



## Data & Grants Workgroup – Meeting Minutes

Monday November 1, 2021, 2-3:30 pm

Attending: Jessica Aldave, Andrea Carey, Karen Chandler, LaKiera Grimes, Tameka Gunn, Suzanne Hitt, Jackie Jenks, Stephani Kilpatrick, Nicole Purdy, Corey Root, Kat Wies

### Welcome and introductions

- Agency updates
  - Community Link – continuing to take referrals in other Counties; VITA program coming up, will be able to participate virtually for people who needs help with tax preparation
  - IFC – waiting to hear back from Town of Chapel Hill re: possibility to have consecutive days within November 15 to April 30; shelters are at capacity; have PPE for shelters; emergency assistance available for people in Chapel Hill and Carrboro; IFC Commons is open for meals, the food pantry, and emergency services; will be hiring a navigator to help people access services in the community that they need; as of today, the doors are open, don't have to ring to gain access to the building; a phone and computer are available for use; HomeLink will be providing WRAP group starting in a few weeks, Tuesdays at 1pm – open to anyone; lockers and showers to become available once staffing is in place
  - Compass Center – working off a waiting list for housing program, will open the program in a week or so, hiring a number of positions
  - DSS – Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) will start December 1<sup>st</sup> for people 60+ or for people with disabilities for everyone January 1; water assistance program will start soon; holiday program will continue with appointments – go to Toy Chest website to register; Toys – 12 and under, Food – 18 and under
  - [Emergency Financial Assistance resources in Orange County](#)
- OCPEH updates
  - The Homelessness Prevention/Housing Stabilization program continues to accept updates and Chris Rawlinson has room on his caseload to help people preserve housing or locate new housing; he works with people to stabilize and for a bit of time after housing stabilization
    - Program eligibility: people with housing stable for 2 weeks or less, but not able to work with people who are currently experiencing homelessness
    - Process for referrals: contact the Housing Helpline or anyone in the Orange County Housing Department
  - Orange County has \$1.3 million available in the HOME-ARP program to serve people who are at risk of homelessness, fleeing domestic violence, facing the greatest risk of housing instability, and veterans. The Orange County HOME Consortium is seeking input

on how to use these funds – the allocation plan will describe housing and service needs in the County and make funding recommendations for general uses. Please share thoughts using the Google form: <https://tinyurl.com/OC-HOME-ARP>

- NCCEH Data Center Staff Update
  - Linkage research between COVID data and HMIS data
  - Working on client-level corrections for HMIS data
    - Please reply if you haven't yet if you have error lists from NCCEH – need each individual error confirmed or corrected
    - Deadline – November 12
    - New lists coming this week
    - Reach out to NCCEH if you need support

#### HUD training

- HUD established a nondiscrimination policy for sexual orientation and gender identity – this is called the [Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity](#)
  - [Local training](#) recorded on 11/01/21
  - CoC and ESG grantees must grant equal access to facilities, benefits, accommodations, and services to individuals in accordance with the individual's gender identity and in a manner that affords equal access to the individual's family
  - Training resources
    - [Equal Access for Transgender People](#)
    - 90 minute webinar on the rule: <https://youtu.be/4y5bP-zXHmY>
    - [Training scenarios to use with staff](#)
    - Upcoming [HUD training](#) on Strategies for LGBTQI+ and Gender Identity Housing Discrimination Investigations on Nov 17, 2-4pm
- [Family non-separation policy](#) for CoC and ESG funded programs – it's not legal to separate families, families are defined by the people in them – any combination of more than one person

#### Grants updates

- The [ESG FY21-22 RFA](#) Under review with NC ESG office
  - Orange County received \$40,526 for Rapid Re-housing services
  - IFC received \$60,789 for shelter services
- The [HUD CoC NOFO](#) is underway, due to HUD by November 15. Project applicants are incorporating feedback and CoC staff will post the CoC Consolidated Application for public review and comment by November 9<sup>th</sup> on <https://www.ocpehnc.com/current-coc-application>

