GOW Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Rae Frank (ILGR), Jeremy Reamer (Veterans One-Stop Center), Richard Bennett (Genesee County DSS), Patricia Kurtz (Salvation Army), Andrew Dearing (HAWNY), Cheryl Thompson (Visions Pathstone), Connie Sanderson (Pathstone), Jennifer Siano (ILGR), David Dodge (ILGR), Michelle McCoy (DePaul), Gillian Conde (DePaul), Chris Tolhurst (DePaul), Dave Rumsey (Wyoming County DSS)

1.) Welcome & Introductions
   ** quick note that July will be a Summer Break, so the next meeting will be in August.

2.) CoC Activity Updates
   a. ** GOW Summer PIT
      Just as in September of 2015, we will be having an unofficial Summer PIT count just for the GOW to identify sheltered and unsheltered.
   b. ** Youth PIT
      The entire 5-county CoC area is now organizing a PIT count that will focus on homeless and at-risk youth ages 24 and under. This includes couch surfing or unstably housed youth. There was a request for recommendations from the CoC partnership of youth organizations that could help in this count.
      a. ** Hillside, YMCA, Youth Bureau (3 county, Batavia), Reaching out to McKinney Vento representatives, one-stop career centers (youth programs) GLOW.
      b. ** Commissioner Rumsey pointed out that there might be an issue when defining homelessness among different providers, especially in regards to McKinney Vento reps.
      c. The youth PIT is going to be in October, and there is a youth task force that is specifically looking at this. The GOW is encouraged to participate remotely or in person.
      d. The Next Youth PIT Meeting is scheduled for 7/15 – contact Andrew if interested with participating
   c. ** 10-year Plan
      A big thanks to everyone that helped contribute the 10-year plan update.
      Any final comments can still be submitted by contacting myself or Suckie Smith.
      http://wnyhomeless.org/last-call-feedback-for-our-ten-year-plan-update/

3.) CoC Annual Application (updates and strategy moving forward)
   d. ** From 15% to 5%
      HUD indicated a reduction in the amount of bonus project funding available to Communities. Bonus projects funds are based a percentage of the Final Pro-Rata Need (GOW- $449,382) showing the maximum available to communities. This year the bonus amount will be 5% of FPRN ($22,469.1). It is recommended that applications add the bonus amount onto the requested project amount.
   e. ** Coordinated Entry
      It is important to consider that CoC funded projects are required to implement coordinated entry into programs. This means that referrals for CoC funded project are required to go through the coordinated entry process. Currently the WNY area is utilizing an assessment for individual and the nationally recognized VI-F-SPDAT for families. This is an evaluation that can help guide the type of program suitable for vulnerability status. More information about the specific evaluation used can be found here:
   f. ** Collaboration among agencies
a. Pathstone has indicated that they will be taking a lead role in applying for CoC funds in the GOW while collaborating with agencies across the GOW for implementation. Considered partners providing housing searches and case management include: ILGR, Salvation Army, Community Action of Orleans and Genesee, Wyoming County Community Action. Anyone else interested being a part of this Rapid Re-housing application should contact Connie Sanderson from Pathstone.
b. The application is going to be quite similar to last year with the primary applicant with being Pathstone Housing Council.
c. Rae had a question about how payments are parceled out among agencies. It will be important to reach out to all participating parties. Amount of money allocated to each agency should be considered based on need in the community.

4.) **Depaul: Supportive Housing Application**  
Gillian Conde and Chris Tolhurst are in attendance to brief the CoC about an affordable housing project in GOW area with a priority for homeless clients. The development is through NYS and Empire State Development and they need collaboration with service providers to help establish a narrative and data points that will express need.
   a. There are identified sites in Batavia, Albion, and Perry (ole knitting mill)
   b. Coordinated Entry is being considered for referral process
   c. Communities this housing will focus on supports mental illness, medically frail, high risk, domestic violence, at-risk veterans
   d. Affordable Housing: 60% Area Median Income
   e. Supports from CoC agencies include data and a letter of support from all three counties.
   f. Staff for these building will be trained in mental health but there is also a call to collaborate with staff of organizations in the community.
   g. Local municipalities from Perry and Albion have been very supportive.
   h. There are 50-60 units predicted for each placement.
      i. 25% of the units are handicap accessible
      j. Depaul is seeking to partner with community agencies is GOW that could provide support services to those living their apartments.
      k. Applications to the RFP are due in early July, so showing collaboration with DePaul is needed soon to help develop a narrative for need.
      l. Fully furnished for those with homeless background

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m. Lecesse Construction is the proposed construction group for hire.

n. The CoC suggests that DePaul reaches out to GLOW Workforce development agencies to make sure that local at-risk community could use this project for at-risk community.

5.) **Adjournment**

ENJOY THE SUMMER BREAK