**NY-603 Governance Board Meeting Agenda**

**July 15, 2022**

**Recording:** [**https://youtu.be/0Lf6hoU3CPc**](https://youtu.be/0Lf6hoU3CPc)

Attendees listed at bottom of document

* **Welcome and Introductions (chat)** 
  + Possibility of returning to in-person meetings discussed. Attendees were interested in gathering in person, although COVID-19 safety concerns continue to be a factor.
* **Update on CE Assessment Pilot**
  + After the DEI training, the committee members are working to incorporate the principles of that work into the assessment.
  + Using length of time homeless as an interim assessment metric will be under consideration. Prior to COVID-19, length of time homeless was used primarily with the assessment score being used as a tie-breaker and outcomes were fairly equitable.
  + The committee still hopes to present the draft assessment tool to the Governance Board at the August meeting. The GB will have to decide on prioritization.
* **Supplemental NOFO- Addressing Unsheltered Homelessness – Al Licata presented several of the slides (available in CoC Business Meetings folder). Discussion proceeded and followed.**
  + The rental market is very difficult, causing problems for housing programs. How can this be addressed within the constraints of the funding opportunity?
    - Background checks and credit history are a barrier even within housing programs. DEI trainings showed that this is a huge area of inequity against communities of color, and the CoC has the power and responsibility to push back.
    - Funds of Supplemental NOFO cannot be used for capital projects, but some organizations might be able to lease from their ‘sister’ corporations to get around problems of background and credit checks or raising rent to discourage voucher use.
    - There might be a way to apply separately for leasing funds with the Supplemental NOFO and capital gains projects with the regular CoC NOFO bonus funds. The bonus funds would be more difficult to obtain, but getting the leasing funds would allow the programs to operate.
  + What are the local priorities for housing program types?
    - Overwhelming need for permanent supportive housing (PSH) in region
    - Hesitant to limit any program type because of limited number of applications received regionally
    - People are staying outside because there are no alternatives to shelter through DSS, due to eligibility and mismatch between DSS regulations and the needs and preferences of people living unsheltered. People are assessed to be eligible for PSH but stay outside for longer because of lacking shelter options, which results in working with people on the street for years before they get inside into PSH. Moving into PH can be triggering and bring up a lot of trauma which causes barriers to getting people inside. TH-RRH could be a trauma sensitive option.
    - Rapid rehousing (RRH) likely unviable to work with unsheltered population when not connected to transitional housing (TH) without street outreach component. There is a high concern that this would not work, due to communication barriers to facilitate housing search.
    - PSH programs are needed for our region to be competitive, due to the language HUD put out in the NOFO. If we do not have any PSH applicants, it will be difficult to adequately fund all the other programs (outreach, TH-RRH) that may apply. This might mean prioritizing a PSH application that is not as low barrier as would be ideal with unideal unit configurations, or similar compromises.
  + How can we recruit programs to apply for funding?
    - We are in a good position to place limits on applicants given low number of applicants year over year.
    - One-on-one conversations with organizations have been helpful so far (Mike G’s experience).
    - Challenges arise when trying to pair funding streams, making CoC funds unattractive
      * There might be an opportunity to work with HOME-ARP funds that are often left on the table
    - Market need for PSH in our region, ask agencies to consider using available funding streams
    - LICH team is available to answer questions and guide agencies through application process

**Attendees**

Greta Guarton, LICH

Mike Giuffrida, LICH

Vicki McGinn, Suburban Housing

Jackie Deleonardis, UVBH

Sarah Brewster, Circula de la Hispanidad

Elizabeth Lunde, Concern

Donna O’Hearon, Mercy Haven

Francis Pierre, Suffolk DSS  
Deirdre Trumpy, MOMMAS House

Victoria Roberts, TSCLI

Holly Mosby, FREE

Marcellus Sr.

10:55:49 From mgiuffrida@addressthehomeless.org : CDCLI can be a partner in this. They just launched this campaign: https://www.homeforallofus.org/

11:42:51 From mgiuffrida@addressthehomeless.org : Small expansions with existing CoC PSH may be more viable for some (at least single adult PSH, there are not many families on the street to serve), if it's adding a couple of units. It would just be adding beds that are dedicated to serving unsheltered homeless. Adding capacity does not have to be only large programs or a large increase in the number of units, but just that we are increasing our PSH stock overall.

11:47:32 From Deirdre Trumpy : I agree - encourage expanision as well