**May 19, 2023**

**CoC Business Meeting Minutes**

**9:00am-10:15am**

**Recording:** [**https://youtu.be/n3t-CBEgvSU**](https://youtu.be/n3t-CBEgvSU)

**Attendees listed at end of document**

1. **Involving PLEs with a CoC Advisory Board- LICH 10 minutes**

* Al Licata - The PLE Group has begun recruitment in the summer and has been active since last fall. We had an advocacy day in collaboration with the National Low Income Housing Coalition which was successful. Recently we have provided an overview of the CoC to work towards getting feedback on CoC programs and processes. Compensation is in place such that members are paid with a gift card quarterly.
* Samantha Grimaldi – As a street outreach worker and PLE, I can see the group purpose from the CoC and PLE perspective. Often the group shifts into a support group, as people’s trauma comes up and it is harder to shift back to feedback or decision points. There is a sense of relief in talking to people who get it. It has felt powerful to be in the group and get a voice back. Talking to legislators felt like an important way to share stories. There are hurdles to the group, as more time might be needed to facilitate group conversations as people go on tangents and deal with trauma.
* Terri Tupper – It is important to me to give back, especially since going through trauma, and now I can give back to those who have gone through the same thing. Being part of the group helps us to help ourselves move forward with things. There is a pent up energy of what we have experienced and want others not to go through what you went through. We can talk about all the things that we have identified to change in the system, and the solutions are simple and cost effective. Capitol Hill day was almost fun because you want so badly to be heard, and then you feel like someone is listening to you. Being a part of the group relieves burden on me – especially working as a PLE and knowing that you can’t help everyone. It is a no brainer for every organization to have a PLE group, even if it is small.
* Brief discussion on serving on immigrants coming into community following Title 42 expiring
  + Shared information for LI Immigration Collaborative
    - CARECEN organizes the Co-operative group. Here is the information and contact info:The LIIC is a newly launched collaborative resource-sharing initiative to increase effective relationships and action across legal, social, financial, educational, medical, etc. service organizations working with noncitizens residing on Long Island.Organizer: jessica@carecenny.org
  + Samantha G. - has not encountered more immigrants on the street
  + Greta – will have to work more collaboratively with DSS and others to help people get into sheltering
* Keys for the Homeless theme on involving people with lived experience
* What resources to help PLE bring their experience into their work?
  + Deirdre Trumpy – Sometimes PLE can be judgmental – “I’ve been through it so why can’t this person change their situation?”
    - Samantha G. - Experience can cause you empathetic or apathetic not everyone is the same
    - Terri T. – I have never encountered it myself, training can help
  + Ruth McDade – MHAW offers training for PLE including peer workforce readiness basics and 8-week peer specialist training to be certified in workforce. PLE are encouraged to apply for employment at MHAW. There are currently 4 open positions.
* Stephanie Loveringe– I formed the Wellness Continuum, and am a certified peer specialist and got dual certified as care back coach.
  + Training from Mental Health Association of NY State, which is free training
  + I have offered coaching to people giving insight on having empathy and partnership with people coming out of institutions.

1. **CoC Updates**

* CoC Funding Round – Mike Giuffrida, LICH
  + Received funds for existing programs to continue operating and funds for SEPA Mujer DV RRH. We have been looking at debrief to improve system and continue to serve.
  + The Ranking Committee met once and planning to meet again next week. We are hoping to release renewal scorecard after the next RC meeting.
  + HUD Projected CoC NOFO release in “May or June”
  + The process: HUD releases NOFO, reviewed by CoC and the Governance Board will establish guiding principles, RC updates scorecard, and then local application comes out
  + Will continue to update at every step in that process, will put out manual once released
  + Please do not wait to reach out with questions! Esnaps is not the easiest to work with
  + Make sure that eligibility new program is intending matches HUD definition & funding guidelines
* CoC Governance Board and Ranking Committee terms- Vote
  + We have been making effort to restructure how CoC decisions are being made and diversify decision making bodies. Restructure working group and GB have been trying to make progress.
  + We have draft CoC charter with changes from how CoC currently operating to create more DEI. We were expecting to be further along and hoping to introduce new CoC charter and have new nomination process for GB by now but we are still not there yet.
  + In December there was a vote to extend term of last year’s GB group until June and looking to extend again through the end of the year. The vote has been put in the chat.
  + Might be able to complete work for September, but NOFO is about to drop and we are already in June – want to give time for folks to discuss and look over the charter. The charter will be reviewed in the June GB meeting.
* Changes to Housing Quality Standards (HQS) 10/1/2023
  + HUD released a new HQS final rule. but not have not provided concrete guidance or training. NSPIRE is the new system for housing inspections and it strengthens physical condition standards. This will impact CoC, ESG, EHV, HOPWA, & HOME funded programs.
    - [**https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2023-09693.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2qqiHGKFYQ66rsL9CGfiBRXHNulwSWZKZJFLZnfSiac9xxp6rQrRehzz8**](https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2023-09693.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2qqiHGKFYQ66rsL9CGfiBRXHNulwSWZKZJFLZnfSiac9xxp6rQrRehzz8)
  + HUD also updated AMI – June 15, 2023 for most programs
    - [**https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html?fbclid=IwAR3LhXlDColpu3KkaLNSm1yJWTsHWycTGA31LN6x1BhNxVbg9TdgXCX98u0**](https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html?fbclid=IwAR3LhXlDColpu3KkaLNSm1yJWTsHWycTGA31LN6x1BhNxVbg9TdgXCX98u0)

1. **Trauma-Informed Care and DV Safety Planning- ECLI/VIBS Dalia Silverstein**

* Greta Guarton, LICH - HUD has been pushing & requiring is that all programs, not just DV, have safety planning protocols in place.

Notes from presentation

* Interpersonal violence is defined as domestic violence, sexual assault, & stalking
* Intersections of housing insecurity & violence
  + People experiencing homelessness/housing insecurity more likely to experience violence
    - Why?
      * Risks associated with engaging in survival behavior – gang activity, survival sex, loitering, shoplifting
        + More likely to enter a relationship which is abusive in some way
      * Societal views about homelessness motivate violence – vigilante violence sexual, physical
      * Increased vulnerability & power dynamics – seen as easily preyed upon
      * Consequences of structural racism, transphobia, & ableism – structural issues that trickle down, compounded risk
  + People who have experienced violence are more likely to become homeless/housing insecure
    - * 46% unsheltered homeless adults & 80% of women cite trauma/abuse as factors in housing loss (2019)
      * Why?
        + Financial abuse/control
        + Lack of affordable housing
        + temporary housing spaces are not safe
        + Cascade effects of trauma/abuse
  + Need trauma informed approach – almost guaranteed that have and/or will experience trauma during homelessness
* Trauma informed approach for violence & victimization – understand that what they have been through shape their world view
  + Nurture connection – homelessness & abuse are isolating, show care & support, have patience & generosity. Show healthy pattern b/c they have not seen them
  + Ask questions with intent of learning/curiosity, not judging – open ended questions allowing people to elaborate on their own terms
  + Compassionate listening & communication – not try to fix, but be kind & patient, let them take the lead, not assuming what they want someone to fix things
  + Prioritize survivor self-determination – abuse means autonomy is compromised, not telling what to do or offering suggestions, do not want to replace one set of controlling behaviors with another
  + Offer tangible forms of support – anyone can be victimized by violence, but intersection of identities make resources less accessible – health care, childcare, familial support – not a 1 pronged approach
  + Abuse is never the fault of person harmed
* What is safety planning?
  + Trauma informed approach needs to be applied
  + Safety – freedom from violence & injury, freedom to make decisions about one’s life and body without fear of harm. May look/feel different depending on individual/context
  + Safety planning – identifying risks, mapping resources, assessing options, for expected and unexpected events to help person stay as safe as possible in whatever they are doing
    - Strengthening relationships
    - Gathering resources
    - Strategizing options to increase ability to gain power back
* Trauma informed safety planning – special considerations
  + Mainstream violence movements have problematic views that should not be used
    - One-size fits all approach based on “perfect victim” – only having options that do not work for everyone
    - Saviorism – we do not know better just b/c we work with them
    - Failure to acknowledge risk of criminalization / legal system abuse – seeking help/care is not neutral or always safe
    - Continued violence at hands of systems
    - Narrow-minded idea of justice – based on what provider thinks or wants over survivor
  + Trauma informed approaches
    - Different approaches for different people
    - Trusting survivor to know best about their situations
    - Acknowledging and accounting for societal systemic failures
    - Realizing experiences, vetting supportive services
  + Safety planning is very individual, need to be able to tailor to each person
  + Areas of things to safety plan
    - Situational safety planning – in situations that might come up, assess risk/safety, ID potential risk/harm, cause of harm, and possible safety action(s)
    - Options for intervention/escape – safer places to go, who can help, communication
    - Options for healing/support – what are youdoing to feel supported? Who can help remind you to do these things? What kind of resources do you need to feel supported
    - Follow-up / next steps
  + Identifying support – acknowledge that traditional forms of support have likely already been exhausted when homeless/housing insecure
    - Mapping allies & barriers – gauge what support they have, what support they need
  + Practical considerations for safety planning
    - Documentation of experiences, timeline, “evidence” – needed for legal action
    - Finances – access to own funds, safekeeping resources
    - Emergencies – where to go, what needs to be handled, who can support
    - Children – care, safety, communication
    - Pets
    - Language & interpretation & accessibility need
    - Legal issues
    - Important documents – access, storage, safety, know where the things they might need
    - Healthcare – accessible options
* Safety planning & criminalization
  + Cannot assume alliance of police & courts
  + Preparing for situations where criminalization might occur – might be at risk when pursuing recourse options
    - Calling police – what might happen if you call police?
    - Children – what might happen if CPS gets involved?
    - Restraining order
    - Prosecution
* Summary: What can you do?
  + Understand the intersections
  + Take trauma informed approach
  + Ensure low-barrier services – recognize unique barriers faced by survivors
  + Take survivor-center approach to safety planning – focus on autonomy, respect, non-judgement, harm reduction
  + Collaborate & connect – housing insecurity is never the only issue
* Resource: Tool Kit for Survivors & Supporters – Hyejin Shin
* [dsilverstein@eclivibes.org](mailto:dsilverstein@eclivibes.org)

1. **General Announcements**

HMIS TrainingsMAY:Data Quality Training - Thursday, May 25, 2023 1:00 PM-2:30 PM • This training session would benefit New users and experienced users alike!!Spaces available please register today: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0lf-Ggqz0jGNXjkSJ3jLah-88TKwkX\_585JUNE:New User Thursday June 15, 2023 1:00 PM-4:30 PMIntermediate Report Thursday June 29, 2023 1:00 PM-4:30 PM • Registration links to be sent out today

* Keys Conference
  + St. Joseph College in person, 10/18/23 is tentative date
  + Hope to have plenary sessions where PLE can share ideas

Coordinated Entry and HMIS Updates available in CoC newsletter.

**Attendees:**

Daniel Stern, Concern

Erin Basham, Options

Vicki McGinn, Suburban Housing

Terri Tupper, LICH & LI Connections

Lindsay Caldiero, Brighter Tomorrows

Savitri Choon, CHI

Jesse Delman, Bridges of NY

Lorraine Baum, CNG

Eira Severino, LICH

Donna O’Hearon, Mercy Haven

Catherine Albanese, FSL

Roxzelle Bannerman-Martin, LICH

Cara Cantor, Hope for Youth

Thalia Olaya, The Retreat

Bishop E. Edward Robinson II, Breakthrough Center

Great Guarton, LICH

Nicole Falkman, CHI

Judelca Batista-Reyes, LICH

Nicole Belfiore, FSL

Stephanie Leon, SEPA Mujer

Elizabeth Lunde, Concern

Jessica Labia, LICH

Samantha Grimaldi, LICH

Alexis Goglas, LICH

Ruth McDade, MHAW

Petal Bowen-Walcott, LICH

Angelina Lunati, LICH

Drena Collins, SAIL

Rose Cicchetti, LICH

Diane Krasnoff, Bethany House

Angel Macchia, NC OCD/ESG

Kelly Gildea, Suburban Housing

Brian Inserro, FREE

Elizabeth Banzini, The Safe Center

Maria Puleo, LICH

Chanee Hammonds, Wyandanch Homes & Property Development

Deirdre Trumpy, Momma’s House

Shirley Lara, EOC of Suffolk

Stephen Brazeau, Hope House Ministries

Jamie Haruthunian, Nassau DSS

Wayne Scallon, LICH

Stephanie Lovergine, Wellness Continuum & Community Outreach

Salina Barnao, New Ground

Valerie Chamberlain, FSL

Gabrielle Fasano, SUS

MaryEllen Adams, Hope for Youth

Brigette Herron, ECLI/VIBES

Martha Maffei, SEPA Mujer

Mike Giuffrida, LICH

Al Licata, LICH

**-----after 9:15 am-----**

Colleen Juran, TSLI/HHB