

Homeless Coalition Meeting Minutes 2010

Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Coalition Meeting Minutes: January 5, 2010

Welcome: Brian Alexander welcomed the group.

December 2009 meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

Emergency Overflow Shelter through Churches: Reverend Joe Hoffman of First Congregational United Church of Christ stated that there's interest in the church community currently to provide overflow shelter during this cold weather and asked if there is need for that at this time. Responses were:

- Western Carolina Rescue Ministries is able to handle everyone coming in for help at this point.
- Salvation Army is filled to capacity in regular and overflow shelter.
- Vets' Restoration Quarters is adding 16 new emergency beds, but existing emergency beds are filled to capacity at this time.
- Wet shelter discussion: A HOPE is concerned about people who aren't making choices that will allow them to come inside and whose needs would be too high for volunteer groups like churches. WCRM does have 4 wet shelter beds that are underutilized, but clients have to be medically evaluated and brought in by the police.
- Amy Sawyer will ask the City and County to open up emergency shelters if more space becomes necessary.
- Scott Rogers said the former ABCCM shelter on Coxe Avenue can be reopened temporarily for space as well. WCRM can provide staffing for the building. Should WCRM exceed capacity by 20 or so individuals, Scott and Michael Woods will coordinate this emergency plan.
- Any time we enact an emergency plan, Amy should be notified so she can communicate the plan through City and County channels.
- Approximately 10 – 15 people are camping and unsheltered but receiving services at A HOPE; presumably another 15 or so are camping and not receiving services at all.

Western Carolina Rescue Ministries: Michael Woods is currently the Interim Executive Director, and is focusing 2010 on helping people who want to help themselves and people who can't help themselves. WCRM staff is working with each individual receiving services to develop a plan to move out of homelessness. Under the new policy, clients who get a bed through the lottery are able to keep that bed for 3 nights, after which they're eligible for a lottery for overflow space.

Just Home in the Mountains Project Update: Rebecca Williams is coordinating this community performance project which is a fundraiser for Homeward Bound based on stories collected from the homeless and housed communities. 12% of participants currently signed on are homeless or formerly homeless, and Rebecca would like to

increase participation from this population; please contact her at bbinfo@hbofa.org with referrals.

Continuum of Care Update: Amy Sawyer stated that our Continuum of Care grant was approved, with all renewals accepted and 1 new project with approval pending. Part of what made our grant successful was our data in HMIS; currently, 2200 unduplicated people are in HMIS. Amy is able to pull reports from the system and wants the data to be useable, so if you have questions or would like to see reports, please contact her.

Point in Time Count: If you're participating in the Point in Time Count on January 27th, please attend the training on January 14th at the Housing Authority at noon.

Homeless Persons' Memorial Service: Rescheduled for January 30th at 2 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Asheville.

Next Regular Meeting: March 2, 2010 at 12:30 p.m. at United Way. The Stakeholders' Meeting in February will supplant the Homeless Coalition's regular meeting.

Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Coalition
February's Homeless Coalition meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

**Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Coalition
Meeting Minutes: March 2, 2010**

Welcome: Richard Leatherman welcomed the group.

Agency Updates:

- *Asheville Homeless Network:* Jerry Nelson is preparing for a cross-country bike ride to raise money and awareness for AHN. AHN has also started a newspaper, the Street Sentinel, which will eventually be written by, for, and about people experiencing homelessness. Please send news items and requests for Street Sentinel copies to ashevillehomeless@yahoo.com. The paper is published on Thursdays.
- *Housing Authority:* People experiencing chronic homelessness and victims of domestic violence have preference for waitlist vouchers.

2-1-1 and CHIN: 2-1-1 and CHIN have a new partnership, which will enable HMIS users to access the 2-1-1 database and make referrals directly through HMIS. 2-1-1 just launched a new version of their online database: www.211wnc.org, and they'll provide training on using it upon request. 2-1-1 and CHIN are demonstrating their new partnership in a Lunch & Learn on March 24th at 11 a.m. at United Way.

2010 Census: Census workers are doing street counts and also managing 'get counted' sites where people can pick up a survey or fill it out on-site. Those sites will be located throughout the community, including at some homeless service providers. Someone from the census will send Amy a list of sites, which she'll pass on to the Coalition. In the future, we should look at how to combine the Point-in-Time count with the census.

Point-in-Time Count: Still waiting on some data to come in and will report out at next month's meeting. Asheville City Schools now has a homeless liaison so they've reported for the first time.

Next Regular Meeting: April 6, 2010 at 12:30 p.m. at Haywood Street Congregation, located at 297 Haywood Street.

Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Coalition
Meeting Minutes: April 6, 2010
Haywood Street Congregation

Welcome: Brian Alexander welcomed the group and March meeting minutes were approved.

Agency Updates:

- *Pisgah Legal Services:* The new SOAR caseworker (Cecilia) has been hired and started today.
- *Homeward Bound:* Fran Harvey has resigned, and Brian Alexander has been named Executive Director.
- *Oasis House:* The new home, Lifeboat House, has just opened and has beds available. (Located at 400 Caribou Street.)

Hands On: Sarah Wohlmuth presented Hands On, which is a United Way program that maintains an online database of local volunteer opportunities (www.handsonasheville.org), as an avenue for prospective volunteers to get connected. Agencies should contact Sarah to partner with Hands On and list specific volunteer opportunities with them. (255.0696, ext. 311, or sarah.wohlmuth@unitedwayabc.org).

Haywood Street Congregation: Brian Combs presented the work he's doing through the United Methodist Church, based on the needs & requests he heard from people experiencing homelessness. His congregation worships on Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m., with a community meal from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Church of the Advocate's clothing closet has moved to Haywood Street; and they've started a community garden. They want to complement the work that the Coalition is doing, not duplicate anything. Rob Blackburn from Central United Methodist also spoke, saying that Central UM wants to be a downtown church that's involved, and that they manage the Haywood Street location and currently have non-profit office space available.

Point-in-Time Count: Our final AHAR has been submitted to HUD with numbers pulled directly from HMIS, and HUD will present aggregate data to Congress. Our final Point-in-Time numbers this year indicate that 516 people are experiencing homelessness, with 187 experiencing chronic homelessness. Including transitional housing, facilities, and permanent, supportive housing, 894 people are accessing our homeless service system.

HUD Studies: Robin Merrell presented new information released by HUD, with data indicating that permanent, supportive housing costs the same as emergency shelters, and that transitional housing is more costly than either of those. We should be sure we're using transitional housing appropriately for the people who will most benefit from it, and this data reinforce that we should be directing our resources more towards permanent, supportive housing than towards emergency shelter.

Continuum of Care: Jeff Staudinger (City of Asheville's Community Development Director) proposed a change in our CoC grant process. Pisgah Legal Services has been coordinating the grant, but Robin has been mentoring Amy the past several years, and the City is proposing that the grant go through the Homeless Initiative Coordinator, rather than through PLS, starting now, since CoC is likely to become a block grant in the future. Robin moved to support that proposal, Valerie Collins seconded the motion, and the proposal was approved.

Next Regular Meeting: May 4, 2010 at 12:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center.

Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Coalition
Meeting Minutes: May 4, 2010
Charles George VA Medical Center

Welcome: Walter Hitch, Associate Medical Center Director, welcomed the group. April meeting minutes were approved.

Agency Updates:

- *Life o' Mike:* Leslie Boyd presented their new initiative, Patient Pals & Family Friends, which facilitates peer support for people newly diagnosed with chronic illnesses or disabilities.
- *Asheville Homeless Network:* AHN will hold elections for new leadership on June 10th. So far, no one has stepped forward to run; if no one is elected, AHN will dissolve. June will be Moss's last Homeless Coalition meeting.
- *Pisgah Legal Services:* Garrett Artz introduced Cecilia Colson, the new SOAR caseworker at PLS.
- *Project Re-entry:* Christiana Tugman is working with the Assurance Wireless Program (which provides a free cell phone and 200 minutes/month to income-qualified people) to bypass the 1 phone per household rule, since many people who are homeless will use the same address (e.g. A HOPE's address). Email her at ctugman@goodwillnwc.org if you'd like brochures or PDF documents about the program.
- *Housing Authority:* Housing Choice (formerly Section 8) voucher applications will re-open on May 17th and must be applied for in person at the Housing Authority.

VA Medical Center: Allison Bond, Homeless Program Coordinator, presented an overview of the VA's programming for people experiencing homelessness, which follows their 5 Year Plan to End Homelessness Among Veterans. The plan is currently in its 2nd year and has facilitated an 18% reduction in the number of veterans who are homeless on any given night. Program components are:

- Health Care for Homeless Veterans (an outreach program; as part of this, Allison visits A HOPE each Tuesday morning)
- Grand and Per Diem Beds
- HUD-VASH (currently have 70 vouchers & 2 case managers, but are adding 25 new vouchers and a new case manager position)
- Veteran Justice Outreach (to engage veterans who are in the court & corrections systems)
- Contract Housing (a new program with \$66,000 for short term housing, probably 5 beds)
- Homeless Call Center (877.4AIDVET, available 24/7 to make referrals to services for veterans)

HMIS: HUD has suggested that we start an HMIS Oversight/Planning Team. Amy will coordinate the team and send out invitations; please consider participating! The team will meet every other month; in the alternate months, end-users will meet for training.

Holly Barham with CHIN detailed the following:

- *AHAR*: Participation in the Annual Homeless Assessment Report is currently optional, but HUD may be moving towards requiring it. We participated for the first time this year but didn't have data to report completely. AHAR participation, particularly from agencies not receiving McKinney-Vento funding (and therefore not required to use HMIS), garners points on our Continuum of Care application. In order to participate more fully in the AHAR, we need end-users to keep their bed lists and shelter stays up-to-date.
- *ESG*: Emergency Shelter Grants will be due July 18th or 19th.
- *PhaseWare*: Reports, etc. are all posted on this self-service center which all HMIS users have access to. The HMIS data quality report is posted monthly on the 15th, and the HPRP data quality report is posted monthly on the 20th. The system is accessible at www.nchomeless.org.

Continuum of Care: Beginning with the City of Asheville's new fiscal year (July 1st), the Community Development office will assume responsibility for writing our Continuum of Care grant. Angela Denio moved to request that the Community Development director provide quarterly updates to the Coalition on that process; the motion was seconded by Leslie Boyd. Amy & Robin will provide a background and overview of the CoC process in the coming months, prior to the first report from CD. Agencies receiving CoC funding will begin reporting annually to the Coalition on their use of that funding (outcomes, etc.).

Next Regular Meeting: June 1, 2010 at 12:30 p.m. at Mission Hospital.

Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Coalition
Meeting Minutes: June 1, 2010
Mission Hospitals

Welcome: Barbara Marlowe, Director of Social Work for Mission, welcomed the group. Excluding Copestone, Mission has 47 social workers and will soon have an Access II Care social worker on-site as well. The Department of Care Management was created this past fall to streamline services; department staff includes social workers, discharge planners, case managers, and utilization reviewers. Mission will be coordinating with local agencies in coming months to hold in-service trainings on homelessness for hospital staff.

May meeting minutes were approved.

Agency Updates:

- *Homeless Initiative:* Katherine McCrory has just joined the Homeless Initiative team as an AmeriCorps*VISTA volunteer. She'll be focusing on communicating the story of homelessness to the larger community, both in terms of individuals' stories and our efforts to address homelessness.
- *Asheville Homeless Network:* AHN will hold elections for new leadership on June 10th, and Ted Gammon is currently the only candidate for presidency so will most likely assume leadership of the group, with Jerry Nelson as probable Vice President.
- *VA:* The VA has received an additional 25 HUD-VASH vouchers and is in the process of hiring a new case manager to facilitate them.

Continuum of Care: Our housing inventory and Point-in-Time data have now been formally submitted to HUD.

Partnering with another Homeless Coalition: Amy will do some research and send out a survey to determine which regional Coalition we might be interested in partnering with, for the purpose of sharing information and best practices.

New Business:

- *Landlord Lunch & Learn:* A planning session will be held at Homeward Bound on Grove Street on June 17th at 1 p.m. to coordinate a landlord lunch & learn in July, as well as a landlord database. Contact Hillary Bolter if you're interested in participating or for more information.
- *New Starts Career Fair:* HACA and ESC's offender specialist (Brooke Compton) are working together to coordinate this career fair on September 8th for people whose criminal backgrounds create a barrier to employment.
- *ABCCM's Circles Program:* ABCCM is starting a new program based on this national model to help people move out of poverty; their first training for people in poverty will begin June 21.
- *Assurance Wireless:* This program provides free phones and 200 free minutes monthly to people receiving federal entitlements and/or at 135% of the poverty

level. A challenge has been that only one phone per address is allowed, but Christiana Tugman & Amy Sawyer met with Assurance Wireless and learned that they litigated with the FCC a couple of months ago regarding waiving that rule for people experiencing homelessness; the FCC decision is still pending. Assurance Wireless has agreed to come to Project Connect and the VA Stand Down this fall.

Next Regular Meeting: July 6, 2010 at 12:30 p.m. at Eblen Kimmel Charities.

Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Coalition
Meeting Minutes: July 6, 2010
First Baptist Church of Asheville

Welcome: Eblen-Kimmel Charities had originally planned to host this meeting but was unable to due to high client volume, so arranged for meeting space at First Baptist Church. Accordingly, Bill Murdock, Executive Director of Eblen-Kimmel, welcomed the group and provided an overview of their agency and services. EKC provides rental and mortgage assistance, medication & medical supplies, and served 132,000 families last year. They have 5 full-time, 3 part-time, and 2 seasonal case managers. They have just moved to 50 Westgate Parkway (in the Westgate shopping center, by the Silver Armadillo) and now have space to seat 150 clients. In the winter, they serve breakfast daily and often lunch as well. They are one of 6 agencies administering HPRP assistance in our community. Bill can be reached at 242.2848.

June meeting minutes were approved at common consent.

Agency Updates:

- *Homeward Bound:* Frances Earnhart has transitioned positions from case management staff at A HOPE to a new position on the PATH team. Co-Kema King has joined Homeward Bound's team as an HPRP case manager.
- *Second Chance of Asheville:* 2 apartments are available in Arden; contact Wilma Milsap at 777.2815 to follow-up.
- *FIRST at Blue Ridge:* The new women's program & building are slated to open in September; they will serve 50-60 women, with 10 beds reserved for veterans. Prospective residents can apply online at www.firstinc.org or call Brian Ringler at 669.0011, ext. 25 (or cell 450.9796).
- *Life o' Mike:* Contact Leslie Boyd at lifeomike@gmail.com or 243.6712 to refer prospective volunteers, caregivers, or newly diagnosed patients to the Patient Pals and Family Friends program. The next volunteer training will be in early August.
- *Housing Authority:* HACA has just applied for 100 new vouches for non-elderly/disabled people. The vouchers are being distributed through a lottery system, and HACA will hear about whether or not they got them in October or November.
- *Oasis:* A 6-bed women's house opened on July 1st. Rock Hill has 2 additional beds, and Caribou now has 4 scholarship beds through Western Highlands for clients with substance abuse disorders.

Project Connect/VA Stand Down: These events will again be held in conjunction and on September 10th. Project Connect will be at First Baptist Church and the VA Stand Down will be at the Stephens-Lee Center. At the August Coalition meeting, we'll discuss both events; please come prepared to offer feedback and contribute to planning!

Data Standards/AHAR:

- Our Continuum of Care has always reported our community's bed count (at all agencies, whether CoC-funded or otherwise) to HUD, but we are now asked to

update our community's bed inventory as changes occur. Amy is currently reporting on all changes that have occurred since October 2009. She will be calling to confirm your agency's bed inventory now and at least quarterly in the future, but please update her immediately when changes to your inventory occur.

- An HMIS data team is forming to look at what information we have and need and to develop a process for responding to data requests from the larger community about homelessness. This team will meet every other month for an hour; please let Amy know if you're interested in participating.
- The NC Housing Coalition and CHIN have invited our CoC to sign a participation agreement stating that we will develop a plan to share information, keep data confidential, and release only aggregate data to the public. Amy asked Coalition permission to sign the agreement on our behalf, which the Coalition agreed to.

Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee Party: To express their appreciation for the Coalition's hard work over the past few years, the Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee will host a picnic at Carrier Park for the September 7th Coalition meeting.

Bus Tickets: The Transit Commission and Transit Authority have asked that we formalize a process to request free or discounted bus tickets, rather than each agency asking independently. The Homeless Coalition is forming a task force in response to assess how many tickets we need and how to distribute and track them. Brian will send out an email asking for volunteers to sit on this task force.

New Business:

- *Landlord Lunch & Learn:* Hillary Bolter & Katherine McCrory are planning this event for August 13th from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce (36 Montford Ave.). Contact Katherine (kmccrory@ashevillenc.gov) for more information.
- *Facebook:* Katherine McCrory will take the lead on developing a Facebook page for the Homeless Coalition. Brian Alexander, Michael Woods, and Leslie Boyd volunteered to assist her in this process; contact her (kmccrory@ashevillenc.gov) to participate in this group.

Next Regular Meeting: August 3, 2010 at 12:30 p.m., location TBD.

Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Coalition
Meeting Minutes: August 3, 2010
A HOPE Day Center (Homeward Bound)

Welcome: Brian Alexander welcomed the group and introductions were made. July meeting minutes were approved at common consent.

Agency Updates:

- VA: Hillary Bolter introduced David, the new HUD/VASH case manager. The annual CHALLENGE meeting will be held Friday, August 6 at the Veteran's Restoration Quarters from 9 to 11 a.m. to evaluate current veteran needs and develop an action plan accordingly.
- *New Start Career Fair:* This fair is open to anyone whose criminal record or institutional history has been a barrier to obtaining employment. Clients must have a ticket in order to attend; Homeless Coalition members can get tickets from Project Re-entry or the Employment Security Commission to distribute to appropriate clients. The fair will be held at the Haywood Park Hotel on Wednesday, September 8th.
- *Homeless Coalition on Facebook:* Katherine McCrory has developed a Facebook page for the Homeless Coalition and will hold a meeting to showcase what's been developed and discuss how the Coalition can best utilize Facebook. This meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 12th at 1 p.m. at Firestorm; Katherine will confirm details and notify the Coalition.
- *Landlord Lunch & Learn:* This collaborative opportunity to educate landlords on the benefits of working with homeless clients and agencies will be held on August 13th from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce. RSVP to Katherine (kmccrory@ashevillenc.gov) by August 9th if you plan to attend.
- *FIRST at Blue Ridge:* The new women's facility is slated to open mid-September. FIRST currently has 4 immediate openings for men in their veterans' program.
- *Housing Authority:* 200 people have just been pulled from the waitlist; Sheila is busy with that, so if you're unable to reach her, contact Anthony Goodson instead.

Human Resources Development at A-B Tech: Gea Skeens, HRD coordinator, presented an overview of these free services designed to train and educate individuals for success in the workplace. HRD classes are held at A-B Tech, Goodwill, and the mall, and include computer skills training, resume/cover letter/interview skills development, guided job search, and life management skills. Contact Gea at 254.1921, ext. 334 or gskeens@abtech.edu for further information or to facilitate client enrollment.

Mediation Center: Sara Bensman presented an overview of free mediation services provided by trained community volunteers who work to help people resolve conflicts, such as landlord-tenant relations. The MC handles about 300 cases annually, 90% of which are resolved through mediation. The MC has a large capacity for cases and would welcome referrals from this group! Contact Sara at 251.6089 or sarab@mediatebuncombe.org to refer clients, get brochures for your agency, or discuss further how you can work together to benefit your clients.

A HOPE Day Center: Heather Spencer provided an overview of A HOPE, which is open to clients from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. daily all year. A HOPE sees about 3,000 unduplicated clients annually with an average of about 200 daily; 50 clients are allowed in the building each hour on the hour to access showers, laundry, mail, storage, and case management, with the end goal of housing for each client. Case managers each focus on different areas (e.g. HACA and entitlements), and Amanda Thomas, formerly Assistant Director, is now the lead case manager and is developing a new substance abuse program, which will include a weekly recovery group aimed at relapse prevention. She'll also work on building relationships with treatment programs to encourage them to more frequently accept and better serve homeless clients. Asia James is now in charge of daily operations at A HOPE. During the afternoon, A HOPE's space is available for community agencies to come in to meet with clients. Room in the Inn, Safe Haven, and PATH are all Homeward Bound programs that also operate out of A HOPE.

Society of St. Andrew: This group, led by Bill Walker, coordinates community-wide efforts to prevent food waste, by collecting food from farmers' markets, etc. that would otherwise be lost and distributing it to residents of housing programs. Eleanor has been working with this group for some time and is looking to further involve residents who have been recipients of the food.

Project Connect:

Project Connect will again be held at First Baptist Church of Asheville (5 Oak St.) on September 10th from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Providers are asked to arrive at 7 a.m., and to confirm participation with Katherine (kmccrory@ashevillenc.gov) a.s.a.p. The Coalition brainstormed ideas about what we'd like to see at Project Connect, and broke down into focus groups to discuss service providers, donations, and volunteers.

**Next Regular Meeting: September 7, 2010 at 12:30 p.m., at Carrier Park:
picnic provided by the Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee.**

Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Coalition

The September 7, 2010 Coalition meeting was held as a picnic. There are no minutes for this month.

Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Coalition
Meeting Minutes: October 5, 2010
Meeting Location: ABCCM Crisis Ministry

Welcome: Brian Alexander welcomed the group and introductions were made. Scott Rogers welcomed every one and provided participates with ABCCM Homeless Services – 2009 Summary.

Agency Updates:

- VA: Allison Bond shared that the HUD-VASH vouchers are currently at full status. There may be 24 more available this summer. Stand Down served 175 homeless veterans. Project CHALENG survey results identified the top three unmet needs as long term permanent housing, emergency/immediate shelter and employment assistance. An action plan to address these unmet needs was provided to the members.
- Amy Sawyer reported that Project Connect serviced 200 participants.
- Homeward Bounds Safe Haven has closed its transitional housing operation. The existing space will now be used for staff offices.
- Robin Merrell reported that the Landlord Lunch & Learn collaborative opportunity to educate landlords on the benefits of working with homeless clients and agencies is generating permanent housing resources for some homeless.
- Scott Rogers reported that November 1 will start the Crisis Ministries immediate service that includes heating and rental assistance.
- Amy provided members with the current results of the Bus Ticket/Bus Pass Survey. There will be a formal request made to city council that bus passes be made available to the homeless at a discounted rate.

Introduction to ABCCM Crisis Ministry presented by Mark Houghton: the ministry offers utility assistance, eviction prevention assistance, food pantry, free hygiene and clothing, lunch from 11-3:00 M-Fri. Further discussion indicated that the Salvation Army offers breakfast and dinner 7 days per week. The Rescue Mission offers dinner 7 days per week. The Crisis Ministry provides a day program for men and women at First Baptist Church of Asheville on 5 Oak Street from 9-1:00. Men attending these life skills classes are guaranteed up to 15 shelter beds at the Veterans Quarters. Mark offered to e-mail a resource guide that staff have been providing to those seeking crisis services.

HEARTH Conference: Brian and Amy reported on highlights of the conference that included the following:

- The McKinney-Veto Act is still in development phase.
- Conference focus was on HUD Community Continuum of Care (CoC)
- Access to funding supports
- Emergency Solutions Grants
- Funding increases are scheduled to begin in Jan 2011.

CoC Application process and deadline: Amy Sawyer reviewed hand out with members about the CoC that included the homeless coalitions role, funding amount and purpose,

competitive community activities and scoring, grant timeline activities and Annual Homeless Assessment Report.

Next Meeting: November 2, 2010 at 12:30 p.m. at Western Highlands 356 Biltmore Ave. upstairs board room.

Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Coalition
Meeting Minutes: November 2, 2010
Meeting Location: Western Highlands

Welcome: Brian Alexander welcomed the group and introductions were made.

Approval of October 2010 meeting minutes was made.

Agency Updates:

- Davis Ellis of FIRST at Blue Ridge introduced self and plan to host December coalition meeting. Directions to FIRST was provided to the members
- Jenny Simmons of Western Highlands highlighted agency services and provided their flyer to members. They do not provide direct services, but manage a network of providers to whom they can refer individuals living with mental illness, developmental disabilities and substance abuse.
- Amy Sawyer reminded the members of elements of the Continuum of Care (COC) grant requirements that include utilization of HMIS, data collection, strategic planning, performance outcomes, community collaboration and emphasis upon housing. Our annual budget is \$900,000.00

Renewal Presentations: by current COC grantees

- Brian Alexander reported that Homeward Bound has 3 renewal applications. One is a bonus project that will provide supported housing to 6 chronic homeless. The other two are AHOPE and Safe Haven. Brian reported that the bonus for this year is \$44,000.00 that Homeward Bound has applied for. The money will provide rental assistance. The programs name is Pathways to Permanent Housing.
- Samantha Bowers reported of Asheville Housing Authority identified Shelter Plus Care offered at the Wood fin Apt which offers 19 apt. with case management supports from Homeward Bound.
- Teri Sferlazza reported that Western North Carolina Community Health Service (WNCCHS) assists between 36-44 individuals. Currently **38** (2 being placed this month!) **Bridges to Recovery** max 25 currently **26** and we are spot on the budget. **Interlace** currently at **8** to build to 16 within the grant year ... (3 families being placed this month!) Total assisted **at this time** for all three programs are **72 families total and 112 "beds"**.
- There are to programs, which are Shelter Plus: Care Bridges to Recovery and the Inter Lace program. A program flyer was provided to the members.
- Western Highland is a grantee agency that provides funding to WNCCHS.

Voting on COC Application: Two votes were taken to approve the renewals and new program project. The results were 12 approved, 0 denied.

Next Meeting: December 7, 2010 at 12:30 p.m. at FIRST at Blue Ridge off of I-40 exit 66.

Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Coalition
The December 2010 Coalition meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.