**Nassau/ Suffolk Continuum of Care Meeting Minutes**

**September 18, 2015**

**Amityville Community Center**

**Present:** V. Seltzer, PRD; K. Munoz, PRD; S. Basilone, Federation; D. Caruso, Southside Hospital; C. Velia, Concern; H. Seelig, Bethany House; T. Campbell, MHANC; L. Fletcher, Bethany House; L. Mosquera, CC; A.M. Sexton, SCDSS; N. Maggiotta, TSCLI; G. Martin, CNG; A. Loodus, MOMMA’s; E. Basham, Options; K. Pfaffe, Options; T. Frederick, FCA; L. Terracciano, FCA; L. Buscemi, NC Office of Housing; D. Nielson, LIADV; C. Merlo, LIADV; S. Quesada, NANA’s; J. Massimo, MHAW; L. Hunter, SCO; A. Rosen, Federation; M. Stephens, RCH; J. Lamberth, RCH; T. P., Melillo; Y. Robano- Gross, Options; A. Covino, Options; K. Livingston, CHI; L. Wolf, NSLS; H. Kang, CC; A. Alleyne, WHPDC; G. Conn, SAIL; P. Fink, CDCLI; J. Pollina, TSLI/HHB; R. Seiler, CDCLI; M. Managrio, OCL; S. Brazeau, HHM; A. Rogers, LIWEN; D. O’Hearon, Mercy Haven; K. LaSalla, UVBH; R. Derry, Mercy Haven; D. Stern, Concern; V. Chamberlain, FSL; F. Graham, Suburban; R. O’Donnell, EOC; B. Inserro, FREE; A. Sotelo, CDLH; B. Lubarda, LIWEN; J. Lopez, VOA; J. Hatzis, Huntington Sanctuary; A. Rodgers, HALI; K. Ohrtman, HELP Suffolk; C. Hammonds, WHPDC; M. Paventi, SUS; N. Musekiwa, Abbvie; J. Fernandez, LICH; G. Guarton, LICH; M. Giuffrida, LICH.

**Welcome and Introductions:**

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

**Review of Minutes:**

Minutes from the July 17, 2015 Nassau/ Suffolk CoC meeting were reviewed by the group. Donna O’Hearon made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Samara Basilone and agreed upon by all members present except Paul Fink, who abstained.

**Agency Presentations:**

Kristine Pfaffe presented information about Options for Community Living programs.

Nobuhle Musekiwa presented information about the HepC Community Educators program.

**2015 CoC Funding Round:**

Greta Guarton announced that our CoC has not yet received notification from HUD that esnaps was open. Greta stated that there was usually a 45- 60 day turnaround period and that agencies would have two weeks to submit data into esnaps and have all application information to LICH. Those agencies that were lower on the CoC ranking list, would need to schedule guidance sessions to work with LICH to improve their applications and programs in the future. Greta encouraged any agencies that were looking for guidance with leveraging should contact Greta to set up a meeting. LICH was still awaiting a response on whether tenant fees can be considered leveraging.

Greta pointed out that there have been issues with being able to access esnaps. Greta advised all agencies to make sure that they were able to successfully log into the system prior to esnaps opening.

Greta explained that the CoC Application (Executive Summary) included a synopsis of current services and progress for our region and determined whether the CoC would receive additional funding. LICH announced it would be working to strengthen the application by having focuses in line with the HUD agenda, such as addressing runaway and homeless youth, youth aging out of foster care and family homelessness. LICH would also review the NOFA and 2013 applications to make improvements. Greta let members know that LICH would be requesting certain information from agencies to help with that process.

**HMIS Update/ Data Quality Review:**

Jesus Fernandez stated that Data Quality Review files would go out in about a week.  For those in SSVF programs, they will be going out soon as well. There would be more changes to the data standards as of October 1, 2015. LICH have been conducting trainings, including new user trainings for SSVF programs and refresher trainings, and have an intermediate training scheduled for Sept 25th. There were a couple of seats still available, please contact Wayne Scallon if interested in signing up.

**Keys for the Homeless Conference:**

Valerie Chamberlain stated the homeless conference would take place on November 13 at Touro Law Center. The theme this year would be “Building Community Roots to End Youth and Family Homelessness.” CEU credits were available for three of the workshops. Valerie announced that the Keys Conference Planning Committee selected two individuals for the Unsung Hero Award- Susan Cook and Angela Miller. Legislature Steve Stern was chosen as the Key of Excellence Award recipient. Dr. Joel Blau from Stony Brook College would be the keynote speaker. Greta added that forms were available for agencies looking to sponsor the event. At the conference, there would be tree leaves for a $5 donation fee, books for $10- $15 donations and also other vendors.

**2016 Homeless Count:**

Mike Giuffrida announced that the 2016 homeless count would take place on January 27, 2016. The first Homeless Count Planning Committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 1 at 9:30am. The committee would be discussing recruitment, reporting and training tools and outreach strategies. Mike provided a sign-up sheet for anyone that was interested in being a volunteer enumerator, member of the planning committee, or host for the winter drive. Mike noted that last year, there seemed to be some confusion when completing the sheltered PIT forms. Mike explained that every individual counted as part of the sheltered homeless number must be included in one of the three main household types- households with at least one adult and one child, households with only children, and households without children. All of households such as veterans and youth were subpopulations of the three main households. Mike would be distributing the new sheltered PIT report forms prior to the count with guidance and to allow for agencies to review the forms and ask any questions from to the PIT.

**Amityville Center:**

Greta announced that the Home Depot Fundraising Team would be doing landscape design at the Amityville Center and Liberty Village properties. There was office rental space still available in the center, rentals would also have access to three conference rooms in the building.

**Announcements:**

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. Please see informational flyer on the LICH website.

CHI is opening a TH to PSH program, housing men and also will be opening one house for women as part of a 12 month program with case management. These will be beds for single women with an open DSS case (Suffolk County) in Port Jefferson Station. Contact Katie Habich at 631- 521- 3630 for more information.

Immediately following the meeting, there will be a discussion led by Corporation for Supportive Housing to find out community needs for permanent housing.

**CoC Vacancies:**

**-Vacancies in New Ground/ INN Long Term Housing Program for Families:**

* 4 bedroom in Uniondale
* 2 Bedroom in Huntington
* 3 bedroom vacancy in Long Beach

Eligibility requirements

* currently employed or strong work history and desire to be employed in the near future
* ability to afford the monthly rent - if DSS rental subsidy necessary, will be reviewed on a case by case basis
* willingness to work on financial, employment and education goals to increase earnings

This is a transitional 3-5 year rigorous program, not permanent housing.

Weekly meetings with a program Social Worker are required.  Residents are responsible to work on their individual goals to become self-sufficient by end of year 5.

>Contact Evol Sweeney at 516-564-4764 x 130

-**Vacancies in New Ground/ INN Long Term Housing Program for Veterans:**

* single male Veterans with DD214
* substance abuse history (with at least 6 months sobriety by move in date)
* Afford rent of $288/ month
* required to meet with program Social Worker weekly
* Work on financial, employment and education goals to secure stable housing in the future
* SRO type housing in Hempstead NY

>Contact Mohanne Charles at 516-564-4764 x 131

-**Concern:** 1 Opp I vacancy (male, Cenral Islip), 2 Opp II (OMH Consolidated) vacancies, (1 male single, 1 family, both Central Islip) and 1 Homestart Family vacancy.

>Contact Lucille at (631) 758-0474.

- **Options Access to Care Vacancies**

HOPWA sites with vacancies- Requirements: HIV/AIDS status, low income and inappropriately house

Suffolk- Singles

1 Female vacancy in Central Islip

1 Male vacancy in Hauppauge

1 Male vacancy in Medford

1 Male vacancy in Centereach

Nassau- Singles

1 male vacancy in Hempstead

-**Options Vacancies**

10 supervised vacancies (7 CR and 3 Apt) and 11 Supported Vacancies

>Contact Kristine Pfaffe at (631) 361-9020 Ext. 165

-**CHI Vacancies**

1 Shared Female Vacancy HH, SPMI in Hempstead \*Second floor

1 Male Vacancy HH, SPMI in Freeport

1 Family Vacancy, 3 bedroom, HH, SA in Bellport

>Contact Kim Livingston 631-475-6390 x 228

**MHAW Vacancies** (Vets):

1 PSH Male, HUD CH in Mastic Beach

2 PSH, HAP Housing

>Contact Wilkens Young at 631- 484- 9725

\*The next CoC meeting will be a joint CoC/ Veteran Subcommittee meeting on Friday, October 16 at 9:30am at the Amityville Center.