

DURHAM HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

3:00 p.m.

**Durham County Human Services Building
414 E. Main Street – 2nd Floor Conference Room**

The Durham Homeless Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) met on the above date and time.

Committee Members Present: Chair Charita McCollers, MSW (Lincoln Community Health Center/Federal Health Care for the Homeless); Reverend Dr. B. Angelo Burch, Sr. (Corporate Private Sector Representative for Durham County/Executive Director, African American Dance Ensemble); Heidi Carter, Durham County Commissioner; Xavier Cason (Durham Public School Board); Secretary Jonathan T. Crooms (Durham County Veteran Services Office); Drew Cummings, Chief of Staff (Durham County Manager's Office); Alma Davis (Durham Crisis Response Center – *Proxy for Kathy Hodges*); Meredith Daye, Development Director (Durham Housing Authority); Janeen Gordon (Durham County Social Services – *proxy for County Commissioner Heidi Carter*); Captain Stan Harris (Durham County Sheriff's Department); Angela Holmes (Former Homeless Representative for Durham County); Pam Karriker (Faith Community Representative for Durham County/Christian Assembly); Regina D. King (Faith Community Representative, City of Durham); Regina King (Former Homeless Representative, City of Durham); Melody Marshall, Homeless Liaison (Durham Public Schools); Alex Protzman (LIFE Skills Foundation); Tracy Stone-Dino (Alliance Behavioral Healthcare); Fred Stoppelkamp (Non-Profit Representative for Durham County); Ve'ga Swepson, Resource Specialist (Durham Technical Community College); Chris Toenes, MSW (Non-Profit Representative, City of Durham/TROSA); Captain Helen Tripp (Durham County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Angela Vick-Lewis (Formerly Homeless Representative, City of Durham).

Excused Committee Members: Vice-Chair Ellecia Thompson, (Durham VA Medical Center)

Committee Members Absent: Durham City Manager Thomas J. Bonfield; Calleen Herbert (NCCU Office of Community Engagement & Service); Kathy Hodges (Durham Crisis Response Center); Mark-Anthony Middleton (Durham City Council – *proxy for Mayor Steve Schewel*); Mayor Steve Schewel; Tony Tosh (Prosperity Recovery Services/Private Sector, City of Durham) and Mayme Webb-Bledsoe (Duke University).

Staff Present: Assistant Director of Strategy Karen Lado, Community Development Director Reginald Johnson; Senior Project Manager of Strategy Goal 1, Matthew Walker, Project Manager Lloyd Schmeidler, Administrative Analyst Keshia Barnette, Hanaleah Hoberman (Department of Community Development) and Senior Administrative Assistant Macio Carlton (County Clerk to the Board Office).

Also Present: Valaria Brown, Rikki Gardner, Samantha Martin (Housing for New Hope), Ryan Fehrman, Catherine Pliel (Families Moving Forward); Carolyn E. Hinton (Healing with CAARE);

Larry Partee (HIV Prevention and Care Community Advisory Committee (HPCAC); Sheldon Mitchell, Avarina London, Valerie Haywood, Dwight Kidder, Darryl Brooks (Urban Ministries of Durham), Carolyn Schuldt (Open Table Ministries), Malcolm White (Alliance Behavioral Healthcare), Harvey Hinton (Healing with CAARE), Joy Caesar (WakeUpReachUp) and Odie Roberson (Healthcare for the Homeless).

Subject: Call to Order and Welcome

Chair McCollers called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. and thanked everyone for attending, and read the goals of the HSAC aloud.

Subject: Minutes Review and Approval

August 29, 2018 HSAC Meeting – **Motion** by Committee Member Commissioner Carter, seconded by Committee Member Birch to approve the minutes. The motion was approved unanimously at 3:14 p.m.

Subject: Public Comment Period

Carolyn Hinton, Healing with CAARE, announced a special vision service event at Healing with CAARE in conjunction with Durham Lions Club on September 26, 2018 from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. She added that the event was for anyone over the age of six (6) that needed a free vision screening.

Ryan Ferhman, Families Moving Forward (FMF), discussed Agenda Item five (5) Funding Recommendations for the State Emergency Shelter Grants Competition. He explained that FMF needed operating dollars for the shelter operating cost. He shared that FMF served 21 families at a time, met community goals and spent all allocated money. Mr. Ferhman was concerned with the scorecard being weighted in a way that FMF could not compete with other rapid rehousing projects. He explained that FMF returned State rapid rehousing funding from the last several years; adding that most active substance abuse users were not interested in recovery.

Subject: Debrief of Continuum of Care (CoC) Grant Review Process

Karen Lado, Community Development Assistant Director discussed the concerns for making the grant review and recommendation process more transparent. She mentioned adding more clarity to the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) CoC grant recommendation memo regarding the amount requested and the amount funded. Ms. Lado mentioned that a long-term change would be to establish a minimal threshold for renewal applications, and establishing how long new projects would have before being accountable for the threshold. She added the HSAC would continue to refine the process and timeline of the CoC grant application.

Committee Member Cummings stated that the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council added additional meetings during the funding cycle time to allow for conversations and voting on recommended funding.

Subject: Funding Recommendations for the State Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) Competition

Project Manager Lloyd Schmeidler (Department of Community Development) stated that the Continuum of Care (CoC) Lead Agency coordinated the local project application process and scored three applications. He added the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) wanted the HSAC to discuss the funding recommendations.

Committee Member Cummings asked if criteria used for scoring and awards was from HUD or created by the CoC. Mr. Schmeidler responded that the State decided on the maximum amount for emergency service and the minimum amount for rapid rehousing. Committee Member Cummings asked if weight on scoring could be modified. Ms. Lado responded yes, but scoring must be consistent with policies as a body. Committee Member Cummings asked about the levels of reversion funds in the last couple of years. Mr. Schmeidler responded that some funds were not completely spent in calendar year 2017; and Healing with CAARE spend 100 percent of funding in first year and 94 percent in the second year for rapid rehousing.

Commissioner Carter asked if the standards were flexible. Mr. Schmeidler responded that the HSAC adopted the standards as a community.

Committee Member King asked if the entitlement funding submitted to HUD was the same information as the funding recommendations for the State ESG. Karen Lado, Community Development Assistant Director responded that the City received the entitlement funding directly due to the size of Durham. She added that the CoC made funding recommendations to HUD and HUD made the final funding decisions.

Catherine Pliel, Families Moving Forward (FMF), stated that FMF was a low barrier shelter which did not invite parents with active additions who did not want to get help into the shelter. She added FMF had to protect children and the HSAC needed to discuss protecting children.

Committee Member Marshall expressed her concern with the decreased amount of recommended funding for FMF.

Sheldon Mitchell, Urban Ministries of Durham (UMD), asked for a possible revision on redistributing additional funding for families and rapid rehousing. Mr. Schmeidler responded that it was a decision of the HSAC and recommendation was based on funding made available by the State.

Committee Member Karriker stated that rapid rehousing had some amazing results for singles, but families were dealing with increased homelessness. She wanted the HSAC to discuss low barrier shelters and families at future meetings.

Committee Member Vick-Lewis wanted to thank FMF for helping her family. She added that the HSAC should give FMF all the requested funding.

Committee Member Stoppelkamp asked Mr. Mitchell if he was willing to redistribute some of the funding recommended for UMD to be given to FMF and Healing with CAARE. Mr. Mitchell responded yes, to provide more resources for the community.

Committee Member Protzman expressed his concern with FMF losing \$40,000 and the impact it would have on the community.

Committee Member Cummings stated that the difficulty in reallocating the UMD funding would be waiting until the next scheduled HSAC meeting on October 24, 2018. Mr. Schmeidler responded that October 26, 2018 was the due date and would not allow enough time. Committee Member Cummings suggested a special voting by email to make it easier.

Committee Member Holmes asked Mr. Mitchell if UMD wanted to split the funding two (2) or three (3) ways. Mr. Mitchell responded split the money to any applicant who had applied for funding to help the community.

Ms. Lado asked Mr. Mitchell if UMD wanted to withdraw their application. Mr. Shelton responded yes. Mr. Schmeidler added that the maximum amount of funding for FMF would be \$97,969 and minimum amount for Healing with CAARE would be \$65,313. Committee Member Birch asked would any implications result if UMD withdrew their application. Mr. Schmeidler responded no.

Committee Member Tripp stated she would like to have the minutes complete and sent to the members before voting by email. Macio Carlton, County Clerk to the Board Office, responded he would try to have the minutes completed within two (2) weeks.

Committee Member Cason asked if the HSAC was going to resolve the funding or the staff. Chair McCollers responded that HSAC was trying to solve today. Ms. Lado added that it would be better to solve and moved forward than wait.

Motion by Committee Member Commissioner Burch to give maximum recommended funding of \$97,696 to Families Moving Forward and \$65,313 to Healing with CAARE. Seconded by Committee Member Holmes. The motion was approved unanimously.

Subject: Announcements

Committee Member Burch shared that the African American Dance Ensemble (AADE), Arts Inclusion 2018 would be held at the Hayti Heritage Center, 804 Old Fayetteville Road, Durham, NC 27701, followed by a reception would on Friday, October 12, 2018, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. He shared on Saturday, October 13, 2018. the POOLED Play would be at 3:00 p.m. Committee Member Burch shared the link and asked Keisha Barnette to send information to the board members.

Pam Karriker wanted to thank Sheldon Mitchell, Executive Director of Urban Ministries for agreeing to allocate their funds.

Committee Member Davis shared that October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month and invited member to the Sip A Little Change A Latte at Durham Crisis Response Center (DCRC) was from 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Drew Cummings stated data sharing from the homeless management information system and policy guidance for dealing with homeless camps on public property were two (2) issues coming forward at future meetings.

Committee Member Toenes commented on the effects of families facing homeless. He added that one (1) in every three (3) families were homeless because of addiction and opioids.

Committee Member Crooms announced the Durham County Department of Veteran Services Outreach Event was on Saturday, October 13, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Bahama Ruritan Club, 8202 Stagville Road, Bahama, NC 27503.

Committee Member Tripp announced the NC Med Assist Mobile Free Pharmacy event was on Friday, September 28, 2018 at North Carolina Central University Alfonso Elder Student Union, 1801 Fayetteville Road #125, Durham, NC 27707 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Ryan Fehrman stated that he really appreciated all the comments and thanked Sheldon Mitchell for his tremendous act of generosity.

Committee Member Burch commented that Carrisa Teka Dempson mother Maggie Almetta Dempson had passed. He added the funeral would be at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 29, 2018 at Mt. Calvary United Church of Christ, 1715 Athens Avenue, Durham, NC 27707.

Chair McCullers stated she was glad that Families Moving Forward (FMV) was a part of the continuum care and helping families in Durham County. She added she would like for committee to focus on families and single parents as well as for the committee to help with addiction and harm reduction.

Chair McCullers requested that all members complete Conflict of Interest forms. She added that members would need to sign the forms every year.

Subject: Adjourn

Motion by Committee Member Commissioner Burch, seconded by Committee Member Holmes to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

With no further business to come before the body, Chair McCollers adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Macio Carlton
Senior Administrative Assistant
County Clerk to the Board Office