



# HAWNY Monthly Meeting Minutes

## Meeting Information

**Date:** Wednesday, November 16, 2022

**Time:** 3:01 PM - 3:56 PM

**Location:** Zoom Video Conference

**Attendance (59):** Joyelle Tedeschi, Kexin Ma, Alissa Venturini, Michelle Laraby, Nick W. Arlain, Courtney Friedline, Alissa Steele, Annette Lock, Ashley Matrassi, Christine Slocum, Clinton Parker, Dan Gordon, Dannise Elie, DeMarco Olgketree, DJ Statt, Gina Schelemanow, Heidi Kildal, Jacob Hoffman, Jill Mattson, Jody Tassone, Julie Butkowski, Katrina Cropo, Laura Pennington, Leonard Peterson, Nate Pyzikiewicz, Nick Calandra, Stacy Arlain, Susie Fox, Ta-Shara Carter, Teddy McDuffie, Thanh Nguyen, Mindy, Bridget Janese, Darwin Rosales, Chris, Jarrett Steffen, A. Swain, Ryan Trubits, Sara Gartland, Caleek Roman, Jessica McKissack, Nadia Pizarro, Penny Washington, Sasha Rodgers, Stacey Stoll, Celina Bryan, Gigi Grizanti, Minnie, Adonis Kernen, Jeremy Garson, Robyn Krieger, Nicole Jordan, K Lignos, Tracy Schmidt, Jean Bennett, Jenifer Kaminsky, Mary Leo, Phone 1, Phone 2,

## 1. Introductions

## 2. Speaker: Tenant Bill of Rights – Courtney Friedline, PUSH Buffalo

- PUSH Buffalo, an organization originally founded in response to rapid gentrification in the Buffalo community is focused on racial equity, class based vulnerabilities in housing and economic stabilization;
- PUSH is currently focused on housing justice, working in coalition with state based groups, and is focused on a city level tenant bill of rights;
- Over the last year, PUSH has been focused on meeting with council members of the city, organizing people to help with the effort, and canvassing all summer, especially in the niagara region;
- PUSH held a tenant power summit at the downtown library in October to help move the needle on this issue and to see what the engagement level of the community was, along with prioritizing the bill of rights issues.
- The tenant bill of rights is asking for good cause eviction, housing stability, rights such as timely repair from landlords, language access in housing court, knowing who owns the building, legal council, right of first refusal, access to

public rent fund, and rent stabilization. The Tenant Bill of Rights can be found here: <https://www.pushbuffalo.org/organizing/housing-justice/>

- PUSH Buffalo meets every Tuesday night with the next event being the December 13th city council meeting at 2pm which PUSH is planning to be on the agenda. PUSH is currently looking for a sponsor for this legislation.

### **3. Board Nomination Process**

- HAWNY announces that there will be 5 seats coming up for re-election, with 1 open spot from Janette Evans moving on. HAWNY will be accepting board nominations for the January election, and also individuals can self nominate at the committee meeting as well. Interested parties can email [jtedeschi@belmonthousingwny.org](mailto:jtedeschi@belmonthousingwny.org).

### **4. CoC Updates**

#### **A. PIT Planning Committee**

- HAWNY announces that emails have gone out to announce a meeting on November 30th meeting at 11am to discuss routes for the PIT night. Also this meeting will be used to assign leadership roles, discuss how to better target youth for the PIT, and sharing the flyers that have been made to distribute to the community.

#### **B. HAWNY Luncheon**

- Friday, December 9, 2022 at Classics V
- Tickets and more information at <https://wnyhomeless.org/luncheon2022/>

#### **C. No HAWNY Meeting on Wednesday, December 21, 2022**

### **5. 2022 HAWNY Award Winners**

- **Monsignor Henry Gugino Service Award**
  - BestSelf Behavioral Health Safe Space Program
- **Killian Vetter Achievement Award**
  - Janette Evans - Neighborhood Health Center
- **Unsung Hero Awards**
  - Roberta Rubin - Heart, Love and Soul
  - Kristen Lazarony - Independent Living of the Genesee Region
  - Flor Aber - Hispanics United of Buffalo
- **Community Advocacy and Education Award**
  - Jordon Frank - Evergreen Harm Reduction Unit
- **Continuum of Care (CoC) Collaboration Award**
  - Holy Cross

## **6. Community Announcements**

- Jean Bennett from RSI, announced that Code blue shelter opened last night at 586 genesee, and 412 niagara at full capacity. Donations for code blue shelter are encouraged, and they are specifically looking for under clothes, socks, sweatpants and coats. Code blue van also out making routes again for outreach.
- Nadia Pizarro from BestSelf announced that there will be upcoming coordination of Thanksgiving drop offs/donations. Listserv will send out a list of potential needed items. Safe space is also doing a thanksgiving meal for youth.

## **7. Adjournment**