Homeless Alliance Meeting

September 16, 2015

Started at 3:08PM due to technical issues

1. Introductions
2. Seeking a new meeting place
   1. Needs to have wifi, a central location, and parking
3. We are still waiting for the HUD NOFA
   1. We apologize for putting you through such an early CoC local application process
4. Dale attended a five hour focus group with the Veteran’s groups
   1. How to improve the already excellent collaboration we have here among various providers
   2. Will result in an even closer relationship with VA and local providers
5. Functional zero with Veteran’s homeless
   1. New Orleans did it with their own metrics
   2. We may need to do that because HUD and the VA did not establish metrics of success ahead of time
   3. We have all but 11 chronically homeless people accepting referrals for housing

Andrew Dearing presentation on SOAR

* SOAR is a process to get homeless and disabled clients SSDI benefits on the first try by facilitating a very complete packet
* Andrew is the local SOAR lead
* He is trying to create a steering committee that would include departments of social service, social security administration, hospitals, providers, caseworkers, etc
* The training takes 16-20 hours to complete
* Once you complete the course, the TA department of SOAR approves or denies it
* If success, Andrew is notified and will give you extra training
* We need to determine exactly how this process is done in the region
* If you have questions, please contact Andrew at [dearing@wnyhomeless.org](mailto:dearing@wnyhomeless.org)
* Dale is emphasizing that HAWNY coordinates the activities, not completing the application for the client
* Top ten SOAR communities get 85% approval rate in the first application for SSDI

Awards luncheon is December 11, 2015

* Individual Award
* Organization Award
* Unsung hero award
* Media Award

Announcements

Kathleen Heim announcing Project Homeless Connect

* September 22, 2015 at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center
* 78 providers
* Press conference about supportive housing
* <http://www.phcbuffalo.com> is the Project Homeless Connect Website

Kim Bon from Restoration Society

* ESG grant from town of Tonawanda for RRH to serve 17 individuals between now and August of next year, hiring a staff person
* Priority is given to Town of Tonawanda residents but all Erie County residents are eligible
* Meeting adjourned at 3:50PM