Homeless Coalition of Northeast Alabama
Calhoun, Cherokee, DeKalb
and Etowah Counties

To connect, collaborate, and coordinate the delivery of services to ensure homelessness is brief, rare, and non-recurring in Calhoun, Cherokee, Dekalb, and Etowah counties.

HCNEA CoC AL-505
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2025

Welcome
The November HCNEA Board of Directors meeting convened on Thursday, December 18, 2025. April LaFollette, presiding Board Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Members Present:
April Lafollette, Craig Scott, Paula Hillan-McLaury, Stacy Parris, Kyle Bryan, Leia Cook, Lori Floyd LaKeeshia Sandlin, La Sha' Robinson, Joseph Weaver, Shannon Jenkins.

Quick recap
The Board reviewed financial matters and discussed a COC competition update, including the development of a ranking policy and adoption of key priorities for homelessness initiatives. They approved a ranking document for funding year 2025 and considered adding new members to the executive board, while keeping the application process open pending HUD's deadline. The group addressed document access issues and confirmed details for the next full membership meeting in January.

COC Priorities and Financial Review
The board discussed financial matters, including a community forum that cost $40 more than sponsorship income, and reviewed a spreadsheet to reconcile paid memberships. They addressed a COC competition update, where Kyle explained that the notice of funding opportunity was pulled back but the December 14th deadline remains, and they are working on developing a ranking policy aligned with HUD priorities. The board was asked to adopt four key priorities: developing a coordinated entry system, funding the Homelessness Management Information System, supporting existing transitional housing, and expanding supportive services for COC coordination.

2025 Funding Priorities and Board Expansion
The Board approved a ranking document for funding year 2025, which will be used to prioritize applications. Kyle was commended for his work on the ranking process. The board discussed adding new members to the executive board, including Mayor Smith and Matt Caballero from

the police department. Craig agreed to ask Jason Wilson to join the board. Lori offered to contact Shay Miller from Congressman Rogers' office for another potential board member. The board decided to keep the application open until HUD provides a deadline. They also agreed to establish a ranking committee but will wait to determine its members after applications are received.

Document Access and Meeting Logistics
The bord discussed document access issues, with Craig unable to access the link for documents, which United explained was due to their old website no longer being operational. They agreed to create a public space on the United Way website for board meeting minutes and other documents, except for executive meetings and certain ranking committee discussions. The group confirmed that the next meeting on January 15th would be a full membership meeting held a the United Way office in Anniston, rather than Gadsden.

Action Items
- Kyle – Send an email to full membership informing them of the approved ranking policy, provide a copy of the ranking document, and notify that the application remains open until further notice from HUD.
- Kyle – Talk to Sheay Miller from Mike Rogers'office about joining the executive board; if Shay declines, talk to Tessa Moore as an alternative.
- Shannon - Send out the side-by-side NOFO comparison from the National Alliance to end Homelessness to all members
- Craig - Talk to Jason Wilson about joining the executive board.
- Kyle – Review bylaws/guidelines to determine structure and membership requirements for the ranking committee and add this to the radar for future consideration.
- Kyle – Send updated document link(s) to Craig (and others as needed) due to website transition.
- Paula- Distribute previous board meeting minutes for review and schedule approval of November and December minutes at the January meeting.
- Kyle/United Way - Create a public space on the website to post board and membership meeting documents, removing password protection where appropriate.