



HAWNY Monthly Meeting Minutes

Meeting Information

Date: Wednesday, April 16th, 2025

Time: 3:05 PM -4:01 PM

Location: Virtual

Attendance (41) Tracy Schmidt, Kexin Ma, Evan Coyle, Chelsea Torgalski, Alissa Venturini, Apple Domingo, Caitlyn Bauer, Carolyn Brunelle, Carrie Borges, Cornelius Delaney, Dan Gordon, Daniella Gallego, DCupeles, Dinoshka Ortiz, Drew Friedfertig, Felicia, Haley Diagostino, Holly Rutkowski, Jamie Dolan, Jean Bennett, JmBadillo, John Banas, Katey Soellers, Kristin Rivera, Lisa Bloomingdale, Little Portion Friary, Luna Vasquez, Nadia Pizzarro, Nick Arlain, Nicole Lalonde, Pam Quigley, Patricia Rejewski, Robyn Krueger, Sara Carlson, Sara Gartland, Sarah catherine Sargeant, Shannon Stachowski, Stephanie Mejia, Stephanie Saunders, Trey Gough

Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions

HAWNY Executive Director Kexin Ma welcomes participants to the meeting

2. Chelsea Torgalski WNY Chapter Alzheimer's Association Education program manager

-Alzheimer's Disease is a fatal illness

-11 million Americans Provide unpaid care for people with ALzheimers and dementia (This in large part includes family and friends)

-Nearly 7 Million Americans live with Alzheimer's Disease

-Types of Dementia (Dementia is an umbrella term for loss of memory and other thinking abilities severe enough to interfere with daily life)

-Alzheimer's (Most Common), Vascular, Lewy Body, Frontotemporal, other include Huntington's. Mixed Dementia: Dementia from more than one cause

What is Alzheimer's disease?

-Disease that causes problems with memory, thinking, and behavior. Symptoms eventually grow severe enough to interfere with daily tasks.

-It is a progressive disease where symptoms gradually worsen over a number of years-In early stages, memory loss is mild, as it progresses individuals may need more intensive care

Populations at higher risk

-Black Americans are about twice as likely as white Americans to have Alzheimers or another Dementia

-Hispanice Americans are also at greater risk of getting Alzheimer's disease

-Women are also at higher risk of being diagnosed with the disease

Impact on caregivers

-Caring for someone with Alzheimer's disease can take a physical, emotional, social, and financial toll on family caregivers

10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's Disease

-Memory loss that disrupts daily life

-Challenges in planning or solving problems

-Difficulty completing Familiar Tasks

-Confusion with time or place

-Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships

-New problems with words speaking or writing

-Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps

-Decreased or poor judgment

-Withdrawal from work or social activities

-Changes in mood and personalities

Alzheimer Association Help Line is available 24/7 a week and 365 days a year.

-Information for families, caregivers, etc

800-272-3900

Annual Walk to end Alzheimer's this fall (Buffalo Walk Oct 11th)

Free Education and Support: learn more at alz.org



3. Tracy Schmidt Training Materials: HAWNY Senior Program Manager discusses valuable training resources on NAEH Website, HUD Exchange, NYS Training Space.ny.gov

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/esg/onboarding-toolkits-for-esg-funded-programs/rapid-rehousing-case-manager/what-is-rapid-rehousing/>

<https://endhomelessness.org/>

<https://trainingspace.ny.gov/register/default.cfm?special=shelter>

4. Kexin Ma CoC Updates:

Kexin Ma introduces new HAWNY CoC Manager Nick Arlain.

Nick Introduces himself to meeting attendees. Nick Arlain has had vast experience in other roles in the CoC.

5. Community Announcements

Kexin MA introduces Amanda Aykanian aykanian@buffalo.edu a Professor from UB who will be running a training a trauma informed care training targeted toward supervisors

-Trauma Informed Care Training Opportunity

-12 Hour training, 3 sessions, 4 hours each for supervisors. Helping people learn how to support staff on trauma informed care.

Fill out the form below if you are interested

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc06L_bwpo5VjADho8WHI3UI4LkLKe_Y4JxpZKNqsBUMfN0SQ/viewform

Nadia Pizzaro: Code Blue- Submitted proposal to extend Code blue shelter until the next Code Blue season. We are in need of a location, please send any ideas to Nadia at 716-563-3675 or nadiapizarro@gmail.com

Annual National Alliance to End Homelessness Conference in Washington DC: Homeless Alliance will cover the conference fee for individuals/Organizations wanting to attend
<https://endhomelessness.org/conferences/2025-national-conference-on-ending-homelessness/>

Subsidized Housing Training: May 15th 10am-11:30am at the Buffalo & Erie County Library in the Central Meeting Room (Sponsored by HAWNY) Register Here:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdez3U5wOvw8ijt1CstZjcED9KIEgixwuOU50BqVlil-yBA/viewform>

(See Flyer Below)

Buffalo City Mission: Cornerstone manor Open House April 21st 2-4pm (See Flyer below)

6. Adjournment

HAWNY Executive Director Kexin Ma ends the meeting for participants

DEMYSTIFYING SUBSIDIZED HOUSING TRAINING

What is “Section 8” housing? What is a Housing Choice Voucher vs Project-Based Voucher? How can I utilize these resources in my clients’ housing plans? Learn the answers to these questions and more!

MAY 15TH, 2025 | 10:00-11:30 AM

BUFFALO & ERIE CENTRAL LIBRARY - CENTRAL MEETING ROOM

Hosted by NYS Homes and Community Renewal staff, this training will also feature a panel of local staff to give tips and tricks on how to best access these resources locally here in WNY!

**REGISTER
HERE**



SPONSORED BY THE HOMELESS ALLIANCE OF WNY

Buffalo City Mission's
Cornerstone Manor
Open House

*Join us to learn more about the programs
and services provided to women and
children in need in our community.*



April 21st, 2025 • 2:00PM - 4:00PM

150 E North St. Buffalo NY 14203

Refreshments to be provided

Kindly RSVP by April 17th to Annette Slaughter:
716-854-8181 ext. 116 or email aslaughter@buffalocitymission.org

