Homeless Alliance Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2016

Called to order at 4:05PM

42 people in attendance- quorum established

Livetweeted on Twitter @HAWNY716

1. Introduction
2. Nominated six candidates for 3 year board terms
	* Sr. Mary Kaiser Augusta of Teaching and Restoring Youth
	* Nadia Pizarro of Lakeshore Behavioral Health
	* Kathleen Granchelli of the YWCA of Niagara
	* Ken Turner of Red Cross
	* Byron McKinney of Erie County Department of Mental Health
	* Ken Gholsten of Cazenovia Recovery Systems
* There were no nominations from the floor
* Jill Mattson motioned to approve as a slate, seconded by a person from “Safe House” who did not sign the sign-in sheet
* Unanimously approved
1. Advocacy Efforts
	* Dale described our efforts to reach out for the media and the strategies that have been successful.
	* Dale suggested that everyone should be on Twitter as members of the media follow Twitter closely
2. Point in Time Count
	* Christine spoke of the logistics and announced the trainings for the Point In Time Count, being held 1/26/2016
3. CoC Update
	* Kexin described the new chronic definition
		1. Changes include duration requirements of multiple episodes
		2. Changes include documentation requirements
	* Kexin discussed the “Chronic List” in aggregation and how we’d use our chronic inventory once everyone is housed
	* Kexin spoke of revising our CoC selection process to be more quantitative and less labor-intensive for the CoC selection committee
		1. Seeking a focus group to aid with this
	* Kexin recruited for the project selection committee – interested people should email her at kexinma@wnyhomeless.org
		1. CoC funding recipients are not eligible
4. Sukie and Andrew are putting together a ten year plan – draft to be released soon
5. There is a $33 million pilot project grant approval by Congress. No guidelines yet except youth.
	* We have been collaborating with a UB social work professor to study this population
6. Discussed Gov. Cuomo’s executive order and state of state
	* He meant to comply with the mental health hygiene act
	* He promised 20,000 PSH beds
	* We’ve been advising the governor’s office and making a couple requests; conversations will continue
7. Matt Urban Hope Center has opened a warming center during Code Blue 8AM to 8PM at 385 Paderewski Drive
8. Matt Urban Hope House takes single women on Code Blue nights
9. Speaker from Computer for Kids, was late, spoke then.
10. SNAP requirements have changed; please contact Neighborhood Legal Services for details
11. Announcements:
	* VI-F-SPDAT training February 8
	* Niagara Poverty Conference (Agents for Social Change Conference) March 4
	* Buffalo Poverty Research Conference April 8