***S3 Housing Connect* Meeting Notes**

November 18th, 2021- Zoom Call

**Attendance** (25 present): Hamer Carter, John Kirkman, Ruth Price, Max Dolan, Tamara Brogan, Rosa Portillo, Cindy Hall, Darla Shoults, John Campbell, Melissa Nance, Tracy Staley, Marcia Johnson, John Paschal, Tami Carter, Chasity Lindsey, Kerry Bashaw, Joey Mosley, Laura Spivey, Nadia Lopez, Gabby Murillo, Bob Hughes

Staff: Karen Kennedy, Rachel Mann, Stan Holt

1. **Welcome, Mission Statement**, *Tamara Brogan, Chair*
2. **Success Stories**, *Hamer Carter*
3. **Opportunity to Record Success Stories***, Karen Kennedy*

A recording session for success stories will be held at the Buggy Building sometime in December. Rachel Mann and Kelly Miller (City of Sanford) will be recording the stories and editing the footage. Ruth said she would like to see some stories that explain how the person became homeless. She said we need to show that it is not the fault of the victim, but just circumstances out of their control. Cindy agreed and said it would also be good to showcase how S3 agencies work together.

1. **Upcoming Compassion Fatigue Sessions**- In person & virtual; Mann Center, *Karen Kennedy*
   * Part 1: Tuesday, November 30- 4 pm
   * Part 2: Monday, December 13- 4 pm

We will be offering a two-part compassion fatigue training series (dates listed above). The sessions are hosted by Vicki Rhodes with Therapeutic Alternatives, Inc, and Service Provision Committee. The sessions will be offered virtually and in-person. Staff is working to find a room that has both capabilities. Karen and Rachel will send out a Google Form to get a headcount.

1. **Discussion about 2022 Point in Time Count**, *Cindy Hall-* January 26

Cindy has agreed to be the Point in Time Lead for Region 7. Cindy is now helping train other counties on how to prepare for and orchestrate a PIT Count. NCCEH Balance of State decided that each county could decide how to do their own PIT Counts, but they are mandating that all counties collect data throughout the year. Jeff Rawlings and Cindy agreed that it is necessary to have a one-night PIT along with counting throughout the year, due to the PIT being such a community builder. Rachel has already started receiving donations for the PIT. This is a sign that it’s become well known in our community. For clarification, Cindy reminded everyone that we will be counting and collecting data all year, but will be making a special push on PIT night. Some counties don’t hold a normal PIT Count, so collecting data all year will hopefully provide more accurate numbers. Tamara asked why the state is changing the PIT Count and Cindy answered that the state didn’t think a one-night count gave an accurate depiction of homelessness. Ruth asked if we will be using the app again this year and Cindy said yes. Stan provided historical background of the count: The one-night PIT used to be the only data point that was available. There is a lot more data now and there is a push to increase capacity as more agencies join HMIS and coordinated entry. Historically, the PIT has always been inaccurate. However, it’s been the best data point available. Hamer added that in Region 7, some of the numbers counties provide are completely inaccurate and it skews numbers for the entire Region. Cindy and Jeff will be hosting Zoom “encouragement” meetings with county PIT leads to try to address that issue. Stan encouraged the group to primarily focus on Sanford/Lee County numbers as those are what matter to local elected leaders.

1. **Discussion About Revised S3 ARP Request Letter to City/County**, *Kerry Bashaw*

Back in April, S3 put together a letter to the City and County about American Rescue Plan funding focused on funds for S3 initiatives. S3 received feedback that we need to focus on shovel-ready, specific programs. S3’s chairs met before this meeting to discuss potential projects and how to approach sending another letter. It was agreed that agencies can submit their own projects to the City and County and S3 can retroactively submit a support letter for those projects. Stan asked the group if any agency has projects in mind. OMI said they will be submitting an application for their new shelter. BCCDC will submit for an affordable housing project. Salvation Army is going to submit an application but they are unsure which project they will apply for. Family Promise is discussing moving to a static site operation model since they still are not back in churches. However, Tamara does not believe they are shovel ready; They wouldn’t be in a position to use the funding right away. Kerry said the reasoning for shovel-ready is because the funds have to be used within the next few years. Stan encouraged the group to not just think about capital projects; think outside the box! We could use the funding to fill holes in our system, such as rental assistance, or something for parents with opposite sex children. Family Promise could consider asking for rental assistance for families and funds for a Family Promise building. Stan asked if there is something collaboratively that the group should be thinking of? Hamer shared that OMI has had initial conversations with Family Promise and the Salvation Army about collaborating and sharing space. They are also having conversations about shared utilization of kitchen space. OMI wants to focus on being a community shelter, not just an OMI shelter. Ruth suggested that we pull in the school system for more insight; Karen shared that Dr. Johnnye Waller said that the school system has capacity to send tutors to shelters. John P shared that he contacted the fire marshal about what BOLM can do with their building. The fire marshal said a lot of work would need to be done. First, the back half of the building would need a new roof. However, John reminded the group that it’s not out of the question that something collaborative could happen at the BOL facility. Tracy said the Salvation Army also has a donated piece of property and their eventual goal is to have their own building for their services.

1. **Committee Reports:** 
   1. **Services**, Rachel Mann- This committee discussed the compassion fatigue workshops, mental health first aid, data, and which definition of homelessness to use when collecting data. The committee then had a client case review session.
   2. **Community Outreach and Engagement**, Cindy Hall- Discussed data collection and marketing. Cindy encouraged the group to share their positive stories regarding those experiencing homelessness.
   3. **Housing**, Bob Hughes- Database for landlords and rentals is needed. Discussed master leasing. Section 8 vouchers available but no landlords to use them with. Ordinances have been passed in other jurisdictions for ADUs and tiny homes. Racial equity task force report.
   4. **Advocacy**, Karen Kennedy- No meeting. Kerry sent out an email with updates.
   5. **Eviction**- No meeting.
2. **Closing Remarks and Adjourn**