



February 20, 2008

Present: Laila Bondi, Jorien Brock, Bill O'Connell, Tricia Davis, Devan DeCicco, Joan Dutchess Freidson, Michelle Moore, Warren Marcus, Jim Folan, Karen Carmen, Dolanda Walls, Michael Henry, Lisa Jo Schaeffer, Thomas Green, Carolyn Hillman, Leslie Saunders, Eric Weigel, Don Dauman, Laurie Tanner, Susan Pfeifer, Glenda Washington, Cherrise Walker-Betts, Gavin Kasper, Pat Henry, Christina Gullo, Diane Bessel, Kimberly Ingram, Sr. Mary Augusta Kaiser, Teresa Humphrey, Jewel Culohouse, Jose Latalladi, Lynne Ezzell, Elizabeth McClam

Introductions: The meeting began with introductions. Motion to approve meeting minutes was waved by Pat Henry. There is no legal obligation to approve minutes for general meetings.

Partnership for the Public Good: presentation by Anthony Armstrong
For more information check out <http://ppg-buffalo.wikispaces.com>

CASH Coalition: Free Tax Prep – presentation by Diane Bessel
For more information check out www.cashbuffalo.org

Street Survey 2008 Wrap-Up: We collected over 1400 surveys, so we exceeded our goal. Roughly 1000 short forms and 400 long forms were collected and the data entry is the next phase. Unfortunately we are having some technical difficulties but we are moving forward and plan to have some figures in the next few months. There seemed to be some confusion among volunteers and member about the survey so we just wanted to point out one more time that the survey was for homeless AND low-income individuals.

Thank you to members of HAWNY for all of your efforts around the survey. We couldn't have done it without you!

A suggestion from Karen Carmen was to debrief the volunteers on suggestions for the next survey. We have done this internally with staff but we are hoping to schedule a time to debrief with some volunteers as well – to see what changes should be made for next time. A survey did go out online to volunteers to get feedback about different aspects of the survey so have taken volunteer feedback into consideration.

Continuum of Care Update

2007 Competition: We were successful in the 2007 competition for \$9.6 million. The scoring sheet went around to membership – our score was 91.5, which was the highest that we have

received. Nationally, however, the scoring was very high. We lost a significant amount of points in community performance. This is something that is a community score and not one that HAWNY has any control of. Participation in Bas-Net and quality information is EXTREMELY important in this competition. This is why we are constantly bringing up issues of data quality – it is important for the Continuum of Care. There will be a more detailed presentation at the March HAWNY meeting regarding this aspect of scoring.

2008 Competition: We had four new projects come in this year. The deadline for renewal applications is April 4th. If you have not yet turned in the client satisfaction surveys – they were due on Friday so please get them in ASAP. This is something that affects the community's overall score and is required.

PRISM Update: The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 27th at 9:00 am. Matt Stankevich from the United Way and 211 will attend this meeting to talk briefly about 211 and to see how we can work on getting information out to those at risk of becoming homeless about resources available to them.

FOOD Project Update: Food Stamps training this month that we had was very successful. The next workshop, February 23rd, has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 15th from 10:00 am till 1:30 pm at Jericho Road Ministries. The next Faith Outreach Committee meeting is going to be Thursday, February 21, 2008 at 3:00 pm at Benedict House. The committee is also working on a Food Stamp Challenge that we are opening up to the community. Please contact Devan at 853-1101 for more information or if you are interested in joining this project.

BAS-Net Update: The next Bas-Net User Group will be held on February 21st at 10:00 am at Benedict House. This is a great opportunity for Bas-Net users to get together and hash out any problems that may come up. The Bas-Net Bulletin has been recently distributed; this can be found on-line at our website at www.wnyhomeless.org.

HAWNY Announcements:

Legislator Education Day: Lobby Day is March 4th and we are interested in trying to get as many folks from Buffalo to Albany that day so that we can represent our community. We've done some research on buses and they seem to be cost prohibitive so we may just want to set up carpooling. HAWNY will be sending an email around to membership.

NYS Budget Briefing: Governor Spitzer's 2008-09 Executive Budget and its Implications for New York Families and the Upstate Economy will be held on Thursday, February 21st from 9:30 am till 11:30 am at the United Way, 742 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo.

Cross checks have been going on at DSS where people are being cross checked at DSS regarding warrants. We wanted to ask around the table to see if this has been happening to other clients. There were a few people at the table that mentioned this as being an issue they are seeing with their clients. HAWNY will make a commitment to do some more research and report back at the next HAWNY meeting.

Western New York Coalition for the Homeless: Next meeting will be held March 12th at 9:30 am at St. Paul's Cathedral.

Community Announcements:

The Thirteenth Annual 40-hour Fast, sponsored by the NYS Labor-Religion Coalition will have as its theme "Welcoming the Stranger: Immigrant Rights and Immigration Reform". Call Micaela at the Coalition for Economic Justice (892-5877) for more info. The Fast will take place from Tuesday, March 4th at 8:00 pm until Thursday, March 6th at noon. For more information please visit www.labor-religion.org

Adjournment

Next Meeting on **March 19th** at 3:00 pm at the **American Red Cross** (in the board room in the main building) at 786 Delaware Avenue in Buffalo