

Present: Thom Piniewski, Carolyn Hillman, Laila Bondi, Susan Pfeifer, Adrian Slocum, Gavin Kasper, Bill O'Connell, Pat Henry, Kim Ingram, Heather Norcia, Dalonda Walls, Devan DeCicco, Karen Carman, Joy Tedeschi, Mike Henry, Eric Weigel, Eula Hooker, Glenda Washington, Dale Zuchlewski, Jorien Brock, Joe Woodward, Louisa Frazier-Merritt, Joy Overhouse, Bob Roth, Sister Mary Augusta Kaiser, Nikia Jackson, Mary K. Comtois, Joe Kugler, Penny Selmonsky, Chris Syracuse, Jewel Culverhouse, Amanda Masters, Leslie Saunders

Welcome and Introductions: Pat Henry began by asking members to introduce themselves. He also stated that minutes from the last meeting are online for review.

PRISM Update: Bill gave the report in Joan's stead. She has been involved in new recruitment for Steering Committee and would like to elect a chair at the next meeting. Also, we would like to engage PRISM members in the Street Survey initiative. Does the Homeless Alliance want a working chair or a name chair? There has been a bit of a lack of buy-in from city/county and we would like to perhaps bring someone new around the table.

Street Survey 2008: Pat gave a brief overview of the survey

Logistics Committee: This committee has these major tasks.

1. We need financial support, both in-kind and cash. Referred to official "ask" letter available to take back to agencies and is available on the table with handouts. Bill outlined that this could mean anything from money to copies to bus tokens. This activity is not a budgeted expense, nor does HUD provide funding.
2. Day of Headquarters: United Way is our base of operations on the 24th in the basement/videoconference room. Thank you to Mary and the United Way
3. HAWNY would like to provide transportation to survey sites from headquarters
4. HAWNY would like to have a day of hotline set up for unanticipated problems
5. Also looking for thank-you gifts, such as tokens
6. Media must be made aware of what the Street Survey. If anyone has media/PR background, please let us know.

Questionnaire Committee: The questionnaire committee has completed the first version of the short survey. It has streamlined and updated many questions, as well as making the survey slightly shorter. At tomorrow's meeting, the committee will focus on the long form. The short form will be administered at pantries, kitchens etc. and may include homeless and/or low-income or people at risk of becoming homeless. The long form is administered specifically at shelters and exclusively with homeless persons. The committee is also working with members of the Hospital Discharge Planning Committee. The questionnaire committee hopes that both the hospitals and HAWNY will benefit from being able to reach clients in emergency rooms and inpatient/outpatient hospital areas. Next meeting on October 18th at 3pm.

Volunteer Committee:

Goals:

1. Flier with volunteer descriptions by November, day of volunteers, those to provide transportation, to help input data.

2. In terms of recruiting, trying to streamline the process. Hands on Greater Buffalo has a website in which people can sign in and volunteer for activities. The committee would like to use this site to recruit.
3. The committee is working on developing sensitivity training for volunteers. Increase outreach to faith community and to students.
4. Speak to Devan if you have any connections to hat vendors. The committee would like winter caps for volunteers that are an affordable option. This would identify people associated with the survey.

Outreach Committee: Identify places we went to in 2004 and also additional places, keeping in mind that the survey will be different this time because it will be in the winter. Joy is making contacts with BPD and NFTA. The committee is also holding focus groups at VA, Harbor House and the Salvation Army etc. Bill also stated that we will need people with experience to be part of our "Super Team." Next meeting will be held on October 19th at 10am.

Location Committee: Trying to identify places to set up shop. Focusing in on areas outside of Buffalo, Tonawanda, Elma, Springville and Lackawanna. Laurie Tanner from Crisis Services-who does outreach in rural areas-is helping with that. Karen described the short survey the committee sent to providers asking if they would allow their agency to be a survey site, what hours they are open, etc. Next meeting will be on October 26th at 9am.

Special Presentation: Devan gave a presentation on the HAWNY website, outlining the many resources and links. Some examples of items available online include:

- Homeless Ministry Handbook
- Food Stamp Screening Tools
- Public Benefits Applications
- BAS-Net Resources
- Contact Information for Local Providers
- Applying for TANF
- Past Research
- Donations
- Blog

Continuum of Care Update: Bill announced that HUD has established a new APR hotline and Helpline at APR@abtassoc.com. Again, the calendar around the CoC is on the website. Keep your eye open for the RFP. Priorities should be pretty much the same as last year, however, once the annual report is released in November, those priorities may be reevaluated.

A Housing First Conference is being planned for the end of November. There has been some difficulty securing funds and this has slowed the process.

BAS-Net Update: Laila gave a presentation that summarized progress, changes and future goals for BAS-NET. In the past year, over 50 new users have been trained, 9 programs have been added and over 7,000 clients have been entered into the system. The complete PowerPoint presentation is available on the HAWNY website

Community Education/FOOD Update: Faith Outreach and Opportunities Development Program to empower faith communities to assist people seeking services. Yesterday's workshop was a

success. Barb Farr from DSS covered TANF and other services and how to access those services. About 35 people come and we are reaching new group of people. We hope to link attendees to Street Survey

WNYCH: Panel for Section 8, someone from Belmont was there. At the meeting on 11-14, someone from Adult Protection will come out. Utility workshop at St. Brigid on October 24th from 9-12. Call Adrian at Catholic Charities is interested. Glenda will pass out the bulletin.

Community Announcements: Application for City ESG is on 11-7 and 11-14. If you want to get on the mailing list, see Dale Z. after the meeting. If you have received something in the past you are already on the list. New requirement to receive City ESG funds is to be on BAS-Net. We are asking that people who are not affiliated with an agency applying for funds help review the applications. There are actually three applications: ESG, CDBG and HOPWA.

On October 9th, DePaul opened a new 75-unit SRO for people with psychiatric disabilities at 1603 Seneca Street. Please call 608-1000 and ask to speak to Kristy, the intake director.

On November 19th, there will be a workshop hosted by Transitional Housing Coalition, directed towards clients but open to all, on self-sufficiency and homeownership.

Crisis Services to stop providing outreach services as of 10-26, call Eric with questions.

HAWNY annual luncheon will be held on 12-5 or 12-6. HAWNY staff will let you know when a firm date has been set. At the luncheon, annual awards will be presented. To nominate an individual or agency, please go to the HAWNY website to access nomination forms.

Two spots are currently open on the HAWNY board. Please let Pat Henry or Jean Dittman know if interested.

Next meeting is November 21st, 2007 at 3pm