing ESG grantees- anticipate additional funds forthcoming under CARES Act. The emergency funding is being used for additional PT staff to assist during COVID crisis in Winter and Emergency Shelter. Working with Blue Ridge Clinic/Health Department. At Hospitality House, providing care/symptom screening and will utilize COVID-19 hotline for persons who exhibit symptoms. PSH Coordinators still visiting residents in person using PPE carrying food boxes- counseling for isolation.

Winter Shelter will be closed but will open new beds to ES over-flow to take winter shelter residents during Stay at Home Order. Both programs currently operating at capacity.

- **COC Planning- Members**

- **COVID19 Planning for Northwest:**

Encourage communication by members/for members concerning needs and COVID-19. Email questions/concerns directly to CoC list-serve.

- **Contract Tracing NC HMIS Report:** The contact tracing document from MCAH has been made available and if approved, authorizes MCAH to run the report. This document was developed working in conjunction with their DHHS and gives the ability for providers to enable contact tracing through HMIS. The report will only be run by MCAH, and requires a request from a Health official to MCAH to pull the report. Every CoC in the NC HMIS implementation can vote to approve use or not. Motion to accept use of the contact tracing report for NC 516: Lori Watts, second Kim Cashatt, second- NC 516 approves.

- **FEMA Funding for COVID Response:** Both OASIS and Hospitality House are pursuing FEMA public assistance funding and VAYA Health is pursuing the non-congregate shelter funding.

- **ESG CARES Act Funding:** First round of CARES funding for existing grantees, second round available for all agencies.

- **HUD CoC Registration and Review:** NC 516 registration and final review is complete. Waiting for GIW for CoC Competition. Name change for Hospitality House required additional steps in *esnaps* and with state and federal government. Hospitality House of Northwest NC is now listed as the Collaborative Applicant for NC 516.

- **CoC NOFA 2020 update:** Currently waiting on Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW) from HUD. NOFA may move back to later launch as was done in prior years. HUD standard reports continue to be pushed back that are required for NOFA. HUD Data Standards pushed back to October 1, 2020. For NC 516, CE will be set-up as distinct project in HMIS rather than pulling elements from all projects.

- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates**

- **NC HMIS:** The Executive of the Governance Committee is holding weekly meetings as with MCAH for COVID support. Representative from NC HMIS is now attending meetings with DHHS/NCCEH to convey community needs to meeting- posted in advance of those weekly meetings. If providers want information relayed directly to DHHS- please

send needs/wants/ noted gaps via email related to COVID. Example- Telehealth support- set up at Hospitality House. HIPAA and ROI addressed for remote access for Telehealth working with MCAH. Email Tina Krause.

NC HMIS Budget Update/Contracting FY 2021-22. Moving forward with same budget and cost share breakdown as last year fiscal year. Cost share, scope of work and contract will move forward in steps to avoid contract gap.

- Health Department is working hotel voucher criteria- high risk /exposed persons only. Some issues in providing support to those high risk/MH involved if moved to hotel with no support staff. LEOs rotating between Sheriff/local law enforcement to do drive-by every half hour but not making contact with persons isolated at hotels. Will move people to hotel/motel only when mental health issues will not be compounded by isolation. Transportation of positives under contract with LEOs who have a special car or will use EMS. Health Dept. will make arrangements for transport if needed.
  - ABCCM has requested HMIS NC 516 access-currently do not have billing/cost allocation for agencies in Northwest if they require licenses. There are no available licenses at this time. Will continue to work with agency on access to NC HMIS for their service area within the Northwest CoC.
- **State ESG and Rapid Rehousing Updates:**
    - RRH is operating but limiting open office hours. Current participants have direct access to Coordinator who is monitoring email and voicemail. Referrals should be made by email from partner agencies so CE coordination can occur. Any questions/concerns, reach out via email for quickest response.
- **Other Business**
    - No other business
- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**  
Northwest CoC – **NRHA on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 10am**





**Northwestern Continuum of Care  
Data Quality Subcommittee Meeting  
Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 10am  
Via Phone Conference**

**Attendees:**

**Tina Krause:** Hospitality House, Executive Director

**Shane Johnson:** Hospitality House, Director of Grant Funding

**Graham Doege-Osler:** Hospitality House, Rapid-Rehousing Coordinator

**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Hospitality House, Compliance and Planning

**Lori Watts:** VAYA Health, Housing Specialist

**Kaylan Lewis:** OASIS, Housing Coordinator

**Jennifer Herman:** OASIS, Program Director

**Jessica Peele:** A Safe Home for Everyone, Housing Specialist

**Gillian Hampton:** NC DHHS, Targeted Housing Stabilization Coordinator

**Matt Lucas:** Quiet Givers, Director

**David Barr:** Easter Seals, Housing Manager

○ **Welcome & Agency Updates**

Jennifer Herman: OASIS is working on arranging for hotels/motels stays for DV clients. Doing electronic filing for Protective Orders, working on supportive services in coordination with area providers. OASIS had to cancel annual fundraising event because of COVID-19 concerns. OASIS applied and was successful in getting Paycheck Protection Program loan. Have applied for financial support with FEMA and some other funders. All services are operating but some support for participants is occurring remotely.

Lori Watts: VAYA Health has withdrawn from FEMA application for COVID-19 funds made available for hotel voucher assistance. Continuing to update resources for COVID-19 assistance throughout VAYA service area. VAYA anticipates funds in July for housing support/one-time assistance but has exhausted these funds for this fiscal year.

Graham Doege-Osler: Receiving referrals for RRH. Households are employed so may be over-income limits for certain assistance. Technically, RRH has no income threshold except at annual re-certification-CARES funds for Prevention eligibility are capped at 50% AMI.

Matt Lucas: Quiet Givers filled 79 needs requests last year and as of today, 73 have been filled just this year. Working on fund raising for emergency/crisis fund to cover utility and rent payments. Most requests received are for rent assistance and utilities arrears. Anticipate this surge will continue to climb so looking at partnering with local providers to offer support/assistance. Service area is Watauga, Avery and Ashe. Contact at (828) 355-5046 or submit referrals through website.

Gillian Hampton: NC DHHS Targeted Housing Program working on housing for persons for persons with disabilities with highest priority those in Adult Care Homes and a mental health diagnosis who can be rehoused in community with tenancy supports; 2<sup>nd</sup> priority population are persons in nursing homes that can be placed back in the community with tenancy supports; 3<sup>rd</sup> priority population are homeless persons with disabilities and disability income who are at risk of adult care home placement and can be diverted to housing in the community with tenancy supports; works heavily with Vaya's Transitions to Community Living Initiative (TCLI).

Tina Krause: Hospitality House is working closely with the local Health Departments- have weekly calls to monitor situation and congregate shelter. Day services at Hospitality House are operating but cautiously to limit risk of exposure from people that access day services only. Hospitality House is using the self-contained family rooms to isolate persons who originate from Wilkes for 72 hours before being admitted to emergency overflow because of high rate of cases in Wilkes. The Combined Component program serving domestic violence, sexual assault or human trafficking victims, has funding for rental assistance available-regardless of where victim is temporarily housed (motel or DV shelter). Hospitality House did apply for FEMA Category B Public Assistance funds but did not apply for motel voucher funds. Still waiting for FEMA to confirm application has been processed. OASIS, Hospitality House and Daymark has conference call on issues surrounding MH needs for program participants because of COVID crisis. Most services being offered through Telehealth and some participants are not comfortable talking to computer screen. Daymark can send crisis out if location is safe for personnel. Hospitality House has doubled capacity to address current need for counseling using Telehealth. The severe weather forecast for the next few days has necessitated bringing people into the facility for safety. Will operate like Winter Shelter during this week's adverse weather. Transition is ongoing for Wintergreen PSH project. Hospitality House took over case management starting April 1, 2020, but are awaiting HUD transfer of grant from NHE. There is an opening at Rock Haven- using by-name list and working with Coordinators to fill. Please send referrals to Harley Atkins.

Shane Johnson: Want to increase scattered site capacity and outreach to Landlords to bring more units on-line. Please send names of any potential landlords/property managers to Harley Atkins so he can contact directly to increase scattered site unit pool.

David Barr: Easter Seals is working to hire a new manager at Boone Apartments (Winkler's Meadow/Watauga). Have several supported housing apartment openings -Highland/ Peace St (Wilkes) has one opening, Lenoir/Sunset Ridge/Caldwell has one opening. Ashe /Birch St in West Jefferson has 2 openings. Morganton and Boone are full. New referral process-screening and call center set-up to conduct initial assessment- if eligibility threshold is met then follow-up conducted and residential selection committee via Skype or Microsoft Teams makes recommendation. Residents are managing issues with stay at home order. With recent changes, residents can move around more, but taking PPE precautions and staff are taking people to grocery store and appointments as necessary.

Jessica Peele: A Safe Home for Everyone is currently full. No other updates to report.

#### ○ **COC Planning- Members**

- **Point in Time 2020:** Revised submission date is June 30, 2020. Lori Watts and Shane Johnson are finalizing data for submission in HDX. Will schedule meeting to review final before submission. Lori Watts will enter data from DV agencies into HDX for HIC as each agency housing type must be entered separately. Need full data from all counties and housing type to compile to enter for whole CoC for PIT in HDX. All the reports required for PIT/HIC submission are in the NC HMIS system now but some provider page setup need revision because errors are pulling into the reports. In past years, unsheltered numbers have decreased annually but the sheltered count was higher as a result of those efforts. We shall see what this year's data shows with unsheltered numbers; Sheltered numbers are up.
- **HUD 2019 Continuum of Care Awards:** Northwest has received award letters with amounts and grant numbers. The CoC grants are in eLoccs but budgets are not. VAYA has had some success in working with Regional CPD office to get contracts issued even before

the award letters went out. Northwest has new CPD liaison, Diane Dillahunt, who is taking over for Michael Johnson.

- **HUD 2019 Competition Report:** CoC Competition de-briefing was received last week. Northwest scored above the median at 151.5. Lost points on length of time homeless, returns to homelessness and RRH unit inventory. Each of these categories shows improvement this year in the System Performance Measures and issues with RRH inventory have been addressed to capture those 10 points moving forward. Northwest did well on Coordination with PHA's section but currently NRHA is having to re-issue vouchers because people cannot find housing. Lost points on Outreach question but answer was same as last year's which received full points. Some bonus projects received a debriefing from HUD- Northwest did not receive one for the HMIS project. No indication at this time as to why some CoCs received a report for bonus projects and others did not.
  - **Addendum to Written Standards and CE Addendum for COVID Response:** HUD is requesting that CoC's using waivers or augmenting their CE process for COVID-19 response, revise their Written Standards and Coordinated Entry and Assessment policies to document changes. NC 516 has prepared addendums to address and prepare for the CARES funding which also changes regulatory requirements stated in the policies. Prevention funding will bring new programs on-line in the CoC and addendums will allow flexibility to administer and for CE to adapt for COVID response. Jennifer Herman- motion to approve. Lori Watts- second. Motion carries. None opposed.
  - Quiet Givers working with Graham directly to help people to retain their housing that have lost income due to COVID. Quiet Givers may move on Duke Endowment fund but need partnership with Methodist Church in area to apply. State ESG-CV funding is forthcoming- developing prevention program to reach 7 county area and will continue to work toward implementation in anticipation of funding.
- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates**
    - **NC HMIS:** Annual contract for NC HMIS. \$7,410.30 is being prepared. NC 516 has 12 licenses- if we need additional licenses, then will have to purchase. Contract forthcoming- ESG money and some funding from Hospitality House pay for NC HMIS and Shane Johnson as LSA who can work with OASIS in Osmium for reports if needed.
  - **State ESG and Rapid Rehousing Updates:**
    - CARES Act funding- ESG office sent out questionnaire last week to current recipients related to COVID response. Theme for most questions centered on: LL recruitment, PPE and increased shelter capacity, Prevention strategies and supplies. Written responses submitted to ESG office highlighted existing strategies and programs we would like to expand/initiate. Funding to NW will increase dramatically through current grantees- second round of funding is supposed to be open to others providers in the state.
  - **Other Business**
    - NC HMIS sent out information asking providers to verify agency privacy notices. NC HMIS has section in release of information that permits disclosure of certain PPI. For emergency and data collection purposes. Questions- contact Shane Johnson.
  - **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**
    - Northwest CoC – **Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at 10am - Join Microsoft Teams Meeting**  
+1 828-552-4129 United States, Asheville (Toll), Conference ID: 585 407 593#



**Northwestern Continuum of Care  
Data Quality Subcommittee Meeting  
Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at 10am  
Via Phone Conference**

**Attendees:**

**Tina Krause:** Hospitality House, Executive Director  
**Shane Johnson:** Hospitality House, Director of Grant Funding  
**Graham Doege-Osler:** Hospitality House, Rapid-Rehousing Coordinator  
**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Hospitality House, Compliance and Planning  
**Angela Eccles:** Hospitality House, Non-Profit Management Intern  
**Lilly Robinson:** Hospitality House, Data Specialist  
**Lori Watts:** VAYA Health, Housing Specialist  
**Kim Cashatt:** Northwest Regional Housing Authority  
**Michelle Grit:** OASIS, Executive Director  
**Kaylan Lewis:** OASIS, Housing Coordinator  
**Gillian Hampton:** NC DHHS, Targeted Housing Stabilization Coordinator  
**David Barr:** Easter Seals, Housing Manager  
**John Helton:** ABCCM, Veterans Services of the Carolinas  
**Holly Robinson:** Daymark Recovery

o **Welcome & Agency Updates**

Kim Cashatt: NRHA received an additional compliment of 26 mainstream vouchers- total vouchers for Northwest is now 2055 for the region. 1977 vouchers are on contract many households have vouchers but are unable to find units. NHRA offices are still closed to the public until July 4, 2020. Limited office hours by appointment. Offices close at 3:00 pm.

Michelle Grit: OASIS opening offices Tuesday through Friday. Avery office is open Tuesday and Thursday for walk-in hours. Still serving and meeting clients virtually. Courts are still operating on limited basis. OASIS shelter full and also serving in alternative settings like hotels, B&B, etc. OASIS getting tested for COVID-19 on Friday as preventative measure. OASIS is working on arranging for hotels/motels stays for DV clients if needed. All services are operating but some support for participants is occurring remotely.

Lori Watts: Making referrals for HCV and mainstream vouchers. Awards for additional vouchers to PHA's across NC were made without competition. VAYA will have funds in July for housing support/one-time assistance but has exhausted these funds for this fiscal year. As of now, VAYA Health offices will not open until September.

Holly Robinson: Walk-in crisis available at Daymark but limited office hours. Do not have a time-line on full opening of offices. Will continue to do TeleHealth to serve clients. An appointment list is sent out daily of scheduled appointments- group and individual assessments still provided and working hard to connect to persons who are not engaging treatment. Mobile ACT-Team are being dispatched to serve clients in crisis. Transportation for clients is limited but food boxes and prescription medication delivery is occurring.

Graham Doege-Osler: Shifting RRH referrals through CE to CoC funded program. ESG funds remaining are limited. Contact Sonya Hamby for more information on program. Graham Doege-Osler is assisting with intakes/assessments for that program as well as ESG funded RRH. Literally homeless households needing assistance that may not be eligible for NRHA voucher assistance are encouraged to access CE for RRH assistance.

Gillian Hampton: Increased needs for housing especially for those with mental health issues. NC DHHS Targeted Housing Program working on housing for persons for persons with disabilities with highest priority: those in Adult Care Homes and a mental health diagnosis who can be rehoused in community with tenancy supports; 2<sup>nd</sup> priority population are persons in nursing homes that can be placed back in the community with tenancy supports; 3<sup>rd</sup> priority population are homeless persons with disabilities and disability income who are at risk of adult care home placement and can be diverted to housing in the community with tenancy supports; works heavily with Vaya's Transitions to Community Living Initiative (TCLI).

John Helton- ABCCM-Veteran Services of the Carolinas- covering 8 counties (Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Watauga, Wilkes, Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba). Supportive Services case managers are still meeting in person with clients- not virtually. The program is providing hotel vouchers, food boxes, assisting with transportation. SSVF funds are available- make referrals through CE or contact John Helton at: 828-217-4284. John is requesting MSW contacts at Hospitality House.

Tina Krause: Hospitality House (HH) still is working closely with the local Health Department- have weekly calls to monitor COVID-19 situation and health of congregate shelter residents. Day services at Hospitality House are operating but cautiously to limit risk of exposure from people that access day services only and may be from outside service area. Have some PSH openings- going through BNL and CE case conferencing. Current opening at Rock Haven- one opening at Wintergreen in Wilkes but still don't have contract from HUD but anticipate soon. Emergency Shelter (ES) operating at full capacity with some over-flow and there is a wait-list for those beds. Households that request are triaged with a quick assessment to assess vulnerability/ risk to COVID. HH conducted full voluntary testing of COVID at the site for residents, unsheltered and those receiving day services. Have protocol if COVID related-if symptomatic-triage-isolation-tested-placed in room at HH or quarantine rooms at hotel. Holding open three rooms at HH for symptomatic persons to isolate until cleared. HH is still not accepting persons from outside Northwest for ES- persons must be in NW CoC for 14 days with no symptoms before being in the congregate shelter setting. Can access day services and MH appointments through TeleHealth.

David Barr: Have new manager hired for Boone Apartments/Meadows/CAC of Watauga- Ann-Marie Schuyler 828-386 8407- APR final for Wintergreen has been submitted for review. Corrections made to HMIS for Wintergreen. Data cleanup. New referral system for apartments. Contact David directly or go to website and select link for residential and location. Complete screening form. Easter Seals is working to hire a new manager at Boone Apartments (Winkler's Meadow/Watauga). Have several supported housing apartment openings Morganton and Boone are full. New referral process- screening and call center set-up to conduct initial assessment- if eligibility threshold is met then follow-up conducted and residential selection committee No openings with group homes. Apartment manger for Ashe- CAC of Ashe- Katiria Ayala new manager. )- 336-219-0042, cell- 828-406-6852 [katiria.ayala@eastersealsucp.com](mailto:katiria.ayala@eastersealsucp.com). Office at 113 Burkett Avenue, West Jefferson, 28694.

○ **COC Planning- Members**

- **Point in Time-Housing Inventory Count 2020:** Waiting on Wilkes County Schools data before finalizing count and submitting in HDX. Homeless families seem to show decrease in count from last year. Revised submission date is June 30, 2020. Lori Watts and Shane Johnson are finalizing data and reports for submission in HDX.

- **New intake and data specialist at Hospitality House:** Lilly Robinson. Will be doing intakes, assessments and working on data quality and reports for HH.
- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates**
  - **NC HMIS:** Annual contract for NC HMIS finalized. \$7,410.30 for Northwest CoC cost share this FY for the multi-jurisdictional implementation. Very active calendar this month for GC members- CARES Act, etc. HH will sign the contract and MOU and submit to MCAH.
- **State ESG and Rapid Rehousing Updates:**
  - **ESG RRH:** has 8 current households with 3 being slated through CE this week. Limited case management available as a result of COVID and the HUD waivers filed. DV partners encouraged to refer through CE for RRH assistance- security-utility deposits and rental assistance available for households.
  - **NC DHHS Fair Share:** The NC DHHS fair share notice was released 6.15.2020. NC DHHS will award \$16.58 in ESG-CV funds during round one. NW CoC has \$416,864 available for ESG activities for both current sub-recipients and new applicants. Funds are intended to assist ESG activities that prevent-prepare-respond to COVID. No timeline for RFA but expect release this week. The RFA appears to have three components: Regional Application for the Northwest CoC, Crisis Response (Outreach and Shelter) Project Application and Housing Stability (RRH and Prevention-Diversion) Project Application. HMIS is also included. The NW CoC will have to make a recommendation for funding for project applicants and a decision as to whether to opt-in or out of a statewide housing model called Back@Home which was used in Hurricane Florence down east. More questions than information concerning Back@Home model integration with CoC Coordinated Entry, HMIS, and processes but more information should be available once the RFA released. CoC needs to make funding and activity type determination for NW CoC. Please email questions/concerns to Tina Krause and contact if interested in applying.
  - Unsheltered/housing resistant count is about 30 at this time but worked with PEER support recently to engage and establish relationships. Still remain priority for CoC as well as families. Because of work in CoC- many unsheltered high utilizers housed who were homeless for 15-20 years. HH is considering Outreach and engagement strategies with new funding sources available to the region.
- **Other Business**
  - State has healthcare PPA equipment request site. Easy request and two day turnaround: <https://nc.readyop.com/fs/4ckk/41c4> Encourage requests for assistance. Congregate settings really need this resource. HH received from Lowes Hardware managers a donation of PPE masks that were very appreciated since in-person contact.
- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**
  - May need emergency meeting because of ESG RFA for funding for the NW CoC. Next scheduled meeting of the Northwest CoC – **Tuesday, June 21, 2020 at 10am - Join Microsoft Teams Meeting** +1 828-552-4129 United States, Asheville (Toll), Conference ID: 585 407 593#





**Northwestern Continuum of Care  
Special Meeting of the NW CoC  
Emergency Solutions Grant Request for Applications  
Friday, June 26, 2020 at 10am  
Via Phone Conference**

**Attendees:**

**Lori Watts:** VAYA Health, Housing Specialist  
**Jennifer Herman:** OASIS, Program Director  
**Tina Krause:** Hospitality House, Executive Director  
**Shane Johnson:** Hospitality House, Director of Grant Funding  
**Graham Doege-Osler:** Hospitality House, Rapid-Rehousing Coordinator  
**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Hospitality House, Compliance and Planning  
**Angela Eccles:** Hospitality House, Non-Profit Management Intern  
**Lilly Robinson:** Hospitality House, Data Specialist  
**Kim Cashatt:** Northwest Regional Housing Authority  
**Michelle Grit:** OASIS, Executive Director  
**Kaylan Lewis:** OASIS, Housing Coordinator  
**Gillian Hampton:** NC DHHS, Targeted Housing Stabilization Coordinator

**Agenda**

- Emergency Solutions Grant: Request for Application Information
- Back@Home Model
- Spending Cap for ESG-CV
- Letter of Justification
- NW CoC ESG-CV due dates
  
- **NC DHHS Fair Share:** The NC DHHS fair share notice was released on 6.15.2020. NC DHHS will award \$16.58 in ESG-CV funds during round one. NW CoC has \$416,864 available for ESG activities for both current sub-recipients and new applicants. Funds are intended to assist ESG activities that prevent-prepare-and respond to COVID-19.  
**The Request for Applications (RFA):** Released on June 22, 2020. The RFA has three components: Regional Application for the Northwest CoC, Crisis Response (Outreach and Shelter) Project Application and Housing Stability (RRH and Prevention-Diversion) Project Application. HMIS is also included in Crisis Response. Final applications are due July 17, 2020.
- **Back@HOME:** The NW CoC members continued discussion on the Back@Home model presented at the June meeting. The NW CoC must make a decision as to whether to opt-in or out of the statewide housing model and submit a letter to ESG office by July 7, 2020 if opting out. Several members attended the ESG information session or other sessions on Back@Home. Still more questions than answers on integration into local processes/Coordinated Entry and how 211 intake would work, especially for VSP. NCDHHS stated programs can use HMIS of the CoC and that the ESG office will not determine which comparable database is used as long as it can run the required reports. Discussion surrounding Back@Home and letter of justification/ questions on differences in model to local RRH and community need, Smartsheet and application submission/process differences. RRH in both ESG and CoC funded projects have operated successfully for years in NW. Minimal affordable housing inventory for area and funding through ESG usually limited. Back@Home offers some

benefits but too many unknowns. RRH already spent 2019 award and is functioning well- just need more rental assistance money. WeCan and Quiet Givers enables crisis assistance but funding limited. Prevention model is underway. Have support from Pisgah Legal Services to assist in referrals for Yancey, Avery and Mitchell. Legal Aid already working in other counties. CE and parallel system in place for NW as well as modifications for COVID-19. Motion to opt out of Back@Home model: Lori Watts/Kim Cashatt second. Motion passed.

**Spending Cap for ESG-CV:** Per the RFA, NCDHHS is requiring that 60% of a CoCs award go to Housing Stabilization and 40% to Crisis Response. CARES Act said cap didn't apply but a CoC can submit letter of justification to not follow requirements of NCDHHS by July 7, 2020, and set percentages based on CoC needs. Discussion as to reasons for cap. Local needs- COVID response and looking toward fall/winter demand. High shelter and hotel demands as well as outreach have occurred related to COVID. ES has seen increased costs to address effects of COVID. Additional staff needed for cleaning/safety to remain operational. How will COVID affect winter shelter demand and capacity? Only one non-DV shelter in region- three smaller DV shelters have closed increasing demand and others in state limiting beds because of COVID concerns. HH still maintaining quarantine beds- OASIS using hotels at own expense- higher demand than normal for this time of year. Lack of shelter primary issue in NW- how can we sustain now and in the future? Renting additional sites for shelter operations may have to be considered. Multiple agencies interested in applying- stronger rationale to exceed 40% for crises response. Too many unknowns with COVID and rates of infection increasing- not decreasing. Outreach and engagement strategies possible with new funding sources available to the CoC. HMIS funding comes from crisis assistance- how much are NW CoC costs? Comparable database funding? Agencies would be eligible to request support for data entry/HMIS/comparable database operations. Motion to inverse recommended percentages- 60% crisis- 40% housing stability-Lori Watts; Second Gillian Hampton. Motion passes- HH and OASIS did not vote.

- **Letter of Justification:** Coordination with members- state reasons, opt out notice. Should be turned in as soon as possible but deadline is July 7, 2020. ESG has indicated they will respond quickly to the letter. Determines projects/budget etc., if approved. Chair will submit on behalf of NW CoC via email early next week based on discussion and the decisions.
- **Project applications due 7/13/2020 to Lori Watts via email for scoring and funding recommendations. Smartsheet submission of Regional application and project applications by 7/17/2020 5:00pm. New posting and email to NW CoC on due dates needed today.**

**Northwestern Continuum of Care  
Data Quality Subcommittee Meeting  
Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 10am  
Via Phone Conference**

**Attendees:**

**Tina Krause:** Hospitality House, Executive Director  
**Shane Johnson:** Hospitality House, Director of Grant Funding  
**Graham Doege-Osler:** Hospitality House, RRH Coordinator  
**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Hospitality House, Compliance and Planning  
**Lilly Robinson:** Hospitality House, Data Specialist  
**Lori Watts:** VAYA Health, Housing Specialist  
**Kim Cashatt:** Northwest Regional Housing Authority  
**Michelle Grit:** OASIS, Executive Director  
**Kaylan Lewis:** OASIS, Housing Coordinator  
**Gillian Hampton:** NC DHHS, Targeted Housing Stabilization Coordinator  
**Holly Robinson:** Daymark Recovery  
**Kim Hill:** Daymark Recovery

○ **Welcome & Agency Updates**

Holly Robinson: Daymark has walk-in crisis available but limited office hours. Will continue to do telehealth for mental health to serve clients. Several new grant funded programs at Daymark: integration of mental health/physical health-physical health services, a program for women that have SA-MH and are pregnant, and Supportive Employment. Daymark is excited to offer these services for the community. Questions/more information, contact Holly Robinson.

Michelle Grit: OASIS is able to serve persons fleeing DV/SA. Offering support to victims- limiting office hour contact due to COVID. The emergency shelter still has issue with water damage caused by bathroom pipes. Trying to address issue quickly- some sheetrock may have to be replaced. Will keep CoC informed if temporary closure for repairs is warranted. Kaylan Lewis, OASIS Housing Coordinator is leaving for another opportunity- Housing Coordinator position is open and is posted. Send application/resume to Michelle Grit if interested. The NW CoC members wish Kaylan well in her new endeavor.

Lori Watts: Housing Support/one time assistance funds are now available because of new FY. Up to \$500 is available per qualifying household. RHA, Daymark Recovery, and Infinite Beginnings can all make referrals directly to VAYA for this program assistance. VAYA submitted an application for ESG-CV funding in partnership with entity out of Jackson County to serve the far western portion of the state. Excited for the opportunity- no information at this time as to who may be the lead for the program if funded. VAYA is still operating Permanent Supportive Housing projects in the foothills and Southwest mountain regions of North Carolina. Currently, VAYA is fielding a lot of calls about evictions- anticipate call volume will increase now that moratorium has lifted and courts are open. VAYA is anticipating that the new funding can alleviate some of the economic/housing stability effects people are experiencing because of COVID.

Kim Cashatt: NRHA has a lot of vouchers available. Currently, NRHA is having to extend vouchers out beyond 120 day period for lease up because of housing shortage/COVID issues. NRHA has a total of 2055 vouchers with approximately 2000 on contract. Offices still closed to public- limited appointments can be scheduled but anticipate limited office availability will continue until the end of the year. Offices close at 3:00 pm.

Matt Lucas: Quiet Givers has funding for eviction prevention and crisis assistance. Up to \$500 per household. Quiet Givers is working on project to assist youth with host homes. Quiet Givers was approached by a high school guidance counselor about assisting youth after graduation and before college entry with a summer program to give the youth an opportunity to continue successful path to college. Youth from homes dealing with SA/MH/abuse who have support during school year, often fall into risk behavior during this period jeopardizing college entry. The proposal was brought to board yesterday but is in early phases. NW CoC Lead agency supplied information on other host home programs and contacts with Point Source Youth and Time Out Youth. Currently looking at Duke Endowment for funding for host home program. Quiet Givers does not have capacity at this time to handle but really want to meet this need and will look at ways to develop. NW CoC members excited about concept, organizations offering support-OASIS and Hospitality House.

Tina Krause: Hospitality House has filled Rock Haven. As soon as Wintergreen transfer and contract is finalized, will fill available unit at Wintergreen following Coordinated Entry criteria. Emergency Shelter has waitlist and a steady flow of bed inquiries. As of 7/20/20, 10 persons were in overflow beds and most of these persons are housing resistant. Will continue to offer overflow as long as possible during COVID. Prioritization for shelter beds is for persons at high medical risk of contracting COVID because of underlying health issue. Contact Ethan Flynn directly for ES bed for this population who is managing the prioritization list. Hospitality House is seeing an increase in MH acuity and the need for IVC. Many people are struggling to maintain under COVID requirements. Seeing high numbers of calls to crisis/requests for counseling that are normally seen during peak holiday season. Telehealth for MH/physical health is available both for both on-site and off-site residents/participants. Watauga County Emergency Management stated on July 10, 2020, that they are discontinuing hotel vouchers for persons who are isolating waiting for results or have tested positive for COVID-19. Quarantine for now will be limited to shelters who have capacity until another contract for hotels is settled. Hospitality House still has three rooms for people that require isolation-quarantine and are trying to get dedicated phone line-internet connection for those rooms. The hotel vouchers were being used by 2-4 people per week who were placed there by DHHS. Until another avenue opens- shelters will have to respond with the limited resources they have. There may be some other options outside of Boone such as Highland Hills and another hotel located in Foscoe. Hospitality

Gillian Hampton: The Targeted Housing Program Supervisor has left her position. Will hire someone immediately.

Graham Doege-Osler: The RRH program is currently placing persons in the CoC funded project. The ESG funded RRH has almost expended all funds for the program year. Some new funds for rental assistance will come in through ESG-CV. Graham Doege-Osler is assisting with intakes/assessments for the CoC funded RRH programs. Literally homeless households needing assistance that may not be eligible for NRHA voucher assistance are encouraged to access CE for housing assistance.

- **COC Planning- Members**

**2020 Point in Time-Housing Inventory Count (PIT/HIC):** The 2020 PIT/HIC was submitted in HDX at the end of June for the NW CoC. Normally, the PIT/HIC is due by April 30th of each year. Lori Watts is working with Shane Johnson, Local System Administrator for NC HMIS, to get final numbers for each individual county on the unsheltered count. Once complete and HUD approves PIT/HIC submission, a report will be generated for distribution that has details and graphics depicting the PIT-HIC data for the Northwest region.

- **NC HMIS Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates:**
  - In June of 2019, Mike Dolan Fliss, PhD, MPS, MSW, an Epidemiology Research Scientist requested de-identified data from NC HMIS for a pilot study on the intersection of housing stability and opioid related abuse and mortality. In the fall of last year, NC HMIS contracted with Dennis Culhane as a consultant on streamlining the request for data to NC HMIS, a Data Use Agreement template (DUA) and several proposals for the collection/dissemination of statewide data from both NC HMIS and HMIS at NCCEH. One of the proposals included data sharing by both implementations to a ‘trusted third party’. Mike Fliss presented to the NC HMIS GC on July 13, 2020 and is requesting a requesting an expanded relationship with NC HMIS which would include monthly data reports to continue the opioid study. The NW CoC would need to opt in or out of the request and can limit the terms of participation. The DUA would have to be agreed upon by the NW CoC. Mike Fliss is further proposing that the ‘trusted third party’ for the data be UNC-CH Injury Prevention Research Center. Further information regarding the collection of PPI, the DUA and the trusted third party will be collected by the Lead and sent via email to the members. The NW CoC may need to make an electronic vote based on the information by August 10, 2020 which is when Dr. Fliss has asked to be notified.
  - NC HMIS also submitted a grant to ESG-CV Friday for funding for the NC HMIS Project Manager position to work on implementing statewide data collection as described above.
  - **HMIS Summit 2020: Reaching Peak Performance in Your Community.** The 2020 summit is being presented by MCAH and NCHMIS. The NC HMIS Lead, MCAH, is offering training through a summit next week. Sessions cover a wide range of topics and anyone/agency can attend based on their area of interest. The training is free and will be held next Wednesday-Thursday. The summit will have round table networking opportunities with people from across the state. Please sign up to attend. Link to register: <https://hmislearningcenter.org/index.php/hmis-training/hmis-summit->
  
- **State ESG-CV RFA**

The ESG Review Sub-Committee met last week and made recommendations for funding for Crisis Response and Housing Stability. The Subcommittee received project applications from OASIS and Hospitality House. Agency requests exceeded the Fair Share for NW so adjustments were made to agency budgets/proposals. The project applications and the Regional Application for the NW CoC was submitted on July 16, 2020, one day before the due date, to allow for any issues around the new process for submission to the ESG office. ESG-CV awards will be determined on a rolling basis.
  
- **Other Business**
  - RRH-CoC funded project still has funding to spend. Are working with HUD on extension for this grant that was necessitated by COVID-19. ESG RRH is spent out except for case management funds.
  - Lead is trying to represent at that state level- please contact if there are unmet needs/gaps- we can post on Basecamp which is taken to leadership.
  - Meeting schedule posted for rest of the year. August meeting may need to change or someone else has to moderate.
  
- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**

Next scheduled meeting of the Northwest CoC – **Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 10am - [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)** [+1 828-552-4129](tel:+18285524129) United States, Asheville (Toll),  
Conference ID: 585 407 593#



**Northwest Continuum of Care  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 10am  
Via Phone Conference**

**Attendees:**

**Tina Krause:** Hospitality House, Executive Director  
**Shane Johnson:** Hospitality House, Director of Grant Funding  
**Graham Doege-Osler:** Hospitality House, RRH Coordinator  
**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Hospitality House, Compliance and Planning  
**Lilly Robinson:** Hospitality House, Data Specialist  
**Lori Watts:** VAYA Health, Housing Specialist  
**Kim Cashatt:** Northwest Regional Housing Authority, Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator  
**Michelle Grit:** OASIS, Executive Director  
**Jennifer Herman:** OASIS, Program Director  
**Matt Lucas:** Quiet Givers, Executive Director  
**Gillian Hampton:** NC DHHS, Targeted Housing Stabilization Coordinator

○ **Welcome & Agency Updates**

Lori Watts: VAYA will not be opening the administrative offices to the public until January of 2021. Staff are still working from home and coordinating services. Housing Support/one time assistance funds up to \$500 per qualifying household are available. Have recently seen an increase in demand, especially in Wilkes County for assistance. VAYA has seen an increase in calls for assistance the past two weeks for rent and utility assistance to prevent eviction/utility cut off all over their 22-county area. VAYA is anticipating that the new funding with Back at Home subcontracted to H.E.R.E. of Jackson County can alleviate some of the economic/housing stability effects people are experiencing because of COVID in 8 Southwestern NC counties. Housing Supports One-Time Assistance Funds may be used as well to assist where only one-time assistance is needed for rent deposits, first month's rents, or utility deposits.

Jennifer Herman: OASIS office is open two days a week in Avery and two days a week in Watauga. Schedule appointment in advance due to COVID for in person meetings. Staff working remotely and electronically to connect services/shelter. Reduction in beds due to COVID social distancing at the shelter. ESG-CV funds are now available for short-term hotel stays. Auxiliary shelter in planning phase and looking at locations to address need.

Gillian Hampton: NC DHHS has many regulatory and funding compliance requirements for rental assistance funds used for units in tax credit properties. NCHFA oversees compliance for tax credit properties in the state. There are a lot of questions regarding eligibility for assistance due to income increases for households that received stimulus payments. Those payments are not supposed to count toward total annual income but property managers are confused on rules. Evictions on these properties are not allowed under the eviction moratorium.

Tina Krause: The Hospitality House (HH) family rooms are being used for quarantine/isolation purposes and to assist large families who are coming in to shelter. HH working with the RRH program on diversion strategies to deter shelter admission. Currently receiving many calls from the community about eviction notices which may only increase in the next few months. Have hired full-time Prevention coordinator who will start at end of this month to fully launch this program funded with ESG-CV. Partnered with Emergency Management to get household into hotel who arrived from out of state. Hospitality House has filled Rock Haven. Wintergreen

waiting for contract from HUD to transfer Wintergreen before filling that available slot. Working diligently on preparing for Winter Shelter opening at end of October.

Graham Doege-Osler: WeCan has had many calls for assistance, especially for utility payments/arrears. Thanks to Matt Lucas with Quiet Givers in assisting with coordination. Limited funding available in WeCan- will start diverting to Prevention Program for eligible households.

Shane Johnson: Recently submitted AAQ on provider pages for Combined Component. Not answered yet. HUD should respond soon.

Matt Lucas: Quiet Givers requests have slowed compared to last month but anticipate increase in need. Reach out if need to refer. Quiet Givers has funding for eviction prevention and crisis assistance.

Kim Cashatt: NRHA still has limited office hours- close at 3:00pm and visit by appointment only. Staff continuing to work remotely. There are vouchers available, working with clients on recertification.

#### ○ **COC Planning- Members**

**COC Planning:** Hospitality House worked with an intern to enhance NW CoC information coverage across the region. A popup will appear in a Google search for assistance in Mitchell and Yancey counties now alerting to resources. Working on same for Alleghany County.

**Temporary Shelter:** OASIS looking to expand bed availability with temporary shelter. Will use ESG-CV funds to gain unit. HH working with United Methodist to possibly expand shelter beds- insurance/security concerns must be addressed but are exploring options.

**GIW-Grant Inventory Worksheet:** The GIW is due August 19, 2020. NC 516 submitted approved GIW to HUD Regional last Thursday. Required change form due to Special COVID-19 Grant Amendment for TS/RRH project which received an extension on the grant term until 12/31/2020.

**NOFA Timeline:** NOFA for Continuum of Care funds appears to be later this year. HUD has stated they are looking at modification of process due to COVID-19. Final GIW will not be out until 9-25 at earliest, so it may be Nov-December for NOFA. Could be streamlined for renewals which would be appreciated. Last modification occurred in 2014 with no Collaborative Application due.

**ESG 2020-21:** Request for Letter of Intent (LOI) to was sent via email and posted to the Northwest CoC webpage for the 2020-21 ESG Request for Proposals (RFP). The LOI are due to Lori Watts by Friday, August 21, 2020 at 5:00pm. The Northwest CoC is eligible for approximately \$124, 249 in funds to support ESG eligible housing and emergency response activities. An LOI is not required to apply for funding but encouraged. The ESG-2020-21 RFP was posted by NC DHHS Monday, August 17, 2020. Application instructions and project applications are posted on the NC DHHS ESG office website. Contact Tina Krause for more information regarding the ESG application process. Final Regional Application is due October 16, 2020 and project applicants must be notified by October 2, 2020 of the NW CoC's funding recommendations for submitted project proposals. Tentative application due date will be the last week of September. More information will be sent and posted on the NW CoC website by the end of the week on the local competition process and deadlines.



- **NC HMIS Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates**

- NC Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates:**

- Contracts signed and submitted to MCAH for HMIS for NC 516.

- NC HMIS-** Inclusion in Opioid Study and data linkage project is still in the informational stage. The GC has met several times about OPIOD (linkage project) this month. Negotiations continue. Philosophy of two implementations very different concerning data release and PII. Mike Dolan Fliss, PhD, MPS, MSW, an Epidemiology Research Scientist requested identified data from NC HMIS and NCCEH for a pilot study on the intersection of housing stability and opioid related abuse and mortality. Mike Fliss presented to the NC HMIS GC and is requesting an expanded relationship with NC HMIS which would include monthly data reports in a data linkage project that would support an opioid related death study. The NW CoC can opt in or out of the project and can limit the terms of participation. The DUA would have to be agreed upon by the NW CoC. Mike Fliss is further proposing that the 'trusted third party' for the data be UNC-CH Injury Prevention Research Center. Further information regarding the collection of PII/PPI, the DUA and/or the trusted third party will be collected by the Lead and sent via email to NW CoC members, including a recorded presentation from last Thursday with Mike Fliss.

- HMIS Summit 2020:** Reaching Peak Performance in Your Community was presented by MCAH, NC HMIS Lead. Several Hospitality House staff attended the conference this month. The 2020 summit was presented by MCAH and NCHMIS. Sessions covered a wide range of topics and round table networking opportunities with people from across the state. Lily Robinson, new data specialist for HH, attended. Great information and many connections made. Upcoming changes to CE and how that may work in community. October 2020 is deadline for HUD data standards incorporation.

- **Other Business**

- State ESG and Rapid Rehousing Updates:** Have five households referred through CE looking for housing right now. Everything spent down from FY2019-20 regular ESG but ESG-CV will now be used. Don't have ESG-CV reimbursement process yet but contract signed. Waiting for info session from the state ESG office on reimbursement and will share with other recipients. Congratulations to Graham for housing so many participants this early in the grant cycle.

- ESG-CV Awarded:** Two NW CoC agencies (OASIS and HH) were awarded funds totaling over \$414,000 covering Crisis Response and Housing Stability. OASIS and HH were able to get additional staff with these funds to support efforts and expand services and programs. Full Diversion will be in place with the new Prevention program. Staff member at OASIS will be full time to manage hotels/case load which will be very helpful to manage hotel population. Have work to get leasing a unit done but secured funding for it. Need to work on moving persons out of short-term stays at hotels into housing quickly, so need to work with projects to locate housing. Hotels lack kitchen which has created issues for occupants getting healthy/hot food. ASU has provided food boxes but not meals. Staff have been going to hotel with food that can be re-heated in microwave. HH kitchen coordinator can help secure meals since currently preparing meals at the Community Kitchen-contact Keith to get the food prepared in

a to-go box for hotel clients. If you can deliver there, HH can prepare it. New outreach person may be able to help when hired.

○ **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**

Next scheduled meeting of the Northwest CoC – **Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 10am -**  
Join Microsoft Teams Meeting      +1 828-552-4129 United States, Asheville (Toll),  
Conference ID: 585 407 593#

**Northwest Continuum of Care  
PSH and CoC Programs Subcommittee Meeting  
Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 10am  
Via Phone Conference**

**Attendees:**

**Tina Krause:** Hospitality House, Executive Director

**Graham Doege-Osler:** Hospitality House, RRH Coordinator

**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Hospitality House, Compliance and Planning

**Marnie Slawson:** Hospitality House, Homelessness Prevention and Diversion Coordinator

**Lori Watts:** VAYA Health, Housing Specialist

**Kim Cashatt:** Northwestern Regional Housing Authority, Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator

**Michelle Grit:** OASIS, Executive Director

**Jennifer Herman:** OASIS, Program Director

**Gillian Hampton:** NC DHHS, Targeted Housing Stabilization Coordinator

**Heather Ross:** Pinnacle Therapeutic

**David Barr:** Easter Seals

**Matt Lucas:** Quiet Givers (via email update)

○ **Welcome & Agency Updates**

Michelle Grit: OASIS is setting up program for use of the ESG-CV funding. Still have not hired replacement Housing Coordinator but are finishing interviews. All program beds are full but will find alternatives before denying anyone placement. Shelter requests have been growing which was anticipated at this time but the ESG-CV funds will help with meeting the need.

Lori Watts: VAYA has seen an increase in requests for Housing Support/one time assistance. The program allows up to \$500 per qualifying household for rent/utilities and are continuing to increase across the 22 county service area but especially in Wilkes County. VAYA has also seen an increase in calls for assistance the past two weeks for rent and utility assistance to prevent eviction/utility cut off all over their 22 county service area. Housing Supports One-Time Assistance Funds may be used to assist where assistance is needed for rent deposits, first month's rents, or utility deposits. Working with PSH in Foothills and Southwest to increase unit availability. VAYA is anticipating that the new funding with Back@Home subcontracted to H.E.R.E. of Jackson County can alleviate some of the economic/housing stability effects people are experiencing because of COVID-19 in 8 Southwestern NC counties.

Graham Doege-Osler: The RRH Coordinator focus is currently on Landlord recruitment and trying to find any available housing for the RRH program participants. Most RRH participants have more success securing units with smaller Landlords as many people are not qualifying for conventional apartment complexes because of credit, prior evictions, criminal convictions, or income requirements. Hard to House people with complex issues and barriers to access housing are making it difficult to quickly house people in the RRH program. Working with Daniel from Daymark to locate units/increase landlord recruitment and continue to grow unit list for the area. Members asked to send interested Landlords to Graham for more information.

Gillian Hampton: NCDHHS has been receiving a lot of questions regarding the CDC Eviction Moratorium and lack of guidance is creating confusion for recipients and providers. Some additional housing assistance funding may be coming through but most have discreet terms and are not intended for long-term financial assistance. ADA/Reasonable Accommodation requests have risen and we working on how to inform ourselves, the Landlords and the tenants as to facilitating/meeting reasonable accommodation requests. Multiple funding streams from CARES

Act funding are available but it is difficult to figure out where to point someone to get assistance at local level. Gillian covers 40 counties and is looking to local service areas to be able to provide information on the available resources and assistance programs funded with CARES.

David Barr: Easter Seals is still hiring for manager position for West Jefferson apartments. Made offer to one candidate, which if accepted, would start Friday. For units, Easter Seals has one opening in W. Jefferson, three in Wilkesboro, none in Boone, Lenoir, or Morganton. Ann Marie is the new manager in Boone. The group home however, is full.

Tina Krause: The Hospitality House (HH) family rooms are being used for quarantine/isolation purposes in response to COVID-19 and to assist large families who are coming in to emergency shelter. HH is working with Coordinators on diversion strategies to deter emergency shelter admission. Currently receiving many calls from the community about eviction notices which may only increase in the next few months. Have hired full-time Prevention Coordinator, Marnie Slawson, who will fully launch this new program at end of month. HH recently partnered with Emergency Management to secure hotel rooms if needed for isolation. Hospitality House has filled Rock Haven. Still waiting for contract from HUD to transfer Wintergreen before filling that available unit. Working diligently on preparing for Winter Shelter opening at end of October. Have an opening for a new dedicated position, CE/Outreach Supportive Services Specialist and hope to have it posted soon. Part-time program support is through ESG-CV funds but hopefully will increase to FT with 2<sup>nd</sup> round of ESG-CV funding. HH is working with property owners to secure additional scattered site units for PSH- one in Watauga and one in Wilkes County. Gearing up for Winter Shelter- moving people out of overflow into program beds to prepare for the cold snap coming this weekend and to maintain social distancing.

Heather Ross: Pinnacle Therapeutic Services offers peer support, individual and couples therapy and DWI services. Dr. Cohn of Wilkesboro has housing available and they accept vouchers. COHN Enterprises has housing available and Wilkes Towers in Wilkesboro has units available for senior citizens and the disabled. Heather is in Elkin NC and is serving Wilkes County.

Heather can be reached at [rossheather7@gmail.com](mailto:rossheather7@gmail.com)

Matt Lucas: Quiet Givers has received funds for Heat Up the High Country through April. These funds provide a partial heating fuel fill up for families in need now through April of 2021. Please let me know if you have any heating needs this fall/winter and we will work to meet the immediate need.

Kim Cashatt: NRHA is still limiting public office hours. We are here to help if needed.

#### o CoC Planning Members

- Tina is trying to send out information and pass along opportunities to agencies to secure PPE-cleaning supplies. If CoC members get offers of materials in respectful quantity, please share the information with other members or send an email to her to forward to the NW CoC.
- **CDBG-CV funds:** Meeting with Watauga County today following the NW CoC meeting. There are at least three categories of activities the county wants to target; food, homelessness prevention, and utility assistance.
- **NCORR CRF Availability:** Hospitality House was asked to complete a needs survey (pre-application) concerning Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) a few weeks ago for NCORR. Other CoC's were also sent the same survey by Erika Ferguson of NCDHHS. A week later, NCORR representatives asked to set up a conference call with Hospitality House administrative staff concerning possible funding from CRF. There were some initial ideas about what to use it for that aligned with the CDBG-CV notice as it was indicated that NCORR funds were CDBG-CV funding received through the state. However, the NCORR scope was narrow and the first round of funding was CRF (Treasury dollars) that must be spent by the sub-recipient by 12/30/2020. Funding to hire administrative staff only and all financial assistance is limited to arrears/6 month total household support with no case management under the HOME Program

model. The estimated start date is not clear and training, policies and manuals are not available for review at this time. NCORR stated the HOME Program was similar to Back@Home model that NW CoC opted out of for the ESG-CV RFP. A decision must be emailed today to NCORR with a signed agreement. The total proposal from NCORR is \$790,000 in CRF that must be obligated before 12/30/2020. **Discussion:** Recaptured funds could be bad for agency and NW CoC. Program would be redundant to new Prevention program. If NW cannot spend in the time frame, it may create problems down the road with other funders. County funds may align better with current needs. NCORR may reach out to other agencies in the CoC that can utilize and are administratively equipped to manage. Would require a lot of work to let people know help is available to spend in short time period allowed with no current capacity to do so. The NW CoC also has NOFA and ESG-RFA to consider in this time frame as well. Membership supports HH turning down the NCORR proposal.

- **NOFA Timeline:** NOFA for Continuum of Care funds appears to be later this year. The LSA been pushed later as well which required to complete NOFA. It may be December or may be even later (February-January) as there are prior precedents. The GIW cannot come out any earlier than September 25<sup>th</sup>.
- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates:** NC HMIS sub-committees and working groups have been very active this month. There are some report issues in the system that the GC is seeking to quickly address. The GC has contracted to have the report issues fixed but at this time, cannot determine why the reports broke to begin with.
- **Opioid/Data Linkage:** The GC and individual CoC leadership met several times about the linkage project and data request of Mike Dolan Fliss, PhD, MPS, MSW, a Epidemiology Research Scientist who requested identified data from NC HMIS and NCCEH for a pilot study on the intersection of housing stability and opioid related abuse and mortality. NCCEH has opted into the project for its implementation but the philosophy of the two implementations is very different concerning data release and PII. The data release would include monthly data reports in a data linkage project that would support an opioid related death study at its conclusion. The Dennise Culhane recommendations estimate an 18-24 month time frame to execute such a project and the retention of a 'trusted third party' (through RFP or other means) agreed upon by each implementation. Mike Fliss is proposing that the 'trusted third party' for the data linkage be UNC-CH Injury Prevention Research Center and requests the data now. The Chair of the GC will communicate to Fliss that the NC HMIS implementation will follow the Culhane guidance and not participate within the proposed timeline of this project.
- **State ESG and Rapid Rehousing Updates:** Program has spent most of award from 2019 but received additional funding from ESG-CV. See Agency Updates for more details.
- **ESG-CV Contract Update:** The ESG office has indicated that contracts are forthcoming. Larger awards (\$200,000 or more) require additional signatures at the state level.
- **ESG RFA Update:** ESG-RFA now in progress. The ESG-2020-21 RFP was posted by NC DHHS Monday, August 17, 2020. Application instructions and project applications are posted on the NC DHHS ESG office website. Contact Tina Krause for more information regarding the ESG application process. Final Regional Application is due October 16, 2020 and project applicants must be notified by October 2, 2020 of the NW CoC's funding recommendations for submitted project proposals. Only one LOI was received from Hospitality House for ES/RRH/and HMIS. The ESG RFP allows prior sub-recipients to recertify but the local CoC process must be followed. Final project and Regional Application including budgets will be submitted via Smartsheet but all accompanying documentation must be emailed to the ESG office by the October 16<sup>th</sup> deadline.
- **New Homeless Prevention and Diversion Program:** Marnie Slawson has been hired as the new Homelessness Prevention and Diversion Coordinator. Hospitality House received staff

funding and \$50,000 financial assistance under the ESG-CV RFA for first round, more funding will be requested for second round. The program just started and will serve At Risk and At Imminent Risk with targeted financial assistance to prevent homelessness. Prevention funds can be used to relocate but if household becomes literally homeless, will refer to RRH. Diverting away from emergency shelter for DV clients- housing quickly with CC/TS-RRH. The program has established partnership with LANC/PLS for referrals for us to send if household needs legal assistance and for legal aid to refer to us if client needs financial assistance. Marnie can be contacted at: [Marnie@Hosphouse.org](mailto:Marnie@Hosphouse.org)

○ **Other Business:**

- Wintergreen Project: HUD has not sent new contract but all paperwork has been sent to them for execution. Case management is continuing 2 times a week and ongoing if needed.

○ **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**

Next scheduled meeting of the Northwest CoC – **Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 10am** - [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) [+1 828-552-4129](tel:+18285524129) United States, Asheville (Toll),  
Conference ID: 585 407 593#

**Northwest Continuum of Care  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 10am  
Via Phone Conference**

**Attendees:**

**Shane Johnson:** Director of Grant Funding, Hospitality House  
**Graham Doege-Osler:** Hospitality House, RRH Coordinator  
**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Hospitality House, Compliance and Planning  
**Marnie Slawson:** Hospitality House, Homelessness Prevention and Diversion Coordinator  
**Lori Watts:** VAYA Health, Housing Specialist  
**Kim Cashatt:** Northwestern Regional Housing Authority, Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator  
**Michelle Grit:** OASIS, Executive Director  
**Pamela Martin:** OASIS Housing, Coordinator  
**Kim Hill:** Peer Support Specialist, Daymark  
**Matt Lucas:** Quiet Givers, Executive Director  
**Jonathan Perry:** Legal Aid of the High Country, Managing Attorney

○ **Welcome & Agency Updates**

Kim Cashatt: NRHA is still limiting public office hours but maintaining normal operations. Appointments are welcome. NRHA does not anticipate opening until after the end of the year to the public. Please contact staff if any assistance is required. We are here to help if needed.

Matt Lucas: Quiet Givers has received funding for Heat Up the High Country financial assistance. These funds provide partial heating fuel tank fill up for families in need now through April of 2021. Quiet Givers has an arrangement with Blue Ridge Energy for fuel discount which enables funds to go further. Please let Matt know if you have any heating needs this fall/winter and we will work to meet the immediate need for fuel assistance.

Jonathan Perry: Legal Aid of the High Country is part of Legal Aid of North Carolina (4<sup>th</sup> largest law firm in state). Staff can assist income eligible clients in areas Landlord/Tenant/Foreclosure, public benefits, DSS, and Domestic Violence. LANC has been inundated with requests for assistance with rental issues. Legal Aid of the High Country has 6 staff and covers all service counties of the NW CoC. Please make referrals. Legal Aid of North Carolina accepted part of the 17.4 million in funding (CRF) from NCORR and will administer the HOPE Program to assist low-moderate income households with rent and utility arrears in 25 counties across the state. Legal Aid of the High Country will administer the program in the NW CoC service area. 211 does the initial household intake and screening for the program and then makes referral to LANC hotline which then sends to the local LANC office. Since Friday's launch- about 200 applicants have requested assistance under the HOPE Program. The CDC Moratorium prohibits evictions solely for non-payment until December 31, 2020 for tenants who qualify under the moratorium. The CDC Moratorium does not apply to holdover tenancy, breach of contract, or criminal conduct. For utility cut-offs, encourage negotiation with utility provider to maintain essential services. LANC can file a TRO/injunction if Landlord attempts to file eviction - encourage eligible participants to complete CDC moratorium paperwork and present copy to the Landlord and retain a copy for themselves. Email Jonathan Perry for questions concerning the HOPE program-participants must be at or below 80% AMI for county of residence, must be a leaseholder, and have COVID related impact for failure to pay. Call 211 for intake for the HOPE program-an online application is also available. Matt Lucas has flyer for HOPE Program and will send out to the NW CoC list serve.

Michelle Grit: OASIS is at max capacity in all programs. Currently cannot locate hotels for emergency placement despite new funding for program for hotel costs that was secured with the ESG-CV funding awarded. Valle Crisis conference center may be option-OASIS is looking at all options. All program beds are full but will find alternatives before denying anyone placement. Shelter requests have been growing which was anticipated at this time but the ESG-CV funds will help with meeting the need. OASIS can place people outside NW CoC area but it is difficult if the person has no transportation and OASIS needs to coordinate with hosting county emergency shelter. Have hired Pamela Martin as the new OASIS Housing Coordinator.

Pamela Martin: New Housing Coordinator for OASIS. Originally from Florida, Pamela previously worked for Burke County DSS. Please contact with questions/referrals at [pmartin@oasisinc.org](mailto:pmartin@oasisinc.org)

Graham Doege-Osler: The RRH Program has housed two households recently. Current demand is for 3 bedroom units which are difficult to locate. The RRH Coordinator focus is currently on Landlord recruitment and trying to find any available housing for the RRH program participants. Most RRH participants have more success securing units with smaller Landlords as many people are not qualifying for conventional apartment complexes that may have 3 bedroom units because of credit, prior evictions, criminal convictions, or income requirements. Hard to House individuals with complex issues and barriers to access housing are also making it difficult to quickly house people in the RRH program.

Marnie Slawson: The new Homelessness Prevention and Diversion Program at Hospitality House has already served several households since September. One household stabilized in current unit while others have been relocated or diverted from shelter. Hospitality House received staff funding and \$50,000 for financial assistance under the ESG-CV RFA in the first round and more funding will be requested for the program in the second round. Additional funding was received under the Coronavirus Relief Fund/Treasury for financial assistance which must be spent before December 30, 2020. The program serves At Risk and At Imminent Risk of homelessness with targeted financial assistance and supportive services. Prevention funds can be used to relocate but if a household becomes literally homeless, will refer to RRH for assistance. The Prevention and Diversion Program has established partnership with Legal Aid of the High Country and Pisgah Legal Services for legal assistance and for legal aid agencies to refer to the Prevention program if client needs financial assistance beyond the 6 months that can be provided under the HOPE program or if household needs to relocate. Marnie can be contacted at: [Marnie@Hosphouse.org](mailto:Marnie@Hosphouse.org)

Kim Hill- Telehealth options are available for participants. Daymark is still doing intakes and offering crisis support.

Lori Watts: VAYA has seen an increase in requests for Housing Support/one time assistance funds. The program allows up to \$500 per qualifying household for rent/utilities. Calls are continuing to increase across the 22 county service area but especially in Wilkes County and Buncombe. Households need to be referred by a provider- no self-referral. There is some movement in housing market in Wilkes so some availability of new units for other programs. VAYA also administers PSH in several counties across the 22 county services area. VAYA will administer Back@Home- in Southwestern counties (Haywood, Madison, Swain, Jackson, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon) but have not signed contract with ESG office. VAYA has also seen an increase in calls for assistance the past two weeks for rent and utility assistance to prevent eviction/utility cut off all over their 22 county service area.

#### o CoC Planning Members

- **CDBG-CV funds:** Hospitality House submitted an application to Watauga County for a collaborative application for CDBG (Watauga Food Distribution Network-Casting Bread, Hunger Health/App State/Project on Aging/High Country Care Givers). Funding will increase distribution sites for the Rural Food Distribution Network. HH submitted application for



behavioral health services- the Homeless Health Initiative- so participants can receive MH services on site.

- The LSA (Longitudinal System Analysis) is now open. The LSA will include 2018, 2019-20 and will be submitted for region. This will be a multi-year submission for the NW CoC.
  - **NOFA Timeline:** NOFA for Continuum of Care funds appears to be later this year if at all. The HEROES Act allows HUD to waive the CoC competition and renew existing grants as awarded in 2019. Congress passed HEROES but it has stalled in the Senate.
  - **Governance Committee and NC HMIS updates:**
  - DUA agreement for release of the 2020 PIT/HIC data from NC 516 was reached with NCCEH. Additionally, the NCCEH website was finally updated to include PIT/HIC information since 2016 for all 12 CoCs in NC. CE-HMIS finally live in the HMIS system since October 1, 2020.
  - NC HMIS submitted an application for ESG funding. The request includes additional licenses for NC 516 and an equity based analysis for HMIS data of the 9 CoCs that are a part of the multi-jurisdictional implementation.
  - **PIT-HIC for NC 516: Lori Watts**  
Overall homeless population numbers decreased for NC 516. The 2020 total is 397- last year 417. Unsheltered 239, last year 253 (consistent decline each reporting year), TH from 35 to 19. ES did increase from 129 to 139. HIC- about the same projects and programs reported as in previous year. DV shelters reported for PIT/HIC and the Wilkes site reported right before closing. Wilkes School system reported hotel stays. HH/Catherine Barber/Hotel in Wilkes also reported beds. Transitional Program for re-entry in Wilkes also reported. NC 516 has a county by county breakdown that will be sent out following the CoC meeting with the NC 516 PIT/HIC for 2020.
  - **ESG RFA Submission:** ESG-RFA submitted for NC 516. Written Standards, CE Policy and Procedures updated with the COVID amendments, and Prevention Screening/CE participation were submitted with the Regional application. Hospitality House was the only agency that applied for funding from the regular ESG allocation for NC 516.
  - **State ESG and Rapid Rehousing Updates:** Program has spent award from 2019 but received additional funding from ESG-CV and CRF. See Agency Updates for more details.
  - **ESG-CV Contract Update:** The ESG office has indicated that contracts are forthcoming for larger awards (\$200,000 or more) which require additional signatures at the state level. Contracts for less than \$200,000 went out last week. OASIS received approximately \$150,000. Hospitality House is still waiting on their contract as award exceed \$200,000.
- **Other Business:**
    - Fair Housing Training will be offered at the November meeting. Legal Aid of the High Country has also agreed to do some LL-Tenant basics for housing providers.
    - 2020 Desk Monitoring. As a requirement of the CoC Interim Rule, the CoC Lead must conduct annual monitoring of agencies receiving CoC funds. Last year, a desk review was sent to providers- this year, as a result of COVID, a similar approach will be taken but will have a follow-up meeting scheduled with the Lead.
    - Wintergreen Project: HUD still has not sent new contract but all paperwork has been sent to them for execution of the agreement with Hospitality House. Case management is continuing 2 times a week and ongoing if needed for residents that are in the program.
  - **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**  
Next scheduled meeting of the Northwest CoC – **Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 10am -**  
Join Microsoft Teams Meeting      +1 828-552-4129    United States, Asheville (Toll),  
Conference ID: 585 407 593#



**Northwest Continuum of Care  
Data Quality Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 10am  
Via Phone Conference**

**Attendees:**

**Tina Krauss:** Executive Director; Hospitality House of Northwest NC  
**Shane Johnson:** Director of Grant Funding, Hospitality House  
**Graham Doege-Osler:** RRH Program Coordinator; Hospitality House,  
**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Compliance and Planning Specialist; Hospitality House  
**Marnie Slawson:** Homelessness Prevention and Diversion Coordinator; Hospitality House  
**Lori Watts:** Housing Specialist; VAYA Health  
**Kim Cashatt:** Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator; Northwestern Regional Housing Authority  
**Michelle Grit:** Executive Director; OASIS, Inc.  
**Gillian Hampton:** Targeted Housing Stabilization Coordinator; NC DHHS  
**Jordan Edmisten:** Housing and Shelter Manager; OASIS, Inc.

- **Welcome & Agency Updates**

Michelle Grit: Jordan Edmisten has stepped in to position as the new OASIS Housing Coordinator. She will remain as the shelter manager in a dual role until the shelter manager position is filled. Jordan will also be attending the Northwest CoC meetings on behalf of OASIS. Currently, the shelter is in the middle of renovations and will be for next 6 weeks. Coordinating with providers for alternative placements using a scattered site model. The OASIS shelter will not be fully reopened until after Christmas when renovations are scheduled to be complete. OASIS received funding from the NC Council on Women for this project that must be obligated by 12/30/20. The renovations include building partitions to meet social distancing requirements, ventilation improvements and other measures to meet health and safety needs. Reach out if anything needed for housing needs to: [Jedminsten@oasisinc.org](mailto:Jedminsten@oasisinc.org) also at [housing@oasisinc.org](mailto:housing@oasisinc.org)

Kim Cashatt: NRHA is adding a temporary preference for persons who lease in place to use unused vouchers in our inventory. NRHA is still limiting public office hours but maintaining normal operations. Appointments are welcome. NRHA does not anticipate opening until after the end of the year to the public. Please contact staff if any assistance is required. We are here to help if needed.

Lori Watts: VAYA has housing support/one time assistance funds available. The program allows up to \$500 per qualifying household for rent/utilities. Calls are continuing to increase across the 22 county service area but especially in Wilkes County. At the current rate, the funding may not last until the end of fiscal year. Monitoring expenditure closely to maximize availability. Based on last month's presentation, tried to get word out for HOPE program for rent/utility assistance across the area but funding did not meet the demand and the program is now closed to new applicants. Agencies should refer to other providers with funds for this purpose when assistance requested. VAYA offices not going to open to public until at least next year due to COVID-19.

Gillian Hampton: NCDHHS trying to help educate persons in programs on tenant rights and responsibilities to mitigate minor violations that may cause lease violations and result in eviction (smoking/unauthorized guests, etc.) Looking for curriculum/guidance to help these persons to help educate clients on essential skills to avoid unnecessary complaints that may affect housing.

Marnie Slawson: The new Homelessness Prevention and Diversion Program at Hospitality House has already served several households since September in Diversion and financial assistance to deter homelessness. Helped one house relocate- made referrals to LANC to get help with legal issues

arising from housing. Busy preparing for expiration of eviction moratorium in January-anticipate increased call volume. One household stabilized in current unit while others have been relocated or diverted from shelter. The program serves At Risk and At Imminent Risk of homelessness with targeted financial assistance and supportive services. Prevention funds can be used to relocate but if a household becomes literally homeless, will refer to RRH for assistance. Marnie can be contacted at: [Marnie@hosphouse.org](mailto:Marnie@hosphouse.org)

Tina Krauss: Winter Shelter has officially opened as of November 1<sup>st</sup> at Hospitality House (HH). We have not seen the demand normally seen in the initial opening weeks but people may be more afraid to congregate because of COVID and the weather has been milder on average. Space is more limited due to COVID precautions and for first month, we will reach capacity at 20 beds. Some additional space may open for persons who are medically vulnerable or families. We will re-assess the bed number in December because of spacing limitations/weather. There is a different protocol in place for WS participants- 2 days out of WS may result in losing bed so others can take the space. HH will be renovating existing offices to be overflow shelter through December 30. Need additional spaces to social distance for both staff and residents. In January, we need to be ready for coldest weather and an increased demand for safe shelter.

Currently, all PSH units are full. There is still one opening at Wintergreen in Wilkes but still do not have contract from HUD so waiting to fill the unit when that contract is executed. We also have Combined Component (CC) openings-please contact Sonya Hamby for information at [Sonya@hosphouse.org](mailto:Sonya@hosphouse.org). Have seen increase from other counties for DV survivors and are working with OASIS to access for level of need then coordinate for appropriate and safe placement. Have increased security measures-lighting/cameras in the CC area to increase safety. HH has recently hired a CE/Street Outreach person to work with unsheltered people across the region. The position will focus on meeting people where they are (outside/day services) to conduct intake, assessments and-coordinate placement and needed services. Will work to help people take advantage of available resources and work with WS residents. Will send out contact persons information and email to CoC but he will not start until after Thanksgiving holiday. HH will still offer Thanksgiving box meals to distribute but will not be able to seat inside the community kitchen the 200 plus normally served due to COVID. Hunger and Health Coalition are partnering to distribute food boxes for holiday season.

- **CoC Planning Members**

- Hospitality House continues to represent Northwest CoC across the region and state with stakeholders to address the needs and concerns of the CoC. Meetings with outside agencies and facilitation of resource implementation adds to the available services and enhanced program capacity of the CoC.
- **HUD NOFA Update:** HUD has officially provided additional information concerning the annual NOFA for Continuum of Care funding. On the November 6<sup>th</sup> Open Office call, HUD did provide rudimentary information regarding the legislation that passed the House but has stalled in the Senate that would waive the NOFA for this competition year and renew existing grants at the 2019 award (plus changes in FMR if applicable). The House passed HEROES but it has stalled in the Senate. If not resolved soon, there could be two NOFA competitions in 2021 in order to maintain funding for current housing and service grants. The Planning grant would renew as it always does whether HEROES passes or not.
- **2021 PIT Unsheltered Count Update:** Unsheltered count at this time is still required in 2021. HUD released some guidance on 11/13/20 that seeks to address some of the safety concerns driving changes to the annual PIT/HIC, in particular the unsheltered count. HUD guidance says the CoCs can apply to HUD for waivers of normal methodology due to

safety concerns and in certain cases, sampling may be allowed. The Northwest CoC will proceed as normal and start planning using the same methodology as past years until we are told otherwise. The HIC and sheltered counts are the same and NWCoC still conducts service based counts. The new Street Outreach person will help drive the numbers and improve data quality in the unsheltered count. If COVID risk increases, we may request sampling but will have to do research to utilize as sampling hasn't been used in a long time for PIT.

- **HMIS Reporting- LSA:** The LSA (Longitudinal System Analysis) preliminary report was submitted for the Northwest CoC. This reporting year, the LSA includes 2018, 2019-20 for region and is a multi-year submission. Had some reporting issues that were resolved. HDX2 has responded that they received upload. We now have two weeks to fix errors and warnings and can resubmit every week until final submission date. One old grant keeps showing up and is creating a problem. Staff working with liaison to rectify issues and clean up errors before final.

- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS Updates:**

- The NC HMIS monitoring of MCAH has concluded the survey of participating jurisdictions membership. Anticipate draft report and final report submission with feedback from MCAH by next meeting to be presented to the Governance Committee.
- NC HMIS received ESG funding for a Racial Equity Training in the annual ESG RFA. NC HMIS also received a \$200,000 award to research and implement the report recommendations from the Dennis Culhane report in the ESG-CV RFA.

- **Northwest CoC Funding Update:**

- All outstanding ESG/CARES Act funding (both ESG annual, ESG-CV round 1, and CRF contracts) have been executed. The NW CoC award for annual ESG was announced and no additional requirements were received. OASIS also got some funding from Council for Women for renovation work but did not request ESG-CRF funds. Hospitality House did receive CRF funds which must be obligated by December 30, 2020 or returned. HH also applied for CDBG funding through the County for crisis assistance support and funding for a counseling position. Some additional staffing will be added if receive funding to support mental health. Also a collaboration with some area partners for food distribution network funded with CDBG. The RFA for ESG-CV round 2 is anticipated in January of 2021.
- **ESG RFA Award:** \$124,429 received for ES/RRH/HMIS. Hospitality House was the only agency that applied for funding from the annual ESG allocation for NC 516.

- **Other Business:**

No other business.

- **Fair Housing Training and Equal Access Rule Annual Training for Northwest CoC**

- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**

Next scheduled meeting of the Northwest CoC – **Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 10am -**  
Join Microsoft Teams Meeting      +1 828-552-4129      United States, Asheville (Toll),  
Conference ID: 585 407 593#



**Northwest Continuum of Care  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 10am  
Via Phone Conference**

**Attendees:**

**Tina Krause:** Executive Director; Hospitality House of Northwest NC

**Shane Johnson:** Director of Grant Funding, Hospitality House

**Graham Doege-Osler:** RRH Coordinator, Hospitality House

**Christiana Glenn Tugman:** Compliance and Planning Specialist; Hospitality House

**Lori Watts:** Housing Specialist; VAYA Health

**Kim Cashatt:** Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator; Northwestern Regional Housing Authority

**Michelle Grit:** Executive Director; OASIS, Inc.

**Gillian Hampton:** Targeted Housing Stabilization Coordinator; NC DHHS

**Jordan Edmisten:** Housing and Shelter Manager; OASIS, Inc.

**Matt Lucas:** Executive Director; Quiet Givers

**David Barr:** Housing Supervisor; Easter Seals

- **Welcome & Agency Updates**

Matt Lucas: Heat Up the High Country has funds for heating/utility assistance. Quiet Givers also has some rental assistance available. Continuing to support households in need for all types of assistance. Quiet Givers wants to continue to collaborate with partner agencies and expand their reach within the CoC to meet the needs where partner agencies may be limited.

Michelle Grit: Renovation of emergency shelter is almost complete anticipate completion of construction by 12/30. OASIS has ESG-CV contract finalized and are spending funds. To meet the need, OASIS is managing scattered placements and trying to be creative with the temporary closing of the main shelter.

Jordan Edmisten: Jordan is the new OASIS Housing Coordinator and will continue to serve as the shelter manager in a dual role until the shelter manager position is filled. Reach out if anything is needed for housing needs related to Domestic Violence to: [Jedminsten@oasisinc.org](mailto:Jedminsten@oasisinc.org) also at [housing@oasisinc.org](mailto:housing@oasisinc.org)

Kim Cashatt: NRHA has about 35 vouchers not being utilized as there is no eligible housing available. A new 'voucher in place' preference is in effect to help people access and utilize vouchers in their current unit. The NRHA offices are still not open to public but are scheduling appointments. Currently, NRHA is in the planning stage of a new housing development for Avery, Mitchell, and Yancey Counties. The developments will consist of a cluster (25-30) of small factory built homes (approx. 500 square feet each). Each county will have a cluster site. Currently looking for land sites. Each development will also include a community building. Anticipate completion by end of 2021. The homes will be specific for voucher holders and energy efficient. After completion- NRHA intends to replicate these cluster developments across all service counties of the CoC. Here to help if needed- call for additional information.

Lori Watts: VAYA has housing support/one time assistance funds available to help with utility/rent assistance. The program allows up to \$500 per qualifying household for rent/utilities. Access the program through provider referral. No start back date for the office-

maybe mid-year of 2021. Of importance, on Friday, the NC State Supreme Court announced a stay on evictions proceedings until the middle of January. As of now, the CDC moratorium will expire December 31, 2020 unless extended by legislation.

Gillian Hampton: We have gotten information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine distribution. Front line workers are prioritized, then homeless persons with two or more chronic conditions and then all other homeless persons. Rental assistance for persons with disabilities with persons would transfer from state to federal funds. Participants not willing to make the change may have difficulties maintaining housing- may have to provide information on how this would work to induce those that have assistance to move to other funding.

David Barr: Easter Seals has several openings- two openings at Henrietta's supported living apartments in Wilkesboro - Lenoir and Morganton are full. Generally things are going well- many locations are not centralized to large population centers- except the Boone units. As a result of COVID-19, residents are limiting time outside in the community. Easter Seals is also looking for part-time manager for Ashe but do not have manager in place in Watauga. The new Watauga manager is Anne Marie Skylar- contact if needed.

Tina Krause: Winter Shelter operating but limited due to COVID (about 20 per night). Extreme weather protocol in place permits WS participants to stay later inside the building but must follow COVID protocols. Have open additional bed spaces for the more vulnerable to enter WS. We are seeing steady average of residents- when weather improves, bed count decreases in congregate shelter- cold snaps fill all beds. As weather continues to get worse, will remain steady inflow. All PSH beds are currently full- are moving some around- to get opening potentially at Rock Haven- high vulnerability and chronicity for this unit- contact Harley to discuss- will be going through by-name list for candidate. For COVID response- closed on new building- with CRF (Treasury) on December 1, 2020. Located next to Hatchet Coffee- things are going pretty well- Christiana was here assisting with transition/preparation and a contractor was hired to do some work on the building for safety measures. Old office space at HH will be converted to residential when staff moves up to new building- we have small team to assemble bunk beds, get the old conference room painted and cleaned to make into permanent room. No COVID cases in residents- only some staff. However, some scattered site residents have tested positive. COVID fatigue is setting in for many who are frustrated about lack of activity- managers going twice a week to visit and carry food boxes to both Wilkes and Watauga county residents and address MH. Have meeting scheduled with Health Dept. and OASIS to discuss vaccine distribution among homeless population across the area. Down to one isolation room instead of three, which is consistently occupied.

Christiana Glenn Tugman: HUD has provided some additional information concerning the annual NOFA for Continuum of Care funding. HUD did provide rudimentary information regarding the pending legislation that would waive the NOFA for this competition year and renew existing grants at the 2019 award (plus changes in FMR if applicable). HUD also announced that additional waivers and/or extensions on existing waivers would be forthcoming. Some waivers expire December 31, 2020. Once notice goes out concerning waivers, information will be sent to the CoC and any updates on the CoC NOFA will be forthcoming.

Shane Johnson: PIT/HIC 2021 update. The unsheltered count is still required in 2021. HUD released some guidance that seeks to address some of the safety concerns driving changes to the annual PIT/HIC, in particular the unsheltered count. CoCs can apply to HUD for waivers of normal methodology due to safety concerns and in certain cases, sampling may be allowed. The Northwest CoC will proceed as normal and start PIT/HIC planning using the same methodology as past years. The HIC and sheltered counts will be conducted as usual and NWCoC will conduct service based counts as well. The new Street Outreach person will



help drive the numbers and improve data quality in the unsheltered count. If COVID risk increases across the region, we may request sampling methodology from HUD. Have meeting this afternoon with MCAH on PIT/HIC. Will have forms out and more information on the PIT/HIC by our next CoC meeting. Have areas where engagement/outreach could increase- LEOs and school systems should engage more- have made attempts to get information to these providers to make them aware of PIT. Lori will work to get info out to Ashe County Homeless Coalition as well as MH/SU/IDD providers in 7 counties (i.e. Daymark, RHA, Infinite Beginnings, Pinnacle Therapeutic, Easter Seals, etc.), and contacts in Avery, Mitchell, & Yancey through email- can contact other counties and work with OASIS for victim service providers.

The LSA (Longitudinal System Analysis) was postponed again for two more weeks (due January 15, 2021). Several preliminary reports were submitted for the Northwest CoC and errors noted and corrected. Will submit again by end of week. This reporting year, the LSA includes 2018, 2019-20 for region and is a multi-year submission. We will continue to work on the LSA going on December deadline to allow for correction again if needed. HH also has an opening for data and intake specialist that works with all programs at HH to enter data. Please contact us if you know of someone who is looking for full time position- must be meticulous and be able to work with clients to do intakes.

- **CoC Planning Members**

- Northwest CoC Funding Update: Hospitality House and OASIS have finalized all contracts- ESG-CV-1, CRF, and annual ESG. Small administrative change on CRF/ESG-CV split of 80/20 for case management to maintain household eligibility after CRF funds expended created some issues as notice was sent out after award/budgets. Are able to spend but a lot of supporting documentation and monthly reports are due for CRF. There are some reporting difficulties for OASIS because of the comparable database rather than HMIS with ESG-CV. The ESG office is struggling as well but OASIS has opened communication with them. Need meeting to look at this issue with the ESG-CV 2 RFA pending to resolve.
- The ESG-CV RFA is now open for Round 2: Northwest is eligible for 1.4 million in funding. Notice and links to application materials are posted on the Northwest website. We need to be thoughtful on how to organize and partner with agencies to fill gaps in the community. Contact Tina or Lori if any questions. Collaboration will be key to effectively spend down the funds. Possible building to lease in Wilkes to be a resource center/CE access site to fill need in that area would be viable with this much funding. DV resources are non-existent in Wilkes and could expand outreach and support. There is a donor that is interested in supporting resource there (Prevention/Diversion/DV/ outreach). ES funded with ESG-CV must be spent by 1/2022 not 6/30/2022- other funded programs can spend until deadline. Budgets must take this into account and funding to maintain additional staff if hired.
- OASIS is now approved for FEMA funds- hotel usage is normal cost. However, FEMA funds will be going away and the ESG-CV money will replace FEMA for hotel/motels. HH applied for FEMA and was approved about a month ago. There is a need but impossible to find hotels to use for the FEMA funds. ESG-CV cannot be used to make capital acquisitions but is allowable cost to lease/rent building space for temporary shelter.
- Hospitality House has hired Logan Shaut for the CE/Outreach position. Contact if needed for unsheltered outreach and engagement. Will be need in outer lying counties in particular for this work. Will do outreach in those counties and work with the LEAD program in Watauga to assist with persons leaving the jail that are homeless.

- Matt Lucas of Quiet Givers is interested in working with partners to help folks who need help with rent/utilities or other needs but who are not otherwise program eligible. We are exploring ways to use funding to support needs but the organization has no client contact, does not have income qualifications or data system. Let us know how we can help/navigate moving forward. Need to broaden Quiet Givers reach beyond RRH so they can help support in other areas.
  - Annual ESG was awarded and Hospitality House has finalized the contract. HMIS/RRH and ES/WS were funded with a start date of January 1, 2021. Hospitality House is on schedule to finish 2020 award entirely- just HMIS money is left and a small amount in RRH case management. The CoC has RRH funds available in CoC projects and ESG-CV-1 however, we need units and a LL recruitment strategy. Perhaps a PSA/media outreach to get LL's informed. Housing Navigator positions would be helpful for everyone as neither OASIS nor HH has a full-time person. May be able to seek funds with ESG-CV-2 to support position.
  - County said yesterday that HH will get CDBG funds in collaboration with Daymark to deal with MH crisis. The program would set up a crisis team dedicated to working with clients and will hire second part-time therapist to provide MH. New building will have dedicated health side- no funding for health but will be able to now hire PT MH worker and increase telehealth access. Also got funding for HH and Hunger and Health to get food to COVID vulnerable people in rural counties and the elderly. There has been a 45% increase in food requests. Many older residents have not come by to get food boxes they normally come by HH to get. This is multi-agency collaborative program.
  - Courts across the state are closed right now- DVPOs (50B or 50 C can be done remotely (next 30 days- shut down is in effect). OASIS can help set this up if needed.
  - The Northwest CoC meeting schedule will go out by the end of the year- will follow normal scheduled meeting unless Holiday is on the regular meeting day.
- **Governance Committee and NC HMIS Updates:**
    - The NC HMIS Governance Committee met yesterday. There was a lot of information from MCAH. There is a proposal for quarterly reports for homeless Veterans to be pulled as CVS file from VA's HOMES system. There are costs associated with it for initial pull and a yearly fee. NC HMIS looking for funds for these reports. HMIS operating policy and procedures updates- one significant change will be data entry must be completed within 7 days instead of the max of no more than 15.
- **Other Business:**
    - No other business.
- **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**
    - Next scheduled meeting of the Northwest CoC at **NWHA January 19, 2021 at 10am**  
Join Microsoft Teams Meeting +1 828-552-4129 United States, Asheville (Toll),  
Conference ID: 585 407 593#