

Region 3  
Supportive Housing Development Collaborative Meeting (SHDC)  
Devils Lake Meeting Summary  
April 8, 2015

**Updates from Participants:**

- Lake Region Human Services Update
  - The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Lake Region Human Service Center (LRHSC) has contracted with Progress Inc., to provide a transitional living program for people with serious mental illness.
  - These individuals will receive services from the human service center.
  - Operated and staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
  - Maximum capacity is 8 adults at any one time.
  - The location will be in the former Movie Gallery business on 6<sup>th</sup> Ave NE
  - The date of opening is to be determined
  - Time frame for individuals living in the facility is 9-18 months
  - What type of programs are available at this facility?
    - Housing...will provide them a place to live while they work on their social skill and learn other skills to succeed outside of the facility
    - Things that will be taught are: cooking, cleaning, managing money, finding transportation, finding paid or volunteer work, and how to live and stay safe.
  - Ages of adults in the facility is 18 years and older

**Emergency Contact Form/Release of Information Form**

- Cheryl Merck of Money Follows the Person Housing program introduced a form through HUD for landlords to use. In addition to this form, there is a second page with release of information added.
- Cheryl will update the form to include the Ramsey County information to it.
- This form will be given out at the upcoming landlord training in June to all of the landlords in the area.
- We voted to accept this form as the form to use and hopefully this will help decrease the amount of evictions.
- Keeping in mind that other agencies will have other forms to fill out in addition to this form. This form will not replace any other agency forms. This is a supplemental form.

**Landlord Training**

- The tentative agenda was reviewed at the meeting. We all agreed with the lineup for presenters and topics.
- The date was set for June 3, 2015 from 9am to 4 pm
- Location to be determined (College, armory, hotel conference room, etc)
- As soon as the presenters have agreed to attend we will send out a save the date card (April 15<sup>th</sup> deadline to send out save the date card)
- Registration will be free
- Marilyn Undjhem of North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities will be handling the registration process

- Paula Schuh of Ramsey County Housing Authority will be mailing/emailing the save the date cards as well as the registration forms

### **Resource List and Pocket Resource List**

- Shanna has the updates to the resource lists and will update the rough draft with help from Mary
- We need to add tribal services such as the Spirit Lake Mission, Food Pantry, Saint Michael, etc
- Spirit Lake does have a resource guide. Not sure if it has been updated, but Shanna and Mary will get a copy and include their information into our list.

### **Update Housing Study**

- Cheryl gave an update on the housing study
- We decided to include just Devils Lake/Ramsey County in the housing study.
- We decided to not include Benson County as that should have its own housing study due to financing requirements for tribal and non-tribal.
- Cheryl with talk to Jake Reuter of MFP about the Tribal Initiative
  - We would like to collaborate with a representative of the tribal initiative
- Nancy Landon suggested we contact Dick Johnson or city council members to see if they are in the works of having a housing study done.
- It was suggested the group collaborate with the city on the housing study. We could pay for low income, affordable housing and have the city pay for the study for market rate individuals.

### **Other Business**

- Oil refinery is coming to Devils Lake and will employ 100 people initially and up to 400 people fully staffed
- What affect will this have on our housing situation?
- What will this do to add to our homeless population?

### **Presentation- Nancy Landon-VR**

- Service Animals, Emotional Support Animals, and Therapeutic animals
  - Pets vs service animal/emotional support animal
  - Service animals are typically a dog (can go anywhere)
    - Dog has been trained to work or perform tasks for people with disabilities
    - Could be a miniature horse that has been trained and meets certain height and weight restrictions
    - Service animals are not a pet
    - No ID is required
    - Service animal is allowed where any member of the public is allowed and must be under the control of the handler at all times
  - Landlords cannot ask for a demonstration, what the specific disability is, or for registration or ID.
  - Service animals need to be housebroken, licensed and vaccinated according to state and local laws

- The owner is responsible for the care and feeding of the animal and cleanup of any messes
- Emotional support animals
  - An emotional support animal, typically a dog or cat, provides therapeutic benefit to an individual with a disability
  - Require written documentation from a mental health or healthcare provider.
  - Documentation must be renewed yearly
  - It is a reasonable accommodation in housing units that have a “no pet” rule
  - It is not granted access to places of public accommodation
  - It must be housebroken, licensed and vaccinated according to state and local laws
  - The owner is responsible for the care and feeding of the animal and cleanup of any messes
- Therapy Animals
  - Animals are not licensed, not documented
  - You can take these animals to nursing homes, daycares, etc.
  - They are trained like a normal dog with no specific tasks trained
- You should contact the Department of Labor or HUD for concerns/issues with landlords

**New Business:**

**Future Speakers:**

It was mentioned to have a speaker from the tribes come and talk and be involved with the group.

Michael Carbone – To discuss the Point In Time Study

Vet Family Supportive Services – Camp Grafton

**Next meeting:**

- **May 13<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm to 3:00pm**