

Wake County Continuum of Care

Membership Meeting

June 17th, 2024

Attendees – See sign-in sheet at the end of this document.

Meeting start: 2:06 PM

Stephen Gruver, Chair of the Governing Board, welcomed everyone, introduced himself and reviewed the agenda.

He reminded people to sign-in as this is what we use as evidence of our agencies participating in membership meetings.

New Charter – Vote Recommendation

Stephen Gruver explained the reasons for changes in the charter. He explained what the charter is and that it is the guidelines for the Continuum of Care. He shared that the Charter Review Workgroup sought input from the County and City, CoC Board, and then initiated 45 days of public comment. The Workgroup is no longer accepting comments.

Stephen added that the Board recommends using the voting method outlined in the new charter.

Eric Braun, Chair of the Charter Review Workgroup: We need to remember that we need 51% of the voting member base to pass the charter, so please vote if you receive the email.

DaQuanta Copeland, Wake County: What happens if our service provider who is the voting member has left?

Stephen Gruver: Email Erin Flynn at eflynn@wakenc507.org to update your voting member.

Nicole Stewart, Vice Chair: The new charter has been reviewed by our HUD TA. As a reminder, we used the new voting method during the Lead Agency vote and it worked well.

Peter Morris (Urban Ministries) motioned for the Wake NC 507 Continuum of Care membership to vote to approve the new charter as presented.

Meredith Yuckman (Hope Center at Pullen) seconded the motion.

The motion will be sent out to voting members by email.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Update and Timeline

Stephen Gruver went over the ESG Timeline (see power point or ESG page on website). He reminded everyone that LOIs were due Friday, June 14th but that they were optional.

Stephen Gruver announced that ESG Applications for both new and returning applicants are due to the funding@wakenc507.org email in PDF or Zip File form by Friday, July 19th, 2024 at 5 PM. He explained the timeline for appeals to be made and when decisions will be sent out. He called for questions and comments.

No questions or comments made.

Stephen Gruver stated that all documents and instructions for ESG will be sent out and posted on the website June 18th, 2024.

Notice Of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Update

Stephen Gruver explained the NOFO updates. Along with the ESG policies and procedures, the Funding Review Committee (FRC) has created rating and ranking policies and procedures that will be posted on the website. He also explained that the reallocation policies will be coming out within the next month and that the NOFO rating and ranking will be similar to the ESG version.

Anti-Discrimination Policy – Vote Recommendation

Stephen Gruver turned everyone's attention to the Anti-Discrimination Policy that is printed on the table for people to look at. He explained that the Membership will be receiving this document in their email with the voting link, using the new voting method.

Nicole Stewart: Reminder that these documents that we are about to look at will be reviewed annually, so any edits can be brought up at the annual review.

Eric Braun: Will the subject line for the voting emails be updated so that nothing is missed?

Stephen Gruver: Yes, we will make sure that the subject lines are clear so nothing is overlooked and everything is voted on.

Peter Morris (Urban Ministries) motioned that the Wake NC 507 Continuum of Care membership vote to approve the Anti-Discrimination policy as presented.

Rick Miller-Haraway (Independent Member) seconded the motion.

The motion will be sent out to voting members by email.

Conflict of Interest Policy – Vote Recommendation

Stephen Gruver gave a brief overview of the changes made in the Conflict of Interest policy and shared that simply adding references to federal regulations and to clarify that if our

policy has a conflict with the federal regulation, the federal regulation is what we should follow.

John Niffenegger (City of Raleigh) motioned that the Wake NC 507 Continuum of Care membership vote to approve the Conflict of Interest policy as presented.

Scott Ferris (Triangle Family Services) seconded the motion.

The motion will be sent out to voting members by email.

VAWA Policy – Vote Recommendation

Stephen Gruver stated that the VAWA policy change was the expansion of the VAWA definition and can be found in Addendum VII.

Michelle Zechmann: Reminder that we will be attaching the full VAWA policy to the voting email, but the addendum was the only page printed today.

Nicole Stewart (A.J. Fletcher Foundation) motioned that the Wake NC 507 Continuum of Care membership vote to approve the updated VAWA policy as presented.

Erin Yates (CASA) seconded the motion.

The motion will be sent out to voting members by email.

Point In Time Count Results

Stephen Gruver explained what the Point in Time (PIT) Count is - an imperfect method of getting a snapshot of what the Wake County homelessness population looks like on a single night. He called for people to volunteer for the 2025 PIT Count so that we can get the most accurate count possible. He prefaced the results with caveats on why our numbers look the way they do.

Stephen Gruver went over the numbers presented (see attached power point). He also brought up the Emergency Shelter growth that was made last year, making the unsheltered versus sheltered numbers change greatly.

Thurston Alexander-Smith: Some changes in methodologies over seasonal bed requirements changed so more people were able to go to emergency shelter.

Stephen Gruver highlighted the Bridge to Home funding as a big change and that it helped move people into Permanent Supportive Housing. Stephen also stated three things to pull from this data: 1. Our community is doing good work, 2. There is still a lot of work to do and 3. Putting in exit dates can help adjust our PIT Count to be more accurate as well.

DaQuanta Copeland: Last week I was in the Health Needs Assessment group, and one of the things that came up was “around housing, what do we not know?” and one of those things is the weather on the night of PIT Count.

Stephen Gruver: Yes, HUD does not base this around weather but as we know, this is a factor in who is unsheltered versus sheltered.

Stephen Gruver also pointed out that there was a major reduction in Street Outreach workers which affected our PIT Count. Two of the agencies that normally participate in the PIT Count went from a total of twenty Street Outreach workers to just two. We also had agencies that normally participate in the count that did not this year. He reminded everyone again to participate in the next PIT Count to make up for that loss. He also stated that everyone needs to keep in mind the wins.

Peter Morris: As we present this information and what went well, how do we explain so few volunteers and Street Outreach workers?

Stephen Gruver: I think we can point to agency capacity and the need for more.

Vanessa Kopp: Highlighted that the County is really interested in investing in Street Outreach, though not a lot of agencies applied for this funding.

Erin Yates: It is also the COVID burnout that is affecting Street Outreach as they were the front line teams. We need to rebuild those programs.

Stephen Gruver: There is some good momentum on rebuilding those teams such as Alliance Health is thinking about creating a street medicine team.

Stephen Gruver stated that he, the CoC Vice Chair, and City and County leadership are working on a press release to share this year’s PIT data and what it means. The preliminary PIT data will also be posted on the Wake CoC website.

Agency Updates

John Niffenegger from the City of Raleigh introduced a new employee, Chelsea Levy, as the Homeless and Community Programs Specialist. He also shared that any Street Outreach workers and providers should have received an email about HMIS training for the outreach module. The city has selected a consultant for the Unsheltered Response Strategy. Finally, the City is launching a pilot Unsheltered Response program that will include three RFPs that will be sent out this week.

Vanessa Kopp from Wake County said that her last day will be July 17th. There will be a replacement Director who has signed her contract and if anyone wants her to connect with the new Director, she will facilitate that meeting.

Peter Morris from Urban Ministries shared that next month GoWake, GoRaleigh, and GoTriangle will be reinstating bus fares. A representative from GoWake will be coming to the Membership meeting next month to discuss how individuals we serve can sign-up for free bus service.

Emily Downing from Green Chair announced their open house for agency partners this Friday from 10-4 and thanked everyone for referrals.

Thurston Alexander-Smith was curious if anyone had heard from Wake County about the Lead Agency transition? Also, how are the scorecard and ranking/rating policies going to be implemented?

Stephen Gruver took Thurston's questions in reverse order. We are using our Funding Review Committee to create the scorecard and implement the policies. Haven House Services has also contracted with Fortis Consulting to help build these policies. They will also contract out to someone to write the NOFO. As far as the transition is concerned, we have been working with the County on this. A draft MOU has been reviewed by all parties (Governance Board Chair and Vice Chair, Wake County, and HUD TA). Duane Holder, Wake County Deputy County Manager did present the draft MOU to the Wake County Commissioners during a work session last week. Wake County did receive approval to hire a director. We are hopeful that the MOU will be signed in late August/early September.

Michelle Zechmann, Haven House shared that the scorecard will be posted tomorrow, Tuesday, June 18th, 2024, on the website.

Kathy Johnson, Oak City Cares added that the CoC and GoWake are working together to have places to go for physical passes for the bus rather as well as a smartphone app..

DaQuanta Copeland: Due to all the updates and changes made in the policies and procedures, will this work help us score higher in the NOFO?

Stephen Gruver: We are going to try to score as best as we can. Now that we have more stability and are no longer in transition, we hope to do better. The Governance Board also approved the creation of a NOFO Workgroup to review our collaborative application.

Michelle Zechmann: Many of the things we are doing and have presented to the membership should help our CoC be more sustainable and our community to be more competitive in future years.

Stephen Gruver shared Salvation Army announcements including the Community Job Fair on August 19th and their Back to School Bash on August 16th. Both will be hosted at the Buck Jones location.

Michelle Zechmann reminded people to send agency activities/announcements to be sent to the info@wakenc507.org so they can be placed in the weekly newsletter.

Stephen Gruver called for anyone with meeting space ideas to also send them to the info@wakenc507.org email.

Adjourn: 3:06 PM

Next meeting is July 15th at 2 PM. Location is TBD.

Wake Continuum of Care Membership Meeting

				Check One:		
Name	Email Address	Organization	Individual CoC Member	Organizational CoC member	Unsure or Neither	
Emily Downing	emily.downing@hgresearch.org	Sireen Chair		✓		
Genean Hill	ghill@voacaralinas.org	VOC		✓		
Tammy Mauldin	Tmauldin@tfsnc.org	TFS		✓		
Chelsea Low	chelsea.law@raisingr.com	HRN (einy)		✓		
Erin Yates	EYates@casarenc.org	CARF		✓		
Jade Curry	jade.curry3@gmail.com	Tomas		✓		
Rick Miller-Hawary	RTH75@MTEL.NC	okc City Care ^{Self}	✓			
Quon Gullidge		SOME Specialist				
Paul Hattam	Wferni@TFS.org	TFS		✓		
Berley Dixon	bdixon@verysubwalthamster.org	NH		✓		
Nicole Fausst	nicole@ATF.org	ATF		✓		
Paul Ariga	Parigi@TFSnc.org	TFS		✓		
Michelle Stekauer		HHS		✓		
Vanessa Karp	Vanessa.karp@wvcc.org	WVCC		✓		
Libby Stephens	libbystephens@hostnc.org	HOST		✓		
Darlene McClain	dmcclain@blackbyblack.com	DCfA - Ambassador program		✓		

Wake Continuum of Care Membership Meeting

Name	Email Address	Organization	Check One:		
			Individual Coc Member	Organizational Coc member	Unsure or Neither
Stephen Gruber	stephen.gruber@uss.salnet	The Salvation Army		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Hannah Shimmick	hshimm@unc.edu	Haven House Services			<input type="checkbox"/>
Erin Fynn	efynn@wakeenc50704	Haven House Services		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Jammi Bogans	jbogans@fshnc.org	TFS			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Erin Hill Carter	erin@families-togethernc.org	Families Together			
Tanya Sampson	Tanya@families-togethernc.org	families together			
Alayna Basnight	alayne alayne@families-togethernc.org	TZC		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Kelsey Mosley	kmosley@havenhouse.org	Haven House		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Daquanta Copeland	daqunta.copeland@wakegov	WAKE Gov.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Kevin Farris	Kevin.farris@gmail.com	First Citizens Bank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Chloe Pearson	chloe.pearson@wakegov	Wake County HCR		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Allison Sickles	Allison.Sickles@wakegov	Wake County HCR		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
LaToya Turner	LaToya.Turner@havanhouse.org	The Haven Place		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Sequoyia Snow	sequoyiasnow@ci.wake.nc.us	The Craying Place		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Vance Hummer	vance.hummer@wakegov	St John Mc		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Debbie Hernandez	debernhernandez@fshnc.org	Triangle Family Services		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Katherine Otero	katherine@urbanmin.org	urban min		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

