



HOMELESS SERVICES NETWORK MINUTES

February 23, 2017 / 8:30am – 10:00am

Hope Haven Conference Center

ATTENDANCE

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1) Melissa Morgan | Anuvia |
| 2) Ron Clark | Cardinal Innovations |
| 3) Tawanna Denmark | CarolinaCare Partnerships |
| 4) Davena Mgbeokwere | Charlotte Family Housing |
| 5) Julia Hanson | Charlotte Mecklenburg Library |
| 6) Tony Marciano | Charlotte Rescue Mission |
| 7) Mary Gaertner | City of Charlotte |
| 8) Branden Lewis | Community Link |
| 9) Pat Krikorian | Florence Crittenton Services |
| 10) John Burns | Goodwill Industries of the Southern Piedmont |
| 11) Ted Fillette | Legal Aid of North Carolina |
| 12) Natalia Botella | Legal Services of the Southern Piedmont |
| 13) Cheryl Brown | Lutheran Services of the Carolinas / UNCC |
| 14) Shamika Murray | Mecklenburg County Community Support Services |
| 15) Erin Schroeder | Mecklenburg County Community Support Services |
| 16) Christina Heggins | Mecklenburg County Community Support Services |
| 17) Barbara Cross | Mecklenburg County Community Support Services |
| 18) Peter Safir | Mecklenburg County Community Support Services |
| 19) Janene McGee | Mecklenburg County Veterans Services |
| 20) Stephanie Shatto | Men's Shelter of Charlotte |
| 21) Liz Clasen-Kelly | Men's Shelter of Charlotte |
| 22) Chanda Scott | Safe Alliance |
| 23) Shaketa Wright | Salvation Army Center of Hope |
| 24) Harry Mack | Salvation Army Center of Hope |
| 25) Ali Miller | Supportive Housing Communities |
| 26) Tara Robinson | Supportive Housing Communities |
| 27) Kelly Lynn | Supportive Housing Communities |
| 28) Kelsey Matthews | The Relatives |
| 29) Ashley Clark | UNC Charlotte |
| 30) Mike O'Sullivan | Unitarian Church Universalist Church Advocacy Group |
| 31) Kevin Edwards | Urban Ministry |
| 32) Robert Nesbit | Urban Ministry Center |
| 33) Allison Winston | Urban Ministry Center |
| 34) Connie Arend | Urban Ministry Center |
| 35) Stephen McQueen | Urban Ministry Center |
| 36) Kirsten Sikkelee | YWCA Central Carolinas |



GUESTS PRESENT:

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|-----------------------|---|
| 37) Deborah Albritton | Another Choice for Black Children/Queen City Hope4Home |
| 38) Dimitri Cheatham | ARISE, LLC |
| 39) Janice McNeely | Changed Choices |
| 40) Dana Reid | Gracious Hands Transitional Housing |
| 41) Sonja Chisolm | Gracious Hands Transitional Housing |
| 42) Ken Szymanski | Greater Charlotte Apartment Association |
| 43) Tracey Questell | Healing Vine Harbor |
| 44) Connie Questell | Healing Vine Harbor |
| 45) Rosalind Muller | HomeCare for the Carolinas |
| 46) John Stokes | Housing Advisory Board / BB&T |
| 47) Shaunte Dickson | Monarch |
| 48) Cherie Smith | Monarch |
| 49) Sara Derebery | NC Serves Metrolina / CharlotteBridge Home |
| 50) Rita Rabie | Regional Housing Partnership |
| 51) Annette Moton | Ultimate Horizon Foundation |
| 52) Elijah Moton | Ultimate Horizon Foundation |
| 53) Haeley Rimmer | UNCC MSW Student |
| 54) Jason Scianno | UNCC MSW Student |
| 55) Juliette Lynch | UNCC MSW Student |
| 56) Christine Still | UNCC MSW Student |
| 57) Ioanna Kostis | UNCC MSW Student |
| 58) Devin Xayasomloth | UNCC MSW Student |
| 59) Hannah Foust | UNCC MSW Student |
| 60) Amira Muhsen | UNCC MSW Student |
| 61) Danielle Pietsch | UNCC MSW Student |
| 62) Celeste King | UNCC MSW Student |
| 63) Steven Tilley | Watchmen of the Streets |
| 64) Stephen Valder | West Side Community Land Trust |

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & MINUTES

- Meeting called to order by HSN Advocacy Co-Chair, Liz Clasen-Kelly, at 8:30am.
- January 2017 minutes were approved by vote.

VICTORIES

- Charlotte Housing Authority (CHA) has opened The Landings, a new property for seniors located off Park Road and YWCA's Women In Transition (WIT) program has already moved in several women (Kirsten Sikkelee).
- After much community planning, Social Serve is hiring for a project manager for the Landlord Consortium. (Mary Gaertner).
- Charlotte Housing Authority's Section 8 waitlist is moving again (visitor from UNCC).



- Mecklenburg County is working with UNCC on an upcoming report on Housing Stability. Will be interviewing people who have been evicted or service providers who work with people with evictions (Ashley Williams Clark).
- Tracey Questell was recently recognized for the “Excellence in Community Service Award” at the Moral Summit. Her organization, Healing Vine Harbor, is having their first major fundraising event on April 1st. (Tracey Questell)

FUTURE OF HOMELESSNESS FUNDING & WAYS WE CAN GET INVOLVED

U.S. Congresswoman Alma S. Adams, NC District 12

Adams delivered an inspiring message of hope that we continue to have support in Washington for our work to raise up people who are homeless. Here’s a summary of her presentation:

- Adams represents the 12th congressional district of 775,000 people, which encompasses several cities in North Carolina.
- Poverty and upward mobility are key issues she is trying to address in her district.
 - For example, NC ranks high in food insecurity of families, and Adams has created a group to work on this.
- She is also working on legislation to eliminate homelessness. 1 out of 5 kids who are homeless live in the Charlotte area.
- Affordable housing is critical, and we must change people’s perception of what it is and how it helps a community. She supports the National Housing Trust Fund.
- She is also fighting to raise wages.
- When asked about cuts in federal funding for progressive programs, she pointed out the executive action requires congressional approval. She believes the rumored sudden cuts to many programs will happen.
- When asked to address the issue of lack of upward mobility in Charlotte, Rep. Adams thought that education is key. We need to train youths for today’s science, technology, engineering and mathematics jobs.
- She encouraged us to stop by her congressional offices at 801 East Morehead.

UPDATES

- **HSN Treasurer’s Report**
 - Liz Clasen-Kelly reported that there will be a full treasurer’s report at the next meeting. There is money in the bank account and the bank account is now switched over for the correct people to sign the checks.
- **HSN Advocacy Committee** (Mike O’Sullivan)
 - Mike O’Sullivan reported out on the partnership work with OneMECK to create more affordable housing in Charlotte. Liz Clasen-Kelly celebrated the city’s creativity to use land the City currently owns to encourage developers to build affordable housing.
 - Mike invited everyone to the meetings – 3rd Tuesday of the month at 3:30 pm at McCreech Place.



- **Housing Advisory Board: Continuum of Care Committee**
 - Our community's HUD Technical Assistance providers will be at the next CoC meeting on March 15th. They are working with us to strengthen our CoC governance structure.
- **Housing Advisory Board: CoC Committee: Coordinated Assessment Oversight Committee**
 - The oversight committee is currently exploring the possibility of utilizing 211 in conjunction with coordinated assessment.
- **Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg**
 - Liz Clasen-Kelly reported that 455 chronically homeless individuals have been housed and around 350 chronically homeless individuals remain on the registry.
- **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing our Heroes**
 - Branden Lewis reported that 60 veterans remain on the active registry. The group continues to meet and make progress.

CHALLENGES

- Rising Rents!

ADJOURN

- Meeting adjourned at 10:00am.
- Minutes submitted by HSN Co-Chair, Liz Clasen-Kelly.

Next Meeting – April 27, 2017