

Homeless Alliance Meeting Notes: May 20th, 2015

Introductions

- Christine Slocum had a baby boy last Friday 5/15. She will be on maternity leave for three months. Zoe Morse has been brought in temporarily while Christine is out.
- Kexin Ma was nominated as one of Business First's 30 Under 30 award winners for 2015. Congratulations Kexin!
- Hope Gardens was a finalist of Business First's Brick by Brick award, this was a CoC project
- Homeless Alliance is still accepting resumes for a CoC Monitoring Assistant for Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming counties.

CoC Process

- Registration came out 4/28 and was submitted 5/15. We are expecting the NOFA will be out mid-June.
- The registration process provided hints about the application. Coordinated Entry may be an eligible project again as well as RRH for single adults.
- There could be greater planning funds, as an incentive for merging with outlying counties
- Last year we were eligible for \$178, 055 in planning funds and asked for \$99k
- This year there will be a maximum of \$429, 341 for planning funds
 - Homeless Alliance will not ask for all of this
 - Would not be able to match the funds even if Homeless Alliance did ask for all of this
 - Would like input on coordination of activities
 - Money does not have to stay in Homeless Alliance if anyone has any ideas
 - Will need help with matching funds
- Maximum amount for the CoC is \$10.2 million

Coordinated Entry

- HAWNY is proposing \$20k from HMIS and \$32k from a renewal project refused to renew this year to go toward coordinated entry
- Would like to see money contracted out and HAWNY has no intention to directly serve client or do assessment

Ending Chronic Homelessness

- Goal is to place people into housing when they become homeless, not to stop anyone from being homeless ever again
- Think about what ending chronic homelessness would look like in Erie County and when we can say that we have done this
- Once chronic homelessness is taken care of, we can move down from the vulnerability index, and house people who have disability and almost become chronically homeless

Presentation from the Fire Department

- Fire prevention officers concerned about illegal rooming houses that could be unsafe for its residents
- Had an incident happen recently involving an illegal rooming house
- Asked for help from agencies to report any housing that may be unsafe

- Officers given information about Outreach Committee and VIN numbers and demand from the service providers to provide information before they shut down the unsafe rooming house so that the service providers could easily rehouse clients they may know from those houses.

Community Announcements

- Come Fly a Kite for Homeless Veterans
 - Saturday May 30th, 2015 from 12:00-4:00pm
 - Free event to benefit WNY Veteran's Housing Coalition, Inc, VetsHerd, VA Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program
 - Gratwick Waterfront Park in North Tonawanda
- Veterans One Step Center received a grant
 - Hoping to expand outreach locally in Erie County
 - Also hoping to open new offices in Batavia, Niagara Falls, and Lockport