

DURHAM HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**HSAC Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 25, 2021**  
**3:00 p.m.**  
**Virtual Conference Call**

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

**Committee Members Present:**

Chair Ellecia Thompson, (Durham VA Medical Center)  
Vice-Chair Angela Vick-Lewis (Formerly Homeless Representative, City of Durham)  
Secretary Captain Helen Tripp (Durham County Emergency Medical Services (EMS))  
Shiesha Bell (LIFE Skills Foundation)  
Dr. Angeloe Burch (Durham County Homeless Subpopulation advocate);  
Heidi Carter (Durham County Commissioner)  
Jonathan T. Crooms (Durham County Veteran Services Office – *Proxy for Lois Harvin-Ravin*)  
Drew Cummings, (Chief of Staff, Durham County Manager’s Office)  
Ryan Fehrman (NC Coalition to End Homelessness)  
Janean Gordon (Assistant Director, Durham County Social Services – *proxy for County Commissioner Heidi Carter*)  
Calleen Herbert (NCCU Office of Community Engagement & Service)  
Shantesea Kinard (Homeless Advisory)  
Eliza Mathew (Duke University Office of Durham and Community Affairs)  
Charita McCollers, MSW (Lincoln Community Health Center/Federal Health Care for the Homeless)  
Mayor Steve Schewel (City of Durham)  
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)

**Excused Committee Members:**

Director Lois Harvin-Ravin, Durham County Veteran Services Office (*Proxy Jonathan T. Crooms in attendance*)  
Wanda Page (City of Durham City Manager’s Office)  
Renee Vaughan (Faith Community Representative)  
Amber Wade (Assistant to the Mayor - *Proxy for Mayor Schewel*)  
Jasmin Young-Bradshaw (Durham Crisis Response Center)

**Committee Members Absent:**

N/A

**Staff Present:**

Reginald Johnson, Community Development Director  
Colin Davis, Community Development Manager  
Lloyd Schmeidler, Senior Community Development Analyst  
Hanaleah Hoberman, Senior Community Development Analyst  
Ruebe Holmes, Community Development Coordinator  
Elisa Hupp, Community Development

**Also Present:**

Natalie Beyer (DPS Board of Education)  
Danielle Butler (Triangle Apartment Association)  
Kevin Callahan (DHHS: DVRS)  
Shana Carignan (Families Moving Forward)  
Rikki Gardner (Housing for New Hope)  
Belinda Gonzalez (Life Skills Foundation)  
Joyce Hicklen (CASA NC)  
Manuel Hyman (Alliance Health)  
Matthew Landers (Duke University)  
Sheldon Mitchell (Urban Ministries Durham)  
Brigitte Ogne (Volunteers of America)  
Carolyn Schuldt (Open Table Ministry)  
Valerie Uchegbu (Urban Ministries Durham)  
Karmisha Wallace (City of Durham)  
Lavette Williams (Durham County DSS)

**Subject: Call to Order and Housekeeping**

Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. She thanked everyone for attending, read the goals of the HSAC aloud, and reviewed housekeeping rules.

**Subject: Minutes Review and Approval**

The minutes for May 26, 2021 and June 23, 2021 meetings were reviewed. There were no corrections or additions.

**Motion:** Dr. Angeloe Burch, Sr.

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Ebony Thomas

The motion passed with no nays and one abstention by Charita McCollers.

**Subject: Public Comments Period**

Ryan Fehrman addressed the HSAC to announce his new role as Executive Director of the NC Coalition to End Homelessness. He began that role on August 9, 2021. He and the City of Durham Community Development team are researching whether he can remain on HSAC in this new role. He ensured his continued support for working on homelessness in the Durham community.

**Subject: Justice Involved and Homelessness Presentation**

Matthew Landers, 2021 Masters of Public Policy graduate from Duke University, presented his master's final project. The presentation was provided to the HSAC prior to this meeting and will be available on the CoC web site with the meeting minutes. He highlighted weaknesses and strengths of the current system and provided several recommendations for improvement.

**Subject: Election of HSAC Officers**

Chair Thompson explained the HSAC officer succession and voting process for the upcoming year. New officers will assume their role as of September 1, 2021.

The current Vice Chair, Angela Vick-Lewis, automatically moves to the Chair position.

Nominations for secretary included Dr. Angeloe Burch and Shantesea Kinard.

**Motion:** Charita McCollers

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Jonathan Crooms

Ms. Kinard and Dr. Burch introduced themselves to the HSAC and discussed their qualifications for the secretary role.

Vote: Dr. Burch received the majority of the votes and will become the new HSAC secretary.

Helen Tripp, current HSAC secretary, was nominated as Vice-Chair.

Motion: Calleen Herbert

2<sup>nd</sup>: Angela Vick-Lewis

Vote: The motion passed no nays or abstentions.

Colin Davis thanked Chair Thompson for her year leading the HSAC during a very difficult time. Mayor Schewel also thanked Chair Thompson for her leadership. Chair-Elect, Vick-Lewis also expressed her appreciation.

**Subject: COVID Update**

Colin Davis, Community Development, provided an update on the status of COVID housing for homeless in the community. His presentation is available on the CoC web site with the meeting minutes.

Overview

- Current funding (over \$2.6 million) available for Rapid Rehousing, Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, Prevention, and Admin
  - 20% must be spent by September 30, 2021
  - 80% must be spent by March 31, 2022
  - 100% must be spent by September 30, 2022
- COVID Housing Options
  - Duplex under contract until 12/31/2021 is now under new ownership. New owner is interested in continuing the contract.
  - Working to continue non-congregant shelter until social distancing guidelines are lifted
  - White Flag shelter plans are beginning
  - Considering long-term options (e.g. HOME funds with 3-8 year implementation)

Mr. Davis discussed the challenge of spending monies that are ten times the usual annual budget for homelessness and how HUD is adding flexibility to their requirements.

Over 300 persons have been served in the alternate housing options since COVID restrictions began.

Mayor Schewel asked if the upcoming funding is eligible for a hotel option. Mr. Davis explained the HOME funds would allow this and other options.

**Subject: Introduction of New HSAC Member**

Chair Thompson welcomed the newest HSAC member, Shantesea “Shae” Kinard.

**Subject: Performance Management Committee Quarterly Report**

Committee Chair Jonathan Crooms presented the report for the Performance Management Committee.

Summary

- Reviewing and revisiting Performance Standards. This is a long-term project.
- Evaluating State Emergency Solutions grant applications
- Asked for new members to join the committee

Expressed his appreciation to all members of the Performance Management committee over the past year. He recognized off-going members Shana Carignan and Rikki Gardner whose terms on the committee have ended.

**Subject: Call for New Standing Committee Members**

Chair Thompson called for new standing committee members: Performance Management committee and Policy and Planning committee.

**Subject: Announcements**

Lloyd Schmeidler, Community Development, announced that

- HUD released a 2021 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for annual renewal demand for currently funded projects for \$1,385,194. Entire amount is in Tier 1 and would cover all Tier 1 projects if approved.
- Additionally, Durham may apply for the Permanent Housing bonus of \$91,544.
- Also available is the Domestic Violence bonus of \$274,631. This may be used for rapid rehousing project or supportive services project for victims of intimate partner violence.
- The CoC Lead Agency (Durham Community Development) can apply for \$54,926 non-competitive grant.
- Deadline for completing the consolidated application is November 17, 2021.
- “Ballpark” estimate for applications will be mid-September to early October

Ruebe Holmes, Community Development, reminded HSAC members to complete the Conflict-of-Interest form for this year. It has been sent by email and was posted in this meeting’s chat.

Ms. Holmes also asked anyone who is interested in joining the Policy and Planning or Performance Management committees to email her at [durhamopeningdoors@durhamnc.gov](mailto:durhamopeningdoors@durhamnc.gov) as soon as possible so we can prepare for the September HSAC meeting.

**Subject: Adjourn**

Chair Thompson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion:** Ebony Thomas

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Dr. Angeloe Burch

With no further business, Chair Thompson adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Helen Tripp  
Secretary, Homeless Services Advisory Committee