



Attendance: Natasha Adams, Keith Cook, Nancy Coston, Christy Croft, Caitlin Fenhagen, Kathleen Ferguson, Sally Greene, Sherrill Hampton, Chinita Howard, Jackie Jenks, Katie Loovis, Aidan Malsbary, Nancy Oates, Harrison Pierce, Sharon Reese, Corey Root, Beth Schehl, Damon Seils, Diiv Sternman, Scott Taylor, Katie Wright

Sharing /agency updates

- [Registration opened](#) for NC Human Trafficking Symposium Feb 20-21 in Charlotte
- Scott Taylor is looking for 10 part time employees that are in recovery and have been sober for at least one month to work for his construction company. Scott's company can provide transportation to jobs if the candidates can get to the office in Hillsborough... Applicants don't have to have construction experience as long as they are physically fit and can carry supplies.
- Orange County Department of Social Services (DSS) is currently taking applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) and the Crisis Intervention Program (CIP). More info: bit.ly/2DuTStm
- There will be no food stamps in March if the federal government shutdown continues. DSS is not going to process new applications. Work First checks will go in February.
- The Orange County Criminal Justice Resource Department is launching OC pre-arrest diversion program – for first defenders for 18 and above starting with 10 pile defenses.
- Orange County Housing and Community Development Department is hiring staff.

OCPEH updates

- Orange County continues the process to transition to a new Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database, along with Durham County and 79 counties in the Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC). Orange County is able to comply with all federal reporting requirements and ongoing data entry. The new HMIS Lead Agency, the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCEH), is hopeful for mid-February launch of the new system.
- There are funding updates from both the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Continuum of Care (CoC) annual grant competitions. For ESG, of the total \$57,265 Orange County funding request, the State ESG Office only awarded \$24,083 for Emergency Shelter, and \$0 for Rapid Re-Housing. The Coordinator in conjunction with Orange County Housing and Community Development submitted an appeal and the State ESG Office denied it. HUD has usually released CoC funding decisions by January, but the federal government shutdown is currently preventing this.
- The Partnership sponsored Self-Care Sessions will return, now moving to different human service agencies' staff meetings. These sessions are part of the system-wide work of the Orange Resilience Initiative (ORI) that is working on transforming human services in Orange County to become more trauma informed and connected, and to decrease staff burnout which will increase staff ability to provide trauma-informed care to folks presenting for services. The Coordinator will send a calendar of all the different dates, time, and session format.
- The Point-in-Time Count will be Wed. January 30. The Partnership is continuing asks for [volunteers](#) to help with the count and [donations](#) to give out to people experiencing homelessness; more info on OCPEH website: ocpehnc.com/point-in-time-count
- Save the Date for the Charity vs. Justice Community Workshop, Mon. March 25, 5:30-7:30pm, Carrboro Century Center. Registration is OCPEH joining with OC Food Council and Family Success Alliance



- Homelessness 101 & 201 will be offered on consecutive Wednesdays at Hillsborough Main Library, 6-7:30pm, Jan. 16 & Jan. 23: Homelessness 101 - [Register online](#); Homelessness 201 – [Register online](#)

December Minutes

A motion was made to approve the December 17 minutes [Oates, Seils] all in favor, none opposed.

Review of Homeless System Data Dashboard & Annual Data Dive

System Entries

In the last three months, there were 104 households that presented for services – 27 families and 77 singles. Of those, 47 were in November, 31 in December, and 26 so far in January. Of the 104, 11 of those folks were given prevention resources and 12 were given the resource database (some overlap possible between these numbers) – these people that are not appropriate for formal program referrals. 86% of entry assessments were done at CEF, 11% at DSS, 3% at IFC, and 1% CJRD. Staff at these agencies started 28 diversions from homelessness and completed 24. 8 people were successfully diverted from homelessness. These households needed a total of \$1,180 of which agencies provided \$1,077. 1 mediation was provided from a service provider. 17 folks were referred to IFC shelter, 5 to an out of county shelter, 1 to each of Compass Center, detox, Emergency Department, and a Hotel/Motel voucher. In program referral, service providers started 61 VI-SPDATS November 2018 through mid-January 2019 and completed 60 for folks experiencing homelessness for 2 weeks or more. Of those, 31 folks scored in the high service need range, 24 in the middle service need range, and 5 in low range. 52 consents were signed and 8 were not. 32 folks were living outdoors and 4 were in shelter.

System Exits

The HOME list is the longest it has ever been. At the HOME Committee, service providers are looking case by case as to what is going on with the housing of the household to get into housing. Last month, HOME started with 105 people. Of those, 1 was a returned from housed and 20 were newly ID'ed. 4 folks exited to housing and 6 exited to inactive. The HOME list ended with 95 people.

The coordinator will bring a trailing 12 months to the next meeting for a 2018 to 2019 comparison.

External phenomena that are impacting these numbers could be hurricanes and the launch of the homeless hotline and coordinated entry system.

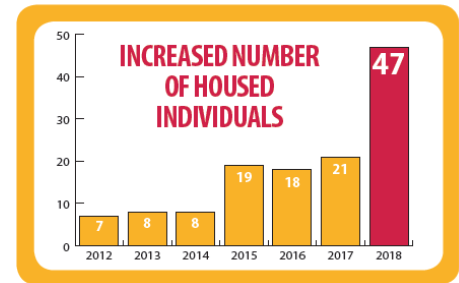
Month	Beginning count	Returned from Inactive	Returned from housed	Newly ID'ed	Exited to housing	Moved to Inactive	Ending count	Housed YTD
Jun-18	84	0	0	13	5	4	75	25
Jul-18	78	0	0	3	3	6	69	28
Aug-18	76	0	0	7	4	1	71	32
Sep-18	79	0	0	8	5*	1	73	36
Oct-18	82	1	0	8	2	4	76	38
Dec-18	101	3	0	22	9	8	84	47
Jan-19	105	0	1	20	4	6	95	4

*4 counted in Housed YTD #, since 1 of 5 was diverted from homelessness and counted in System Entries data

County	Total	Sheltered	Unsheltered
Orange	152	113	39
Durham	338	285	53
Wake	983	791	192
Alamance	66	51	15
Caswell	8	0	8
Chatham	16	1	15
Person	5	0	5

Of surrounding counties, Orange County PIT numbers fall in the middle. Durham and Wake have double/triple Orange's PIT numbers. However, Alamance and other rural counties have much smaller numbers. Last year had the highest count on record at 39 folks living unsheltered, one reason for this is the current homeless system gap of a low barrier, housing focused shelter.

Service providers worked to house 47 people from the HOME list in 2018, more than double the 2017 total. People spent an average of 8.7 months on the HOME list and median of 7 months before they were housed.



Housing Supports Used by People Housed from the HOME List

CEF	34
Other Housing Supports	29
IFC HomeStart	17
RRH	12
Sec. 8/ HCV	8
IFC Comm House	6
PSH	5

Of the 47 people housed, 34 people got services at the Community Empowerment Fund (CEF) and 17 people were housed from IFC HomeStart housed 17. HomeStart is a low barrier and housing focused shelter and has half the beds of Community House and housed double the people.

Gap of the Month: Rapid Re-Housing

In 2016-2017 the Partnership, homeless service providers, people with lived experience of homelessness and other stakeholders mapped the Orange County homeless service system. The Partnership Leadership Team created the homeless system gaps analysis, last updated in April 2018. . Orange County can end homelessness. In order to do this, our community must fill the current seven system gaps. Starting this month, the Leadership Team will review one gap each month starting with our #1 prioritized gap of Rapid Re-housing.

Rapid Re-housing is short term services and financial assistance for individuals or families. The model uses a low barrier/Housing First approach that serves as many people as possible and does not screen people out based on income, sobriety or other program requirements. The model is also highly flexible and meant to tailor services and financial assistance to particular households. There are three core components of the program – each one essential:

- 1) housing identification help finding a unit that is sustainable),
- 2) rent and move-in assistance, and
- 3) case management.



Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

Mon. January 14, 2019, 6-7:30 p.m.

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce, 104 S Estes Dr, Chapel Hill

Experts including the U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) and the National Alliance to End Homelessness now recommend Rapid Re-housing instead of Transitional Housing for most populations because Rapid Re-housing is less expensive and shortens length of time homeless. Rapid Re-housing can serve a greater number people, and can serve people with higher service needs compared to Transitional Housing. Research shows that Rapid Re-housing has similar outcomes of people exiting to housing and staying housed to Transitional Housing has similar results but is significantly less expensive. By serving people with a higher service need, Rapid Re-housing can reduce trauma exposure – the longer people continue to experience homelessness, the more and greater trauma they also experience. Research shows that people feel significantly better in their own home and not in an institutional setting.

Looking at a local example, Orange County housed 12 people in 4 months when there was a fully funded, best practice Rapid Re-housing program in place for in 2017-2018. There are other communities with a similar housing market and a lack of affordable housing that has had great success in using Rapid Re-housing.

To fill the gap of a fully funded, best practice Rapid Re-housing program the Partnership estimated a total annual program cost of \$578,000 in April 2018. This would fund two FTE case managers, and the financial assistance to serve 60 households per year, plus start-up costs. If there were a fully funded, best practice Rapid Re-housing Program, many more people would exit to housing quickly which would free up beds at both IFC Community House and IFC HomeStart. There are currently 95 people on the HOME list experiencing homelessness, of these 84 are appropriate for a Rapid Re-housing referral. Filling this gap would also positively affect our system performance, increasing the number of people housed, decreasing system-wide length of time homeless, and increasing service providers' ability to respond to people entering our system.

At 7:15pm, Leadership Team members agreed to move two agenda items – the Orange County Local Rent Supplement Program presentation and the discussion on the Plan to End Homelessness – to the February 2019 Leadership Team meeting.

Next Meeting: February 18

Remaining 2019 Meetings: Feb. 18, Mar. 18, April 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, Aug. 19, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 16