**November 17, 2023**

**CoC Business Meeting Minutes**

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

**Recording:** [**https://youtu.be/9q6eO3e39JI**](https://youtu.be/9q6eO3e39JI)

**Attendees listed at end of document**

1. **Funding Opportunities**
   * Sending out funding opportunities through Constant Contact list
   * We may not have all the details to answer questions, but LICH will attempt to connect you
   * Tab on lihomeless.org website for funding, including CoC and other funding opportunities
   * ESSHI through new NYS
     + Permanent supportive housing, participation in Coordinated Entry required
     + Good opportunity as demand is high and turnover is low
     + ESSHI applications require a letter of support from the CoC. We have created a form to request said letters. This can be sent out again via the Constant Contact list. The CoC has access to data that can help support applications and identify local needs
     + Was able to refer 14 households 55+ to ESSHI beds last December, all are still housed. This housing did not require shared living which was helpful for success.
   * OMH SRO (requires SPA)
     + Robert Boyce (OMH) – OMH is not able to discuss details once the opportunity is published. People can email questions to contract management specialist and the answers will be published for public view.
2. **Resource Presentation-** SOS CTI Street Outreach, Judy Vicinanza, Angelina Lunati

* Provide outreach, engagement, and intensive case management for people struggling to navigate systems related to housing. Participants have a lot of difficulty navigating system, often participants will have mental health, substance abuse challenges, functional illiteracy, and/or auditory processing challenges. Case management services stepped up or down dependent on participant need. The team works to provide resources and housing that participants are interested in and according to preferences.
* Services are time limited. Directly work with participants for 1 year to guide them through process and go through system with advocate.
* Critical time intervention is a post-housing support after 90 days of move-in to link people to services to help maintain housing. This includes community integration and ensuring natural supports are accessible and individuals are linked to important services to maintain their housing.
* Receive referrals from dedicated line, email, and helpline. Once received referrals, the team goes out within 24 hours and help provide supplies to meet immediate needs and build rapport.
* Question: How long does it take from first contact to housing?
  + SOS team is still in initial phases, it depends on the individual how quickly they move towards housing. Many are street homeless and the team is addressing immediate needs such as medical care and getting ID while working on building trusting relationships. Some participants have agreed to pursue SPA housing, others are just now agreeing to let SOS team members into their world. The SOS team has been active for 2 months.
* Tracy Wilson, OMH: One program from OMH where someone does not require a diagnosis of severe mental illness. The only requirement is that people are living unsheltered or in the shelter system. The only duplication of services that is not allowed is working with ACT teams. Other services are allowed to be used concurrently, such as Care Coordination.
* The team is building partnerships as they go with referral sources such as police at train stations, clinics, and parks departments. Getting engaged with hospital social work departments. Have done cold canvassing in areas where people are known to congregate near churches and food pantries. The team attempts to make the means of referral very simple. LICH provides internal referrals from the other street outreach team familiar with people on the street.
* The team meets with participants several times a week to provide wrap around services. There is emphasis on natural supports in community to create permanency and stability.
* The SOS teams do not offer homeless prevention services.
* Undocumented people can be served through SOS.
* There is no length of homelessness required for referral to the program.
* Referral packet is available here: <https://www.lihomeless.org/sos>
  + Will be sent with December newsletter

1. **CoC Updates**

* PIT Count Planning – January 24, 2024
  + One of the core responsibilities of the CoC is to conduct a Point in Time Count: a snap shot in time of everyone experiencing homelessness in our community on the street, in shelter, in safe haven, or transitional housing within the last 10 days of January.
  + Tentative date: January 24th
  + Important for HUD reporting and funding
  + Event efforts focus on the unsheltered count. Data on people in shelter available in HMIS, except for domestic violence shelters.
  + Method for counting people on street: put teams together and canvass known locations in Nassau and Suffolk. Resource guides and supplies will be available.
  + There will be 2 focuses for the count:
    - Adult count – supplies from resource drive and brief surveys to get information on their needs
    - Youth count – Youth meeting HUD definition of homelessness have been difficult to identify, as they may present differently than adults. Most youth are couch serving, but there are many youth that may fall under domestic violence definition. We will be organizing a youth specific effort for the count.
  + The CoC will be putting out information on how to register for the count shortly.
  + If you know of people on the street, please contact LICH street outreach teams. It is helpful to know where people are for purpose of the count and in general.
  + Looking to include more people with lived experience when planning for count and conducting the count
  + Registration is for volunteers to participate in count
  + PLEs can contact CoC teams for interest in planning count
  + Ruth McDade: have participated in the count for years. Sometimes when asking if someone is experiencing homelessness, people will deny this. It is important to consider how to ask the questions.
  + Training is important to give an idea of how to engage with folks and ask question sensitively and in ways to get the relevant conversations.
  + Might want to have PLEs on teams take the lead in creating rapport, asking questions in
  + Question: Does the count have bilingual capacity? Do you outreach to day laborers that may be living in wooded areas?
    - This depends on the number of Spanish speaking volunteers that we get. We do have the survey available in Spanish. We can try to distribute Spanish speaking volunteers among groups to make sure language access is covered across both counties.
      * Marianela Casas (MHAW) is interested in helping make sure there are enough Spanish speaking volunteers. [Mcasas@mhaw.org](mailto:Mcasas@mhaw.org)
  + All people interested in volunteering for the count should register. Keep an eye out for the registration form.
* Elections Committee – Inquiry Forms
  + The CoC has a new governance charter with new slates for the Governance Board that expands representation for people with lived experience and people representing marginalized communities impacted by homelessness.
  + In order to seat a new Governance Board, we are looking to put together an elections committee that can help recruit and provide information and onboarding for a new Governance Board by December.
  + We will be circulating an inquiry form shortly that will be in the December newsletter as well.

1. **CoC Communications and Support** 
   * CoC Website – lihomeless.org
     1. There are many materials on the website, including meeting minutes and the zoom link.
     2. The site is currently going through an overhaul to make it more user friendly and intuitive to navigate
     3. For faster updates, sign up for our email email list.
     4. You can also reach us on Instagram at @lihomeless
     5. On constant contact sign-up, there is an option for Election Committees emails although we are also asking folks to do the inquiry form
     6. We have a LinkedIn account: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/ny603/>
   * CoC Newsletters
     1. Reach out to [coc@addressthehomeless.org](mailto:coc@addressthehomeless.org) for any updates you want included in the newsletter sent out to the CoC
   * Upcoming Trainings
     1. LICAAD training on SUD and resources: 11/30 9:30am-11:00am
     2. FCA training on keeping families together during December 15th business meeting
     3. TAC RRH Progressive Engagement Training for RRH Providers:- Tuesday, 12/5 at 930-11 & 12/13 from 12-3.
     4. Employment training – The CoC is looking for a partner to provide a training on accessing employment services that are broadly available to people experiencing homelessness (not an agency spotlight).
        1. Romarie McCue has a DoL contact
        2. Suggestion: Create a list of agencies looking to hire PLEs
        3. NADAP has a vast amount of programs and employment training (Crystal Alexander)
2. **General Announcements / Open Share**

* HMIS is launching two-factor authentication, date has been pushed back
  + Will require code sent to work email on file to login
* Trying to update resource list for winter shelters available. Other than year round DSS shelters. If you have any information on available shelters, please share with the CoC Team and we will share it out to the full CoC.

**Attendees**

1. Ruth McDade, MHAW
2. Catherine Albanese, Family Service League
3. Colleen Juran, TSLI/HHB
4. Deirdre Trumpy, MOMMAS House
5. Greta Guarton, LICH
6. Wayne Scallon, LICH HMIS Supervisor
7. Lindsay Caldiero, Brighter Tomorrows
8. Romarie McCue, The Retreat Inc.
9. Mike Giuffrida, LICH
10. Nicole Rodi, LICH
11. Judy Batista Reyes, LICH
12. Maureen Graziano, HIS Coalition for the Homeless
13. Melissa Amodeo, Options for Community Living
14. Stephanie Reed, LICH
15. Petal Bowen-Walcott, LICH
16. Judy Vicinanza
17. Nicole Belfiore, FSL
18. Terri Tupper, LICH
19. Brian Peterson, NYS OMH
20. Stephanie Warnken, Mercy Haven
21. Bob Boyce, NYS - Office of Mental Health
22. William Best, Bridges of Greater NY
23. Leticia Jones, Hope For Youth
24. Jennifer DeGrijze, Community Housing Innovations
25. Angelina Lunati, LICH
26. Tracey Wilson, OMH
27. Veneilya Harden, Office of Mental Health
28. Vicki McGinn, Suburban Housing
29. Chanee Hammonds, Wyandanch Homes and Property Development Corporation
30. Erika Bagley, EOC of Nassau County
31. Cara Cantor, Hope For Youth
32. Tara Corn, Friedberg JCC
33. Diane Krasnoff, Bethany House of Nassau County
34. Stephen Brazeau, Hope House Ministries
35. Jessica Labia, LICH
36. Kelly Gildea, Suburban Housing
37. Kathy Henry, Mental Health Association of Nassau County
38. Meaghan Obergh, LICH CoC Intern
39. Salina Barnao, New Ground
40. Shawna McCann, MOMMAS House
41. Stephanie Lovergine, The Wellness Continuum and Community Outreach
42. Samantha Grimaldi, LICH, CoC Outreach and Support
43. Al Licata, LICH
44. Carolann Johns, Resurrection House
45. Jonelle Redmond, Long Island Coalition for the Homeless
46. MaryEllen Adams, Hope For Youth
47. Crystal Alexander, Community Housing Innovation
48. Gabrielle Fasano, SUS
49. Molly England, ECLI-VIBES
50. Drena Collins, SAIL
51. Shirley Lara, EOC of Suffolk
52. Val Chamberlain, FSL