



# HAWNY Monthly Meeting Minutes

## Meeting Information

**Date:** Wednesday, May 15, 2024

**Time:** 3:02 PM - 3:58 PM

**Location:** Zoom Video Conference

**Attendance (78):** 17164, Alissa Steele, Alissa Venturini, Alyssa Hash, Amy Webster, Ashley Matrassi, Bailey Norris, Bob Goods, Cailin Bauer, Carolyn Brunelle, Cassiah Gilvin, Celina Harvest House, Chris Pursel, Chris Shortell, Christine Slocum, Dan Gordon, Daniella Gallego, Deanna Atkin, Donna Fitts, Evan Coyle, Gaya Amirthavasara, Gigi Grizanti, Gwendolyn Sloanke, H Barr, Helene McMahon, Jarrett Steffen, Jean Bennett, Jennifer Beltre, Jody Tassone, Joe Raverta, John Banas, Joshua Randall, Joshua Ziccarelli, K Flores, K Lingos, Kaitlyn Dicket, Karina Treleaven, Katey Soellers, Katrina Cropo, Kay Aylor, Kay Aylor, Kelly DeMattero, Kelly Diane, Kexin Ma, Kristen Lazarony, Kristin Tanner, Leonard Peterson, Lisa Freeman, Marthe Limage, Melanie Ricketts, Mia Clark, Michael Tritto, Michelle Laraby, Nadia Pizarro, Nancy Langer, Nathan Pyzikiewicz, Nick Arlain, Nicole Juzdowski, Pastor Shell Matthews, Patrick Covell, Paul Gavin, Peggy Nowakowski, Phone 1, Rae Frank, Rebecca Piazza, Rennel Williams, Robyn Krueger, Sara Pisa, Sarah Hendee, Sasha Rodgers, Shannon Boswell, Stacy Arlain, Stephanie Mejia, Stephanie Saunders, Tina Lamont, Tom Grinnell, Tracy Schmidt, Yulissa Pena

## 1. Introductions

## 2. Guest Speaker- NYSERDA Weatherization Program – Josh Randall, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Niagara County

- NYSERDA serves as primary policy maker and distributor of funds
  - Subcontracted the work of talking with people, increasing contractor participation, and supporting application completion to Hubs.
- NYSERDA focused on 4 residential programs, Empower+, Comfort Home, Clean Heat, and NY Sun.
- Empower +
  - Most encompassing program for work available.
  - Focused on direct installs, insulation installation, furnace replacement, fridge replacement.
  - Income requirements of 60% of Area Median Income (tier 1) for full coverage and 80% for half (tier 3).

- Renters and homeowners are eligible, but 50% or more of buildings with more than one unit must qualify.
- Full project cap of \$10,000 for tier 1 or first unit in multi-family home, \$5,000 cap for tier 3 or each subsequent unit.
- To learn more, call 1-877-NYSMART or visit [nysenda.ny.gov/empower-apply](https://nysenda.ny.gov/empower-apply).
- Comfort Home
  - Hierarchical program focused on insulation installation and windows replacement.
  - Applicants must proceed from attic insulation > wall insulation > window replacement to receive financial support
- Clean Heat
  - Focused on increasing heat pump transition
    - Offers federal tax credits for all heat pump types and state tax credits for ground source heat pumps
    - No income requirement
    - Depending on current heating source and increase in efficiency – may be able to transition to a higher efficiency gas furnace or Mini split
  - Requires that a home meet certain insulation standards
    - Many homes likely do not have high enough wall insulation (R-14) even if the work has been performed recently
- NY SUN
  - Community Solar – functions similarly to a Co-Op as many people pay into a large solar farm and receive the benefits after electricity is sold to utility
    - Empower+ automatically enrolls tier 1 residences in a nearby community solar program
    - Functions as a decreased bill from utility
- Weatherization Assistance Program- provided by Homes and Community Renewal in NYS
- Home Energy Assistance Program-provided by Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance in NYS
- LEADSAFE- provided by HUD through local Department of Health
- For more information for any of these programs Contact: Josh Randall Natural Resources Educator, by phone 716-433-8839 x. 230 or via email [jmr486@cornell.edu](mailto:jmr486@cornell.edu).

### 3. System Performance Discussion

- Intro to System Performance Metrics
  - SPM's focus is on viewing the local homeless response as a coordinated system of homeless assistance options as opposed to homeless assistance programs and funding sources that operate independently in a community.

- What is Measured?
  - Time Period- October 1st 2022 to September 30th 2023
  - Length of time
  - Receivdism
  - Point in Time Counts
  - Changes in Income
  - First Time Homeless
  - Exits to Permanent Housing
  - Data Quality
- New clients in emergency shelter projects
  - “New Clients” are those clients that do not have any prior enrollments in HMIS over the past two years.
  - The “Covid years” saw a drop in both “New Clients” and overall number of clients
  - Sharp Increase post-covid
- Reported primary reasons
  - Loss of Job/Income (includes public benefits)
  - Mental Health
  - Ask to leave by landlord/ Problem with landlord
  - Court eviction by landlord/ Eviction by primary tenant
  - Release From Institution
  - Relocation from out of the NY-508 CoC Area
  - Domestic Violence (DV)
  - Substance Use
  - Problems with building/Health/Safety Violation
- LOT numbers
  - This measure looks at start dates and exit dates in HMIS for Shelter projects.
  - This data could be inflated by clients that are not being closed out in a timely fashion
- Length of time from Start of homelessness to Move in date
  - This Measure uses “Approximate Date Homeless Started” as the “Start” of a client’s homeless time up until a HMID is entered for that client.
  - This data could be inflated as well and could show that the “Approx” field is not being updated correctly.
  - We are seeing an improvement in time to housing.
- Exit Data
  - Unknown destinations are dropping again, which is a good measure for our community, shows improvement in data quality with the numbers back to 2022 levels
  - Exits to Permanent/Stable Housing have declined from SO and ES projects
  - Static or lack of affordable housing stock, combined with an influx of increased number of clients, could be contributing to this.
- SPM Summary
  - These numbers show how HAWNY can better support providers by pinpointing data points for better documentation and training. (Unknown Destination improvements)

- It allows HAWNY to look at trends and work with providers on planning/monitoring. (Days to Housing improvements)
- We can also use these numbers to show local needs. (Exits to PH)
- Finally it shows how interconnected our service system is and how each piece of data is used and viewed as a team effort in the eyes of HUD

#### **4. 2024 Point-In-Time (PIT) Review**

- PIT numbers
  - Overall, from 2023 to 2024 the client numbers have stabilized after previous year increase.
  - Unsheltered population reduced in numbers.
  - Chronic population increased sharply post covid but is now starting to drop, in part to increased data quality monitoring along with quickly housing clients before they age into CH status
- PIT Summary
  - These numbers show that we may have leveled off, if not started to decline, in terms of sheltered/unsheltered clients.
  - But it still shows a large increase in the need for housing and shelter post-covid.
  - It shows that efforts to house clients before they become chronic, or quickly housing them after they become chronic, is paying off.

#### **5. Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Updates**

- Tracy Schmidt shares an update that the renewal project NOFO was released on Monday 5/13.
- HAWNY will be hosting a Q&A session on Friday 5/17 at 11 am and subsequent office hours every Monday (other than Memorial Day) at 2pm on zoom.

#### **6. Continuum of Care (CoC) Updates**

- Evan Coyle from HAWNY announces that we are developing a newsletter for the continuum, with an expected release date in July. Survey can be found here and see the flier at the bottom:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1b\\_vTrbfO9UphbQOF795mrj3-g1z9U3BJ--eGEhl7okc/viewform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1b_vTrbfO9UphbQOF795mrj3-g1z9U3BJ--eGEhl7okc/viewform?edit_requested=true).
- Both June and July HAWNY meeting's will be canceled due to scheduling conflict, August will be in person. More information to come.
- Nancy Langer From Build Promise project, thanks everyone that attended the groundbreaking for the St. Luke's facility. The expected opening date is a year from August. Once open, it will have 96 shelter units, and if code blue is held there an additional 80 beds as well.
- Kaitlyn Dickey from Soldier On announces that on June 15th their Georgia Street apartments called West Village Apartments are opening and will contain 16 units and eventually 21 units. Income limit is around 50k in Erie county and is open to all veterans.
- Leonard Peterson from Pinnacle, introduces new Youth services Director Jonelle Gordon.

- Kelly Diane from Mona's House announces that they have 4 beds open to any victims of human trafficking. In addition, their drop in center is also open at 852 Kensington, the 8 days of hope building.
- Stacy Arlian from Cazenovia Recovery announces that Project Homeless Connect is holding their volunteer meeting Thursday 5/16 at 3pm at Caz recovery or via zoom.
- Daniella from HAWNY announces Belmont housing will be having a major announcement coming up the week of May 27th.
- Nicole Juzdowski from United way announces that on June 18th, the United Way is holding their National day of Caring, and there's still time to sign up to participate.
- Rae Frank announces ILGR is hosting an Open House on May 16 from 9am to 11:30pm for the public, in recognition of May being Mental Health Awareness Month. ILGR's address is 319 main street Batavia, NY.

## **7. Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Updates**

- Alissa Steele from HAWNY announces ongoing HMIS workshop series. Please register for the appropriate session for either outreach, shelter, or housing provider workshop. After each live session, a self paced workshop will be released for anyone who is not able to attend the live session.

## **8. Adjournment**

# CONTINUUM CHRONICLE

## NEWSLETTER COMING SOON!

**HAWNY is developing a newsletter for the Continuum of Care. The mission of the newsletter is to spread the word about important events, news, updates, while highlighting shining examples within the community. The Continuum Chronicle is set to be released in July.**



## YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

☀️ We're excited to launch our newsletter but we want it to be the best it can be.

Here's why we need your feedback:

- 🎯 Tailoring Content: Ensuring the newsletter is filled with info you care about.
- 🚀 Improving Engagement: Making the newsletter engaging for everyone.
- 🔍 Identifying Gaps: We want to hear if there's anything missing so we can fill in the blanks.
- 💡 Enhancing Effectiveness: Guide us in making the newsletter as effective as possible.
- 💬 Building Trust: We value your opinion because it strengthens our community.
- 🔄 Continuous Improvement: We're committed to making improvements.

Share your thoughts with us by scanning the QR code below and completing a survey.

