



S3 Housing Connect Zoom Meeting Notes

August 13, 2020, 4:00 p.m.

Attendance: Kendra Martin, Hamer Carter, Holly Hight, Tami Carter, Max Dolan, John Kirkman, Marcia Johnson, Heather Garrity, Lillian Hatten, Kyla Love, John Paschal, Brenda Clegg, Bob Hughes, Gabby Murillo, Laura Spivey, Abbie Szymanski, Lesa Price, Shadonna Headen, Kerry Bashaw, Johnnye Waller, Joey Mosley, Ruth Price, Chris Kelley, Tamara Brogan, Dr. Hall

Staff: Karen Kennedy, Stan Holt, Rachel Picard

I. **Welcome, Mission Statement**, Tamara Brogan, Chair

II. **NCCARE360**, Abbie Szymanski, Community Engagement Manager

NCCARE360 implementation started in January 2019. It will be available in every county in NC with full statewide implementation by the end of 2020. NCCARE360 is a result of a public-private partnership between the NC Department of Health and Human Services and the Foundation for Health Leadership and Innovation (FHLI). The NCCARE360 implementation partners are United Way of NC/211, Expound Decision Systems and Unite Us. Abbie shared NCCARE360's community strategy. NCCARE360 is the first statewide database that unites healthcare and human services. Hamer Carter asked if NCCARE360 recognizes HMIS numbers. Abbie said that it doesn't.

III. **Update on Salvation Army's Mission Planning Study and Next Steps**, Chris Kelley

The Salvation Army Mission Planning Study began in February 2020. The study was administered by consultants. Roughly 46 people were interviewed and involved with the study. Findings were: the population of people experiencing homelessness is growing. Sanford and Lee County have a strong economy, but COVID-19 has been a major setback. The local poverty rate is around 18%. Locally, affordable housing is the top unmet need. The main observation from this study is that a day center is extremely needed in this area. Study participants indicated that Salvation Army is the organization that should take on this initiative. Another observation was that more recreational options are needed for young people in Lee County. The Salvation Army will need strong partners and donors for this initiative, which is tentatively titled the "Center of Hope". The Salvation Army is working with a potential donor on a possible site for construction, and a capital campaign will start soon. We will need everyone's help making this dream a reality!

IV. **Committee Reports:**

1. **Housing**, Bob Hughes- This committee has been discussing Permanent Supportive Housing, landlords, evictions, and meeting with Daymark about partnerships. OMI is planning to hire a Housing Specialist; Could this position be shared between agencies in S3?

2. **Community Outreach and Engagement**, Cindy Hall- Project Connect at CCCC has been postponed until Spring. The panel recording is being condensed and edited so it can be shared on social media.

3. **Services**, Tami Carter- This committee discussed agency reports and potential funding for emergency hotel/motel stays during COVID-19. Kelli Laudate with Downtown Sanford, Inc shared a

concern that people experiencing homelessness have been leaving their belongings downtown, frustrating merchants. A Coordinated Solutions subcommittee has been formed to tackle this issue.

V. **Discuss Fall Training Opportunities, Stan Holt**

Stan with Partners for Impact is hosting an S3 training session. This opportunity is open to any S3 affiliated agencies and will include training for board and staff. Contact Stan if interested.

VI. **Closing Remarks and Adjourn**

Stan reminded everyone that nobody chooses to be homeless. There are usually strings attached to assistance, which prevents people from being able to break out of homelessness. Stan concluded with “If we believe that people choose to be homeless, we’ve cut ourselves off from exploring how to solve their problems. If we, as providers, believe people choose to be homeless then there will always be people on the streets.”

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.