

# Continuum General Assembly Minutes

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## Date and Time

Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup> 2011 from 12:02PM-1:00PM

## Location

Federal Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, HUD Conference Room, 275 Chestnut Street, Manchester, NH

## Attendees

Anna Rice	Craig Everett	Elise Annunziata	Kyle Beaulieu	Nan Comai
Cathy Kuhn	Dick Webster	Izet Hamidovic	Levi Kafka	Roslyn Block
Brian Boyer	Dominique Rust	Jim Robertson	Marty Boldin	Shane Fisher
Claire Cavanagh	Donna Curley	Jocelyne Pinsonneault	Maureen Beauregard	Stacey Somogyi
Craig Chevalier	Doreen Brown	Kevin Kintner	Monika Bryant	Susan Howland

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## Voting on Minutes

- *Voice vote for December General Assembly minutes. **Approved.***

## Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) – Donna Curley

- Annual Homeless Assessment Report
  - Submitted 3 out of 6 shells
    - Last year we submitted 3 out of 4 shells
  - Greater Nashua Continuum of Care submitted all 6 shells
    - Has a dedicated resource that just does HMIS, so it helped their data quality
  - Balance of State Continuum of Care submitted 3 shells
    - Might be submitting a 4<sup>th</sup>, pending right now
  - Two issues:
    - The utilization rates
    - Issues found late regarding data entry
  - Donna is working on clearing up data so all 6 shells can be submitted next year
  - Question: Will this have an effect on funding?
  - Answer: Yes. The effect is broader than just the SuperNOFA. Out data quality also has implications on resources that come into the entire state.
- Veteran’s Annual Homeless Assessment Report
  - HUD gave extension for submission date.
  - Still finishing.
- HUD Outcome Measures
  - Exceeding all goals but employment upon exit goal
    - The Way Home’s Step 2 Success program is not currently being included in the data, and should be added because it is reported on the SuperNOFA. This will significantly increase our score.
  - Question: Why have we set our employment upon exist goal at 39%?
  - Answer: We scored 39% on employment upon exit last year, so we set out goal this year at 39%.
  - Questions: Are people who are unable to work upon program exit being counted against our numbers for our employment goal?
  - Answer: Yes. They are included in the employment data.
  - Question: The HUD Outcome Measures report that Donna passed out says “those clients that exited with income” for the employment goal. Is that just employment income?

- Answer: Yes – we should change the wording for clarification purposes on the report.
- Question: What is the definition of employment, and is it standardized?
- Answer: We have a definition, and will send it out to everyone as a refresher. No – the definition is not standardized. Donna will look to see if she can find a definition from HUD for employment that could standardize it for all 3 CoC's.

### **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program – Stacey Somogyi**

- Provides free income tax preparation to moderate and low income persons.
- No cost, free efile, utilizing extensively trained volunteers.
- Volunteers need to go through extensive training.
- Offer a variety of refund methods:
  - Savings bonds, direct deposit, fee free debit card, or check.
- Also gives them an opportunity to educate about savings.
- Office is on the east side, with hours on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday.
- Question: What is the eligibility for the VITA program?
- Answer: The program targets low to moderate income, but no one is turned away.

### **Homeless Service Center – Jim Robertson**

- There is a dip in numbers during snow storms.
- On average, last quarter (October 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>), the Center saw 111 people per day.
- Served 7,105 people last quarter (includes duplicate numbers).
- Common to see new faces on any given day.
- Looking at methods to provide reports on unduplicated numbers of people at the Center.
- Possibly looking to apply for a VISTA.

### **Open Floor**

- Continuum Renewal Awards – *Susan Howland*
  - HUD has released the renewal awards today.
  - Quickest it has been released in recent years.
- Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP) – *Susan Howland*
  - Recapping what the programs are.
- Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) – *Maureen Beauregard*
  - Reaching out to other agencies around the state to help voice their concerns about the state cutting funds.
    - The state is currently looking at a 10% funding cut.
  - Kyle will reach out to MCoC agencies.

### **Minutes Prepared By**

Kyle Beaulieu, VISTA  
MCoC Coordinator