**Governor’s Council on Homelessness**

**Inaugural meeting: November 21, 2016**

**State Capitol Building, 6th Floor Conference Room, Baton Rouge, LA**

**Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Nicole Sweazy.

**Roll Call**

Council members present:

Michelle Brown

Josh Hollins

Martha Kegel

Tiffany Simpson

Nicole Sweazy

Dylan Waguespack

Additional attendees:  
 Mark Johnston  
 Steve Spires (staff)

**Introduction and overview**

Meeting convened at 10 am. Council members gave introductions. The Executive Order establishing the Council, its membership and responsibilities was reviewed.

**Background**

Nicole Sweazy with the Housing Corporations discussed recent history of homelessness efforts in Louisiana, including the creation of Ma Maison, the state’s 10-year plan to end homelessness. Mark Johnston, an advocate engaged in homelessness work at the national level, discussed Louisiana’s efforts in the context of the national “housing first” movement.

**Discussion and next steps**  
Council discussed how to best support Louisiana’s 10-year plan, as well as respond to short-term flood and tornado-related needs. Nicole Sweazy moved to have LHC update the 10-year plan and bring to the Council for edits and approval before submitting to governor. Council members also discuss utility of different definitions of homelessness from HUD and Dept of Education.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.