

Partnership for a Healthy Durham Quarterly Meeting
January 20, 2016
Minutes

Facilitated by: Gina Upchurch

Present: Keisha Blount, Patricia Bartlett, Kiah Gaskin, Jim Harris, Phil Harewood, Betsy Crites, Nick Allen, Deborah McGriffin, Heidi Carter, Keith Hersey, Leslie Beckman, L'Tanya Gilchrist, Keyanna Terry, Carla McKoy, Tekeela Green, Bobi Gallagher, Joy E. Curry, Mel Downey-Piper, Crystal Dixon, Khali Gallman, Chasity Newkirk, Leah Williams, Allison Matthews, Amy Ward, Samuel D. Fam, Lloyd Schmeidler, Aremous Dobson III, Tara Ilsley-Murillo, Marissa Mortiboy, Sandra Gomez, Kelly Warnock, Glenda Care, Yancee Perez

| | Topic | Major discussion points | Action steps and responsible parties |
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| 12:05-12:15 | Introductions | | |
| 12:15-12:50 | <p>Affordable Housing in Durham Steve Schewel, Durham City Council Ivan Parra, Durham CAN</p> | <p>The quality of housing affects health through asthma and other health conditions due to pest and other issues in the home. Poor quality housing can lead to stress for the families who don't have access to safe, clean housing.</p> <p>Steve Schewel shared strategies to improve the housing situation in Durham:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is \$2 million available in vouchers to house people but there are not enough landlords to accept the vouchers. Of the 180 veterans who need housing – there are still 80 who don't have a place to go. • Move away from transitional to permanent homes. The Interfaith Hospitality Network and Genesis Home recently merged and will focus on sheltering and case management. • Build more permanent supportive housing to help the 55 chronically homeless. Some may say they don't want shelter but they really often want the wrap-around services that could be offered with this environment. | <p>Email Steve Schewel at steveschewel@gmail.com for a copy of his affordable housing white paper.</p> <p>Send affordable housing questions to Marissa. Marissa will get questions answered by Ivan and Steve.</p> |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The penny for housing is part of the tax bill that every property owner receives, regardless of home value. The penny for housing generates about \$2.5 million per year. This is used for rapid rehousing and in other ways to support affordable housing including second mortgages for Habitat buyers, home repair programs, and more.• The Durham Housing Authority should move the most vulnerable individuals to the top of the waiting list. DHA takes vouchers and manages 14 communities – 12,000 lives (one in 20 of Durham residents). Recently the DHA started being able to borrow private money against the assets of their communities to make improvements, etc and this is called RAD funding. <p>Nearly half of all renters and more than a quarter of all homeowners spend more than 30% of their income on housing. Families in Durham making about \$22k/year spend about half of their income on rent.</p> <p>During the Durham Point in Time count last year– 813 were homeless and 44 of those were unsheltered. About 3000 each year are in and out of homelessness. Durham does a pretty good job of temporarily “sheltering” residents. Of the 813 homeless: 55 were considered chronically homeless, 102 were children, and 138 were Veterans. Durham can end homelessness for Veterans this year.</p> <p>Durham CAN organizes people to form a nonpartisan multiracial, multi-faith network to address government and private institutions. Durham CAN is trying to</p> | |
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| | | <p>generate change in affordable housing for the families they represent. Part of the work is the result of light rail moving into the Triangle area. Light rail often brings higher land prices, higher rents and few affordable housing options near the rail line.</p> <p>Durham CAN has asked the city and county to issue a proclamation to make 15% of all housing within a half mile of future transit stations is affordable to families. The funds that had been allocated to study housing was reallocated to the fire department.</p> <p>Durham CAN used a visible campaign to advocate for additional affordable housing funds. They invited all city council candidates to a meeting with 500 attendees and candidates stated they would support affordable housing at the Jackson St. site. Durham CAN and the city agreed to an 80/20 split for non-affordable vs. affordable housing for the new site. The city is currently looking for vendors who can adhere to the guidelines for the Jackson St. site.</p> <p>The city is investigating private-public housing partnerships. Faye Place is a 20-acre site which has been vacant for several years. Durham CAN is helping pool a group of investors to take control of the site. Durham CAN is working on getting landlords to the table to discuss accepting housing vouchers for veterans.</p> <p>The city needs to pressure Duke to pay more for the services they use. Durham is wealthy with a strong tax base. The issue is what to do with the available funds.</p> | |
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| | | Reasons landlords may not want to rent out to Section 8 vouchers is not having to deal with the housing authority and being able to pick their own tenants. | |
| 12:50-1:05 | Remembrance of Dr. Sharon Elliott-Bynum | <p>The Partnership observed a moment of silence for Sharon Elliot-Bynum. Committee members viewed a slide show of Sharon in the community and involved with Partnership activities. Committee members then shared memories of Sharon. Gina closed the remembrance with one of Sharon’s favorite poems, “Our Deepest Fear.”</p> <p>Sharon helped start Durham Health Partnership which eventually migrated to the Partnership for a Healthy Durham. Carolyn Hinton, another sister is now leading CAARE. They will need our continued support and Partnership.</p> | |
| 1:05-1:08 | Review of Minutes | Philip Harewood’s name will be added to the October 2015 minutes as an attendee. | |
| 1:08-1:20 | Hillman Foundation Grant and Medical Respite Program Julia Gamble, Duke Outpatient Center | <p>In 2011, a committee started working on a medical respite program for homeless individuals. The original committee requested that the Access to Care committee adopt the medical respite program as part of their action plan. In 2014 the committee and the city/county Homeless Services Advisory Committee approved a Pilot Medical Respite Program to be coordinated by Project Access of Durham County. Gayle Harris gave \$20,000 to fund short term housing for Pilot Medical Respite patients.</p> <p>62% of referrals to the program were accepted. The bulk of referrals were from Duke University Hospital. The medical respite patients were placed in short term housing at Just a Clean House or CAARE (basement). All patients were connected with primary care (at Lincoln’s Healthcare</p> | |

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| | | <p>for the Homeless Clinic or at Duke Outpatient Clinic). After respite, more individuals were housed and fewer were living in shelters. Individuals in the program were able to obtain services and benefits such as income (via work or disability), housing, and healthcare. The program showed reduced hospital/ED costs for the initial cohort in the first 6 months of the program.</p> <p>The Hillman Foundation grant will allow the program to expand by hiring a transitional nurse care manager and two community health workers. The program will expand the base of referrals to include from Duke Hospitals/clinics as well as Durham Center Access and ultimately, the county jail. A goal of the program is also to educate healthcare and social service providers about the intersection of homelessness and health.</p> <p>Julia suggested that educating providers and care managers to begin using ICD 10 codes for homeless individuals would help us quantify the problem in Durham.</p> | |
| <p>1:20-1:30</p> | <p>Announcements</p> | <p>The point in time county of Durham’s homeless unsheltered in scheduled for Wednesday, January 27. Volunteer training is available on January 25 and 26. Teams go out in groups of four. Register for the count at www.durhamopeningdoors.org.</p> <p>The Access to Care transportation workgroup and other community partners have been working with a national transportation planning grant. The group has been examining strategies for improving transportation for low income people around health care. They will provide bus passes for agencies that provide mental health services. The committee is examining how to make Access service applications simpler.</p> | |

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| | | <p>As of January 1, 2016 e-cigs are included in the Board of Health smoking rule. E-cig usage is not allowed on city and county property and numerous other locations.</p> <p>YMCA of the Triangle offers a diabetes prevention program and diabetes self-management program, falls prevention for seniors.</p> <p>The Partnership for a Healthy Durham is conducting community surveys to assess how people access community resources. Marissa emailed the link with the monthly Partnership update. Please share with your networks.</p> <p>North Carolinians for Healthcare is hosting a rally around Medicaid expansion at CCB plaza, starting at noon and continuing after the 2 pm meeting.</p> |
| | <p>Next meeting</p> | <p>April 20, 2016, Durham County Human Services Building, 414 E. Main St., noon-1:30 pm</p> |