



## GOW Meeting Minutes

---

**In Attendance:** Rae Frank (ILGR), Richard Bennett (Genesee County DSS), Andrew Dearing (HAWNY), Cheryl Thompson (Visions Pathstone), Jennifer Siano (ILGR), Dave Rumsey (Wyoming County DSS), Diana Fox (Orleans County Mental Health), Robin Arnold-Scott (ILGR), Karen Anderson (VA- Homeless Program)

---

### 1.) Welcome & Introductions

Welcome back from the Summer Break from CoC activities.

### 2.) NOFAL/ CoC Competition Update

The update from HUD Competition. The Reallocation project from Pathstone Vision's Transitional Housing to 3-county Rapid Rehousing has received a favorable ranking during the selection process. GOW Member was given the final list of ranked projects. Each project was evaluated by a project selections committee taking into account community need, geographic location, and HUD prioritized projects. The entire CoC application is over \$11 million. Projects were split into a tier one and tier two, where tier one almost guarantees funding while tier 2 completes with project nationwide. The reallocated RRH Pathstone project is ranked 14<sup>th</sup> out of 28 and is clearly in the tier one segments, making it safe to say that there will be funding for this project next year. Our next challenge will be collaborating on how we will take referrals and who will be prioritized.

#### a. Coordinated Entry/ SPOA

HUD funded projects are required to take clients through a coordinated entry process where those who are most vulnerable are served first. Erie County currently uses the VI-SPDAT as a tool to properly prioritize clients. Eligible client scores are then input into HMIS. For the GOW, I am predicting more of a shared document among agencies where scores are kept track of. Cheryl with Pathstone has already begun to fill out this evaluation form with her clients and commented on the practical use of the document.

- i. Another strategy would be to partner with each county's SPOA process where individual client needs are addressed. It is a measurement of a client literally dying on the streets.
  1. Diana Fox suggested us coming to the Orleans County SPOA meeting at the mental health building every first Thursday of the month at 1PM
- ii. We are planning on doing training for the VI-SPDAT. Family, singles, and youth
- iii. RRH has many opportunities to be permanent housing as well a placeholder for more appropriate housing (Section 8 or PSH)
- iv. More information about the specific evaluation used can be found here: <http://wnyhomeless.org/continuum-of-care/coordinated-assessment/>
- v. One of the potential challenges about RRH is getting buy in from local landlords. One possible way to do this would be holding an education session, inviting all local landlords of this new opportunity.
- vi. Andrew will be coordinating with Cheryl from Pathstone to host a landlord education about rapid rehousing at the next meeting.

### 3.) Youth Count UPDATE

The unaccompanied youth (24 and below) is on October 7-8 with a focus on the 7<sup>th</sup> as the primary night in question. (pregnant teens, foster kids, juvenile justice system)

- a. GOW members were asked to suggest youth service providers:



**GOW CoC Meeting  
Wednesday, August 24th, 2016, 10 AM  
Independent Living in Genesee County  
113 Main Street, Suite 5, Batavia, NY 14020**

- i. CASA for children, All babies cherished, Community Action, Ministry of Concern, BEA (business education alliance), BEC (Business Education Center), One-stop job centers, Juvenile Court/Court, Hillside (steph burke), youth SPOA, Youth Power, OMH (gene sideways), Partners for prevention (Julie Calbert), Reality Check, Youth Bureau (Genesee/Orleans), GCASA – Youth program

**4.) Summer PIT Count**

Discussion about having an additional PIT count for the GOW during the summer months became an identified waste of resources. Staff participation in this study is small and is often fruitless. GOW members have agreed to rely on the official HUD PIT study as accurate number that reflects homelessness in these counties.

**5.) Community Announcement/ Adjournment**

Rae gave an update on the Access to Home grant they are applying for in September that will allow for modifications like ramps and accessibility for the disabled. ILGR is making an argument that this money should be used in GOW and not larger counties.

**NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in ILGR 10-11**