Nassau/ Suffolk Continuum of Care and Veteran Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

January 16th, 2015

Amityville Resource Center

**Present:** V. McGinn, Suburban Housing; D. Haynes, Peace Valley Haven, U. Davis, Peace Valley Haven; E. Anderson, EOC of Suffolk; H. Seelig, Bethany House; G. Sikorski, CNG; S. Frisz-Gioia, Brighter Tomorrows; S. Gooson, EAC; G. Conn, SAIL; J. Pollina, TSLI-HHB; R. Flohr, RCH; D. Neilson, SCCADV; A. Rosen, Federation, W. Scallon, LICH; L. Russell, SAIL; T. Gregoretti, TSCLI; T. Penn, Melillo; T. Campbell, MHANC; S. Boyle, New Ground; M. Mues, MHANC; Y. Robano-Gross, Options; D. Stern, Concern; D. O’Hearon, Mercy Haven; A. Alleyne, WHPDC; D. Saunders, Retreat; L. Americo, CC; L. DeStefano, CC; J. DeLeonardis, UVBH; M. Paventi, SUS; R. Leather, SUS; J. Nacht, Nassau Haven; A. Kerr, FCA; P. Fink, CDCLI; R. Seiler, CDCLI; J. Hatzis, Sanctuary; K. Livingston, CHI; A. Jeffreys, VOA; J. Martir, VOA; W. Conrad, VAMC; T. Regnante, UWLI; T. Seaton, Project Redirect; L. Mullahy-Smith, Concern; A. Rogers, LIWEN; B. Lubarda, LIWEN; A. Karppi, Town of Islip CDA; A. Sotelo, CDLH; K. LaSalla, UVBH; F. Pierre, HELP USA; K. Ohrtman, HELP Suffolk; Deirdre Shea, MOMMAS House; R. Dillon, CNG; S. Brazeau, HHM; J. Rago, SCUV; K. Schwarz, CNG; J. Massimo, SCUV/ MHAW; D. O’Neill, LICH; R. McDade, MHAW/ SCUV; T. Gibbs, With Love and Kindness; G. Guarton, LICH; V. Chamberlain, FSL; M. Giuffrida, LICH.

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Greta Guarton welcomed everyone in attendance. Members present introduced themselves.

**Review of Minutes:**

Minutes from the December 19, 2014 Nassau/ Suffolk meeting were reviewed by the group. Kim Livingston announced corrections for the CHI and CHI/SAIL vacancies. Stephanie Moreau made a motion to accept amended minutes. The motion was seconded by Donna O’Hearon and unanimously agreed upon by members present.

**2015 CoC Funding Round:**

Greta Guarton announced that at the February Executive CoC meeting, members would make suggestions for changes to the CoC applications. Greta stated that the 2015 CoC Executive Committee would seek to review the last executive summary and work to improve the application process and scoring for the Long Island region.

**Agency Presentations:**

Brighter Tomorrows was presented by Stephanie Frisz-Gioia.

SUS/ SSVF Program was presented by Roger Leathers.

\*Additional information can be found on the LICH website.

**HMIS:**

Wayne Scallon announced that the AHAR report was submitted on December 19, 2014. Wayne reviewed the “usable” data from the 2014 report. Wayne stated the need for Emergency Housing data to improve. Wayne reminded members to apply the new HMIS data standards to any client in program from October 1, 2014 on. Greta added that HMIS separates Long Island into five regions. Since all of the information was usable in the Islip region, Greta expressed that the CoC should receive full points.

On December 29, 2014, Wayne sent out a review file regarding the new data elements. A foothold newsletter was released on January 8 with new enhancements, updated information and free foothold webinars.

Wayne announced that SSVF program splits (housing and prevention) were complete. Wayne also announced that upload agencies had upload templates available.

Wayne stated that 2015 HMIS agreements would be due January 23, 2015. Wayne announced there would be a beginners training on January 23 at the Amityville Resource Center and an SSVF training in mid- February. Please contact Wayne at 631-464-4314 x 115 or wscallon@addressthehomeless.org to schedule one on one trainings, new user trainings or small group trainings.

**2015 Homeless Count:**

Mike Giuffrida thanked all of those who had attended the homeless count training on January 7. Mike reminded everyone that any one participating in the homeless count must submit a liability waiver. Mike encouraged volunteers to review the locations that each group had signed up for, also noting if any host site locations were in close proximity. Mike let members know that homeless kits and volunteer shirts were available directly following the meeting. Mike announced that for the sheltered portion of the homeless count, HUD is requiring that each agency program provide an address location, unless the program is a scattered site program or a domestic violence program.

**Veteran Reports:**

Mike announced that for the month of December 2014, participating agencies reported that 22 veterans and 14 veteran family members were newly permanently housed. The total number of veterans housed since August 2013 was reported to be 401 veterans and 270 veteran family members permanently housed. Mike stated that this number was within range of being on track to reach the Team Long Island Committee goal of 748 veterans housed from August 2013 to EOY 2015.

**Housing Developments:**

Laura Mullahy-Smith reported on the Concern property development in Ronkonkoma, which will house 59 veterans and low income singles/ families. The Ronkonkoma project should be completed by EOY 2015. The Middle Island Concern property would potentially house 123 individuals/ families and should completed in 2016. United Veterans Beacon House also had 5 new units for homeless veterans.

**Housing Our Homeless Heroes Act:**

Greta stated that all four bills have passed legislation. Within Suffolk County DSS, a veteran housing specialist has been hired. The county would now be able to acquire town properties for the purpose of using it for veteran housing. Mike added that at SC DSS employees that all veterans would now wear a veteran badge in an effort to make veterans feel more comfortable speaking with DSS veteran staff members.

**Street Outreach Committee:**

Greta announced that the RFP for the MTA Street Outreach program was e-mailed out today. The Long Island Coalition for the Homeless would forward this information out through e-mail today as well. The MTA expected a turnaround of three weeks for agencies that apply for the program.

**SSVF Priority 1 Funding:**

Greta spoke about the SSVF funding grant. The Priority 1 program plan has been a combined effort between the four SSVF agencies, the VA and the CoC. The final plan would be submitted in mid- February. To become involved with the Priority 1 initiative, reach out to Beth Gabellini at 631-227-0777.

**Vacancies:**

***CHI*** – 1 Single Vacancy (Valley Stream) HUD Homeless, Broad Spectrum

-Contact Brittni Traina at 516-280-3243 x 226

2 Single Vacancies (Hempstead) HUD Homeless, SA

-Contact Ariel Batiste at 516-280-3243 x 224

1 HOPWA Single Vacancy (Central Islip), HIV/ AIDS

1 Single Vacancy (Freeport) SPA/ SPMI

-Contact Janice Davidson at 516-280-4343 x 222

***CHI/ SAIL***- 1 Vacancy (Oceanside), SPA required

-Contact Larry Russell at 516-855-1800

***Concern***- 1 Single of Family Vacancy (Nassau County), Project Homestart, M/F, Disabling Condition (SA)

1 Single Female Vacancy (Selden), HUD Homeless, SPMI, SPA required

1 Family Vacancy (Centereach), HUD Homeless, SPMI, SPA. 3 Bedroom

1 Single Male Vacancy (Central Islip) SPMI, SPA

1 Family Vacancy (Central Islip) SPMI, SPA

1 Single Male Vacancy (Central Islip), HUD Homeless, SPMI, SPA

Contact Lucille at 631-758-0474

***Options***- 2 Male, shared vacancies in (Central Islip and Medford), HUD Homeless, HIV/ AIDS, HOPWA, Low Income

Contact Laura Shannon at 631-361-9020 x 113

1 HOPWA Vacancy, HUD Homeless, HIV/ AIDS, Inappropriately Housed

Suffolk County Vacancies M/F shares, SPA

Contact Barbara Costanzo at 631-361-9020

***The Retreat***- 7 beds for Women and Children, call 631-329-2200

***Federation of Organizations***- 25 beds, all supportive housing, SPMI, unsuccessful in current supportive housing

Call 1-877-INTAKES

50 beds for State Transformation Plan, 20% county, 80% state, SPMI, SPA. 10 Vacancies in Suffolk, 40 in Nassau (Freeport/ Bellmore) \*No Homeless Requirement

***Mercy Haven***- seeking 8 person family for house in Mastic Beach, applications due January 23.

Contact Rebecca at 631-277-8300

***MHA***- 2 Vacancies, Male, CH, SPMI, (2nd floor)

6 vacancies, male beds in Suffolk

Contact Marie Mues at 631-329-2200

**Announcements:**

Kristie Schwarz of CNG introduced a new “Stability At Home” Program. \*Details can be found on the LICH website.

Greta announced that the elevator has received final approval and the February CoC meeting would likely be able to be held upstairs.

Team Long Island Meeting will be held February 4th at 2:30pm at the Amityville Resource Center.

The next MTA Street Outreach Committee Meeting will be held Tuesday February 10th at 9:00am at the Amityville Resource Center.

Wednesday, February 11th there will be a SAMSHA and HHS Funding Training at the Amityville Resource Center. Registration begins at 9:30am, training is from 10:00am-11:30am.

\*The next CoC meeting will be held on February 20th at 9:30am at the Amityville Resource Center.