**Long Island (Nassau/Suffolk) Continuum of Care Business Meeting Minutes**

**June 16th, 2017**

**Amityville Community Resource Center**

**Present:**

All members present introduced themselves and Greta Guarton welcomed all to the meeting.

**CoC/NOFA Updates:**Greta informed members that scoring criteria were sent out to the CoC last week. Scoring criteria are available on the LICH website and include all information being analyzed to determine project scores.

Greta informed members that the application for the internal ranking process has been drafted. The NOFA is expected to be released by HUD very soon. The Governance Board will be meeting later in the day to finalize the internal applications, with the expectation that it will be published Monday. Applications will be due on July 26th.

Housing first principles are now a threshold to apply for funding. As such, applications will require a certification from each agencies ED stating that the program will operate with a HF model.

Local process training will be on Wednesday, June 28th from 9:30AM-11:30AM.

This year, 10% or more of the region’s funding will be reallocated to new programs.

**Coordinated Entry:**Mike reports that the official launch date for the CES will be August 1st, 2017. Participation in the CES is a threshold for funding. LICH has bene piloting the program since the beginning of 2017 to work out barriers to successful implementation of the CES. Vacancy reporting has been strongly encouraged, but not mandated thus far. Post-launch, all beds funded through the CoC will have to be reported to the CoC and referrals must be accepted through the CES. Mike asked providers to review the email that was sent out regarding the CES launch.

LICH has been coordinating with OMH and county mental health offices. A memo went out earlier in the week regarding OMH-CoC-funded coordination for programs that receive funding from both entities. In order to minimize confusion between CoC and OMH funded programs, all OMH-CoC-funded beds have been identified. All of these beds will be “blocked” in the SPA system, so that referrals to those beds will ONLY be coming through the LICH CES.

Erin Mahoney clarified that programs will still be getting a SPA application through the portal. If a CoC-OMH funded program has a vacancy, SPA will “block” the bed, coordinate with LICH, and send SPA application to providers.

Another provider feedback meeting with be on Thursday, June 22nd at 9:30AM.   
LICH will be emailing providers by COB today, asking for common issues, will share agenda on Wednesday so that providers can brainstorm solutions.

Training parity costs/economies of scale—LICH may be able to

Harm reduction/Narcan on August 1st, 9:00AM-1:00PM  
Motivational Interviewing on August 3rd,

Providers must sign up for trainings. For those agencies who do not attend, they will have to pay for the spot.

LICH has organized a training with Org Code, who created the VI-SPDAT that LICH uses to determine household vulnerability and appropriate housing referrals. The training will be web-based. LICH will reach out to key stakeholders that engage most with the most CH in their programs. Ashley from TAC will also be doing another landlord engagement training and “move-on” from PSH training.

**ESHI Applications:**Applications were published within the last week. Greta spoke with NYS-OMH about how funding is determined through this type of application. The Governance Board will discuss the types of projects that the CoC will support for ESHI applications.  
   
Monday webinar on ESHI 6/19 and Q&A’s due shortly. Kim Livingston reports that workgroup said that funds can be used for existing CoC-funded programs that lost funding, but units must be vacated.

Donna O’Hearon stated that HCA and HHAP RFP’s were also released, which can be used to leverage capital funding.

**HMIS Updates**:  
Significant HMIS training has been taking place, especially with onboarding new users in county shelters. New user training on June 27th, email Wayne or Roxzelle. About 35 trainees have received the new data quality reporting training, which got much positive feedback. All documents referenced in trainings are available on website.

SAGE repository training was held last week, Wayne is checking to see when recording of training will be made available.

Wayne informed members that cross-system referrals have been tested and it is very cumbersome. All upload agencies are being asked to upload information directly into HMIS by December 29th, 2016. For the time being, there is a workaround to this issue, which Wayne will share guide on. Programs will have to make the decision about whether or not to enter info directly into LICH or utilize workaround.

DV agencies have the unique challenges of not being able to upload client information into HMIS. Greta is hopeful that Foothold will lower the startup costs, and that HUD will approve LICH to be able to pay for 80% of licensing fees.

Greta is requesting for DV agencies to let LICH know if they would like to participate in HMIS.