

Homeless Alliance of WNY Meeting October 18, 2017

Danielle Jackson, ICAN contact: dljackson@wnyil.org or 716-836-0822 ext. 251 www.wnyil.org

- WNY Independent Living: ICAN is Independent Consumer Advisory Network
- Her position is to help Medicaid recipients primarily, helping with medical decisions, educating clients, helping them choose the right plan, and advocating for people in the hospital or nursing home
- Also does outreach to consumer and providers about HARP: Health and Recovery Plans
- HARP: a great benefit to behavioral health and substance abuse consumers. An expansion of basic medicare services with peer services
 - Includes vocational help, peer advocacy, peer counseling, non medical transportation, among many other things
- In 2015 they created the HARP system, only 1000 currently enrolled in NY, so many more people could be receiving these services
- She is a resource for you! And to anyone who wants these services
- In 5 counties, Erie, Niagara, Genesee, Orleans, Wyoming, and can also present to staff and other organizations
- If not a medicaid recipient she can guide them to someone who can help them get it, must be medicaid or medicaid pending

Written Standards: Kexin

- In the process of updating written standards and coordinated entry process, must be done by January 2018 according to HUD regulations
- Revising Erie Coordinated Entry guidelines and writing them for Niagara, Genesee, Orleans, Wyoming
- Please look the Written Standard draft over, make comments, we want to get membership approval
 - We welcome comments or recommendations and would greatly appreciate them
- We must update the written policy for coordinated entry, there is a notice and checklist for those things from HUD, we asked for Technical Assistance to make sure we were in compliance
- We will send out a draft, will try to vote on it in November meeting, if not then, then in the January meeting
- Major changes: added the description of Coordinated Entry Accountability committee, also known as oversight committee
 - Each program type has a representative
- Added an appeal process: required by HUD. in your policy you should have an appeal process as well
- Added assessor training
- Added a survey process to gain feedback from coordinated entry process

- Will have a client survey, a training webinar about it will be October 24th at 1pm, will impact all people that participate in coordinated entry. There are two different surveys, once for outreach/shelter and one for PSH/RRH/TH
- Wording/clarification changes:
- Going to set up RRH priority separately from the Written Standards, each region may have their own priority and need
 - Will be separated out from Written Standards, but the priority and eligibility will be posted on the website and discussed at RRH meetings

NYSICH: Dale

- Trying to align state priorities and HUD priorities
- Have already raised the age for RHY youth programs to serve clients up to age 24 to align with the HUD guidelines
 - Evaluating this change, and how it will affect those re entering from jail
- Have extended the time that youth TH housing can work, 18 months to 24
- RHY Crisis programs went from 60 days from 120 days
- All these legal changes will take effect January 1st
- Dale discussed other things NYSICH is currently talking about
- USICH set to sunset in May 2018, so Dale may ask everyone to write letters to stop this from happening

HAWNY Board Positions

- Board elections in will be January
- There are six positions up, two dedicated to Niagara
- If interested, please send an email to Dale along with resume, and he will forward to nominating committee, and they will present them for the January meeting
- Haven't heard if current board members will want to vacate but will let everyone know

HAWNY Annual Luncheon, <https://wnyhomeless.org/homeless-alliance-luncheon-2017/>

- This year on December 8th at Pearl Street Brewery
- Looking for award nominations, individuals with the Killian Vetter Individual Achievement Award, agencies for Monsignor Henry Gugino Organizational Service Award, and the Unsung Hero award, and can also do special awards as well
- Would like to invite Assemblyman Hennessey, he is backing a bill for Social Services recipients to get 80% Fair Market Rent

Announcements

- Will be advertising for the vacant staff position, currently redesigning what the position does, and will possibly subcontract out with Genesee, Orleans, Wyoming areas
- Celia O'Brien: has been working with a developer for the past year for a project on the East Side, got site control yesterday! It will be School 75 on Howard St, will have 75 apartments, some 2 and 3 bedroom townhouses, about 2 years out, low income and homeless piece

- Also : Saturday at the Sportsmens Tavern is the [Buffalo Blues Veterans Benefit](#) second year launch, have them almost monthly and bring in local musicians, starts at 7pm. Look for more upcoming events!
- Nadia Pizarro: WINTER IS COMING! Code Blue starts November 15th. Mandatory orientation for outreach and shelter workers, Thursday (tomorrow) at 6pm Matt Urban Hope Center (385 Paderewski Drive), the following Thursday is NARCAN training for Code Blue at 6 pm Matt Urban
- Youth Point in Time Count! Date is October 27th. Looking for youth, adults, volunteers. Having an orientation for that this Friday at 2:30pm at the Homeless Alliance. Looking for participating providers to allow youth to take survey at your location, have many organizations already but need more help to reach these kids! Youth task force meeting is right after that.
- Nadia is also working with Puerto Rican Relief Fund, current count is 55 people that have entered into the city of Buffalo (people that came before and couldn't leave, people staying with family members, and some people that will be here and literally homeless)
- Telethon this monday on Channel 7, some of those funds will go to help those coming into the city of buffalo
- Alicia Clark: Quarter 4 report now available on our website! Please take a look and check for any errors, and to look at your overall performance for the year:
<https://wnyhomeless.org/coc-performance/>

Meeting Adjourned