

CoC Homeless Youth Workgroup

MINUTES

January 18, 2022 | 1:00pm-2:00pm

Virtual Meeting

Attendance: Tom Montaglione (The Relatives), Branden Lewis (Community Support Services), Katie Blythe (MCV-Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools), Daniel Cooper (Community Support, Division Direction for Homeless Services), Kimberly Sanders (HMIS), Mary Ann Priester (HMIS), Shaq Clarke (Time Out Youth), Breanna McGowen (Salvation Army), Lakika Marshall (Homeless Support Services/Shelter Plus Care), Gwendolyn Prince (Youth Villages), Deneise (Community Support Services/Adult Services), Dawn Haynes (Homeless Navigator), Nichole St. Aimie-Bonner (YFS), Givonna Collins (Case Coordinator with Mecklenburg County CSS),

<p>1. Welcome--- Thomas Montaglione</p>
<p>2. Approval of Minutes- Katie Blythe Gwendolyn Prince made a motion to adopt the minutes, and Mary Ann Priester seconded the motion. There was no motion for debate. All were in favor. The minutes from the October 2021 meeting were adopted. (The workgroup did not meet in November, December due to the holiday schedule)</p>
<p>3. Review of workgroup goal: To decrease non parenting youth homelessness by 20% by December 31, 2022 Objectives: Case conferencing and increased access to coordinated entry Workgroup Focus- Increased CE assessments, collaboration with quality and inclusion and CE work group</p> <p>HUD applied for funding and did not get accepted but there is more work to be done and several initiatives are already underway (special case conferencing, youth action board through, etc.)</p> <p>The Relatives –Janine Donovan oversees the Youth Action Board- Working on youth PIT count, recruited peers to go out in the community, after the PIT count expansion will be next</p>
<p>4. Data Update—Mary Ann</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• December 31, 2021- 77 single homeless youth• Change in inactive policy. The change went into effect November 1, 2021 (previously kept names on by name list for 90 days) window of time is now 30 days to decrease time spent connecting to youth that are no longer in the community/could not be reached or have self resolved- This allows for more accurate and real time count of active youth homelessness

- Goal has been met for decreasing homeless youth by 20% due to policy change- The group decided to change the workgroup goal to 20 % by December 2022 as opposed to September 1, 2022.
- Youth count is upcoming which might increase numbers
- Mary Ann Priester shared the Built For Zero platform to assist with tracking progress towards meeting the workgroups goal
- There was a slow outflow in December, and 19 youth inflow
- Overrepresentation of individuals identifying as Black/African American/African with under representation of Hispanic heritage

5. Case Conferencing Updates –Gwendolyn Prince

- Strengths- consistency with 3 months of the workgroup staffing. The group met for 2/3 of the months, getting data to the workgroup in a timely fashion, diverse group of agencies to divide caseload, making plans for the students
- Needs- better idea of how many youth should be staffed each month, 70+ youth are not able to be staffed in one meeting each month, continuing to make sure that we have providers on the call that work directly with the youth
- Suggestions- dividing the case load into two sections and meeting twice/month, including interns to assist
- Built for Zero (platform) suggests looking at specific populations or grouping them in different phases of housing

6. Other Updates- As Needed

- Hannah Warfle suggested creating a list of advocacy strategies for Homeless Services Network. Please send advocacy priorities to Hannah-Marie.warfle@uss.salvationarmy.org to discuss at a future meeting. (ex. Discrimination, landlords, etc)
- Shaq will continue to keep the workgroup updated on the inclusion and equity committee --- NC Youth Advisory Committee- Shaq will be sworn in for 2 years and will be looking forward to collaboration to better serve youth- grant opportunities and more to come
- Discussion- VPA process to assist youth with rent and challenges- Nichole with YFS provided and overview of the program
- Lakika Marshall- Homeless Support Services- Daniel Cooper, Giovanna Collins, Dawn Haymes, Deniese McCain, Presented a transitional age youth project (18-24)- housing first for youth model (out of Canada)- This will create a progressive housing option from, transitional housing to independent living. Youth will have wrap around services from the community who work together to provide services for one individual, addressing key issues. The pilot is for 10-15 youth, there are no requirements to be accepted as long as they are willing to participate. There are currently funds to support once program is running, and case management is long term- The goal is long term self-sufficiency ultimately ending generations of homelessness. This planning is in the beginning stages. The HSS team will have a full presentation at the next youth workgroup meeting to gauge community buy in and support.

7. Next Steps & Follow Up

