



S3 Housing Connect Meeting Notes

Zoom Call, October 8, 2020 4:00 PM

Attendance: Kendra Martin, Tamara Brogan, Lesa Price, John Paschal, Kym Smith, Ruth Price, Hamer Carter, Bob Hughes, Tami Carter, John Campbell, Heather Garrity, Kerry Bashaw, Marcia Johnson, Max Dolan, Karin Duggan, Shadonna Headen, Chris Kelley, Gabby Murillo, Betsy Jungkind, Johnnye Waller, Cindy Hall

Staff: Karen Kennedy, Rachel Picard, Stan Holt

I. Welcome, Mission Statement- Tamara Brogan, Chair

II. Election Question/Letters Results- Ruth Price, Vice Chair

Each candidate's responses to S3's questionnaire was on the S3 website under "Vote 2020". Not all candidates filled out the questionnaire. However, the Vote 2020 webpage was removed to avoid any perceived conflicts between political campaigns and city entities. Kendra reminded everyone that since they work with nonprofit organizations, there are some boundaries as to how much advocacy they can partake in.

III. What is Supportive Housing- Stan Holt

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is an evidence-based practice that has been consistently proven as effective. It saves money; The average cost of homelessness is 35K/annually. When placed in PSH, the cost drops to \$17K/annually (\$12K of that is housing related cost). PSH is designed for people who are homeless, at-risk, inappropriately institutionalized and it's mainly for those with multiple barriers to care (addiction, mental health, etc.) Components of PSH are that it is affordable, coordinates with key partners, supports tenants with community-based resources, engages tenants in services, and has a lease or sublease identical to non-supportive housing (no length of tenancy). PSH and Rapid Rehousing are similar, but are very different strategies; PSH is permanent and designed for those with most intensive needs. RRH is time limited and for those with moderate needs. BCCDC has been working hard to try and get PSH in Lee County. Housing Committee has determined that 10 units of PSH would be a good starting point for Lee County. John Campbell asked if Wake County has PSH; Stan said yes, there's an agency called CASA that specializes in PSH. Terry Allebaugh, S3's first consultant, worked with PSH in Durham.

IV. Fall Training Opportunities- Stan Holt

S3's goal for the remainder of 2020 is to build capacity and take advantage of funding! Stan hosted S3's first training session recently. The second session is for nonprofit boards and will be on October 26 from 3-5 PM.

V. Committee Reports

1. Community Outreach and Engagement, Cindy Hall- This committee has been focused on panel discussions, sending letters to candidates, and contacting the Sanford Herald for potential press coverage for events like the 2020 PIT Count and Homeless Remembrance Day. Upcoming initiatives

include asking the mayor and city council members Charles Taylor and Byron Buckels to participate in a PowerPoint about S3 for the website, along with recording a panel discussion for Veteran's Day.

2. Services, Tami Carter- This committee has had a lot of discussions around 211. There were 334 calls for housing assistance from people experiencing homelessness over the past year. John Paschal gave a testimony for 211. Agency reports are now being sent out before S3 meetings. Assistance funds from the state will most likely be launched next week. 211 will be the portal of entry for these programs.

The Coordinated Solutions Committee reported that a lot of merchants and patrons in Downtown Sanford think that 211 can be used for every situation. Kelli Laudate with Downtown Sanford has been explaining that 911 still needs to be used to report incidents involving homelessness, so we will have local data.

3. Housing, Bob Hughes- There was no Housing meeting this month.

OMI is working on landlord engagement. Hamer reported that OMI received funding to hire a case manager focused on working with clients to find housing. OMI also hired a housing specialist. This person will be in charge of meeting with landlords and property owners. The housing specialist will build databases on housing availability and landlords in the area, which will hopefully expand housing opportunities in Sanford. The goal is to help clients become self-sufficient and find housing. These positions were paid for with COVID ESG funds. JLHCA also has funding for new staff and new programs.

V. Closing Remarks and Adjourn

There are more hotel/motel stays than usual occurring right now. Some are from evictions and some are new faces in the area. Although some have been approved for housing, there are currently no vacancies.

Announcements:

- If interested in joining a committee, reach out to Karen and Rachel.
- Family Promise Tent City fundraiser
- H3 clinic and outreach at the Palomino and Prince hotels
- United Way fall campaign (leecountyunitedway.org)
- HAVEN fundraiser- Needs volunteers and candy donations for No Scare Fair.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mission Statement: S3 Housing Connect seeks to bring together the needed resources in Sanford and Lee County to create a coordinated and comprehensive approach ensuring that homelessness is prevented whenever possible, or is otherwise