
In Attendance: Kexin Ma (HAWNY), Rae Frank (ILGR), Dai Nguyen (ILGR), Nora Sheehan (OCMH), Richard Bennett (Genesee County DSS), Mary Hanson (Neighborhood Legal Services), Elizabeth McClam (HUD), Rosalie Mangino-Crandall (GCASA), Angela Angora (Cazenovia Recovery/ Liberty Hall), Jana Pritchett (OFA), Adrienne Davis (Pathstone), Rebecca Zeitvogel (MHA of Genesee and Orleans County), Erin Martin (Genesee Justice)

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Dai thanked you for the accommodation to change the meeting time to the third Thursday of every other month.

2. Home Stability Support

- Dai explained Home Stability Support (HSS) which is a new statewide rent supplement for families and individuals who are eligible for public assistance benefits and who are facing eviction, homelessness, or loss of housing due to domestic violence or hazardous living conditions. It is good to get people involved and ask them to tweet/email/call their senators in favor of supporting HSS.

3. 2018 GOW Point in Time Summary

- Results from the PIT 2018 can be summarized in an attached document.
- Some points:
 - I. 17 people were in Eagle Star and 13 people were in Liberty Hall in Genesee County, in addition to DSS explains the higher number.
 - II. The results from Wyoming County is 0, maybe because of lacking volunteers in this area.
- Dai suggested about having an additional unofficial PIT count for the GOW during the summer months so that we have more accurate number of homeless in our area.
- Kexin suggested we should try a different way to do the PIT such as meeting them regularly to know where they are and have a little more targeted.
- Discussion included seeking assistance from GCC and City Church. Also, it was noted, the role of agencies in PIT is crucial because they are experts and know who and where homeless individuals are. Their knowledge is very helpful for the process of establishing a list of places for PIT outreach.

4. Update on Rapid Rehousing (RRH)

- ILGR announced that currently 17 people are being housed in RRH program.
- Rae suggested we need more input in Wyoming County. ILGR has an office in Wyoming county and we need more referrals in this area.
- RRH program was refunded again for the coming year.
- Elizabeth explained RRH is funded by HUD and serves individuals or families that are not as highest severe or not as lowest. The qualifications for Rapid Rehousing, some of which include
 - o Having a disability
 - o Being previously homeless
 - o Scoring between 4-8 on the VI-SPDAT (Vulnerability Assessment)
- Rae addressed the issue that we need more people to become involved and help gather data, PIT, and using HMIS system to prove the real needs in our area.
- Mary Hanson has spoken with Genesee County Commissioner regarding people getting a voucher for transportation from DSS to go to Buffalo or Rochester for shelter. Mary Hanson

explained that those people can refuse using the voucher. DSS must look for housing them in their county first. In a case where they choose to go to Buffalo or Rochester, they should have a roundtrip bus ticket. In addition, DSS must make sure a shelter is available for them in Rochester or Buffalo and they don't have to wait in line when they arrive. When DSS shelters them in temporary housing such as Sunset or Mark Trailer Motel, they should contact Neighborhood Legal Services if their room has issues such as bed bugs.

Mary stated that is available to work with individuals who are told they must leave the county. She asked agencies to make those referrals to her.

- Kexin stated that NYS has money to fund DSS to have warming shelters for "Code Blue". (When the temperature is 20 degrees or below). That funding is not only for shelter but also for outreach efforts, RRH, prevention, including transportation. All those costs are reimbursable if the DSS applies for and receives the State funding.
- Kexin Ma also announced that fund will be released this year or next year and encouraged to apply for that fund. Those present at the meeting agreed that the CoC should send a request to the three GOW DSS Commissioners asking that they apply for the funding.

5. Continuum of Care 2018 NOFA (the Notice of Funding Availability)

- Kexin Ma announced HUD wants to release the NOFA in May which is the Continuum of Care biggest funding. The new project application is predicted to be released in April. If any agencies are interested in RRH or Permanent Rehousing, they can consider applying.
- Kexin Ma suggested because of the needs of our community, we should consider talking to a bigger provider that serve Buffalo area, who is interested in applying for this grant, and being a sub-grantee. The grantee for the GOW RR funding is Pathstones, Inc.

6. Agency Update

- Nora Sheehan announced that she will retire tomorrow.
- ILGR is having annual Lunch in the Dark at School for the Blind on April 26th.
- ILGR is having a Packing Art Project on March 31st.
- ILGR now has a certificated peer of Home and community - Based services (HCBS).
- Erin from Genesee Justice wanted to notify the group that they encounter a lot of individuals that they cannot get back to their home after being released from incarceration. Discussion included ways for the GOW area to begin to track the "at risk" data.

Next Meeting: May 17st, 2018 at ILGR in Batavia from 10 am to 11 am

2018 Point in Time Summary; NY-508 (Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming Subgroup)

Below are the 2018 results for the Homeless Point in Time count of homeless individuals and families in Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming Counties. Surveys and client data were collected from volunteers performing street outreach on the night of January 24th.

	Genesee County	Orleans County	Wyoming County
By County	44	46	0
Individuals	33	24	0
Families	3 families with 4 adults and 5 children	7 families with 11 adults and 11 children	0

Summary:

- 90 homeless people
- 2 were unsheltered (Genesee County)
- 75 in emergency shelter programs
- 13 in transitional housing
- 29 were veterans
- 10 families with 31 people total in them (15 adults and 16 kids); the remaining were single adults

