Homeless Alliance Meeting

February 17, 2016

Live tweeted on @HAWNY716 (start at <https://twitter.com/HAWNY716/status/700046816067383296>) and broadcasted via Go-To-Meeting

Introduction

CoC Updates

* Next week is the CoC Roundtable
* We expect System-wide performance metrics to become more important
* Quarterly Performance reports are expected to be done mid-March
  + We understand that jobs and housing benchmarks are tricky, hoping to use CoC Planning funds to coordinate those services
* Plan to work with WNYCftH on youth homelessness in order to create a system-wide solution to youth homelessness
  + We need a comprehensive youth plan not just for the City of Buffalo but for the entire CoC –urban, suburban, and rural regions
  + 3/11/2016 is the next meeting
* Broadly speaking, we are trying to simplify the Local CoC project application process for both applicants and the project selection committee
  + Friendly reminder about rankings – even if we are all universally awesome, someone will be #1 and someone will be #40
  + Friendly comment about having a lot of meetings but we do need and want your feedback for some of the decisions we must make
  + We’ll need to prioritize projects based on types, location, performance, etc
* Discussion about anticipated HUD CoC competition results release date

Advocacy

* NAEH says WNY leads the nation in advocacy efforts for the homeless
* The president released his budget so we will be contacting you to write originally composed letters to your congresspeople
* We’ve been fortunate with local media bringing more attention to homelessness – remember, the more shares on social media, the more eyes, helps them and helps us
* Be sure to follow us on Twitter and like us on Facebook, and like all of the other agencies that you admire.

Veterans

* There is a Veteran’s taskforce meeting that usually precedes the HAWNY meeting (at the Salvation Army Community Room at 2PM, same day as HAWNY meetings) but the VA contact is in Florida
* We are trying to coordinate services through a by-name list as privacy rules permit
* Veteran status and veteran eligibility is complicated. With the Coalition we are planning to do a training

SOAR

* Andrew reiterated the process and that there are local trainings for SOAR
* HUD wants 75% of CoC funded agencies to have someone trained in SOAR and ranks CoCs accordingly
* SOAR’s initial success rate is approximately 84% nation-wide

Membership Drive

* We’re doing it, this is a primary source of fundraising revenue for us

Community Annoucements

* WNY Coalition for the Homeless Bowling Tournament! $15 for three games plus shoes at Voelker’s.
* Diane Cadle, retired Erie County manager, shared that the Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church has an open closet for clothes Saturdays and Tuesdays 10-12. Flier was shared.

Adjourned at 3:38 PM