

DURHAM HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Full CoC Meeting

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

3:00 p.m.

Virtual Conference Call

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

Committee Members Present: Chair Jonathan T. Crooms (Durham County Veteran Services Office – *Proxy for Lois Harvin-Ravin*); Vice-Chair Ellecia Thompson, (Durham VA Medical Center); Secretary Angela Vick-Lewis (Formerly Homeless Representative, City of Durham); Reverend Dr. B. Angeloe 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); Drew Cummings, (Chief of Staff, Durham County Manager’s Office); Alma Davis (Durham Crisis Response Center – *Proxy for Kathy Hodges*); Pam Karriker (Faith Community Representative for Durham County/Christian Assembly); Janeen Gordon (Assistant Director, Durham County Social Services – *proxy for County Commissioner Heidi Carter*); Calleen Herbert (NCCU Office of Community Engagement & Service); Angela Holmes (Former Homeless Representative for Durham County); Regina King (Faith Community Representative for the City of Durham); Eliza Mathew (Duke University Office of Durham and Community Affairs); Charita McCollers, MSW (Lincoln Community Health Center/Federal Health Care for the Homeless); Alex Protzman (LIFE Skills Foundation); Tracy Stone-Dino (Alliance Behavioral Healthcare); Vega Swepson (Resource Specialist, Durham Technical Community College); Ebony Thomas (Durham Public Schools Homeless Liaison); Chris Toenes, MSW (Non-Profit Representative, City of Durham/TROSA); Captain Helen Tripp (Durham County Emergency Medical Services (EMS));

Excused Committee Members: Thomas J. Bonfield (Durham City Manager); Meredith Daye, (Development Director, Durham Housing Authority); Ryan Fehrman (Non-Profit Representative, Durham County/Families Moving Forward); Steve Schewel (Durham Mayor); Amber Wade (Assistant to the Mayor - *Proxy for Mayor Schewel*)

Committee Members Absent: Director Lois Harvin-Ravin, Durham County Veteran Services Office (*Proxy Jonathan T. Crooms in attendance*); Kathy Hodges, Durham Crisis Response Center (*Proxy Alma Davis in attendance*); Tony Tosh (Prosperity Recovery Services/Private Sector, City of Durham);

Staff Present: Community Development Director Reginald J. Johnson, Community Development Assistant Director Karen Lado, Community Development Manager Colin Davis, Senior Community Development Analyst Hanaleah Hoberman, Senior Community Development Analyst Lloyd Schmeidler, Community Development Coordinator Ruebe Holmes.

Also Present: Russell Pierce (Housing for New Hope), David Walley (Durham Congregations in Action); Drew Pridgen (TROSA); Angela Warren (TROSA); Sheldon Mitchell (Urban Ministries

of Durham); Donna Carrington (Community Empowerment Fund); Cierra Hamlet (Durham Access Care Transitions); Shana Carignan (Families Moving Forward); Mona Tong (Community Empowerment Fund); Alexandra Nelson-Tomlinson (Open Table Ministry); Valerie Haywood (Urban Ministries of Durham); Veronica Niamba (9th Street Journal); Rikki Gardner (Housing for New Hope); Malcolm White (Alliance Behavioral Health); KC Buchanan (LGBTQ Center of Durham); Kristen Rogers (Housing for New Hope); Catherine Pleil (Families Moving Forward); Niveen Allan (ICNA Relief)

Subject: Call to Order and Welcome

Chair Crooms called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. He thanked everyone for attending and read the goals of the HSAC aloud.

Subject: Minutes Review and Approval

Minutes were not available.

Subject: Public Comments Period

There were no public comments.

Subject: State ESG CARES ACT Funding

Community Development Manager Colin Davis presented on State ESG CARES Act Funding and the Back @ Home Initiative. Part of the state grant requires each CoC to opt in or opt out of the Back @ Home program which will determine the application process for the additional funding.

Back @ Home in Durham would offer technical support and additional capacity for Coordinated Entry and perhaps with service delivery as well. The Pros of joining Back @ Home include Technical assistance and support; Additional screening capacity with help/ partnership of 211; Backstop if local rehousing agency gets overloaded; Joining statewide initiative and learning from other jurisdictions; a System-wide approach.

After discussion, Committee Member Herbert made a motion to hold off on voting pending a Thursday webinar and follow up with an email vote. Seconded by Committee Member Burch. Motion passed unanimously.

Subject: Appeals Process

Community Development Manager Colin Davis presented a CoC Application Appeals Policy to ensure a consistent appeals policy and procedure.

Motion to approve the Appeals Policy by Committee Member Karriker and seconded by Committee Member Toenes. Motion passed unanimously.

Subject: CoC Ombudsman Panel Attendance Policy

Community Development Coordinator Ruebe Holmes presented an Attendance Policy for the CoC Ombudsman Panel that would require quarterly mandatory meetings, attendance reporting and excused absence notification.

Motion to approve by Committee Member Burch; Seconded by Committee Member Holmes. Motion passed unanimously.

Subject: Covid-19 Statement of Need

Committee Member McCollers, Chair of the Policy and Planning Committee presented a Covid-19 statement of need. Durham Healthcare Providers submitted a statement of need outlining urgent needs for individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk for homelessness. They seek support from the HSAC and Continuum of Care.

Motion by Committee Member Tripp for HSAC and Continuum of Care to endorse the statement of need. Seconded by Committee Member Holmes Committee Member Cummings abstained but supportive, Motion passed.

Subject: CoC Provider Presentations

CoC Providers gave presentations on the work they are doing in the community pertaining to homelessness.

Drew Pridgen and Angela Warren from TROSA spoke about the programming available for participants including free medical care, counseling services, transitional housing and continuing services available. Some participants have a history of homelessness and TROSA wants to address the underlying issues that cause instability.

Sheldon Mitchell and Valerie Haywood gave a presentation on Urban Ministries of Durham's operations during Covid. On April 10th all shelter residents were relocated to the Marriott including 70 residents and 13 medically fragile residents were added the next week. They intend to have housing before a return to shelter with 35 individuals with a housing plan and are working to house an additional 15 residents by July 8th.

Russell Pierce from Housing for New Hope gave a presentation on their work in 2019 including housing 325 adults and children through Rapid Rehousing, 31 individuals in affordable and workforce housing; 138 individuals engaged through Street Outreach and 87 individuals in Supportive Housing or enrolled in Streets to Home

Malcolm White from Alliance Health gave a presentation on the Alliance DASH Program. Individuals and family households are eligible for 12 PSH scattered-site units. The units are 100% Chronically Homeless dedicated. In 2020, the program currently serves 32 people in 16 households; 11 are individual households and 5 family households totaling 21 people. They are partnering with 12 Housing Providers which include non-profit, LIHTC, conventional multi-family and single- family homeowners.

Subject: Announcements

Community Development Coordinator Ruebe Holmes announced that due to term limits several HSAC members would be leaving HSAC. The Board recognized Tony Tosh, Pam Karriker and Angela Holmes for their service to HSAC and the community.

Committee Member Burch asked anyone interested in the census to contact him by email.

Committee Member Thomas announced that Durham Public Schools would have online registration for students and families for the 2020-2021 school year.

Subject: Adjourn

Motion by Committee Member Holmes, seconded by Committee Member Vick-Lewis to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

With no further business to come before the body, Chair Crooms adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruebe Holmes
Community Development Coordinator
City of Durham, Community Development

Angela Vick-Lewis
Secretary, Homeless Services Advisory Committee